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ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL: DEKALB COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY, SENTENCED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Chicago — Attorney General Kwame Raoul today announced a DeKalb County man prosecuted by his office was sentenced to 14 years in prison followed by three years to life of mandatory supervised release.

Corey Butler, 42, of DeKalb, Illinois, was sentenced on Wednesday by DeKalb County Circuit Court Judge Marcy Buick after pleading guilty to one Class X felony count of child pornography dissemination.

"Child pornography is an abhorrent crime that exploits innocent children and their families each time an image is downloaded or shared," Raoul said. "This sentencing highlights the vital efforts of my Crimes Against Children Task Force, which works tirelessly to identify and track down individuals who assault and exploit children. I will continue to partner with law enforcement and state's attorneys throughout Illinois to ensure justice for victims."

Raoul alleges that Butler disseminated child pornography by making it available to download over a peer-topeer file sharing network.

Attorney General Raoul's office prosecuted the case with DeKalb County State's Attorney Rick Amato's office.

"Collaboration between Attorney General Raoul's office and local authorities is crucial to investigating and prosecuting these heinous crimes," said DeKalb County State's Attorney Rick Amato. "I would like to thank the Orland Park Police Department, the Sycamore Police Department, and the DeKalb Police Department for their steadfast work to hold child predators accountable."

The case is part of Attorney General Raoul's work to investigate and prosecute child pornographers in Illinois. Raoul's office, with a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, runs the <u>Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force</u> that investigates child exploitation crimes and trains law enforcement agencies. The task force receives CyberTips, or online reports of child pornography, from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Over the last several years, CyberTipline reports have steadily increased. In 2021, reports to the ICAC increased by 42% over 2020.

Illinois' ICAC Task Force is one of 61 ICAC Task Forces throughout the country and is comprised of a network of more than 285 local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Since 2019, the Attorney General's ICAC Task Force has received more than 24,100 CyberTips and has been involved in more than 408 arrests of sexual predators. Since 2006, the Attorney General's ICAC Task Force has been involved in more than 1,840 arrests of sexual predators. The task force also has provided internet safety training and education to more than 962,779 parents, teachers and students, in addition to more than 23,250 law enforcement professionals.

Raoul reminds the public that online child sexual exploitation can be reported at www.cybertipline.com and child abuse can be reported at defs.illinois.gov. In addition, local child advocacy centers can be found here: www.childrensadvocacycentersofillinois.org.

Assistant Attorney General Shantikumar Kulkarni handled the case for Raoul's High Tech Crimes Bureau and Steve Strahm handled forensics for Raoul's High Tech Crimes Bureau. Assistant State's Attorney Monique Langrehr handled the case for DeKalb County State's Attorney Rick Amato's office.