



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois
Western Division*

*Michael D. Love
Assistant U.S. Attorney
www.usdoj.gov/usao/iln*

*308 West State Street - Room 300
Rockford, Illinois 61101*

*PH: (815) 987-4444
FAX: (815) 987-4236*

June 16, 2010

ROCKFORD MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT TO POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, and ROBERT GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, today made the following announcement:

MICHAEL ESTELL, 26, of Rockford, Illinois, pled guilty today in federal court in Rockford to possessing child pornography. Estell had been charged on May 5, 2009, by indictment with possession of child pornography in November of 2007.

In pleading guilty, Estell admitted that on November 30, 2007, he knowingly possessed child pornography which had been transported in interstate commerce. In particular, Estell admitted he used a computer located at his residence to access the internet to obtain, electronically store, and print images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

Sentencing for Estell will be conducted on October 1, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. Estelle faces a maximum potential sentence of up to 10 years in prison, as well as a fine of up to \$250,000. The actual sentence will be determined by a United States District Court Judge, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The case was investigated by the Chicago Federal Bureau of Investigation's Innocent Images Task Force. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney MICHAEL D. LOVE.

#####