



Department of Justice

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WEBSTER MAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- Christopher Malta, 38, of Webster, NY, was sentenced yesterday to 10 years in Federal Prison to be followed by 20 years of supervised release by U.S. District Judge David G. Larimer, after pleading to a felony charge of possession of child pornography in January 2009, Acting United States Attorney Kathleen M. Mehlretter of the Western District of New York announced today.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Craig R. Gestring, who handled the case, stated that the defendant was on state probation for a 2005 conviction related to possession of child pornography when Monroe County Probation Officers discovered child pornography in his possession on May 30, 2008. Agents located printed child pornography photographs in his closet as well as digital child pornography images and movies on his computer. Over 6,800 images of child pornography were recovered in total. He was arrested by Monroe County Probation Officers and Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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.

The conviction was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Lev Kubiak, and Officers of the Monroe County Probation Department, under the direction of Robert J. Burns.