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Former Teacher Pleads in Child Pornography Case

A former junior high school teacher pleaded no contest today to possessing child pornography, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Prosecutors said Aaron Paul Widera, 39, of Long Beach, was convicted of one count each of possession of matter depicting minor engaging in sexual conduct and sending/bringing obscene matter into state for sale.

Widera was immediately sentenced to two years and eight months in state prison by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Laura Laesecke. Additionally, the judge ordered that the defendant's computer be destroyed. Widera also must register as a sex offender.

Prosecutors said Widera revealed on a messaging site that he possessed a large collection of child pornography. Moreover, the defendant made it known that he had a social media profile where one could download child porn images.

Law enforcement was alerted about Widera's claims and on August 23, 2013, police served a search warrant at the defendant's home. Video and images of child pornography were discovered in Widera's residence and he was immediately arrested.

The case was investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.