

WARRANT DETAILS SEXUAL ABUSES

By RITA FARLOW

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Former Clearwater fire Chief Jamie Geer made his underage victim wear lingerie as he videotaped sex acts with her, according to a search warrant filed in Pinellas County this week.

The search warrant says Geer offered the girl gifts such as "a cell phone, purse and other items" to perform sexual acts with him.

Geer, Clearwater's fire chief since 2004, was fired Monday after he was accused of sexually abusing the girl for several years. Authorities say the abuse started when the girl was 8 or 9; she is now 17. Geer was arrested on a charge of capital sexual battery. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison.

A judge Tuesday refused to lower Geer's bail, which is set at \$500,000. Geer, 56, was still being held Friday in the Pinellas County Jail.

Minutes after Geer was booked Monday afternoon, investigators with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement were at his Dunedin home looking for evidence. They seized videotapes, 8mm tapes, a video camera, memory cards, minidisks and printed e-mails. An inventory of items seized does not list any lingerie, according to the warrant.

New details about the investigation emerged from the search warrant, filed Wednesday afternoon.

Geer showed the girl pornography "to explain the act" and trained her to perform oral sex on him, according to the document.

The girl told investigators that Geer videotaped her repeatedly and that she had also seen him try to hide a video camera to tape her during the abuse without her knowledge.

In the spring of 2008, Geer told his victim he was depressed. He was thinking about committing suicide.

If anything happened to him, Geer told the girl, he would leave her a letter telling her where she could find the tapes.

She said that the last time she was sexually abused, in August, Geer bought her alcohol for a party "in trade" for sex. That's not uncommon in cases of child sexual abuse, said

David Finkelhor director of the Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire.

"These cases often start out with grooming the kid to accept it for the attention or making a game out of it or normalizing it," he said.