EXCLUSIVE: Racine Children's Dance Instructor Busted For Child Porn; Parents Weren't Informed By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

Parents of children attending a popular Racine dance academy say they are furious they weren't told until months later that an instructor at the academy was charged with child pornography.

Gilbert Mata, who lives in Oak Creek, was charged in April in Milwaukee County Circuit Court with possession of child pornography. Mata was employed as an instructor at Dance Arts Center, which is located in Mount Pleasant in Racine County.

Parents say they were never told by Academy management of Mata's arrest and learned of it only when one parent checked online court records. The parents have taken to Facebook to share court records and many are blasting the dance school for keeping them in the dark.

A hearing on an apparent guilty plea by Mata has been scheduled for next week.

According to Dance Arts Center's website, the Artistic Director and Company Manager is Cameron Mathe. Danielle Davis listed as "founder" and "consultant." Online records indicate Mathe and Mata lived at the same address in Oak Creek until July of this year. Mathe's Facebook page still includes numerous images of him with Mata in photos that appeared to be taken on vacations.

Mathe, the dance academy director, has so far not responded to my inquiries.

Mark Belling September 11, 2023