



Department of Justice

**Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney
Southern District of Indiana**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: MARY BIPPUS

(317) 229-2403

Fax: (317) 226-5002

Cell: (317) 590-7928

BROWN COUNTY RESIDENT CHARGED WITH POSSESSING 40,000 IMAGES OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that THOMAS ELY, 66, Brown County, Indiana, was charged today with possession of child pornography, following an investigation by the Brown County Sheriff's Department and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

The information alleges that on March 23, 2008, Ely possessed approximately 40,000 sexually explicit images of children contained in printed pictures and several computer disks. The images were recovered from boxes in storage on the property of an organization to which ELY belonged. When discovered, the Brown County Sheriff's Department was called.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Gayle L. Helart, who is prosecuting the case for the government, ELY faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The information is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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