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Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2009

Former county police officer sentenced for child pornography

Lusby man purchased at least five images from illegal Web sites in 2007

by Jordan Attebury | Staff Writer



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A former Prince George's County police officer was sentenced Monday at the Federal District Court in Greenbelt to 51 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release for possession of child pornography.

David John Larose, 35, of Lusby was a patrol officer for District 4 with the Prince George's Police Department since 1996. According to the plea agreement, Larose used his personal e-mail account to purchase child pornography from illegal child pornography Web sites between Oct. 2006 and at least April 2007. From January 2007 through April 2007, Larose made at least five purchases of child pornography images from the illegal Web sites.

During the hearing, U.S. District Judge Alexander Williams Jr. said Larose failed to accept responsibility of his conduct and had lied during his testimony, said Department of Justice spokeswoman Vickie LeDuc.

Larose's computer was seized by federal investigators in March 2008. Their search of the computer revealed that Larose used his computer to access, download and save images of child pornography. Larose admitted that his computer hard drive contained between 10 and 150 images of child pornography.

"He used his personal e-mail and his personal credit card for the transactions," LeDuc said.

Starting this week, Larose will be required to register as a sex offender in his future residence and workplace, under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. The project was launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice and led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section.

Project Safe Childhood organizes federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims.

Larose's attorney, Timothy Sullivan of Brennan Sullivan & McKenna LLP in Greenbelt, was unavailable for comment.

E-mail Jordan Attebury at jattebury@gazette.net.

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