



## Court document: Arrested cop posed as girl on Internet

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WISCONSIN RAPIDS (WAOW) - A Wisconsin Rapids police lieutenant arrested in a child sex investigation posed as a teenage girl on the Internet to try to obtain naked pictures of boys, according to Wood County court records.

Steven Lowe posed as a 15-year-old girl named "Abby Adams," a probable cause statement filed Thursday said.

Lowe, 41, was arrested Wednesday. During an interview with state Special Agent Robert Glaman, he said he had Internet conversations with males that he believed to be younger than 18. He said he exchanged pictures with them and deleted them after viewing them so they would not be discovered.

A judge ordered Lowe jailed on a \$20,000 cash bond during a probable cause hearing Thursday in Wood County Circuit Court. No charges had been filed Friday, according to online court records. An administrator at the Wood County Jail said Lowe was freed Friday after posting the bail.

Lowe resigned just hours after being arrested, the police chief said.

Lowe joined the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department in 1995 and was to earn \$71,700 in 2013, the city's Human Resources Department said.

The investigation of Lowe began with a tip from The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children from Tagged.com, a social networking site, the probable cause statement said.

The document indicates the investigation began in late June with information about a February "chat" between Lowe and a 16-year-old boy living in the United Kingdom in which Lowe seeks naked pictures of the boy.

The probable cause statement said Lowe requested a picture of the boy with his arms raised above his head and told the teen, "I think it is sexy to see armpits."

Lowe told investigators he began using the Internet to find pictures of boys about a year ago, the document said.

"He admitted he gains sexual gratification from images he receives," the court record said.

During a search of three computers at Lowe's home on Wednesday, Lowe told state agents that he would cooperate with law enforcement, "that he needed help," the probable cause statement said.



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