



PRESS RELEASE

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August 28, 2012
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio County Man admits to Possession of Child Pornography

WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA - An Ohio County man has admitted to having thousands of images of child pornography on his home computer.

On Monday in United States District Court in Wheeling KEVIN BLAINE JOHNSON, 38 years old of Valley Grove, entered a plea of guilty to the felony offense of "Possession of Child Pornography." JOHNSON agreed in court that he had downloaded sexually explicit images of children from the internet to his computer, which had been seized by Ohio County Sheriff's Deputies along with other digital media late last year.

Evidence offered at the plea hearing indicated that in addition to obtaining images from the internet JOHNSON also took his own photos of a young boy who was a guest in his home.

The investigation began in November of 2011 when the Sheriff's Department took a report that a ten year old boy may have been touched inappropriately by JOHNSON. Deputies learned that JOHNSON had previously been investigated for similar acts elsewhere in West Virginia. A search warrant was then obtained for JOHNSON's home where the explicit images were recovered from his computer, along with images that were taken by JOHNSON of a boy who spent the night at his home from time to time.

JOHNSON, who is in custody pending sentencing by Judge Frederick P. Stamp, Jr., faces up to ten years in prison. After serving his sentence JOHNSON will be supervised for 50 years by the court and will have to register for life as a sex offender.

This case was prosecuted by U.S. Attorney William Ihlenfeld, II.

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