



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TWO VERNON COUNTY RESIDENTS SENTENCED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Nevada, Mo., woman and a Schell City, Mo., man were sentenced in federal court today on child pornography charges.

**Diane K. Houdeshell**, 40, of Nevada, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this afternoon to seven years in federal prison without parole for producing child pornography. The court also ordered **Houdeshell** to forfeit to the United States all computer-related equipment – including two Compaq Presario computers; a Polaroid digital camera, an RCA camcorder; two videocassette recorders – and all paraphernalia (including costumes and props) involved in the production, distribution or possession of child pornography.

On March 29, 2003, **Houdeshell** and her husband, co-defendant **Raymond Houdeshell**, 41, also of Nevada, Mo., both pleaded guilty to one count of using a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing visual depictions of such conduct. A sentencing hearing for **Raymond Houdeshell** is scheduled for Nov. 25, 2003.

**Fred M. Frakes**, 36, of Schell City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to two years in federal prison without parole for receiving child pornography.

On March 29, 2003, **Frakes** pleaded guilty to one count of receiving through the mail and the Internet visual depictions of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

The **Houdeshells** and **Frakes** were indicted by a federal grand jury in Springfield on Oct. 24, 2001.

By pleading guilty, **Diane Houdeshell** admitted that on two separate occasions between

May 1, 1999 and May 10, 2001, she took a series of photographs of a 12-year-old minor in her home. These visual depictions captured the minor nude and engaging in sexually explicit conduct. **Diane Houdeshell** persuaded the minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing these visual depictions of such conduct, which were mailed outside the state and eventually appeared on Internet Web sites. **Diane Houdeshell** also admitted that, on a third occasion, she took a series of photographs of a 12-year-old minor in her home. These visual depictions captured the minor clothed in sexually suggestive undergarments and, in some frames, engaging in sexually explicit conduct. **Diane Houdeshell** persuaded the minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing these visual depictions.

By pleading guilty, **Raymond Houdeshell** admitted that he assisted his wife in staging a series of photographs of a 12-year-old minor at their home between May 1, 1999 and May 10, 2001. These visual depictions captured the minor clothed in sexually suggestive undergarments and, in some frames, engaging in sexually explicit conduct. **Raymond Houdeshell** used the minor and posed with the minor engaging in the sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing the visual depictions.

By pleading guilty, **Frakes** admitted that, between February 17, 2001 and April 6, 2001, at his home in Vernon County, he knowingly and intentionally obtained over the Internet, from an individual operating a Web site in Chicago, Ill., an image of the 12-year-old girl victimized by the **Houdeshells**, who was nude and engaging in sexually explicit conduct. In order to obtain that image, **Frakes** submitted three photographs of a 14-year-old minor to the individual in Chicago.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Katharine Fincham. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Vernon County Sheriff's Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
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