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Alleged child molester believed hiding in GTA

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Frederick Cecil McLean, 61, is among the U.S. Marshals 15 Most Wanted fugitives and is believed to be hiding in the GTA, officers of Toronto Police's Fugitive Squad said on Wednesday.

TORONTO - A U.S. fugitive who police say uses his position as a ministerial servant of the Jehovah Witness to get close to children is being sought for allegedly molesting four youngsters in California.

Frederick Cecil McLean, 61, is among the U.S. Marshals 15 Most Wanted fugitives and is believed to be hiding in the GTA, officers of Toronto Police's Fugitive Squad said on Wednesday.

McLean's plight has been aired twice on America's Most Wanted TV show without leading to his arrest.

He was charged in California with multiple counts of lewd and lascivious acts with a minor under 14. An arrest warrant was issued for him in Jan. 2005 when police believe he fled to Canada.

The Marshals said McLean is accused of sexually assaulting four separate U.S. victims, who were children under 14.

"One of the victims claims that McLean molested her over 100 times between 1991 and 1996," U.S. police allege. "McLean molested his first victim at 28-years-old in San Felipe, Mexico."

The Marshals allege McLean, who has a successful business restoring cars, used his position in the Jehovah Witness to gain access to his victims.

Police said McLean fled the U.S. after being confronted by his family. He said then he was planning for his escape his whole life.

Police said as their probe widened, McLean sold his property including houses and a lucrative race car business and split the profits with his wife, whom he divorced.

The U.S. Marshals estimate he fled to Canada with about \$400,000 in cash to help him hide.

Police said McLean has been in touch with his family during the years on the run and was self-employed as a dealer and restorer of vintage racecars, who liked to go primitive camping in the desert.

"McLean has been described as a loner with no real friends," the Marshals said. "He is considered armed and dangerous."

Anyone who has information on the fugitive is asked to call police at 4516-808-5930 or CrimeStoppers at 416-222-TIPS

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