

## Corrections officer facing child porn charges held on no bond

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- A Volusia County corrections officer made his first court appearance Wednesday on two counts of possession of child pornography, and since then, 20 additional counts have been filed.

Agents with Florida Department of Law Enforcement arrested 32-year-old Mark Pronovost at his home Tuesday.

The well-known corrections officer at the jail remains in Seminole County on no bond on the first two counts and \$100,000 on each of the new 20 charges. Agents said Pronovost downloaded dozens of video files depicting children between 2 and 12 years old engaged in sex acts with adult men.

Pronovost has been suspended from his job without pay.

"A law enforcement or corrections officer, all of a sudden being the target of an investigation. You can imagine what is going through that subject's mind," said FDLE Cybercrimes Supervisor Tony Rodriguez.

FDLE's Cybercrimes unit flagged suspicious activity and was serving a search warrant at Pronovost's home when they say he suddenly grabbed one of his three young children and barricaded himself with the child in a bedroom, armed with a gun.

Pronovost quickly let his child go and hours later gave himself and the weapon up with no one hurt.

WESH 2 News found only one real issue in his personnel records: a one-day suspension for excessive leave time in 2013. Pronovost took 15 unexcused days.

Pronovost's wife wore a jacket over her head at his court appearance. As she left, she had no comment.

Pronovost is being held without bond at the Seminole County Jail.