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# LAPD Officer, Son Charged in Child Porn Case

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KTLA News  
October 13, 2009

LOS ANGELES -- A veteran Los Angeles Police Department officer and his son are set to be arraigned today on charges that they possessed pornographic images of children.

John Deegan, 54, a patrol officer with the LAPD's Central Division, was indicted by a federal grand jury on two counts of possession of child pornography, according to a copy of an indictment filed in U.S. District Court.

The indictment includes charges of distribution, receipt and possession of child pornography against Deegan's 25-year-old son, Jonathon.

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Both share a house in Long Beach.

The elder Deegan, who has been an LAPD officer for more than 20 years, was relieved of duty in March, when FBI agents alerted police officials that he was under investigation, according to Deputy Chief Mark Perez, head of the department's Professional Service Bureau. He is receiving full pay.

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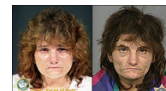
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Law enforcement officials say Deegan and his son turned themselves into authorities on Oct. 5 when they were formally arrested and charged. They were released on their own recognizance.

Federal authorities first suspected Jonathon of receiving and sending illicit images and video on the Internet, but when agents served a search warrant for the Deegan home, they allegedly found illicit material on both the elder and younger Deegan's computers.

Los Angeles Police Protective League President Paul M. Weber calls the allegations against the officer and his son "very disturbing" but reminds the public that everyone is "innocent until proven guilty."

"While the arrest is embarrassing to the men and women of the LAPD and the city, our message to the community is unequivocal: Anyone who does anything that might endanger the welfare of a child has no place in the LAPD. Harming children is against everything we stand for as an organization and as individuals," he said.



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