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PRESS RELEASE

**WILMINGTON MAN PLEADS GUILTY
TO RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

Nicoli Mangiaracina, Jr., age 44, of Wilmington, Delaware, pled guilty today to receiving child pornography, in violation of federal law. Colm F. Connolly, United States Attorney for the District of Delaware, announced the guilty plea following a hearing in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware.

Mangiaracina, who will be sentenced on February 26, 2009, faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum sentence of twenty years in prison.

Mangiaracina also faces a term of supervised release following his prison sentence of five years to life, and will be required to register as a sex offender in any jurisdiction in which he lives, works, or attends school. Mangiaracina will remain detained pending sentencing.

According to statements made at today's hearing and documents filed in court, Mangiaracina was identified by an FBI agent who was conducting an online search for individuals who were sharing images of child pornography using peer-to-peer software. On June 9, 2008, the FBI and the Delaware State Police executed a search warrant at Mangiaracina's Wilmington residence. They seized computer equipment that was found to contain numerous images of child pornography depicting prepubescent females engaged in graphic sex acts with

adult males. Mangiaracina admitted that he had been searching for and viewing images of child pornography on his home computer for approximately one year, and that he had last viewed child pornography on the evening before the residential search. A forensic analysis of Mangiaracina's home computer confirmed that on the evening before the residential search, Mangiaracina searched for, downloaded and viewed a video that depicted a blindfolded, crying female toddler, approximately one year old, being raped by an adult male.

Following the plea hearing, United States Attorney Colm F. Connolly stated, "Increasingly, those attracted to child pornography are obtaining it and sharing it with one another by using peer to peer technology. Although this technology has been discussed in the media mostly for its use in illegally trading music and movies, men like Mr. Mangiaracina use it to obtain images that memorialize the sexual assault of real children. Unfortunately, as these images continue to proliferate across the internet, the acts depicted have become increasing graphic and the age of the victims younger and younger."

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the High Technology Crimes Unit of the Delaware State Police. For further information, please contact Assistant United States Attorney Edward J. McAndrew at 302-573-6277, ext. 130.