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Richmond WI Dec 19 2008

The Wisconsin Department of Justice says a police officer was arrested for possession of child pornography and one count of sexual exploitation of a child.

Special agents from the Wisconsin Dept. of Justice and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the New Richmond Police Department arrested Anthony T. Miller of New Richmond after finding child pornography images on his computer.

Prosecutors say they executed a search warrant on Tuesday in New

Richmond at Miller's house at 1359 Island View Drive. Investigators say Miller admitted he downloaded, possessed and traded child pornography for the past two years.

Miller is an 11 year veteran of the Hastings, Minnesota police department. Investigators say Miller admitted he used his personal laptop while on duty as a police officer to go online. He also told investigators he was part of an online file sharing system where he chatted with other people who had child pornography.

Prosecutors say Miller would trade pornographic images of children and search the Internet for those images. Miller said the children in his images were usually between 9 and 15 years old.

Miller will be in court Thursday at 1 p.m. in Hudson. WEAU 13 News will have updates to this breaking news story on WEAU 13 News at 5 and 6 p.m.

Here is the full press release:

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AGENTS PARTNER WITH U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT AND NEW RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT IN INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN OPERATION

NEW RICHMOND – Special Agents from the Wisconsin Department of Justice's Division of Criminal Investigation along with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the New Richmond Police Department arrested Anthony T. Miller on 1 count of Possession of Child Pornography and 1 count of Sexual Exploitation of a Child.

US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) initiated a child pornography investigation regarding an internet website. The investigation was forwarded to the Wisconsin Department of Justice – Division of Criminal Investigation. Subsequently, a search warrant was obtained by WI DCI for the residence of Anthony T. Miller in New Richmond, WI.

On Tuesday, December 16, 2008 a search warrant was executed at the residence of Anthony T. Miller, located at 1359 Island View Drive, New Richmond, WI.

The warrant was served by law enforcement from the WI DCI, US ICE and New Richmond Police Department. Items of evidence were seized pursuant to the search warrant. Agents interviewed Miller. Miller admitted downloading, possessing and trading/distributing child pornography for approximately the past 2 years.

Miller reported that he is an 11 year veteran of the Hasting, Minnesota Police Department. Miller also admitted that he had used his personal laptop while on duty as a Hastings Officer to obtain wireless internet access via unencrypted wireless signals from random locations throughout the Hastings, MN area. Miller confirmed that he participated in an online file sharing program in which he would chat with other individuals involved in possessing child pornography. Miller would trade images of child pornography with these subjects via this file sharing program. Miller would also search the internet for child pornography by using selected, specific search terms. Miller estimated the age of the victims exposed in his child pornography images were typically between 9-15 years of age.

Miller is being arraigned today at 1 p.m. at the St. Croix County Courthouse in Hudson.

Questions concerning this case should be directed towards the St. Croix County District Attorney's office. A defendant enjoys the presumption of innocence. The prosecution must prove its allegations at trial beyond a reasonable doubt.

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