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California
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February 20, 2012

VIA E-MAIL

The Honorable Derek Schmidt
Attorney General of Kansas
120 SW 10th Ave., 2nd Floor
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear General Schmidt:

On behalf of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children ("NCMEC"), I am writing to express my support for Kansas House Bill 2464. This bill would help protect child pornography victims from revictimization.

This legislation would ensure that, in any criminal proceeding, child pornography remains in the custody and control of the prosecution, law enforcement or the court, as long as the state makes the material reasonably available to the defendant. This bill would make the Kansas state statute similar to the current federal law, 18 U.S.C. §3509(m). In enacting that statute, Congress made the following key findings: "Child pornography constitutes prima facie contraband, and as such should not be distributed to, or copied by, child pornography defendants or their attorneys. It is imperative to prohibit the reproduction of child pornography in criminal cases so as to avoid repeated violation and abuse of victims, so long as the government makes reasonable accommodations for the inspection, viewing, and examination of such material for the purposes of mounting a criminal defense." (See Public Law 109-248, Section 501). Prohibiting the reproduction of child pornography is necessary to ensure that the justice system does not inflict further harm on the child victims depicted in these illegal images.

Please don't hesitate to contact me or my staff if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued dedication to the children of Kansas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ernie Allen".

Ernie Allen
President and CEO