

# Surf Pines ‘peeping Tom’ gets more than 35 years

Cazee convicted of 23 charges in January

By Jack Heffernan  
The Daily Astorian

A Surf Pines man was sentenced to more than 35 years in prison after his conviction on charges stemming from several “peeping Tom” incidents in his neighborhood.

Kirk Richard Cazee, 56, peered through bedroom windows and recorded videos of residents during private moments, a jury found after a four-day trial in January. He was convicted on six counts of using a child in a display of sexual conduct, eight counts of invasion of personal privacy, five counts of stalking and four counts of criminal trespass.

The Clatsop County Sheriff’s Office had been investigating a potential prowler in the Surf Pines area, based on numerous complaints from residents, for more than a year leading up to Cazee’s first arrest in February 2017. After his release from jail on those charges, he was arrested again in April following further investigation by the sheriff’s office. He has been held in jail on \$2 million bail.

The crimes involved several young women — some of whom were under 18 years old — and one man. Authorities found several videos in Cazee’s possession that displayed the victims in states of nudity and, sometimes, performing sexual acts. The videos also picked up audio of Cazee whispering sexually explicit language and zippers being undone. Deputies found during Cazee’s arrest that he was carrying a pair of binoculars and some toilet paper, which Deputy District Attorney Ron Brown called one of the case’s “smoking guns.”

Around 10 p.m. the night of his first arrest, sheriff’s dep-



Kirk Richard Cazee

uties found Cazee walking in the area without a flashlight minutes after yet another complaint of a man searching through

windows. Authorities also found that Cazee, a surgical nurse in Portland at the time, had stolen mail from one of the victims and kept it at his Portland mobile home.

One of the victims, due to repeated suspicions of someone prowling outside her home, placed a surveillance camera outside her residence in early 2017.

“I felt like I was losing my mind,” she said.

## Victims speak out

In one of the videos, the man was wearing a camouflage jacket that appeared identical to the one Cazee wore when he was arrested.

Nearly all of the victims — and a few family members — spoke at the sentencing hearing. Common themes surfaced in their statements: anger, lack of sleep, weariness of surroundings at home, lost feelings of privacy and keeping weapons nearby as they sleep at night.

“This violation was not physical, but it was more difficult than I ever could have imagined. How could you know a year after a trauma like how much of a toll it will have on your life?” one victim said. “To put it freely, the thought of Mr. Cazee walking around in public, whether now or 30 years from now, makes me want to crawl out of my own skin.”

Two other young women detailed how their lack of sleep has affected their performance at school. One dropped out of high school her senior year, while another — a college student — said she went from

‘Shame on you. Shame on you for doing this to my granddaughter and to all the other girls. It’s so sick. It’s really sick.’

One of the victim’s grandmothers

earning a 4.0 GPA to a 0.86 GPA.

“I will definitely not be the same person I was before,” one victim said. “It has made my anxiety worse, my depression worse. I’m afraid to get out of my car in the driveway and walk in the front door at night.”

Another victim described how she has been having a difficult time being intimate with her boyfriend out of fear that someone is watching. Some said they almost panic when they encounter someone who looks like Cazee.

“It wasn’t just my anxiety or somebody playing tricks on me. Someone was actually outside my window,” a victim said. “If he didn’t get caught, what would’ve happened?”

For the parents and guardians of the victims, feelings of an inability to protect their children were pervasive. Some exuded their anger at Cazee, even asking him to look at them during their remarks and calling his facial expression “smug.”

One of the victim’s grandmothers said she and her husband moved to Surf Pines with their granddaughters because they heard the community was safe. They often left their blinds up and curtains open.

“Shame on you. Shame on you for doing this to my granddaughter and to all the other girls,” she said. “It’s so sick. It’s really sick.”

During the January trial, Cazee’s wife and son testified that he often went for walks by himself late at night. They also spoke Friday.

“I love you and I will always love you, but I am deeply hurt and confused by your actions,” his son said. “You’ve

stayed my personal Superman until you were arrested.”

## Peering through windows

Cazee admitted to peering through windows in a psychosexual evaluation released minutes before the sentencing hearing. The evaluation, and several comments by lawyers in the hearing, revealed that Cazee is likely to face several other charges from the U.S. Department of Justice. He apologized to the victims during the hearing.

“I had absolutely no idea of the impact of my actions before. I do now,” Cazee said. “I feel like some think that I have no remorse, but that is not true. I would deeply apologize to anyone who feels like a victim.”

Soon before sentencing Cazee, Judge Dawn McIntosh said the psychosexual evaluation described a longstanding problem that he failed to address.

“The work that the sheriff’s office did in this case is what got you,” the judge said. “I don’t think you cared. I don’t think you thought about anybody but yourself when you were doing this. I think you’re a dangerous man. I don’t think you’re likely to change your spots.”

McIntosh commended the “articulate,” “strong” and “heartfelt” words of the victims.

“I hope you were listening because I certainly was,” she told Cazee. “You see words like ‘invasion of personal privacy’ and you don’t think off the bat about the damage that is done.”



OREGON STATE POLICE

A program to reward people who report poaching had a successful year in 2017.

# Poachers beware

Informant campaign had banner year

By Jack Heffernan  
The Daily Astorian

A statewide campaign that encourages people to inform on poachers just had the most robust year in its 32-year history.

The Turn in Poachers fund — a collaboration between the Oregon Hunters Association, Oregon State Police and state Department of Fish and Wildlife — rewarded \$24,200 in 50 cases last year. That’s more than double the average amount, according to the hunter’s association. The number of cases typically ranges from 20 to 35 in a given year.

Clatsop County had one reward case in 2017. An informant received \$500 for information about an elk shot in an area where hunting is not allowed. Poaching issues in the county mainly center on Roosevelt Elk and blacktail deer, since those animals are the most popular big game for hunters, said Sgt. Joe Warwick of the state police’s fish and wildlife division.

The Albany area had the highest number of rewards at 11.

Pinpointing why hunters report more or fewer poaching cases can be difficult. Not all poaching convictions are a result of tips, and not all informants accept rewards.

“We don’t know much about the informants,” Dungannon said. “They give the tip, we write the check and we send it to them.”

Dungannon suggests recent raises in reward money may be a factor in last year’s spike. Standard amounts range from \$100 for game fish, shellfish, upland birds, waterfowl and fur-bearers to \$1,000 for bighorn sheep, mountain goats and moose.

Dungannon also pointed to the state police’s efforts to advertise the program on social media and in local publications.

“There are things that officers can do to take the game to the next level and get the word out to the community,” Dungannon said.

Nearly all of the fund’s financial support comes from courts ordering those convicted of violations to pay restitution. The hunter’s association and other conservation groups also pitch in when unusually large award amounts are requested.

A bill pending in the state Legislature may help on that front. While judges already impose fines for misdemeanor offenses, the bill would lay out a precedent to impose such fines in addition to any jail or prison sentence. It also would give the state the ability to deny licenses, tags and permits if fines are not repaid.

“This removes any doubt from the court that they’re able to assess the restitution to the state and to the TIP fund,” Dungannon said.

## POLICE LOG

**Feb. 14**  
**1:37 a.m.,** Megler Bridge: Police assist Astoria police with a DUII.  
**10:27 a.m.,** 400 block S. Holladay: Disorderly conduct in the second degree is reported.

**10:32 a.m.,** Quatat Park: A cosmetic bag filled with used and unused syringes is found. Police dispose of them.

**12:20 p.m.,** 8900 block Rochelle Road: Police assist deputies and Gearhart police with an intoxicated subject.

**Feb. 15**  
**10:29 a.m.,** 300 block S. Wahanna: A rape in the third degree is reported. Subject is also arrested and charged with sexual abuse in the second degree and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

**8:05 p.m.,** 2100 block Lewis and Clark Road: A person is charged with child neglect in the second degree.

**Feb. 16**  
**2:24 a.m.,** 2300 block N. Roosevelt: Minors said to be throwing rocks at streetlights admit they’ve been throwing rocks. They are advised of the complaint.

**6:26 a.m.,** 400 block Second Avenue: Police respond to an alarm company’s report. They say doors are secure and a large spider web over the door would indicate no one had entered the house in a while.

**Feb. 17**  
**11:30 a.m.,** Police headquarters: A person came in for their annual sex offender registration.

**7:25 p.m.,** Avenue A and The Prom: A person arrested and charged with driving under the influence is also charged with vehicular hit and run. Property damage only.

**Feb. 18**  
**10:32 a.m.,** Police headquarters: A person came in to register as a sex offender.

**1:05 p.m.,** Turnaround: Police respond to a report of multiple people standing on a log being moved by incoming tide. Police advise the people of the danger and ask public works to remove the log.

**11:24 p.m.,** 2100 block S. Franklin: A person is charged with disorderly conduct in the second degree before being transported to detox.

**Feb. 19**  
**9:19 a.m.,** Quatat Park: Police respond to a report of a boat docked at Quatat Park filling with water from snow and rain. The owner of the boat was contacted through the boat’s registration.

**2:12 p.m.,** 1900 block N. Wahanna: A motor vehicle accident with injuries was reported.

**Feb. 20**  
**6:21 a.m.,** 2400 block Highway 101: A disturbance, verbal in nature only, was reported.

**7:48 p.m.,** 500 block Avenue I: A runaway is reported.

**7:51 p.m.,** Avenue U: A robbery is reported.

**Feb. 21**  
**11:33 a.m.,** 400 block S. Roosevelt: Caller reports a drug deal occurring between two vehicles. Officers responding are unable to locate.

**2:58 p.m.,** 300 block S. Wahanna: Harassment is reported.

**6:24 p.m.,** 400 block S. Roosevelt: Caller reports a drug deal going down between two businesses. Officers responding are unable to locate.

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