

# Former Geneva waiter convicted of child porn

## Suspect hid video camera in women's restroom

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A jury found a former Geneva restaurant waiter guilty Wednesday of multiple felony charges in connection to a video camera found hidden in the women's restroom at the business.

Assistant Geneva County District Attorney Bill Filmore said the jury found Arturo Ventura, 33, of Geneva guilty of three felony charges, which included two counts of attempted production of obscene matter and possession of obscene matter. Filmore said the jury also convicted Ventura of two misdemeanor criminal surveillance charges.



Ventura

Geneva police arrested Ventura in May 2010.

Filmore said Ventura was convicted of setting up what he referred to as a "covert camera," disguised as an ink pen, which also had a USB port on it to plug into a computer.

"He had it hidden in the flower pot on top of the tank of the toilet in the women's restroom in the Old Mexico restaurant in Geneva," Filmore said.

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## Waiter

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Filmore said police made the arrest in the case after a 10-year-old girl noticed a blinking light. He said the two girls identified on the video, ages 9 and 16, testified in the trial against Ventura.

Filmore said Ventura testified in the trial that he only had the video camera in the restroom about a week prior to his arrest. He said Ventura gave a statement to police claiming the camera, and testified in trial that he did it to look at women.

Attorney Lee Knowles, who represented Ventura at trial, could not be reached for comment.

Filmore said Ventura will be sentenced at a later date. He said Ventura faces 10 to 20 years in prison for

one of the class B felony crimes of attempted production of obscene matter, an enhanced sentence because the victim was under the age of 12. He also said Ventura would serve day for day of that sentence because of the victim's age.

Ventura faces two to 20 years for the other attempted production charge, and one to 10 years for the possession charge. Filmore said there is a hold on Ventura at the Geneva County Jail by U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement.

"It's somewhat unusual from the standpoint of putting a camera in a women's bathroom," Filmore said. "It's one of the things I was telling a jury, our society is getting more and more technology, and the laws have to keep it up with it. When it boils down to it, it's juries that decide what's allowed in our community."

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