

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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## ***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA***

***San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Karen P. Hewitt***

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***For Immediate Release***

### **NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY** - January 13, 2009

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Juan Carlos Chimal-Moran pled guilty today in federal court in San Diego to Count One of the indictment that charged him with Sexual Exploitation of a Child, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2251(c). Chimal-Moran entered his guilty plea before United States District Court Judge Roger T. Benitez.

At the hearing, Chimal-Moran admitted that between June 1, 2008 and July 21, 2008, he took sexually explicit photographs of his five-year-old daughter in his home in Tijuana, Mexico and transported the undeveloped roll of film to a store in San Diego to be developed. He further admitted that on July 21, 2008, he returned to the store to retrieve the film.

According to court records, Chimal-Moran was arrested on July 21, 2008 at the store in San Diego when he tried to retrieve the film. The store employees had previously contacted the San Diego Police Department when the film was developed about four days earlier as employees saw what the pictures depicted. The San Diego Police Department advised the employees to notify them if someone came to pick them up.

Sentencing for Chimal-Moran is scheduled for April 27, 2009 at 9:00 a.m., before Judge Benitez.

This case stems from a nationwide investigation by the San Diego Police Department and Immigration and Customs Enforcement and assisted by the San Diego Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, whose members include the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the San Diego Police Department, the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, the Chula Vista Police Department, the United States Attorney's Office, the San Diego District Attorney's Office, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the United States Marshals Service, the Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, and the El Cajon Police Department.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov)

**DEFENDANT**

**Case Number: 08CR3264-BEN**

JUAN CARLOS CHIMAL-MORAN

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Title 18, United States Code, Section 2251(c)(Sexual Exploitation of a Child)

Maximum Penalties: 30 years' incarceration with a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years' incarceration, \$250,000 fine, a minimum of 5 years and up to a lifetime of supervised release and registration as a sex offender.

**AGENCIES**

San Diego Police Department  
Immigration and Customs Enforcement