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## Local News

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Originally published December 13, 2014 at 3:19 PM | Page modified December 14, 2014 at 11:03 AM

### 'Revenge porn' culprit to serve 1 year in jail

In the first case of "revenge porn" to be prosecuted in King County, a 31-year-old Seattle computer technician was sentenced Friday to a year in jail after he pleaded guilty to charges involving naked photos of four women that he posted online.



A King County Superior Court judge wasn't moved by claims Jeremy "Silo" Walters didn't intend for his four victims to be humiliated and embarrassed after he posted naked photos of the women — one of whom he'd never met — on two different websites in a bizarre case of revenge porn.

Judge Samuel Chung, who said one of the sites was "too vile" to describe in words, said Walters, 31, knew he was inflicting "maximum trauma" on his victims "while he hides behind the anonymity of the Internet."

Chung sentenced Walters to an exceptional sentence of one year in the King County Jail on Friday, denying defense requests that he serve 45 days or be allowed to serve some of his time on work release.

"He stole something that did not belong to him," Chung said of photos Walters stole from the women. The judge calling the computer technician "a cyber predator" who committed "evil and callous" crimes.

Walters, the father of a 2-year-old daughter, pleaded guilty earlier this week, on the eve of his trial, to first-degree computer trespass, a Class C felony, and four counts of cyberstalking, which are gross misdemeanor charges. He was ordered to report to the jail on Jan. 12 to begin serving his sentence.

Senior Deputy Prosecutor Gary Ernsdorff told the judge the case against Walters was the first instance of "revenge porn" ever prosecuted in the county.

All four of Walters' victims addressed the court, telling the judge of the terror and humiliation they suffered and the impacts on their personal and professional lives after Walters anonymously posted naked photos of them on myex.com and Craigslist, then sent links to their friends and family.

Walters' wife spoke on his behalf, something Ernsdorff said surprised him, since she was granted a protection order against Walters earlier this year after he threatened to send naked photos of her to her employer.

One woman's explicit photos were stolen when she hired Walters in June 2011 to move data from an old computer to a new one, she told the judge. More than two years later, she began receiving phone calls from Walters, who threatened to rape her and who sent her naked photos to her loved ones.

She said she has lost business contacts because of the photos, and her grandmother refused to speak to her until recently. She paid \$800 to have the photos removed.

The second victim is the fiancée of one of Walters' friends. Photos were also stolen from her computer. She came forward after news accounts about the first victim, and she helped police identify a third woman, who dated Walters six years ago.

"Jeremy deliberately posted these photos of us to destroy us for no reason," the second victim said. "He absolutely hates women."

The fourth victim never met Walters. Her father hired him for computer work, and after a dispute between the two men, Walters hacked into the man's daughter's accounts, posted topless photos of her on Craigslist and later bragged about it on Facebook, the judge was told.

Walters posted the daughter's phone number along with an ad seeking sex with older men, and she received so many texts and phone calls she had to shut her phone down.

"I've never run into him in the grocery store; I've never cut him off on the freeway," she said, calling his conduct "disgusting."

Walters, who appeared flushed but otherwise didn't react to the women's remarks, told the judge, "I can't say sorry enough."

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