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Wheeler police chief ponders insanity defense in sex case

By Pamela Powers
Eau Claire Leader-Telegram

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The Wheeler police chief is considering an insanity defense against charges he had repeated sexual contact with two teen boys earlier this year.

Gary L. Wayerski, 55, of Menomonie, pleaded not guilty and not guilty by reason of mental defect Tuesday to 14 felony charges.

Wayerski faces two counts of felony child enticement, two counts of exposing his genitals, two counts of exposing a child to harmful materials and two counts of causing a child older than 13 to view or listen to sexual activity.

He also faces six counts of felony sexual assault of a child by a person who works or volunteers with children.

Wayerski is scheduled to appear in Dunn County Court Sept. 9 for a pretrial scheduling conference. He has been suspended without pay from his part-time police chief job.

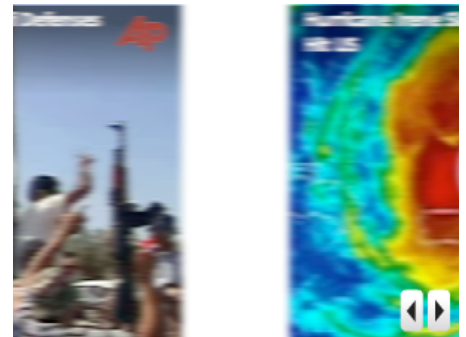
According to the criminal complaint:

A 16-year-old boy and a 17-year-old boy told Eau Claire County authorities Wayerski arrested them in March for breaking into a Wheeler church. While Wayerski was mentoring the boys, he showed them pornographic movies and computer images. He fondled the boys individually and together.

Wayerski claimed a UW-Stout student staying at his apartment accessed the computer and viewed pornography. He said the teen boys drank alcoholic beverages without his permission.

Wayerski admitted to being a "porno addict" and said he views porn images on his computer frequently. He remains in custody on a \$35,000 bond.

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