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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RICHARD GILBERT OF UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP ARRESTED ON FELONY CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES



RICHARD GILBERT

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (July 23, 2020) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele announced the arrest of Richard Gilbert, 31, of Sheffield Court in Upper Providence Township, on felony charges related to possessing child pornography.

The investigation began on Dec. 24, 2019 when the Montgomery County Detective Bureau received a Cybertip that originated from an upload of two jpg files depicting pre-schooled-aged girls and one video file of an adult male and a very young girl. Both were determined to be child pornography. The investigation traced the upload to a computer located in Gilbert's residence, using a Gmail account that was connected to the defendant's phone number. On Jan. 22, 2020, a search warrant was executed at Gilbert's residence and a desktop computer was seized. A forensic examination of the computer was conducted by the Philadelphia Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory, which found 10 files of child pornography, including images of babies being sexually assaulted.

Gilbert was arrested on 10 counts of felony child pornography and one count of Criminal Use of a Communications Facility. He was arraigned on July 22, 2020 by Magisterial District Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar, who set bail at \$50,000 unsecured, and the defendant was released on his own recognizance. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 11:45 a.m., Aug. 18, 2020 before Judge Rebar.

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 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force to protect children from Internet predators by aggressively and proactively investigating Internet crimes that exploit children, such as this one.

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.