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## Ex-cop gets 17 years for child porn

By Guillermo Contreras

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A Helotes man who formerly was a member of the Navy's special operations and an ex-Los Angeles police officer has been sentenced to more than 17 years in federal prison after he was caught downloading child pornography.

An investigation by agents with [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement](#) led to the arrest last June of [David John Hammeren](#), 43, who worked in San Antonio as a cardiac technologist and is married with two children.

In a court-filed narrative, Hammeren asked for leniency, and spoke of his life here, where he has lived most of his life.

His narrative said he joined the Navy after attending [Central Catholic High School](#) and tried to become a SEAL, though an injury kept him out. He later was assigned to special operations as a corpsman before leaving the military, moving to California and joining the [Los Angeles Police Department](#), where he was an

officer from 1998 to 2002.

In his narrative, Hammeren said he left the LAPD because his heart wasn't in it. He moved back to San Antonio and entered the medical field. He said he developed an addiction to child porn and described his arrest as his intervention.

"I know that viewing child pornography is morally wrong, illegal and socially abhorrent," he wrote. "I also know that viewing child pornography is not a victimless crime. I know that my actions have made me an accessory after the fact to the initial sexual assault and rape."

Assistant U.S. Attorney [Tracy Thompson](#) argued that Hammeren had collected child porn on four separate computers. She also noted he had taken an oath to serve and protect the community, but instead victimized it.

"He should have known better, especially as a police officer," Thompson said, arguing for a

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sentence within the 210 to 240 months recommended by federal guidelines.

U.S. District Judge Xavier Rodriguez gave Hammeren 210 months plus a lifetime of federal supervision.

Also this week, the judge sentenced 19-year-old Micheal Moran to 84 months in prison and a lifetime of supervision for distribution and possession of child pornography.

Unlike Hammeren, Moran was raised with no support system, with relatives who have mental health and drug issues, according to court records.

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