

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: April 1, 2008

SHERIFF QUESTIONS WHY TEACHER ARRESTED FOR CHILD PORN IS RELEASED ON LOW BOND

(Phoenix, Arizona) Shortly after the Maricopa County Sheriff's Computer Crimes Unit arrested and booked 36-year-old Surprise resident Victor Scott Mc Peak Jr. (DOB 04/07/71) on nine counts of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, a court judge released McPeak on a \$20,000 bond, far too low for a dangerous predator of children, says Sheriff Joe Arpaio.

McPeak is being investigated for various sex related crimes by three agencies including the FBI, Surprise police and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

Despite the serious nature of the allegations, Arpaio says Mc Peak was released on bond by a Superior court judge within 48 hours of arrest, even as he was under house arrest for the federal charges he is facing. Mc Peak's posted only a fraction of that amount to get out of jail.

"This man poses a significant threat to society," says Arpaio. "What clear thinking person would release him on bond? Victimized and exploiting children is a serious crime. This is an individual who should be in jail and not allowed to remain in the comfort of his home."

The Sheriff's Computer Crimes Unit began investigating Mc Peak, a former charter school teacher, in September 2007 after receiving information reference child pornography through a call to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. When Sheriff's detectives contacted McPeak at his Surprise home, he denied any criminal activity and voluntarily turned over his computer for inspection.

During the investigation, deputies learned that McPeak is also a suspect in a two-year-long international investigation conducted by federal government into the sexual exploitation of children. During the investigation, Mc Peak allegedly told FBI investigators that he had downloaded up to 100,000 images containing child pornography.

An analysis of Mc Peak's hard drive by the Sheriff's Computer Crime division deputies yielded approximately 100 images containing child erotica and nine separate images of child pornography confirmed by Child Help.

According to Sheriff's detectives, the viewing and downloading of the images took place at Mc

News Release

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Peak's residence, 11947 North 152nd Drive, Surprise, Az.

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