
October 2013

Ex-Waltham cop charged in child porn case granted pension for now

By Eli Sherman

The Waltham Retirement Board on Thursday unanimously approved a full pension for the ex-cop who was charged with receipt of child pornography earlier this year, but the pension could be taken away pending a conviction.

Paul Manganelli Jr., of Waltham, was arrested in March. He was placed on administrative leave with pay until he resigned from the Police Department on Oct. 8 and immediately filed with the board for his pension.

At the moment, Manganelli has not been convicted of any crime, so the board members view it as a standard pension request and gave it their full support. However, the Retirement Board reserves the right to revoke any pension it issues, according to Board Director Joseph Juppé.

A similar case is currently underway in Watertown, as its Retirement Board could take away a pension previously granted to former police Sgt. Joseph Deignan. The ex-cop, who in August pleaded guilty in federal court to stealing an ID while on the force and using it to get Oxycodone and other prescription drugs, has a pension forfeiture hearing scheduled for Nov. 20.

A federal grand jury indicted Manganelli on Oct. 16 and his arraignment is scheduled for Oct. 30.

Manganelli was arrested as a part of an FBI investigation that exposed an international web of people exchanging child pornography. A search warrant executed on Manganelli's email account showed that he sent and received about 1,230 emails containing child pornography between February 2012 and January 2013, according to the criminal complaint.

Manganelli was paid \$92,435 in fiscal 2013, according to the Personnel Department, and received \$53,750 while on administrative leave with pay.

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