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A Look At Texas Law Enforcement Misconduct and Injustice

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Wednesday, May 25, 2011

## Slaton Police Officer Facing Child Porn Charges



Richard Lee Lewis

### Lubbock, Texas

A West Texas police officer, who recently resigned after federal authorities searched computers at his home and work, is facing charges of possession of child pornography.

**Richard Lee Lewis**, 50, surrendered to federal authorities Monday and was freed on his own recognizance the same day following an appearance in federal court. He is scheduled to be arraigned June 1.

Until last month, Lewis was a police officer in Slaton (near Lubbock). According to investigators, he had been with the department for about 10 years.

According to court documents, federal agents seized three computers, 80 CDs and 10 VHS tapes from Lewis' home on May 11.

Lewis, a divorced father with daughters and granddaughters, resigned a day after the items were seized.

The Chief of Police in Slaton, Royce Goodson, said he was shocked when he learned about the investigation. "It was not only a shock to me but the other officers with the department as well," he said.

According to the arrest warrant affidavit, Lewis was at his house when the search was done and waived his rights after being advised of them. He admitted downloading and viewing pornographic images and videos but told federal investigators he usually deleted the sexually explicit material after looking at it, the affidavit states.

As part of the conditions of his release Lewis is not to leave the U.S. attorney's office jurisdiction in North Texas, and must get mental health counseling and wear a monitoring device, according to court documents.

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