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LAWRENCE BREAN OF ARDMORE CHARGED WITH POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY



NORRISTOWN, Pa. (March 1, 2018) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and the Pennsylvania Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force announce the arrest of Lawrence Brean, 69, of Ardmore, for felony charges of Possession of Child Pornography and Criminal Use of a Communication Facility.

In October 2017, Montgomery County Detective Kathleen Kelly received from ICAC a cyber tip that originated from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The tip indicated that six images of child pornography depicting female children performing sexual acts on adult males as well as posing in sexually suggestive manners were uploaded to a computer email address in the area. The investigation traced the email address to Brean's home in Lower Merion Township.

Det. Kelly along with other ICAC affiliated detectives served a search warrant on Brean's home on Nov. 2, 2017. Delaware County Senior Investigative Analyst Nat Evans and his K9 Charlie, who is trained in electronics detection, also assisted in the search of the residence. K9 Charlie searched the defendant's first-floor office and indicated in a closet, where two flash drives were found. The flash drives found in the residence contained at least 25 images of child pornography, depicting girls in the age range of 11 to 15 years old engaged in sexual acts. A Macbook was also seized from the residence, which contained additional images.

Brean was arrested Feb. 27, 2018, and arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Michael P. Quinn. He was released on \$25,000 unsecured bail and ordered to have no unsupervised contact with children and to restrict his Internet usage to business use only. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., on March 8, 2018, before Judge Quinn.

Major Crimes Detectives of the Montgomery County Detective Bureau, along with specially trained and sworn detectives from police departments in Montgomery County, routinely work with the ICAC Task Force to protect children from Internet predators by aggressively and proactively investigating Internet crimes that exploit children.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant Chief of Trials M. Stewart Ryan, who oversees the Family Protection Unit.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

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