

Boxer aide fired, faces child porn charges

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A high-level aide to California Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer has been charged in federal court with receiving and distributing child pornography.

Jeff Rosato, 32, was arrested last Friday. Boxer's office fired him that same day upon learning of the charges.

Rosato appeared in federal court in Virginia Wednesday and was released to home detention on condition he not interact with children or use a computer. He was not required to post bail or bond money but is being told to undergo medical treatment.

"On Friday, the Justice Department informed our office of criminal charges made against a Senate employee. Sen. Boxer has zero tolerance for crimes against children, and the employee was immediately terminated," Boxer spokeswoman Natalie Ravitz said in a statement yesterday. "Our office is cooperating fully with the Department of Justice."

Rosato had worked for Boxer since early 2005, starting as a legislative assistant and last year becoming a counsel to the Environment and Public Works Committee, which Boxer leads.

Rosato's attorney, Patrick Anderson of Alexandria, Va., did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

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