

## Ex-cop, wife to plead guilty in child porn case

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GREENSBORO, N.C. -- Ex-Kannapolis police officer Steven Anthony Webb and his wife have agreed to enter guilty pleas in the child pornography case that first came to light in July.

The Webbs agreed to separate plea agreements in federal court on Thursday.

Steven Webb, of 1408 Nottingham Drive, Kannapolis, was charged with receiving child pornography, distributing child pornography, two counts of possessing material containing child pornography and one count of accessing child pornography with the intent to view.

He agreed on Thursday to plead guilty to the accessing child pornography charge, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. He will also have to register as a sex offender.

In exchange, prosecutors agreed not to oppose a motion to dismiss the remaining charges.

Tracy Webb, of the same address, pleaded guilty on Thursday to misprision of a felony -- failing to notify authorities about her husband's actions. She faces a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

Prosecutors agreed to not oppose a motion to dismiss her original charge -- knowingly and willfully making a materially false, fictitious and fraudulent statement and representation to agents from the FBI.

A sentencing hearing for both Webbs is scheduled for March 12, 2014 in Greensboro before Chief Judge William Osteen Jr.

Steven Webb will undergo a psychosexual evaluation while he awaits sentencing, according to minutes from Thursday's hearing. Prosecutors and his defense will discuss probation conditions later. He faces a minimum of five years supervised release up to life.

At her hearing, Tracy Webb's defense made an oral motion for release until the sentencing, according to minutes of the hearing. The court directed the defense to file a written motion, which will be reviewed by a magistrate judge.

Steven Webb was accused of receiving and distributing child pornography over the summer.

Tracy Webb was accused of engaging in recorded sexual acts with minors, denying the allegation to a federal agent and covering up for her husband.

Prosecutors had planned to use testimony from four witnesses who claimed Steven Webb abused them as minors. They also said the minors in the recording featuring Tracy Webb “implicate sexual abuse by both defendants,” according to a document filed in the case.

Steven Webb was hired by the Kannapolis Police Department on June 18, 2008 and was terminated on July 31, after his arrest by the FBI on July 22.

Kannapolis Police Chief Woody Chavis said an anonymous tip in July led KPD to Steven Webb, and the agency immediately called in the FBI.