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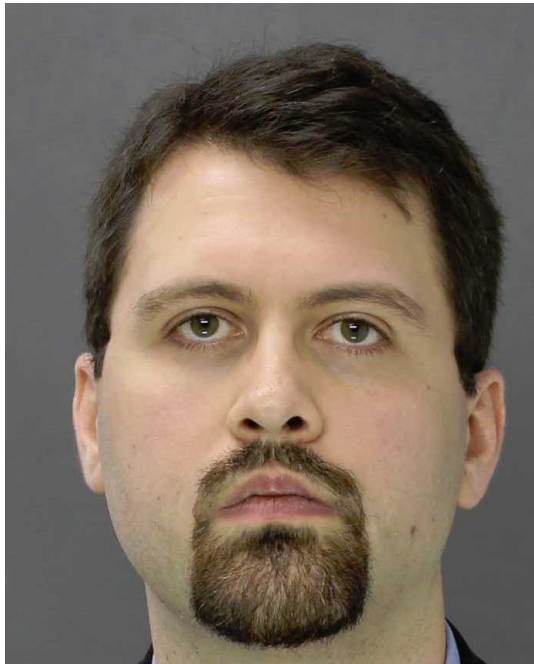
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 9, 2015

Arrest Announced for Crimes Involving the Sexual Exploitation of Children



Montgomery County District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman and Abington Township Police Chief William J. Kelly announce the arrest of Aric Douglas Johnson, 30, of Upper Moreland Township, for crimes involving the sexual exploitation of children in the form of: 3 counts of Distribution of Child Pornography, 100 counts of Possession of Child Pornography and 3 counts of Criminal Use of a Communication Facility.

In cooperation with the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, the Montgomery County Detective Bureau and the Abington Township Police have combined efforts in protecting children from internet predators. In addition to his regular duties as an Abington Township Police Department Detective, Richard Beaghley is sworn as a Special Montgomery County Detective by District Attorney Ferman. His specific enforcement focus relating to ICAC involves detecting and arresting child predators.

On Sunday June 7, 2015 Detective Beaghley became involved in an undercover, electronic communication exchange over the Internet. Communications with this particular computer and user continued until Friday, August 21, 2015. During this period of time the target computer and user, who was later determined to be Aric Johnson, shared 3 movie files with Detective Beaghley. These files consisted of images of children involved in sexual acts and/or posing in a sexual manner.

On Wednesday, September 23, 2015 Detective Beaghley, Montgomery County Detectives, and Officers from the Upper Moreland Township Police Department served a search warrant on Johnson's Upper Moreland Township residence. Detective Beaghley seized a HP Pavilion laptop computer.

Montgomery County Detective David Schanes conducted a forensic examination of the laptop computer seized from Johnson's home. This search showed a total of 18,625 images and 55 videos. Detective Beaghley reviewed these images videos and found they depicted children engaged in sexual acts and/or sexual poses.

On Thursday, October 8, 2015 Johnson was arrested. He faced preliminary arraignment before Magisterial District Judge Paul Leo of Hatboro. Bail was set at \$10,000, unsecured. Johnson was ordered to have no contact with children and to refrain from internet usage. His preliminary hearing is set for October 20, 2015 at 9:15 AM.

Approved for release,

Risa Vetri Ferman

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.