

Convicted child molester faces child porn rap

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WOLCOTT — A convicted child molester who spent 21 years in prison was arrested Friday morning after police say they found almost 1,000 pictures of child pornography on his computer.

Keith DePastino, 51, of 96 Wolcott Road, was originally being investigated for violating the conditions of his probation, according to Wolcott Police Chief Edward L. Stephens.

In December, his probation officer, Dan Mancini, received information that DePastino was using Facebook to contact people, Stephens said. As part of the conditions of his release, he was ordered not to enter or participate in any bulletin boards, instant messaging or chat rooms of any type.

Mancini seized DePastino's computer and sent it to Detective Peter Morgan, who runs



DePastino

the Waterbury Police Department Computer Crimes Unit. After a forensic evaluation, police determined that the computer was being used to store nearly 1,000 images of child pornography.

The images were of young children, male and female, engaging in various sex acts with adult males and females, as well as posing in "a lascivious manner," Stephens said.

Stephens said the children

appeared to be between the ages of 5 and 14.

Police arrested DePastino Friday about 8:15 a.m. in his Wolcott Road home. Officers executed a search warrant on his home, but didn't find any additional evidence.

Wolcott police charged DePastino with first-degree possession of child pornography. A person can be charged with that crime for possessing 50 images of child photography, Stephens said.

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