



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Texas

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **EAST TEXAS MAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS**

(Tyler, Texas) A 63-year-old Chapel Hill, Texas man has been sentenced to 10 years in federal prison for possessing child pornography. U.S. District Judge Leonard Davis sentenced **ERIC MONROE CLIFFORD** this morning after U.S. Magistrate Judge Judith Guthrie accepted his guilty plea.

According to information prosecutors presented in court, Clifford was arrested after investigators discovered child pornography on his computer. Clifford admitted in court that he had previously been convicted of child sodomy in Missouri in 1993 and had three convictions for handling and fondling a child under the age of 14 in Florida in 1983. Today, Clifford agreed to plead guilty to Possession of Material Involving the Sexual Exploitation of Minors and to be sentenced immediately to 10 years imprisonment based on his prior convictions.

**U.S. Attorney Matthew D. Orwig praised the work of the FBI and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force for pursuing this investigation, "I want to thank law enforcement for moving quickly when child pornography was discovered on the defendant's computer. He has a lengthy record of abusing innocent children. This office will continue to vigorously investigate and prosecute those who exploit children."**

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The FBI and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, spearheaded by the Longview Police Department investigated the case with assistance from the Department of Public Safety Special Crimes Unit and the U.S. Marshal Service. Assistant U.S. Attorney Gregg Marchessault prosecuted the case.

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