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Ex-prison officer admits to child porn

Updated: Wednesday, 25 Jul 2012, 3:17 PM MDT Published: Wednesday, 25 Jul 2012, 3:17 PM MDT



ALBUQUERQUE (KRQE) - A former state corrections officer has admitted guilty to a child-pornography charge in a plea deal with federal prosecutors.

Under the agreement Duane Chavez, 27, of Los Lunas pleaded guilty to accessing child porn on the Internet and will be sentenced to 36 months in prison. He'll also be required to register as a sex offender when he's released.

A New Mexico State Police undercover investigation begun in January traced child-porn activity to a computer address registered at Chavez's home, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

While a search warrant was being executed at the home, Chavez gave a statement admitting he used a file-sharing program to download child porn, prosecutors said. Of the 15 images found on Chavez's computer, one was of a child identified as a child-porn victim who had been rescued.

At the time of his arrest in March, Chavez was prison transport officer for the New Mexico Department of

A total of 13 separate search warrants were served around the state in March as part of the investigation leading to five arrests.

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