

## Portland man gets 15 years for child porn

by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources

### Oregon Human Trafficking Task Force Refers Information Regarding Minor Victim Involved in Production of Child Pornography

PORTLAND, Ore. — Charles Ross, Jr., 25, was sentenced to 180 months imprisonment following his guilty plea to one count of Production of Child Pornography. U.S. District Court Judge Garr M. King ordered that Ross serve a term of 5 years on supervised release following the completion of his prison term.

Law enforcement officers from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Tigard Police Department acted on information received from members of the Oregon Human Trafficking Task Force regarding a child pornography case involving a minor female who had been provided with alcohol and methamphetamine in July of 2006. Agents executed a search warrant on a residence in NW Portland where they discovered a 19 year old woman and Ross, a convicted felon, in a room with a loaded handgun, a camera and computer equipment. Evidence collected from the search included child pornography. In his plea of guilty, Ross admitted that he produced child pornography in violation of federal law.

“Individuals who seek to harm or sexually exploit children should know they will be held accountable and aggressively prosecuted for their actions,” stated U.S. Attorney Karin Immergut. “Thanks to the hard work of ICE, FBI, Tigard Police Department, Washington County Sheriff’s Office, Gladstone Police Department and the coordination of the Oregon Human Trafficking Task Force this defendant was brought to justice.”

“Investigating those who seek to victimize children is one of the most important responsibilities that ICE has,” said Leigh Winchell, special agent in charge for ICE’s Office of Investigations in Seattle. “ICE remains committed to protecting our children and communities from sexual predators.”

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Johnathan S. Haub and investigated by agents from ICE, FBI, Tigard Police Department, Washington County Sheriff’s Office and the Gladstone Police Department. The Oregon Human Trafficking Task Force is a joint effort of state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies, operating in some cases with the assistance of Catholic Charities. The Multnomah County Sheriff facilitates the task force operated under a grant by the Department of Justice.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales 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.

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