

Wife found child porn that led to former officer getting caught

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By Kathy Lynn Gray

A former Columbus police officer who has agreed to plead guilty to possessing child pornography was caught after his wife found a hidden camera in their Delaware County home.

Stewart A. Miller, 48, of 6886 Blue Church Rd. in Sunbury, apparently had used the camera to secretly videotape a relative and a friend having sex, according to a federal search warrant.

Miller has reached an agreement with U.S. attorneys to plead guilty to one count of child-porn possession, punishable by a minimum of five years in prison. The agreement, filed on Wednesday, says Miller had more than 600 images, including some of prepubescent minors and some depicting violent, sadistic or masochistic conduct.

The agreement also says Miller will register as a sex offender and pay “full restitution to the victims of the offense” he is pleading guilty to. No restitution amount is listed.

The search warrant, filed on Oct. 31, says that Miller’s wife, Julie Bowen-Miller, found dozens of pornographic images of children on a thumb drive in her husband’s room in July.

She confronted him and he told her “it was just a curiosity” and he would not view images like that again.

Bowen-Miller had seen similar images on the couple’s laptop computer two years earlier, and her husband told her they must have been downloaded by another family member.

After confronting him in July, Bowen-Miller searched their home and found a small camera hidden beneath an entertainment center in the family’s upstairs living room, as well as a videotape of a relative and a friend having sex in that room, according to the search warrant.

She also found, in a crawl space in the ceiling above her husband’s bathroom, two external-hard drives and a flash drive containing child-pornography videos and images.

Bowen-Miller turned the equipment over to the FBI. Agents searched the couple’s home on Oct. 31 and confiscated computer equipment, videotapes, two letters and other items. The same day, agents searched a storage unit that Miller rented and confiscated three videotapes and 19 CDs and DVDs, the search warrant shows.

Miller had been a Columbus police officer for 23 years. He resigned last week.

He and his wife have been married since 2002, according to public records.