

Department of Justice

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YOUNGSTOWN MAN SENTENCED ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Jason Gibbs, 34, of Youngstown, N.Y., who was convicted of possession of child pornography, was sentenced to five years in prison and 10 years supervised release by Chief U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric M. Opanga, who handled the case, stated that law enforcement found more than 600 images of child pornography on a home computer and digital media owned by Gibbs. The defendant obtained the images using a peer-to-peer filing sharing program. The images included children under the age of 12 and depictions of violence against children.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), 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 to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafchildhood.gov.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge James C. Spero.

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