

Former correctional officer handed 43 years in child pornography case

August 28, 2013 | By Deanese Williams-Harris | Tribune reporter
August 28, 2013

chicagotribune.com

A former Illinois correctional officer was sentenced to 520 months in prison today after he pleaded guilty to sexually exploiting a minor and distributing and possessing images of child pornography, officials said.

Steven L. Carson of Hillsboro pleaded guilty to the charges earlier this year in February and has been in federal custody since August 2012, according to a press release from the Department of Justice.

Carson was arrested after an investigation revealed he had been file sharing child pornography with an undercover agent in April 2012, the release said. At the time, Carson was a prison guard at Graham Correction Center.

He was indicted the end of February and pleaded guilty to sexual exploitation of a minor, distribution of child pornography and possession of child pornography. Carson admitted that he used a child to perform sexually explicit acts which he videotaped, and engaging in peer-to-peer file sharing of pornographic material showing young boys, the release said.

Carson also admitted that he possessed more than 2,300 images and 40 videos. The pornographic material was confiscated from Carson's computers, the release said.