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CHILD SEX TRAFFICKER SENTENCED TO 16½ YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON

PHOENIX - Uawndre Larue Fields, 32, of San Diego, Calif., was sentenced on September 24, 2008 by U.S. District Court Judge David G. Campbell to 16½ years in federal prison. Fields and co-defendant DePaul Brooks, 27, of National City, Calif., were found guilty of two counts of Child Sex Trafficking and two counts of Interstate Transportation of a Minor for Prostitution by a federal jury in Phoenix earlier this year. Brooks was sentenced on July 1, 2008, to 8 years and 1 month in federal prison.

Fields and Brooks picked up the victims, 15- and 16-year-old girls, in Mesa, Ariz. after they had run away from a juvenile detention facility in Scottsdale, Ariz. Fields convinced the two to work for him as prostitutes so the men bought bus tickets for the girls and met them in San Diego. While there, a female prostitute taught them how to commit acts of prostitution, created and posted Craigslist ads for their services on the Internet and arranged their jobs. The other prostitute collected the proceeds and turned all of the money over to Fields. The defendants brought the girls back to Phoenix and put them out on the street to work as prostitutes.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Phoenix Police Department. The prosecution was handled by Tracey A. Bardorf, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-07-0411-PHX-DGC

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