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U.S. Department of Justice

Gregory R. Miller  
United States Attorney  
Northern District of Florida

111 North Adams Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-1841  
Telephone (850)942-8430  
Fax (850)942-8429

21 East Garden Street, Suite 400  
Pensacola, Florida 32501-5603  
Telephone (850)444-4000  
Fax (850)432-7763

104 North Main, 4th Floor  
Gainesville, Florida 32601-3330  
Telephone (352)378-0996  
Fax (352)371-1912

Please reply to: [Tallahassee]

May 27, 2003

Ms. Sandy Rios, President  
Ms. Janet M. LaRue, Chief Counsel  
Concerned Women for America  
1015 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Rios and Ms. LaRue:

We are in receipt of your letter inquiring about the status of any obscenity cases filed by this office and the status of investigations into complaints about obscene material available on the Internet that have been filed on Morality In Media's web site, [www.obscenitycrimes.org](http://www.obscenitycrimes.org). The investigation and prosecution of child exploitation and obscenity is a priority in the Northern District of Florida. In fact, our office was represented at the Federal Prosecutors' Symposium on Obscenity in June of last year in Columbia, South Carolina, at which Attorney General John Ashcroft unequivocally committed the Department of Justice to the task of combating obscenity. Accordingly, we continue to work with state and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as with prosecutors in the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, to aggressively investigate and prosecute those individuals and companies who manufacture and distribute obscene materials.

We trust you understand that we are not able to comment on pending investigations into the distribution of obscene material into the Northern District of Florida. We can report, however, that we have asked our local federal law enforcement agents to investigate any and every complaint about potentially obscene material available in the Northern District of Florida. As we are sure you recognize, most, if not all, of the obscenity complaints received by this office

individuals or companies that create and distribute the objectionable material. Unfortunately, the trail to finding those individuals sometimes ends outside of our country's borders and out of our prosecutorial reach or, even more frequently, to a dead end. Other reasons that obscenity complaints may not be prosecutable are that venue may not lie in the Northern District of Florida, or the objectionable material giving rise to a complaint may not be obscene under the Supreme Court's obscenity standard set forth in *Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. 15 (1973).

Thank you so much for your inquiry about the status of our obscenity prosecutions. In addition to our efforts to investigate and prosecute obscenity cases, we continue to aggressively prosecute those individuals who exploit children. Be assured that we take very seriously all the complaints we have received and will continue to make it a priority to investigate and prosecute those individuals and entities that violate federal laws.

Sincerely,



GREGORY R. MILLER  
United States Attorney

cc: Len Register, MAUSA  
Tom Kirwin, FAUSA