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### **SACRAMENTO MAN ARRESTED FOR DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

SACRAMENTO-- United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced that RUSSELL STRICKLER, 34, of Sacramento, was arrested yesterday following his indictment by a federal grand jury last week charging him with distributing and possessing images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. STRICKLER is scheduled to appear in court this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. in front of United States Magistrate Dale A. Drozd.

This case is the product of an investigation by the High Tech Crimes Task Force, a federal, state, and local task force which focuses on the investigation and prosecution of computer crimes. This investigation was undertaken as part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC). PSC is a United States Department of Justice initiative established to increase federal prosecutions of violent sexual predators of children, and to reduce the number of Internet crimes against children including child pornography trafficking. As a part of PSC, the United States Attorney's Office has teamed with state and local agencies and organizations to increase law enforcement presence on the Internet, and to educate the public about safe Internet use, thereby reducing the risk that children might fall prey to online sexual predators. For additional information on the PSC initiative, please go to [www.projectsafefchildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafefchildhood.gov) or call the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and ask to speak with the PSC

coordinator.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Carolyn K. Delaney, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that between August 29, 2006, and May 9, 2007, the defendant distributed images of child pornography via his computer. The indictment also alleges that the defendant possessed images of child pornography between the same dates.

The maximum statutory penalty for a violation of receiving child pornography is 20 years imprisonment, and a \$250,000 fine. However, the actual sentence will be dictated by the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of factors, and will be imposed at the discretion of the court.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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