

Former sheriff's sergeant pleads guilty to park-and-ride lot sex charges

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GRAND RAPIDS, MI – A former Kent County Sheriff's Department sergeant fired 10 years ago for soliciting sex and sending pornographic pictures to who he thought was a 14-year-old boy has pleaded guilty to gross indecency between males.

Matthew Lavern Guy, 56, pleaded guilty Monday, Oct 20, in Kent County Circuit Court to allegations he received oral sex from a man at the park-and-ride lot along West River Drive NW near U.S. 131 on June 24.

Related: Former Kent County sheriff's sergeant faces new sex charges after conviction 10 years ago

The new charge came a decade after Guy pleaded to three counts of illegal use of a computer and was sentenced to 1-1/2 to 10 years in prison.

At that time, Guy was a sergeant with 17 years of experience with the sheriff's department when he was charged by the Michigan Attorney General's Office following a nine-month investigation that started with an undercover New Jersey police officer posing as a boy.

Investigators say Guy used a web cam to send "pornographic photos" over the Internet and tried to solicit the undercover officer for sex.

Guy, a husband and father of two who lives in Belmont, is a graduate of Grandville High School and Grand Valley State University. He worked briefly for the Walker and Grandville police departments before he was hired as a Kent County deputy in 1987.

He was sentenced in July of 2004 and was out of prison by November of 2006, according to court records. He also had to register as a sex offender for 25 years.

Due to his status as a convicted felon, he was charged as a fourth-felony offender, which carries a potential sentence of life in prison for this latest charge.

But because he pleaded guilty, the Kent County Prosecutor's Office agreed to drop the repeat-offender status, meaning the former cop faces a maximum of five years in prison when he is sentenced on Dec. 3 before Kent County Circuit Court Judge George Buth.

Guy is free on a \$1,000 bond.

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