

Veteran O'burg Police Detective Charged With Child Porn

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2015 Cop Pedophile Harry McCarthy

Ogdensburg police detective Harry McCarthy was charged Thursday with possessing a sexual performance by a child and promoting a sexual performance by a child.

Both charges are felonies. The allegations against McCarthy, which Ogdensburg police chief Richard Polniak called "shocking," were first reported by **7 News** reporter John Friot.

McCarthy, a 30 year veteran of the police, was arraigned in Pierrepont Town Court where he pleaded not guilty.

From the description in court records, McCarthy was apparently caught by Google's system for monitoring child pornography.

Court documents say one image of a prepubescent female having vaginal sex with an adult male was uploaded May 19 at 8:26 pm from McCarthy's residence at 2332 Montgomery Street.

Court papers say the image was uploaded using the Google Gmail service, with an email address of Loverbouy.girl@gmail.com.

Google notified the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children of the child porn image and the internet addresses that were used to access the email account.

Subpoenas were sent to Time Warner Cable and the addresses came back to McCarthy's Montgomery Street address and the Ogdensburg Police Department, 800 Park Street.

The sexually graphic image was uploaded from McCarthy's 2332 Montgomery Street address, court papers say.

McCarthy's lawyer, Gary Miles, waived a preliminary hearing, allowing the case to go straight to St. Lawrence County Court.

Judge Jerome Richards has taken himself off the case, as has District Attorney Mary Rain. The case will be handled by Franklin County judge Derek Champagne and the Franklin County district attorney's office.

McCarthy was released on probation supervision, but state police then picked him up on a mental health order after McCarthy allegedly made statements to state police investigators that he may hurt himself.

McCarthy was then taken by state police to Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center for a mental health

evaluation.

Sources tell **7 News** reporter John Friot that investigators also seized hard drives from McCarthy's computer at the police station, his residence, a family member's residence and conducted a search of his boat.

Police seized McCarthy's personal city-issued police revolver and personal firearms. Chief Polniak told **7 News** McCarthy will be suspended with pay. He said the department is "shocked" by the allegations.

McCarthy was taken into custody at the Ogdensburg city police department Thursday afternoon, where he was put in handcuffs.

(An earlier version of the story incorrectly put Ogdensburg police chief Richard Polniak's name in place of McCarthy's in the preceding sentence.)

Miles told **7 News** that "Harry McCarthy is one of the top 10 best police officers I've known in my 32 years as a lawyer."

An order of protection was issued for McCarthy's girlfriend and her children.