

City of

HURST TEXAS

POLICE DEPARTMENT



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: March 24, 2017
Issued by: Sgt. L. Brazzel
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Topic: Child Pornography Investigation and Arrest

At approximately 8:40 pm on Thursday, March 23rd, 2017, Hurst Police Officers were dispatched to a local computer store located at 869 Northeast Mall Blvd. to investigate a report from store employees who had located what appeared to be child pornography on a customer's computer. A subsequent investigation by the officers led them to the owner of the computer who was identified as James Rankin, a 78-year-old resident of Hurst. Mr. Rankin, who was found to be an associate pastor at a local church, was later arrested and charged with Possession of Child Pornography, a third-degree felony.

Mr. Rankin is currently in custody at the Hurst Municipal Jail. Bond has been set at \$5,000.

For additional information, please contact:

Sgt. L. Brazzel

Criminal Investigations Division Supervisor

Hurst Police Department

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