

The Virgin Islands Consortium

St. Thomas Man Indicted For Child Porn Offenses, Faces Mandatory 5 Years Imprisonment If Convicted

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Donnie W. Williams, 31, of St. Thomas was handed a four-count indictment by a federal grand jury on March 5, charging him with child exploitation offenses, United States Attorney Ronald W. Sharpe announced Thursday.

The first three counts were charges of child pornography and the final count was a charge of possession of child pornography.

Williams was released on bond after his arrest on Jan. 30, and is awaiting arraignment and advise-of-rights on the indictment.

According to the indictment, Williams used his laptop computer to download pornographic images of children from a peer-to-peer sharing network. If convicted, Williams faces a mandatory five years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000.

United States Attorney Sharpe reminds the public that an indictment is merely a formal charging document and is not evidence of guilt. Every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless found guilty, Sharpe said.

Suspected child exploitation or missing children cases may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children through its toll-free 24-hour hotline at (202) 514-5678 or Homeland Security Investigations at (340) 693-2250.