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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOHN MULGREW OF PENNSBURG ARRESTED ON FELONY CHARGES OF POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY



JOHN MULGREW

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Dec. 2, 2022) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele announces the arrest of John Mulgrew, 24, of Pennsburg, on felony charges related to possessing child pornography.

The investigation began on May 29, 2022, when the Montgomery County Detective Bureau received a Cybertip from Kik, via the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The tip related to video files of suspected child pornography uploaded to a Kik account between May 19 and May 23, 2022. Detectives determined the 42 uploads were multiple uploads of the same 10 files of child pornography, involving pre-pubescent females.

County Detectives traced the IP address used to log into the Kik account to the defendant's residence on Bayberry Lane in Pennsburg and to Bergey's Truck Centers in Souderton, where the defendant was employed. On Aug. 12, 2022, detectives served a search warrant on Mulgrew's home and seized several computers and the defendant's Apple iPhone. A forensic examination of the defendant's iPhone found 25 video files of

pre-pubescent boys and girls engaged in sexual acts or in the simulation of sexual acts as well as additional video files of adolescents in various sexual poses and activities.

The defendant was arrested and charged with 175 felony counts of Possessing Child Pornography and one count of Criminal Use of a Communications Facility. Mulgrew was arraigned on Nov. 29, 2022, before Magisterial District Judge Edward Levine, who set bail at \$200,000 unsecured, and the defendant was released. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m., Dec. 12, 2022 before Magisterial District Judge Maureen Coggins.

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

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.