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# Disturbing details emerge in former federal official's child pornography case

October 13, 2012 | By Jon Burstein, Sun Sentinel

They existed in the darkest corners of the Internet with the screen names BookStoreMomNC and Oldrmom111.

BookStoreMomNC would e-mail child pornography and describe how she would spank her daughters, Hannah and Rachel. Oldrmom111 graphically detailed in an online chat how she forced her daughters, Melissa and Marissa, to engage in increasingly vile sex acts.

It turned out BookStoreMomNC and Oldrmom111 were online personas of the same man.

That man was one of South Florida's most powerful federal law enforcement officers.

Anthony Mangione, the local chief of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, had become what he was sworn to hunt down.

While the married father of three helped lead the local fight against child pornography, he was sending illicit images to a former school bus driver in Delaware who would be busted with a vast collection of child pornography, court records show. Federal authorities in Delaware said they not only found more than 700 pieces of child pornography on the computers of David Osborn, but also 500 Internet chat logs he had with "others regarding child sexual exploitation."

One of those "others" was Mangione, court records show. Chat transcripts between Mangione and Osborn shed new and disturbing light on the veteran law enforcement officer's online activities before his September 2011 arrest.

Mangione, who once supervised more than 450 federal employees in nine Florida counties, is now behind bars, awaiting his Nov. 9 sentencing on a child pornography charge. He cut a deal with federal prosecutors in July that will require him to spend at least five years in prison. U.S. District Judge Kenneth Marra could sentence him to up to 20 years.

When the FBI and Broward Sheriff's Office first executed search warrants on Mangione's computers in April 2011, many who knew him thought it must be a mistake — that maybe he had been examining an ongoing case on his work computer. But as details have emerged, his former colleagues have been stunned.

"As a longtime agent, you want to believe that he couldn't do this kind of thing, especially given what we do as defenders and protectors of victims of child pornography and human trafficking," said Kevin Love, a former senior special agent in ICE's Miami office. "We're the ones who arrest people for that."

In his 27 years at the U.S. Customs Service, and later ICE, Mangione had worked his way up from a clerical job to special agent in charge of the South Florida office. As he rose through the ranks, he investigated the heroin trade in Afghanistan and West Africa and led an undercover team that infiltrated the world of international arms dealing.

In his role as ICE's local leader, he often was quoted in press releases about child pornography investigations.

"ICE relentlessly pursues predators who sexually abuse children, whether that abuse is physical or whether it is accomplished by exploiting their images," he said in January 2009 after the sentencing of a [Wellington](#) man for enticing boys online to take off their clothes.

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Copies of search warrants obtained by the Sun Sentinel show that authorities were led to the doorstep of Mangione's Parkland home in the same manner that hundreds of other child pornography suspects have been caught. Mangione's Internet provider, America Online, detected child pornography was being sent from one of his accounts and sent a cybertip to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

"We know everything you do on a computer can be tracked and even if you erase it, it's never really gone," Love said. "He had to be aware of that, which befuddles you even more and makes you wonder if it really is a sickness. He knows all the tools of our trade."

The search warrants show that even after America Online shut down one of Mangione's e-mail accounts in September 2010 because of the illicit images he was sending — a warning sign he had been detected — he didn't stop his pattern of creating screen names like Txdad723 and Oldmom111.

Mangione, 52, had been actively using those screen names until the weekend his home was searched, according to the search warrants filed by the Broward Sheriff's Office.

No one directly involved with Mangione's criminal case is talking. Mangione's attorney, David Howard, did not return phone calls from the Sun Sentinel. The federal authorities involved in the investigation aren't commenting. The Broward Sheriff's Office, which received the cybertip, referred questions to federal authorities. ICE officials repeatedly have declined to discuss any matters involving Mangione.

Until he reached a deal with federal prosecutors, Mangione's court file largely had been devoid of details about his alleged crimes. With his plea he admitted using two different e-mail handles, BookStoreMomNC and MntnMama34, to send 16 emails containing child pornography to a single e-mail address — Rampantlion1314.

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