OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR

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PRESS RELEASE

CHARGED:

Michael S. Lovell-Agnelli 25 Fairview Ave., Apt. B17 Phillipsburg, NJ, 08865 DOB: May 22, 1991

In February and March of 2022, a social media platform called Discord reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children ("NCMEC") that a user on their platform was uploading images potentially showing the sexual exploitation of children. Consequently, NCMEC alerted the Warren County Prosecutor's Office, which conducted a detailed and thorough investigation to locate the perpetrator. Ultimately, law enforcement identified Michael S. Lovell-Agnelli as a potential suspect. When the contents of Lovell-Agnelli's Discord account were reviewed, detectives discovered images of child sexual abuse material and evidence that these images were distributed to other users.

In pursuit of the investigation, a search warrant was executed at Lovell-Agnelli's home to collect other devices suspected of containing or distributing potential child sexual abuse material.

Lovell-Agnelli was charged with the following offenses and held in the Warren County Jail pending a detention hearing:

COUNT I: Endangering the Welfare of a Child for Distributing Child

Pornography, Second Degree, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-

4b(5)(a)(i); and

COUNT II: Endangering the Welfare of a Child for Possession of Child

Pornography, Third Degree, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4b(5)(b)(iii)

The Second Degree charge carries a maximum potential penalty of ten years in New Jersey State Prison and requires registration under Megan's Law as sex offender. The Third Degree charge carries a maximum potential penalty of five years in New Jersey State Prison.

All defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Dated: September 27, 2022

Approved by:

ANTHONY J. ROBINSON

First Assistant Prosecutor