

Local man charged with possession of child pornography

Written by George Browning
Tuesday, 22 October 2013 00:00 -

On October 17, 2013, the Salem Police Department along with U.S. Federal Parole Agents arrested Dean O. Cart, 54, Salem for Possession of Child Pornography, a Class D Felony.

The events leading up to the arrest were taken from a press release issued by the Salem Police Department and follow:

On October 16, 2013, Major Scott Ratts received information that a local business in Salem had banned Cart from their premises for inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature by showing a nude picture on his cell phone to a female employee.

Ratts had previous knowledge that Cart was a registered sex offender and had been previously charged federally and convicted of Distribution of Child Pornography in 2005. He had been released and was currently residing on Ridgeview Drive in Salem and was on federal probation.

Ratts spoke to his probation officer, Agent Ross Carothers, and told him the Salem Police Department had dealt with CART several times over the last few months for various complaints. Carothers told Ratts that as part of his conditions of release, he was supposed to report any contact with the police and he had not done so.

Agent Carothers informed Ratts that a condition of Cart's conditional release is that he shall not possess any pornography, erotica, or nude images, and that he shall submit to a search of person, residence, property, office/business, vehicle, computer systems, and peripheral devices along with the assistance of any law enforcement officer.

On October 17, 2013, Ratts met with Federal Agents Jason Nutter, Ross Carothers, and Jay Hardy at Salem Police Department.

Ratts said in a release that he provided Carothers copies of the three contact cards in which the Salem Police Department had prior contact with Cart.

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“We discussed the upcoming home visit and I told them I had received information that Cart had been banned from a local business,” Ratts said.

Law enforcement officers arrived at the home on Ridgeview Drive and met with Cart.

During the home visit, pictures were discovered by the agents and a search warrant was issued by the Washington County Circuit Court.

During a search of residence officers located several pictures depicting children in various states of nudity and pornography. Cart’s cell phone was seized pending a forensic examination.

Officers also seized DVD’s, VHS tapes, and magazines.

Once the search was completed, Cart was arrested for Possession of Child Pornography and transported to the Washington County Detention Center.

Police are continuing the investigation and more charges could result.