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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY OCTOBER 27, 2003

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**AREA PEDIATRICIAN ARRESTED ON FEDERAL CHARGES OF
POSSESSING MORE THAN 3,000 IMAGES OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

CHICAGO – A Chicago pediatrician was arrested on federal charges for allegedly possessing more than 3,000 images of child pornography, federal authorities announced today. The defendant, **Dr. H. Marc Watzman**, was arrested Saturday at his home following the execution of a search warrant by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents and the Chicago Police Department. He was charged with possession of child pornography in a criminal complaint filed over the weekend, Patrick J. Fitzgerald, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, announced today.

Watzman, 37, of 1454 North Wieland, Garden Apt., in Chicago, was scheduled to have a detention hearing at 3:30 p.m. today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Nan Nolan in U.S. District Court. Watzman, also known as “Howard Watzman” and “Howard Marc Watzman, faces one count of possession of child pornography.

The complaint affidavit identifies Watzman as a having been employed as a pediatrician in hospitals in various cities, most recently in the critical care unit of a hospital in Naperville until Oct. 8. He is a board-licensed physician and surgeon in Illinois, specializing in pediatric medicine and anesthesiology, and completed his medical residency at a hospital in Chicago in July. He is also

licensed in Kansas and has been employed as a pediatrician in hospitals in Wichita, Peoria and Rockford in Illinois, Philadelphia and Maryland, according to the affidavit.

According to the complaint, agents seized a desktop computer containing approximately 40 images of child pornography and more than 200,000 erased images. They also seized a laptop computer that contained approximately 3,000 to 5,000 images of alleged child pornography, depicting what appeared to be real nude children engaging in sexually explicit activities and poses. The laptop also had a program called "Evidence Eliminator," which is used to erase images stored on computers. In addition, agents seized digital video disks (DVDs), including some that cannot be viewed without certain software and a secret password or encryption code. The affidavit also alleges that agents determined that Watzman is a paid member to websites featuring child pornography.

Mr. Fitzgerald announced the charges with Elissa A. Brown, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago office of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security. The government is being represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney T. Markus Funk.

If convicted, possession of child pornography carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and maximum fine of \$250,000. The Court, however, would determine the appropriate sentence to be imposed under the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The public is reminded that a complaint contains only charges and is not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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