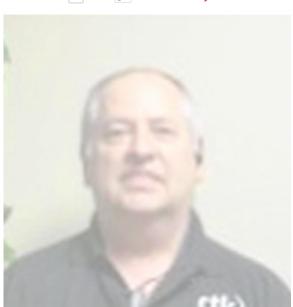
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CRIME

Washington state police officer's phone bill leads to child porn charges

Police arrested Officer Donald Glunt, 57, a 34-year veteran of the Lynden Police Department, on charges of child pornography after he was caught texting with a 16-year-old girl in Texas.



Donald Glunt, 57, and a 16-year-old girl shared more than 155 text messages — as well as naked images of the teen, according to court documents.

A peek at the phone records of a Washington state cop revealed more than 155 text messages between a teenage girl in Texas and photos of her naked body.

The copious texts listed on the phone bill of Officer Donald Glunt, 57, tipped off a sergeant and led to a meeting. He had been texting with a woman, Glunt told the sergeant, and called it a "lapse of judgment," according to court documents filed April 29.

That "woman" was actually a 16-year-old girl.

The officer had spent his entire law enforcement career at Lynden Police Department. He is also an expert on sexual predators and human trafficking

and has taught classes on those subjects since 2011.

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He resigned April 21 after the allegations surfaced, reported the Bellingham Herald.

In the meeting, the sergeant exchanged the phone for another - one without text messaging capabilities.

However, Glunt wanted to delete something first. The sergeant denied him the opportunity and then discovered the object of Glunt's affection: several nude photos of the teen.

The girl knew the officer as "Don from Washington," she told Texas investigators. He had recently texted her and said he was in trouble, she claimed. If the authorities called, she needed to lie about her age, he allegedly told her.

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[?]

She let detectives download all the data from her cellphone, the documents said.

The two talked through texts and on an online role-playing game.

Glunt was arrested April 25 and charged with possession of child pornography.

The Washington State Patrol issued several search warrants for Glunt's work and personal property including phones, laptops and desktop computers. They found thousands of images of children that he claimed he collected for presentations on exploited kids.

Glunt told detectives he had deleted some photos from one of his laptops after his phone was taken away. He also said he used his laptop to look at porn and child modeling sites, the documents said.

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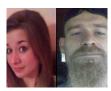
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