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## Trooper Arrested For Child Porn Bonds Out



### FHP Trooper Facing Child Porn Charges

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**LAKE COUNTY, Fla.** -- A state trooper arrested on child porn charges bonded out of the Lake County jail Tuesday evening. Detectives seized computers from Trooper Daniel Bowden 10 months ago, but took him into custody Tuesday.

When confronted by Eyewitness News late Tuesday afternoon, Bowden said little.

"Can you tell us why you downloaded porn?" WFTV reporter Mark Boyle asked.

"I can't say anything," Bowden replied.

Daniel Bowden was on the job, on patrol, the entire time that he was under investigation. Lake County detectives say it took nearly one year to arrest the trooper, because it can take that long to reconstruct images that may have been deleted from his computer.

Bowden was arrested on child pornography charges and fired Tuesday. Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Daniel Bowden had been on the force since August 2001.

Cyber crimes investigators say Bowden download at least 10 child porn images on his home computer. In an interview, he told detectives he didn't think what he was doing was a big deal.

"He didn't admit to downloading it, but he did tell us it was not anyone else in his house and he did make comments such as, 'I was just curious, that kind of thing,'" Jim Vachon of the Lake County Sheriff's Office said.

The online undercover investigation started in November 2008. Investigators seized Bowden's three home computers and they were sent off to a forensics lab to be tested. The arrest report indicates Bowden did not take the pictures, he just downloaded them.

"Can't go into a lot of detail about how he was singled-out, but our cyber crimes detectives routinely go undercover and develop intelligence or communicate with individuals who are in possession of child porn," Vachon said.

Bowden worked in DeLand but lived in Lake County. According to the FHP, Bowden has been involved in 12 car crashes since he was hired, but only two of which were determined to be his fault. He was also reprimanded two times for using profanity. A spokesperson said he cursed at a person inside of a restaurant and also at a fellow employee in 2008.

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