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FEATURED

Former Bedford police lieutenant gets 5 years on child-porn charge

Rachael Smith
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Brian McAlexander uses the laptop in his car in this March 2011 file photo.



Former Bedford police officer to be released on \$20k bond

BEDFORD — A former Bedford police lieutenant was sentenced Tuesday to five years in prison for child-pornography distribution.

Brian McAlexander, 55, was arrested Feb. 5 in Henry County, where he lives. McAlexander resigned from the Bedford Police Department in April 2015 after 26 years with the department.

On Tuesday, McAlexander pleaded guilty to a felony count of distribution of child pornography. Five similar charges were dropped.



Former Bedford town police officer indicted on child porn charges



Town of Bedford officer resigns amid investigation



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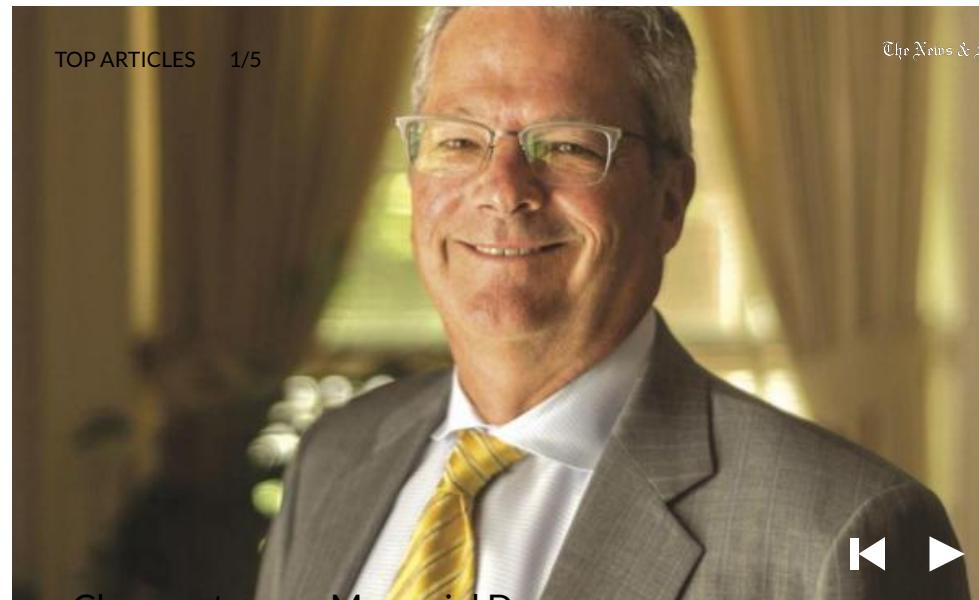
Judge James Updike Jr. sentenced him to 10 years in prison with five suspended, plus five years of supervised probation.

McAlexander starts his sentence Sept. 8.

A forensic examination of McAlexander's computer revealed he has saved and distributed six videos and images of child pornography.

He will have to register as a sex offender and pay restitution of \$200.

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He has been out of jail since February when, his attorney, Drew Davis, and a special prosecutor handling the case, Samuel “Gene” Fishel, reached an agreement that McAlexander would be released on \$20,000 bond.

Earlier this year, Bedford Deputy Commonwealth’s Attorney Wes Nance told The News & Advance a special prosecutor was appointed because the Bedford Commonwealth’s Attorney’s office works closely with Bedford-area law enforcement, and Bedford prosecutors wanted to separate themselves from the case.

McAlexander became the target of a “child exploitation case” in April 2015, when an investigator of the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office assigned to the Southern Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force “perfected a case,” according to the Bedford County Sheriff’s Office.

Davis said in court that this is McAlexander’s first criminal offense and told the judge if the case had gone to trial, he believed it would have been hard to prove McAlexander shared any of the pornography files.

Attorney General Mark Herring, whose office handled McAlexander’s prosecution said in a news release that it doesn’t matter what someone’s profession is, if they are trading in this kind of “illegal and horrible material,” his office will find them and send them to jail.

“These crimes can stay with a child for a lifetime, which is why we’ve strengthened our partnerships with local law enforcement and redoubled our efforts to identify and prosecute those who engage in this horrific conduct,” he said in the release.



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Correction

Brian McAlexander pleaded guilty to one charge of distribution of child pornography. Five charges were dropped. This information was incorrect in an earlier version of this article.

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Reporter

