



DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF CHESTER COUNTY

201 WEST MARKET STREET, SUITE 4450

POST OFFICE BOX 2746

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380-0989

TELEPHONE: 610-344-6801

FAX: 610-344-5905

Thomas P. Hogan
District Attorney

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PRESS RELEASE

Middle School Teacher Arrested for Child Pornography

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan announced the arrest of Kenneth Ford Hamilton, Jr. for the possession and distribution of child pornography in Phoenixville, Chester County, PA. The defendant is a special education teacher at Phoenixville Middle School.

District Attorney Hogan stated, "Viewing child pornography often is one of the early steps along the path to sexually abusing children. Gaining regular access to kids is a second step. A teacher who is accessing child pornography is a recipe for disaster. The Pennsylvania State Police did an outstanding job neutralizing this threat to our children."

The defendant is 58 years old. He resided at 800 Kimberton Road, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.

The allegations from the criminal complaint¹ are as follows:

The Pennsylvania State Police conducted an undercover investigation into the internet sharing of child pornography. Troopers downloaded files containing multiple images and videos of child pornography. The IP address assigned to the computer sharing these files was assigned to the defendant.

On November 27, 2013, troopers executed a search warrant on the home of the defendant seizing a desktop computer, hard disk drive, two thumb drives and other electronic storage devices. Images and videos depicting child pornography were found during a forensic examination of the defendant's digital storage media.

Pennsylvania State Police Captain William White stated, "The State Police works closely with the Chester County District Attorney's Office to ensure the arrest and successful

¹ A criminal defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

prosecution of child pornography offenders. Both agencies have been committed to the protection of children and will continue our vigilant fight against child pornography.”

The defendant was arrested on December 1, 2013 and charged with 13 total felony counts, including the possession and dissemination of child pornography. The defendant is in Chester County Prison on \$250,000 bail. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for December 5, 2013 at District Court 15-2-01. The case will be prosecuted by the Chester County District Attorney’s Office Child Abuse Unit.

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan