

U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Illinois

A. Courtney Cox, U.S. Attorney
May - June 2008



A Message from the U.S. Attorney

In our society, the sight of a child being abused or neglected prompts us to immediate action. There is a war being waged against our children that is often difficult for us to see. This war takes place on the internet in the form of child pornography, chat rooms where children are enticed by predators, and by cyber-bullies. Our enemy in this war are thousands of adult predators.

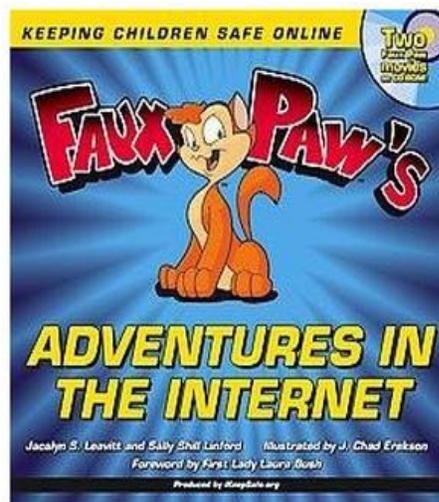
Our office and the Department of Justice are committed to fighting this war with the help of dedicated law enforcement officers who labor daily to apprehend these predators and bring them to justice. The number of predators on line at any given time is overwhelming. While we will continue to vigorously prosecute these criminals, prosecution will never provide a complete answer to this problem. We need the help of parents, educators, and the students all working together to teach children how to be safe on the internet.

The United States Attorney's Offices for the Southern and Central Districts of Illinois and the Eastern District of Missouri, in cooperation with the Southwestern Illinois Law

Enforcement Commission, is hosting a seminar on child exploitation at the Four Points Sheraton in Fairview Heights, Illinois on June 24 and 25, 2008. This seminar will provide free training for investigators and prosecutors.

Please contact Ron Shownes in our office for further details. [RShownes@usa.doj.gov] We hope you will attend. Also, we are now planning a conference at John A. Logan College this fall that will bring together people for a frank discussion of these issues. Details of this important event will be announced in the near future.

A. Courtney Cox



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Link to our website:

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/il/index.html>

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LECC Activities

The United States Attorney's Offices for the Southern and Central Districts of Illinois and the Eastern District of Missouri and the Southwestern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission is hosting the National Law Center for Children and Families PROTECTS Seminar on June 24 and 25, 2008 at the Four Points by Sheraton in Fairview Heights, Illinois. The flier below has all the seminar information, and the following link will take you to the online registration form. We are using national and local instructors to give the best benchmark training in this area.

<http://www.nationallawcenter.org/frequently-asked-questioregistration-open-for-southern-illinois-se-2.html>



Confronting the Challenge of Sexual Exploitation Crimes

Registration Deadline: June 18, 2008

Effective Training is Key to Solution

The exploitation of children is a serious problem in our society. Come learn from recognized experts how you can help address this threat to our communities.

Space is limited, and full capacity is often met prior to the registration deadline. **Sign up early to reserve a seat.**

There is **no fee for the seminar lectures and materials.** Lunch and snacks are also provided.

A limited number of travel stipends are available at each seminar. Please contact the National Law Center prior to May 21st for more information and to apply.

Who: State, local, and federal prosecutors and law enforcement officers

What: FREE training on child exploitation crimes

Where: Four Points By Sheraton Fairview Heights
319 Fountains Parkway
Fairview, IL 62208

When: June 24-25, 2008

Lodging information: A block of rooms has been reserved at the Four Points By Sheraton Fairview Heights, 319 Fountains Parkway. To receive the group rate of \$111 per night plus tax, call 618-622-9500 and provide the group name "NLC Protects Seminar Series."

More information on NLC Protects Seminars:
www.nationallawcenter.org/seminars/

About the NLC

The National Law Center for Children and Families (NLC) is a non-profit law center based in Alexandria, Virginia. Since 1991, the NLC has served as an agent of change and education in the area of child sexual exploitation. The NLC continues that service today in seminars, a quarterly newsletter, and through its website, www.nationallawcenter.org. The NLC also recognizes outstanding achievements in defending children from exploitation by presenting Child Defender Awards to exceptional individuals and agencies.

The NLC PROTECTS Seminar Series is a nationwide effort to train prosecutors and investigators on the challenges involved in child sexual exploitation cases. Additionally, NLC staff is partnering with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to prepare state legal manuals for law enforcement professionals on child exploitation crimes.

General Sessions

Sex Offender Management
Human Trafficking
Juvenile Prostitution
Interviews and Interrogations
State and Federal Cases
Computer, Internet, and Digital Forensics
National Center for Missing and Exploited
Children Overview

Breakout Session for Prosecutors

Child Pornography Law: Pre-Trial and Trial
Discovery Considerations
State and Federal Laws
Overcoming Defenses

Breakout Session for Investigators

On-line Enticement
Peer-to-Peer Networking
Grooming

Seminar Co-sponsors:

United States Attorney's Offices for the
Southern District of Illinois, Central District
of Illinois, and Eastern District of Missouri
&
Southwestern Illinois Law
Enforcement Commission



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National Missing Children's Day/Operation Safe Kids

A. Courtney Cox, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced several events that were held in honor of National Missing Children's Day and in support of the Attorney General's Project Safe Childhood Initiative.

Since 1983, our nation has observed May 25th as National Missing Children's Day. May 25th is the anniversary of the day in 1979 when six-year-old Etan Patz disappeared from a New York street corner on his way to school. National Missing Children's Day serves as an annual reminder to the nation to renew efforts to reunite missing children with their families, remember those who are still missing, and make child protection a national priority. More information about the history of National Missing Children's Day can be found on the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children website at www.take25.org.

NETSMARTZ WORKSHOP

On May 16, the Illinois State Police presented an internet safety program called "NetSmartz" to a seventh grade class at Grant Middle School in Fairview Heights. The NetSmartz Workshop is an interactive, educational safety resource from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and Boys & Girls Clubs of America for children aged 5 to 17, parents, guardians, educators, and law enforcement that uses age-appropriate, 3-D activities to teach children how to stay safer on the Internet.

OPERATION SAFE KIDS

Operation Safe Kids fingerprinting events were held at various locations in St. Clair, Madison, and Monroe Counties on May 16 and May 17. The events were planned by a committee of

representatives from the U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Secret Service, Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and various local and state law enforcement agencies.

The Livescan Child ID system, provided by the Secret Service, is a portable children's identification system which produces a biographical document containing a photograph; digitized, inkless fingerprints; and vital identification information. Parents receive the document for safekeeping for later use in the event of a child abduction or disappearance.

The following agencies participated in the events: The U.S. Attorney's Office; Secret Service; Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division; Illinois State Police; Federal Bureau of Investigation; U.S. Marshals Service; U.S. Department of Labor; U.S. Postal Inspection Service; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; U.S. Probation Office, Southern District of Illinois; Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General; Drug Enforcement Administration; U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations; Alton Police Department; Granite City Police Department; Edwardsville Police Department; Belleville Police Department; O'Fallon Police Department; Columbia Police Department; and Glen Carbon Police Department.



RECENT NOTEWORTHY CASES

COCAINE AND FIREARMS

[CRAIG M. BRANTLEY](#), age 37, of Mt. Vernon, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton on April 10, 2008. **BRANTLEY** was sentenced to 188 months' imprisonment, fined \$200, and placed on six years' supervised release.

BRANTLEY had pleaded guilty to two counts in a federal indictment. **BRANTLEY** was charged with two counts of distribution of crack cocaine which occurred on September 14 and 15, 2006, in Mt. Vernon.

The investigation was a cooperative effort among the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case is being handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney George Norwood.

[ANTHONY E. MOORE, a/k/a "Rab,"](#) age 31, of Mt. Vernon, was convicted on two counts following a jury trial in the U.S. District Court in Benton.

MOORE was convicted of one count of conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. The conspiracy began in October 2002 and continued through March 2007 in Jefferson County and elsewhere.

MOORE was also convicted of being a felon in possession of a firearm on January 12, 2007, in Mt. Vernon.

MOORE was found not guilty of pos-

sessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense.

With respect to the conspiracy conviction, because of the amount of crack cocaine **MOORE** was convicted of conspiring to distribute and because **MOORE** has a prior drug felony conviction, **MOORE** faces a maximum possible penalty of life imprisonment, a fine of up to \$8 million, and a term of at least ten years of supervised release.

With respect to the conviction for being a felon in possession of a firearm, **MOORE** faces up to ten years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and a term of supervised release of up to three years.

The investigation was a cooperative effort among the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney George Norwood.

[RANDALL D. McBRIDE](#), age 43, of Ava, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton. **McBRIDE**, who had pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, was sentenced to 120 months' imprisonment, five years' supervised release, and fined \$300.

The crack cocaine offense occurred between September 2002 and January 2007 in Jackson and Jefferson Counties. One co-defendant has already been sentenced to 200 months' imprisonment. One co-defendant has

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

pleaded not guilty and is awaiting a July 7, 2008 jury trial.

The investigation was a cooperative effort among the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On May 22, 2008, [ROOSEVELT TURNER](#), age 42, of Alton, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court for the felony offense of conspiracy to distribute cocaine. **TURNER** was sentenced to a term of 360 months' imprisonment, and upon completion of his imprisonment, ten years of supervised release. **TURNER** had been found guilty after a four-day jury trial ending on March 1, 2007.

Evidence presented at trial showed that **TURNER** was a leader in a large-scale, violent cocaine distribution organization that involved the distribution of over 50 kilograms of cocaine in the metro St. Louis area. **TURNER**, who was found to be in possession of weapons during the crime, was a fugitive for 16 months after his indictment. **TURNER** was found to be living under an assumed name in Louisiana by the U.S. Marshals Service.

The investigation was conducted under the auspices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. Participating agencies

included the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Drug Enforcement Administration, Alton Police Department, and Illinois State Police.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Ranley R. Killian and Daniel T. Kapsak.

ILLEGAL ALIEN

On May 12, 2008, [JUAN CASTILLO-CRUZ](#), age 47, was sentenced to 47 months' imprisonment for illegal re-entry after deportation by an aggravated felon. **CASTILLO-CRUZ** was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis.

CASTILLO-CRUZ pleaded guilty to the federal charge on January 22, 2008. At the time of his plea, **CASTILLO-CRUZ** admitted that he had been deported from the United States to Mexico on three prior occasions. **CASTILLO-CRUZ** further admitted that he has two prior felony convictions in the United States: aggravated battery in Florida in 2001, and a previous federal conviction for Illegal re-entry in California in 2004.

CASTILLO-CRUZ was arrested near Vandalia on August 10, 2007. He was one of 15 illegal aliens who fled from a disabled van when an Illinois State Police officer stopped near the vehicle to investigate and offer assistance. He has been confined since his arrest last August.

The investigation of **CASTILLO-CRUZ's** conviction was conducted by Illinois State Police officers, and by special agents of Immi-

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

gration and Customs Enforcement assigned to the St. Louis, Missouri field office.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert L. Garrison.

METHAMPHETAMINE

[VICENTE LOMELI-FLORES](#), age 43, of Caseyville, was sentenced to 47 months' imprisonment for distribution of methamphetamine.

FLORES was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis on May 2, 2008. He had pleaded guilty on December 14, 2007, to charges of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine in excess of 500 grams and to possession of methamphetamine in excess of 50 grams. **FLORES** has been incarcerated since April 12, 2007.

FLORES admitted distributing large quantities of methamphetamine in Fairmont City in early 2007. **FLORES**, a former jockey at Fairmont Park, also admitted that he had obtained the methamphetamine which he distributed from associates at a race track near Kansas City, Missouri.

Two co-defendants were convicted in the methamphetamine distribution scheme, along with **FLORES**.

The investigation which led to the conviction of **FLORES** and two others was conducted by special agents and task force officers assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration and Fairmont City Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert L. Garrison.

[SHAWN D. TAYLOR](#), age 35, of Percy was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis. **TAYLOR**, who had pleaded guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, was sentenced to 120 months' imprisonment, eight years' supervised release, and fined \$850.

The investigation established that from at least October 2005 through May 14, 2007, **TAYLOR** and others were manufacturing methamphetamine in Jackson, Williamson, and Perry Counties. Three co-defendants have been sentenced to imprisonment for their roles in the methamphetamine conspiracy. Four co-defendants have pleaded guilty and are awaiting sentencing. Two co-defendants have pleaded not guilty and are awaiting a June 9, 2008, jury trial.

The investigation is being conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, the Murphysboro Police Department, U.S. Marshals Service, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. The Perry County Sheriff's Office also participated in the investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

MARIHUANA

[THOMAS A. SOTO III](#), age 25, of Tucson, Arizona, was sentenced to five years in federal prison for conspiracy to distribute in excess of 100 kilograms (240 pounds) of marijuana.

SOTO was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis. He had pleaded guilty to the one-count federal indictment on February 4, 2008.

At his change of plea hearing in February, **SOTO** admitted that he had personally transported over \$300,000 in cash from East St. Louis to Tucson in 2006. The cash in question represented drug proceeds for marijuana which **SOTO** and others had shipped from Tucson and sold in East St. Louis.

The investigation was conducted by special agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys J. Christopher Moore and Robert L. Garrison.

Dates of Significance in May and June

MAY

- May 1: Sri Lanka: Suicide bomber kills President Premadasa during May Day (1993)
- May 2: Holocaust Remembrance Day
- May 3: Zacarias Moussaoui sentenced to life in prison for aiding the 911 attacks (2006)
- May 6: Politician Manuel Jimenez killed in attack in Zaragoza; Euskadi Ta Askatasuna lamed, Spain (2001)
- May 7: Authorities disrupt plot to attack Fort Dix military base in New Jersey (2007); Unknown suicide bomber attacks historic mosque, killing 15 and wounding 96, Pakistan (2004); Suicide bomber at club kills 15 and injures 55 in Tel Aviv; HAMAS responsible, Israel (2002)
- May 8: Chechen Republic President Kadyrov killed at stadium in Grozny when remotely detonated explosive kills 10, wounds 56, Russia (2004); Firebombing of U.S. Citibank and Xerox buildings, Spain (1985)
- May 9: Taliban closes four UN offices in retaliation for the imposition of UN sanctions, Afghanistan (2001)
- May 10: Remote-control mine rips through Victory Day parade in Dagestan leaving 41 dead; Chechen separatists suspected, Russia (2002)

JUNE

- June 1: A roadside bomb exploded near the UN military base in Bejii killing 11 and injuring 24 others; HAMAS claims responsibility for Tel Aviv disco suicide bomb that kills 20 and wounds 120 (2001); Iraq - unknown group explodes car bomb in front of Patriotic Union of Kurdistan's office killing 25

June 2: Timothy McVeigh found guilty for the murder of eight federal law enforcement officials and conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction (WMD) in the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma bombing (1997); Police arrest 17 alleged terrorists in Ontario; group believed to be planning attacks using truck bombs and small arms fire, Canada (2006)

June 3: Gordon Kahl of Posse Comitatus was killed during an exchange of gunfire with U.S. Marshals (1983); U.S. authorities disrupt plot to blow up a system of jet fuel supply tanks and pipelines at John F. Kennedy (JFK) International Airport, New York (2007); The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) claimed responsibility for the arson of a luxury home in the Sterling Oaks Development of Chico, California. "Save our bio-region ELF" was printed on the sidewalk (2003); Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini dies after 10-year rule, Iran (1989)

June 4: ELF graffiti, "ELF" and "stop sprawl," were spray painted on equipment at the scene of a fire at a residential construction site in Washington Township, Michigan, which destroyed two houses. The same message was found on March 21, 2003, when two unfinished houses were destroyed due to arson in Superior Township, Michigan (2003); ELF was reportedly responsible for an arson attempt made at a shopping center under construction in Chico, California. "ELF" was spray painted on the door of work truck at the site (2003); Turkey police kill two DHKP/C terrorist preparing to attack U.S. Consulate (1999)

June 5: UN World Environment Day. 2008 location: New Zealand. The slogan for 2008 is "CO2, Kick the Habit! Towards a Low Carbon Economy."; car packed with explo-

Dates of Significance in May and June, Continued

- sives rams bus, killing 17, wounding 38. Islamic Jihad responsible, Israel.
- June 6: Beginning of Israeli-Arab "Six-Day" war (1967); bomb maker Singh Reyat charged in 1985 Air India bombing and jailed in Japan, Canada (2001); James Byrd Jr., Jasper, Texas, dragged to death after he accepted a ride with three white males who were linked to extremist groups (1998); a car bomb that exploded outside a U.S. military base in Taji killed six people and injured 20 others (2004)
- June 7: Osama bin Laden added to the FBI's most wanted list (1999); Abu Mus'ab al-Zarqawi, leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq, killed during coalition raid; missionary Martin Burnham killed during gun battle between Philippine government troops and Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) captors, Philippines (2002)
- June 8: Attack of United States Ship (USS) Liberty by Israeli Armed Forces, 34 U.S. sailors killed (1967); five hooded individuals stormed and threw Molotov cocktails inside a MacDonal'd's restaurant in southeast Santiago, Chili, destroying the interior (2004)
- June 10: The Great Arab Revolt and Army Day, J Jordan (1916); Osama bin Laden's jihad expanded to include all U.S. citizens in the Middle East (1998)
- June 11: Timothy McVeigh executed (2001)
- June 11-19: Terrorists kidnapped and executed American Paul Johnson in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. This is attributed to al-Qaeda of the Arabian Peninsula (2004)
- June 12: Abu Nidal, previous leader of the Abu Nidal Organization (ANO), and three others stand trial in absentia for 1994 murder of Jordanian diplomat, Lebanon (2001); ASG claims beheading of U.S. hostage Guillermo Sobero; confirmed in October, Philippines (2001)
- June 14: U.S. Army birthday; U.S. Flag Day; Trans World Airlines (TWA) aircraft, en route to Beirut, was hijacked by pro-Iranian terrorists. They executed U.S. Navy diver, Robert Stetham, who was on the plane. Hezbollah claimed responsibility (1985); "ELF" was scratched on ten new sport utility vehicles (SUVs) in Santa Cruz, California, causing an estimated \$15,000 worth in damages (2003)
- June 15: Sudanese citizen Abdul Rauf Hawash and Indian National Shameem Sarvar arrested for plotting to blow up U.S. Embassy in New Delhi on orders from Osama bin Laden (2001)
- June 17: Abu Mus'ab al-Zarqawi extremists bomb Iraqi army recruitment center, killing 35 and wounding 138 (2004)
- June 18: Denver radio host Alan Berg was murdered by individuals linked to The Order.
- June 21: Japanese Aum Shinrikyo cult released a sarin gas in Matsumoto, Japan that killed seven people and injured approximately 600 others (1994); U.S. Courts indict 13 members of Saudi Hezbollah and a Lebanese Hezbollah member for 1998 bombing of Khobar Towers that killed 19 U.S. airmen (2001)
- June 25: Bombing of Khobar Towers in Dhahran, 19 U.S. airmen killed; Saudi and Lebanese's Hezbollah held responsible (1996)