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Press Release

Norfolk Cable TV head denies Drug and child porn charges

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A 33-year old Millis man pled not guilty to six counts of possession of child pornography and three counts of possession of class B substances at his Wrentham District Court arraignment today and was ordered held on \$5,000 cash bail by Judge Emogene Johnson Smith. Prosecutors had requested \$25,000 bail.

The man, Andrew Eckard, pled not guilty. He is due back in Wrentham District Court August 1, 2012 for pre-trial conference. At arraignment the Commonwealth was represented by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Friedel and defense counsel was Shelley Joseph.

While Eckard has been the station manager for Norfolk Community Television (NCTV) for a period of years, authorities have not yet identified any local children posed or exhibited in a state of nudity. The investigation is ongoing and the evidence seized by police pursuant to search warrants issued May 29 has not yet been reviewed at this time, according to the District Attorney's Office.

Prosecutors and specially trained State Police detectives from Morrissey's Cyber Protection and Internet Crimes Against Children Unit are conducting the investigation with Millis Police, Norfolk Police and the Computer Crime Unit of the Metropolitan Law Enforcement Council.

Eckard had recently been living in an apartment on Stoneybrook Road in Millis, where a person known to Eckard allegedly came upon some of the pornographic materials Tuesday and contacted police. He had more recently been staying in a camper behind a home on Massachusetts Avenue in Norfolk.

In executing a search warrant of the camper in Norfolk, Police allegedly seized quantities of Valium, Clonazepam and oxycodone drugs and Eckard was placed under arrest by Norfolk Police.

Judge Johnson Smith also granted the prosecution's request that if Eckard makes his cash bail, he be subject to GPS monitoring with exclusionary zones restricting him away from all schools in Millis and Norfolk, that he remain drug free and submit to random chemical screens while on bail and that he not be released prior to GPS being established, should cash bail be met.

Any and all defendants mentioned are legally innocent until proven guilty.