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United States Attorney's Office

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PRESS RELEASE

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Mason City Man Sentenced to 22 Years in Prison for Child Exploitation and Gun Crimes

A man who sexually exploited children, possessed child pornography, and possessed a stolen firearm was sentenced October 2, 2026, to 22 years in federal prison.

Parker Jon Thompson, age 20, from Mason City, Iowa, received the prison term after an April 2, 2026, guilty plea to sexual exploitation of children, possession of child pornography, and possession of a stolen firearm.

Evidence at court hearings showed that in June 2025, Thompson helped his friends plan a burglary at a gun shop in Mason City. His friends stole several guns and gave at least two of the guns to Thompson. Law enforcement officers searched Thompson's phone while investigating the burglary. Officers found child pornography on the phone. Additional investigation revealed that Thompson recorded multiple children engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Thompson also asked a child to send him depictions of the child engaging in sex acts.

Thompson was sentenced in Cedar Rapids by United States District Court Chief Judge C.J. Williams. Thompson was sentenced to 264 months' imprisonment and must also serve a ten-year term of supervised release after the prison term. There is no parole in the federal system.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who sexually exploit children, and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.usdoj.gov/psc. For more information about Internet safety education, please visit www.usdoj.gov/psc and click on the tab "resources."

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This case is part of Operation Take Back America, a nationwide initiative

that marshals the full resources of the Department of Justice to repel the invasion of illegal immigration, achieve the total elimination of cartels and transnational criminal organizations (TCOs), and protect our communities from the perpetrators of violent crime.

Thompson is being held in the United States Marshal's custody until he can be transported to a federal prison.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Devra T. Hake and Kyndra Lundquist and investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Mason City Police Department, the Cerro Gordo Sheriff's Office, the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, and the Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement.

Court file information at https://ecf.iand.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/login.pl. The case file numbers are 25-CR-2054 and 26-CR-3011.

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