

## R. Booth Goodwin II, United States Attorney Southern District of West Virginia

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## BOONE COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Derek S. Holley, 34, of Julian, Boone County, West Virginia, pleaded guilty today before United States District Judge John T. Copenhaver, Jr., to possession of child pornography. Holley admitted that on November 20, 2008, he possessed numerous images on three computer hard drives at his residence located in Julian. At the time the defendant possessed the images, he further admitted to knowing the images constituted child pornography. Many of the pornographic images depicted prepubescent minors.

Holley faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine when he is sentenced on August 18, 2011.

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement conducted the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney John Frail is in charge of the prosecution.

This case is being prosecuted 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 United States 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 cases and related activities please visit <u>www.projectsafechildhood.gov</u>.

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