

Joint Statement

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ST. CHARLES TOWNSHIP MAN FACES CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

June 30, 2023

*RE: **Michael C. Willis**: Age 43 (d.o.b. 9-22-1979), of the 39W block of Prunetree Lane, St. Charles, Illinois. Case No. 2023CF1344.*

Kane County State's Attorney Jamie L. Mosser and Sheriff Ron Hain announce that **Michael C. Willis** is charged with the offenses of:

- Child pornography – reproduce, Class 1 felony (2 counts)
- Child pornography – possess moving depiction, Class 2 felony (3 counts)
- Child pornography – possess computer photograph, Class 3 felony (2 counts)

State's Attorney Mosser alleges that prior to April 10, 2023, Willis reproduced and possessed multiple child pornography videos and images.

The investigation was conducted by the Child Exploitation Unit, a collaboration of the Kane County State's Attorney's Office and Sheriff's Office. The unit comprises dedicated investigators from both offices, along with assistant state's attorneys with specialized knowledge in the investigation and prosecution of child pornography cases. The Illinois Attorney General's Office and the Internet Crimes Against Children's Task Force assisted.

Judge Salvatore LoPiccolo issued a warrant for Willis' arrest and set bail at \$50,000, with 10 percent (\$5,000) to apply for bond. Willis surrendered to the Sheriff's Office, posted bond and was released. Willis is to have no unsupervised contact with anyone younger than 18, and he is not to possess any electronic devices that can record or review recordings or pictures.

Willis' next court appearance is scheduled for August 16, 2023, at 9 a.m. in Courtroom 211 at the Kane County Judicial Center.

The charges against Willis are not proof of guilt. Willis is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the state's burden to prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.