



Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Charles M. Oberly, III
District of Delaware**

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CONTACT: EDWARD J. MCANDREW
PHONE: (302) 573-6277

MILFORD MAN SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS IN PRISON FOR ATTEMPTED RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Eric Wayne Tindall, age 51, of Milford, Delaware, was sentenced yesterday to five years in prison for attempted receipt of child pornography, in violation of federal law. Prior to his June 24, 2010 arrest, Tindall owned and operated W.E.T. Painting, a home painting business, in Milford. Tindall, also was sentenced to ten years of supervised release following his prison sentence. He also will be required to register as a sex offender in any jurisdiction in which he lives, works, or attends school. United States Attorney Charles M. Oberly, III made the announcement following the sentencing hearing before United States District Judge Sue L. Robinson.

According to statements made at today's hearing and documents filed in court, Tindall came to the attention of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the United States Postal Inspection Service in the summer of 2010, during an investigation of a commercial child pornography website. Tindall later responded to a fake advertisement created by law enforcement agents, which offered to sell child pornography movies. Tindall attempted to order six child pornography movies, and asked if he could special order child pornography movies featuring "3-4 year olds" and movies with "young black girls." Tindall was arrested at his home on June 24, 2010, after he accepted delivery of a package that he believed contained the videos he had ordered. Tindall has been detained since his arrest.

A search of Tindall's Milford residence resulted in the seizure of computer equipment, along with various videotapes and still photographs. An analysis of those items revealed that Tindall had been surreptitiously taping young children at public events and places, including playgrounds, parks, figure skating and dance events. Tindall also was found to have taken suggestive photographs of children under his supervision.

United States Attorney Charles M. Oberly, III stated, "Mr. Tindall attempted to obtain child pornography the old-fashioned way – through the mail. He also had a history of making his own recordings of young children in public places. This case illustrates that child sex offenders will employ many different means to obtain the sexually exploitative material that they seek."

"The sexual exploitation of children is a crime that has traumatic effects on the most vulnerable members of society," said John P. Kelleghan, special agent in charge of ICE HSI in

Philadelphia. "HSI and our law enforcement partners will continue to aggressively investigate child predators who seek to sexually exploit children."

"Use of the mail to distribute child pornography, or otherwise sexually exploit children, continues to be a significant societal problem," stated Karen V. Higgins, Inspector-In-Charge of the Philadelphia Division of the US Postal Inspection Service. "Unfortunately, the mail is also a preferred means of communication among child sex offenders to initiate and establish relationships with each other, to target their child victims, and to locate sources of child pornography. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service strives to reduce and deter the use of the US Mail for procuring or delivering materials that promote the sexual exploitation of children. Defendant Tindall's five-year prison sentence meets that objective"

This case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations and the United States Postal Inspection Service. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Edward J. McAndrew.
