

Ex-Poplar Bluff police officer, school resource officer arrested on child pornography and trafficking charges; woman also charged

[Ashley Smith](#)

POPLAR BLUFF, Mo. (KFVS) - A former Poplar Bluff police officer and school resource officer is facing multiple charges, including child pornography.

Brandon Hopper, 39, was arrested on Wednesday, Feb. 26. He was charged with sexual trafficking of a child, promoting child pornography and two counts of possession of child pornography.

Amber Longhibler, 28, was also arrested on Wednesday. She was charged with sexual trafficking of a child, promoting child pornography and four counts of possession of child pornography.

They are both being held without bond in the Butler County Jail.

A cyber tip received by the Poplar Bluff Police Department on Wednesday, Feb. 26 started the investigation.

The Poplar Bluff Police Department stated:

"The information indicated one of our officers was possibly sharing child pornography. As this involves one of our own employees, we are respectfully requesting the DDCC (Drug and Crime Control Division) handle the investigation."

They went on to say, "The Poplar Bluff Police Department is cooperating fully with the on-going investigation regarding a now-former employee of its force."

The investigation was conducted by members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol Division of Drug and Crime Control's Digital Forensics Investigative and Criminal Investigative Units.

According to Highway Patrol, Hopper admitted to investigators in an interview to having child pornography on his phone.

Investigators reported they found pornography on his phone, which included a video of an adult male and a four-year-old girl, and a video of an adult male and a 10-year-old girl.

Hopper told investigators he had sent and received child pornography online with Amber Longhibler.

Longhibler was also interviewed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol at her home in Poplar Bluff.

In her interview, investigators said she admitted to taking pictures of a nude 11-year-old girl.

Longhibler stated she took the photos at Hopper's request, and sent them to him over the internet.

When investigators searched both cell phones, they reported they found this conversation between the two:

Hopper asked Longhilber to: "send me some [child's name] pics to trade, obviously no face pics."

Longhilber replied: "I'll send you what I have."

Longhilber then sent two close up photos of a prepubescent female child's privates.

Brandon Hopper was fired from the Poplar Bluff Police Department on Wednesday.



Brandon Hopper, former Poplar Bluff police officer, was arrested on child pornography charges. (Source: Poplar Bluff Police Department) (Source: Poplar Bluff Police Department)

He served as a patrolman for eight years, until a few months ago, when he became the school resource officer.

The Poplar Bluff superintendent, Dr. Scott Dill, said in a statement that they had learned of the charges and that "we are cooperating fully with state law enforcement agencies as they conduct their investigation into this matter. As a district, we remain committed to the safety of every student entrusted to our care. If you have any information about this incident, I urge you to contact the Missouri State Highway Patrol."

The Division of Drug and Crime Control encourages internet users to promptly report anyone who attempts to engage in unwanted, inappropriate or sexualized communications with children to the Patrol or local law enforcement.

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