

Hiawatha man sentenced in child porn case

**(KNZA)--A Hiawatha man has been sentenced to nearly three years in prison in a child pornography case.**

**Brown County Attorney Kevin Hill said 29-year-old Richard Hargett was sentenced Monday in Brown Country Court to 34-months in prison on charges of internet trading in child pornography and sexual exploitation of a child.**

**Hill said the defense had asked for probation, but he asked for a prison sentence. Monday's hearing included testimony from a psychologist testifying on the defense's behalf. Hill's cross examination included a review of the digital evidence obtained against Hargett and the graphic child pornography he uploaded to the internet.**

**"The expert acknowledged that he had not reviewed or even seen the evidence in making his evaluation," Hill said.**

**Hargett pleaded guilty to the charges in early May, canceling a jury trial that had been set in the case.**

**Hargett was arrested in October of last year following an extensive investigation by the Hiawatha Police Department after a case referral by the Kansas Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force — which Hill and the Police Department are members of.**

**As part of the investigation, officers executed a search warrant on a residence occupied by Hargett and seized electronics, hard drives, computers, and other data storage devices.**

**Hargett was remanded to the Brown County Jail following Monday's hearing to await a transfer to prison.**

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