

## Lightning Justice!

On 17 December 2012, at a General Court Martial, Private First Class George B. Adams, Company B, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2d Stryker Brigade Combat Team, was found guilty of Attempted Possession of Child Pornography. A Military Judge sentenced him to be reduced to the grade of E-1, to forfeit \$1000 pay per month for four months, and to be confined for four months.

On or about 11 October 2011, a Soldier borrowed an IPOD from PFC Adams. The Soldier found images of nude girls between the ages of three and thirteen as well as graphic stories depicting children engaged in explicit sexual conduct. The Soldier immediately reported the images and stories to the chain of command and then to the Criminal Investigation Division (CID). The resulting CID investigation and forensic analysis found no actual child pornography images on PFC Adam's computer, but did determine PFC Adams had been actively searching the internet for child pornography.

As PFC Adam's case illustrates, the mere attempt to commit a child pornography offense is a crime under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and offenders face the same maximum punishment as they would for committing the actual offense. Such punishment could include a punitive discharge, reduction in rank, and prolonged confinement. Additionally, a servicemember convicted at courts-martial of any child pornography offense, including an attempt to commit a child pornography offense, faces a life time requirement to register as a sex offender.