



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **TUCSON MAN CONVICTED OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES**

TUCSON, Ariz. - William Ernest Fuller, 31, of Tucson, Arizona, was found guilty of Attempted Transportation and Shipping of Child Pornography and two counts of Possession of Child Pornography by a federal jury in Tucson, Ariz. The case was tried before United States District Court Judge Raner C. Collins from March 4<sup>th</sup> to March 11<sup>th</sup>. The jury began its deliberations this morning. The defendant was remanded after the verdict was recorded. Sentencing is set before Judge Collins on May 22, 2008.

The evidence at trial showed that on August 8, 2005, while acting in an undercover capacity, an agent from the Federal Bureau of Investigation logged onto a network that supports a file sharing system known generically as "Peer to Peer" and found an individual who was trading child pornography. Follow up investigation revealed that the individual making those files available for sharing was receiving internet service at an address in Tucson.

On September 9, 2005, agents executed a search warrant at the defendant's residence and seized a computer, computer equipment and loose storage media consisting of compact discs. During a forensic review of that computer and loose storage media, over 100 images and movies of children engaged in sexually explicit conduct were located, including images of prepubescent children (under the age of 12) and images of sadistic and masochistic conduct involving children. The defendant was also interviewed that day and acknowledged that he had used the "Peer to Peer" file sharing system to download images of child pornography, some of which he had saved to CD's.

A conviction for Attempted Transportation and Shipping of Child Pornography carries a maximum penalty of 20 years with a mandatory minimum of 5 years, a \$ 250,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Collins will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys Offices, 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/).

The investigation in this case was conducted by the FBI and the Tucson Police Department. The prosecution was handled by Judson T. Mihok, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

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