

# Notorious software pirate pleads guilty

June 16 2006

---

The head of what U.S. officials called a "massive for-profit software piracy Web site" pleaded guilty Friday to conspiracy and copyright infringement.

Danny Ferrer, 37, of Lakeland, Fla., will face a maximum of 10 years in prison when he is sentenced by a federal judge in Alexandria, Va., on Aug. 25.

Ferrer was arrested last year on charges stemming from BUYUSA.com, a Web site he and co-conspirators operated that peddled unauthorized copies of software from companies such as Adobe, Macromedia and Autodesk.

The Justice Department said in a news release the software disks were sold at well below legitimate retail prices and even included a serial number the buyer would use to activate the product.

Losses to the software industry were pegged at about \$20 million.

The enterprise seemed to pay off well for the pirates; Ferrer was required to forfeit three airplanes, a helicopter and a collection of late-model vehicles including a Hummer, Lamborghini and three Chevy Corvettes.

*Copyright 2006 by United Press International*

Citation: Notorious software pirate pleads guilty (2006, June 16) retrieved 3 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2006-06-notorious-software-pirate-guilty.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.