



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

Jackson County Courthouse • 1001 Walnut • Third Floor • Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-7200 • FAX (618) 687-7215

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

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MURPHYSBORO MAN SENTENCED TO 27 YEARS FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Murphysboro man was sentenced for child pornography on October 28, 2014, and was sentenced to prison.

Richard J. Taylor, 48, of Murphysboro, IL, who was charged in Jackson County Circuit Court with Child Pornography, was sentenced to serve a total of 27 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The defendant will serve a period of Mandatory Supervised Release upon his release from the Department of Corrections of three years to his natural life. The defendant will also have to register as a sex offender for the rest of his natural life.

On July 30, 2014, agents with the Illinois Attorney General's Office Investigations and High Tech Crimes Bureau executed a search warrant at the defendant's home on Oak Street, Murphysboro, Illinois. Agents discovered internet traffic coming from the defendant's home which indicated the possession of child pornography. That fact led to the issuance of a search warrant for his home. Upon execution of that warrant, agents located the defendant and determined that he was the lone occupant. Agents also discovered a computer and external hard drive active within the home. Upon examining that computer, agents recovered a number of videos depicting the sexual abuse of children under the age of thirteen.

Agents also discovered that the defendant had been copying files from internal hard drives to external hard drives, constituting reproduction of Child Pornography pursuant to Illinois State Law. During a subsequent interview with the defendant, the defendant admitted engaging in downloading and possession Child Pornography images.

The defendant was sentenced to 15 years for the above noted reproduction of Child Pornography, a Class X Felony, and 6 years on two counts of possession of Child Pornography, each Class 2 Felonies. Pursuant to the Illinois Code of Corrections, these sentences must be served consecutively, meaning the defendant was sentenced to a total of 27 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

This investigation was conducted by the Illinois Attorney General's Office as part of "Operation Glass House," a statewide initiative to apprehend the most active offenders who download and trade child pornography online. "Child pornography is a horrific crime that victimizes children each time an image is viewed or traded," Attorney General Lisa Madigan said. "My office has been—and will continue to be—relentless in tracking down and apprehending offenders who download these heinous videos." The Attorney General's Office's Investigations Unit and High Tech Crimes Bureau conducted this investigation. Assistant State's Attorney Casey Bloodworth prosecuted this case.