

PRESS RELEASE

CHILD PORN LINKED TO MAX ZWEZIG, WOODBURY NEW JERSEY

Portland, November 17, 2023

By Timothy Rote

It is with great sadness I announce that images, videos and links have finally been recovered from a 122 GB hard drive through new and enhanced forensics. That 122 GB hard drive was used exclusively by Max Zwezig, from his home in Woodbury New Jersey, up to and including the date Zwezig reformatted that hard drive. That 122 GB drive was reformatted by Zwezig to destroy evidence.

Three forensic experts testified in 2010 that Zwezig had reformatted the 122 GB hard drive. Those same experts testified that they were unable to recover images and videos destroyed by Zwezig.

In November 2023, more than 59,000 images and 320 videos, previously thought unrecoverable, have now been recovered. The recovered images and videos include a variety of pornography.

Evidence of child pornography was found through LNK and Prefetch files that were carved from unallocated space. LNK files are shortcut files that link to an application or file and can be generated when a user opens a local or remote file or document. Windows creates Prefetch files when an application is first run. These files can show the file names that are opened by a program such as Windows Media Player. The file names associated with these LNK and Prefetch files were indicative of child pornography.

These files are linked to a volume labeled D: with a Volume Serial Number of 70AE6E52. "Volume D" was used to store various files and folders. It should be noted that the "INCOMPLETE" files are commonly seen in peer-to-peer file sharing software programs and are video files that are in the process of being downloaded. Although the files are not fully downloaded, they can in some instances be played. Evidence of WINMX was found installed on the Specimen hard drive. WINMX is a peer-to-peer file sharing program.

On the new information and belief, most of the child porn viewed by Zweizig was saved and stored to a D:\ drive and then that D hard drive was removed by Zweizig before he returned the reformatted 122 gig hard drive (C:\Drive) to his employer. Viewing pornography downloaded to a C:\ Drive while viewing child pornography from a D:\ drive displays consciousness of guilt and legal forethought.

One example of the newly recovered file names associated and linked with the D:\ drive is “Katherine...young 13 year old pre-teen Lolita bounces on a much older mans love muscle” [with search words of incest, rape and teen hardcore sex]. This video was viewed by Zweizig a number of times and made available to the public using the D:\shared drive. There are many other examples.

On November 7, 2023, FBI Portland announced that A Missouri man was sentenced today to life in prison for running four websites dedicated to sharing images and videos of child sexual abuse. One of the named co-defendants resides in Damascus Oregon. See [Office of Public Affairs | Man Sentenced to Life in Prison for Running Four Dark Web Child Exploitation Websites | United States Department of Justice](#). The National Child Victim Identification Program (NCVIP) is the world's largest database of child pornography, maintained by the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) of the United States Department of Justice and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) for the purpose of identifying victims of child abuse. If you have any information about a victim, please speak up.

Federal law prohibits the production, distribution, reception, and possession of an image of child pornography using or affecting any means or facility of interstate or foreign commerce (18 U.S.C. § 2251; 18 U.S.C. § 2252; 18 U.S.C. § 2252A). Specifically, Section 2251 makes it illegal to persuade, induce, entice, or coerce a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for purposes of producing visual depictions of that conduct. The age of consent is 18 years old.

According to the Mayo Clinic of the US, studies and case reports indicate that 30% to 80% of individuals who viewed child pornography and 76% of individuals who were arrested for internet child pornography had molested a child; however, they state that it is difficult to know how many people progress from computerized child pornography to physical acts against children and how many would have

progressed to physical acts without the computer being involved. See Ryan C. W. Hall; Richard C. W. Hall (April 2007). "A Profile of Pedophilia: Definition, Characteristics of Offenders, Recidivism, Treatment Outcomes, and Forensic Issues".

The Oregon State Bar Professional Liability Fund (a tax-exempt agency organized under the Oregon Judicial Department) represented Zweizig in multiple civil cases free of charge. Zweizig testified that he did not solicit that representation.

This investigation continues after more than 20 years.

Reports, exhibits and prior testimony are available upon request. Send requests to timothy.rote@gmail.com.

Forensic reports and images have been provided to law enforcement as required by law.