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MATTHEW LAVER OF SOUDERTON CHARGED WITH DISTRIBUTING, POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY



NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Nov. 6, 2018) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele, Bucks County District Attorney Matthew Weintraub, Abington Township Police Chief Patrick Molloy and the Pennsylvania Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force announce the arrest of Matthew Laver, 37, of Souderton, for felony charges related to distributing and possessing child pornography.

In September 2018, the Bucks County ICAC Task Force shared information with the Montgomery County ICAC Task Force regarding a subject in Montgomery County that was sharing files of child pornography on a file sharing network. Detectives were able to directly connect to the host computer and download video and still photos of child pornography. The computer was traced to Laver's residence.

On Oct. 25, 2018, a search warrant was executed on his residence. The search of the defendant's cell phone, computers, external hard drives and other electronic devices found more than 20 images of children in various stages of nudity, with numerous images showing the minors engaged in indecent contact with other children and adults.

Laver was arrested on multiple felony counts of Disseminating Child Pornography, Possessing Child Pornography and Criminal Use of a Communications Facility. He was arraigned on Oct. 25, 2018, before Magisterial District Judge Albert J. Augustine, who set bail at \$100,000 cash and ordered him to have no unsupervised contact with children and have no Internet usage. The defendant was unable to make bail and was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. Laver waived his preliminary hearing.

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 District Attorney Matthew Brittenburg.

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.