



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FULTON, MO., MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Fulton, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to possession of child pornography.

**Mikel P. Sweeney**, 33, of Fulton, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to being in possession of computer files that contained visual depictions of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

On Jan. 4, 2002, Fulton Police officers and members of the Missouri State Technical Assistance Team conducted a search of **Sweeney's** residence and seized a computer, Graves said, after receiving reports that Sweeney had images of child pornography his computer. Investigators found images of a minor female engaged in sexually explicit conduct, which **Sweeney** had received via the Internet.

As a result of today's plea agreement, **Sweeney** may be subject to up to five years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. The 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.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lawrence E. Miller. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Missouri State Technical Assistance Team, and the Fulton, Mo., Police 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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