



By Sheri Hink-Wagner
The Wauneta Breeze

Law enforcement officers arrested a Wauneta man last Friday for allegedly possessing child pornography.

Richard E. Cooley, 60, has been charged with possession of sexually explicit conduct of a child.

The arrest was the result of a joint investigation by the Department of Homeland Security, North Platte Police Department and the Nebraska State Patrol investigators. The Chase County Sheriff's office assisted in the investigation and the four law enforcement agencies executed a search warrant of Cooley's residence at 262 N. 2nd Street in Wauneta on Friday, Jan. 10.

Investigators stated the current search warrant was connected to a previous search warrant by the Department of Homeland Security.

Nebraska State Patrol investigators stated various electronic storage devices such as thumb drives and computers were seized in the search of Cooley's house. Investigators stated the devices contained numerous suspected images of minors engaged in real or simulated sexual acts.

Cooley was taken to the Chase County Jail. Bond was set at \$100,000. He posted the required 10 percent and was released. Cooley's next court date has been set for Jan. 22.