



U.S. Department of Justice

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## PRESS RELEASE

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**Public Affairs**

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### **North Carolina Man Pleads Guilty to Producing Child Pornography**

**Washington, D.C.** – Frank Lombard, 43, of Durham, North Carolina, pled guilty today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips. Sentencing has been scheduled for March 30, 2010, before the Honorable Gladys Kessler. At sentencing, Lombard, a former Duke University employee, faces a mandatory minimum of 15 years of imprisonment, and a maximum of 30 years of imprisonment.

According to the Statement of the Offense filed in conjunction with the plea agreement, Lombard admitted to streaming a live pornographic image of himself and his prepubescent adopted son to another internet user via a webcam in August 2008, evidence of which was found during a search of Lombard's Durham, North Carolina home pursuant to a federal search warrant on June 24, 2009. Lombard also admitted that during a June 24, 2009 internet chat session with an undercover police officer, he invited that officer to fly to Durham, North Carolina, in order to have sexual contact with his adopted son. At the time of Lombard's June 24, 2009 arrest, child pornography materials were found in his home, and he admitted to law enforcement agents that he had engaged in sexual contact with his adopted son.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood and the FBI/MPD Child Exploitation Task Force. In February 2006, the Attorney General created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by U.S. Attorney's 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. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

In announcing the guilty plea, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended the outstanding efforts and coordination of the FBI/MPD Child Exploitation Task Force, Washington Metropolitan Police Department Detective Timothy Palchak, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Special Agent E. Michael Smith, Jr., and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of North Carolina. He also praised the work of Assistant U.S. Attorney Keith A. Becker, from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, who is prosecuting this case.

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