



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

JUNE 17, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORSYTHE, MO., MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO PRODUCING CHILD PORN

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Forsythe, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to producing child pornography.

Danny Ray Lee, Sr., 52, of Forsyth, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to a federal indictment that was returned by a grand jury on April 4, 2003.

By pleading guilty, **Lee** admitted that he persuaded or coerced a 13-year-old female to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing a visual depiction of such conduct between March 1 and Aug. 13, 2002, in Taney County, Mo.

Lee photographed the minor female on several occasions using a digital camera, Graves said, and used a Web camera to make short movie-type images of the minor female engaged in sexually explicit conduct. **Lee** stored the digital photos on his computer equipment and on computer disks, some of which he burned in an effort to destroy evidence against him when he learned that his conduct had been reported to law enforcement officials.

As a result of today's guilty plea, **Lee** may be subject to a sentence of at least 15 years, and up to 30 years, in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. **Lee's** sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the Taney County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the United States Secret Service, the United States Customs Service and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

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

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow