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Vermont Police Academy trainer found dead; computers seized (Child Porn Probe)

[Rutland Herald](#) ^ | 01/16/2010 | Brent Curtis Staff Write

Posted on **January 16, 2010 5:11:28 PM PST** by [The Magical Mischief Tour](#)

PITTSFORD — A Vermont Police Academy training coordinator was found dead of an apparent suicide on the academy's grounds today — days after state police initiated a criminal investigation into potential child pornography found on his computer, according to police.

Police also said former academy director R.J. Elrick, who resigned on Thursday, was part of an internal personnel investigation that focused on “electronic communication” between staff members, including David McMullen whose body was found at about 10:20 a.m. today behind a maintenance shed at the academy.

McMullen, 44, was under criminal investigation following the discovery that “potential” child pornography was accessed on his computer at the academy from an outside source.

On Friday, state police executed a search warrant at McMullen's home where a home computer and other items were seized, police said this afternoon.

Police said an autopsy would be performed on McMullen. A press conference was held earlier this afternoon.

According to the academy's Web site, McMullen joined the staff in May 2005 serving as the training coordinator for homeland security and counter-terrorism.

McMullen also worked 16 years for the state Department of Corrections and was employed as a part-time police officer in Vergennes, according to the Web site.

Elrick's connection to McMullen wasn't described in a brief police statement.

However, police did say that four computers were seized from the academy on Jan. 7. Police also said the personnel investigation concerning Elrick and the other staff members was a confidential matter by law and that no further details would be provided.

Elrick, the former Rutland County sheriff, served as executive director at the academy for six years.

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You mean that's not accepted behavior in Vermont? Hell, that wonderful judge would have let the guy off.