

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA San Diego, California

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For Immediate Release

San Bernardino County Man Sentenced To Serve 210 Months In Federal Prison For Sexual Exploitation Of A Child

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - March 4, 2009

Earl Venton Buchanan was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego by United States District Court Judge Marilyn L. Huff to serve 210 months in custody and five years of supervised release based on Buchanan's conviction for sexual exploitation of a child, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2251, announced United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt. Judge Huff also required Buchanan to register as a sex offender and ordered the forfeiture of Buchanan's Bloomington, California residence. Buchanan tendered his guilty plea on November 26, 2008.

According to court records, Buchanan was apprehended at the Calexico West Port of Entry on July 3, 2006 when he attempted entry into the United States with a five-year-old boy. The child was not related to Buchanan. Customs and Border Protection Officers referred Buchanan's vehicle to secondary inspection when Buchanan could not provide sufficient identification for the five-year-old boy. Officers discovered a

videotape in Buchanan's vehicle during an inspection of the vehicle, as well as lubricants, condoms, sleeping aids, children's videos, children's clothes, and hotel receipts. In sentencing Buchanan, Judge Huff took into consideration the young age of the minor depicted in the video, which was produced in Buchanan's Bloomington residence as well as the other pending child molestation charges pending in San Bernardino County.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide Department of Justice 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

ICE encourages the public to report suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 06CR1612-H

EARL VENTON BUCHANAN

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

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

AGENCIES

Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Customs and Border Protection