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Plea entered for LV child sex crimes

(KAIR)--A 55-year-old Leavenworth man, accused of bribing a child victim for sexual acts and photographs, has pleaded to the related charges.

That's according to a release from the office of Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson, which says Steven Ray Cridlebaugh, least week in Leavenworth County District Court, was found guilty by the judge after he entered a no contest plea to one count of aggravated criminal sodomy and one count of sexual exploitation of a child.

A sentencing hearing for Cridlebaugh is set for the afternoon of January 3.

The release explains that Cridlebaugh came to the attention of law enforcement due to an investigation into a sex offender located in Virginia.

Communications were found between that sex offender and the Leavenworth man, leading law enforcement to believe the Cridlebaugh was committing sexual-related crimes against a juvenile he had a connection to.

Local law enforcement conducted an investigation into Cridlebaugh, which revealed he would compensate the victim with money and toys for sexual acts or photographs.

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