



November 13, 2006

Breaking News

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[SLIDESHOW: Texas Wildfires](#)

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By Debby Schamber

The Orange Leader

For a former Vidor police officer, a picture is worth a thousand dollars — and five years probation

260th District Court Judge Buddie Hahn sentenced Chad Everett Bourque, 32, on Monday to five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice system for possession of child pornography. Hahn then suspended the sentence and gave Bourque five years probation and a \$1,000 fine. Bourque will also have to surrender his peace officer license and will have to register as a sex offender.

“This is a very unfortunate situation, but fair under the circumstances,” said Phillip Smith, Orange

County assistant district attorney.

According to reports, in April Bourque took explicit photos of a 17-year-old girl sitting and laying on his patrol cruiser.

The girl has joined the military and is serving overseas, according to police officials.

Bourque had been employed with the Vidor Police Department since 2001, but was suspended after the incident occurred. Bourque turned himself in to the Orange County Sheriff's Office in May after he was indicted for possession of child pornography. He was later released on a \$5,000 bond.

"When he was employed as a Vidor police officer, he did a good job," said Steve Conroy, Vidor police chief. "I am sorry that this has ruined his law enforcement career."

Bourque could have faced a punishment of two to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

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