



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
Eastern District of Virginia

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FBI Employee Convicted of Possession of Child Pornography

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Samuel I. Kaplan, 64, of Gainesville, Va., pled guilty late yesterday to possessing child pornography.

Neil H. MacBride, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Glenn Fine, Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Justice, made the announcement after Kaplan's plea was accepted by United States District Judge T.S. Ellis, III. Kaplan faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison when he is sentenced on Aug. 27, 2010.

According to court records, Kaplan, who is employed as an Information Technology Program Manager at an FBI facility in Chantilly, Va., was discovered using the FBI's network to facilitate sexually explicit communications. During the course of investigating Kaplan, investigators from the Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General discovered that he possessed, on his home computer, between 10 and 20 images depicting minor victims engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

This case is being investigated by the United States Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General. Special Assistant United States Attorney Jeffrey Zeeman is prosecuting the case on behalf of the United States.

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.projectsafechildhood.gov.

A copy of this press release may be found on the website of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/vae>. Related court documents and information may be found on the website of the District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia at <http://www.vaed.uscourts.gov> or on <http://pacer.uspci.uscourts.gov>.

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