

FILED
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LA.

2021 MAR 19 P 4 01

CAROL L. NICHEL
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**SEALED
FELONY**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

**INDICTMENT FOR PRODUCTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY,
DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, AND NOTICE OF FORFEITURE**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

STEVE C. MERGEY

* CRIMINAL NO. **21-34**
* SECTION: **SECT.D MAG.1**
* VIOLATIONS: 18 U.S.C. § 2251(a)
18 U.S.C. § 2251(e)
* 18 U.S.C. § 2252(a)(2)
18 U.S.C. § 2252(b)(1)
*
* * *

The Grand Jury charges that:

COUNT 1
Production of Child Pornography

On or about May 12, 2020, within the Eastern District of Louisiana, and elsewhere, the defendant, **STEVE C. MERGEY**, did knowingly employ, use, persuade, induce, entice, and coerce a minor victim to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing any visual depiction of such conduct, and the visual depiction was transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2251(a) and (e).

K Fee *VSA*

Process _____
 Dktd _____

CtRmDep _____

Doc.No. _____

COUNT 2
Distribution of Child Pornography

On or about May 12, 2020, through May 17, 2020, in the Eastern District of Louisiana, and elsewhere, the defendant, **STEVE C. MERGEY**, did knowingly distribute, and attempt to distribute, visual depictions, that is, digital images and videos and computer images, that had been mailed, shipped, and transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce, by any means, including by computer, the production of which involved the use of a minor, engaging in sexually explicit conduct, and such visual depictions were of such conduct.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2252(a)(2) and (b)(1).

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

1. The allegations of Counts 1 and 2 of this Indictment are incorporated by reference as though set forth fully herein for the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States.

2. As a result of the offenses alleged in Counts 1 and 2, the defendant, **STEVE C. MERGEY**, shall forfeit to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 2253, any visual depiction as defined above; any property, real or personal, constituting or traceable to gross profits or other proceeds obtained from said offenses; and any property, real or personal, used or intended to be used to commit or to promote the commission of said offenses, and any property traceable to such property.

3. If any of the above-described property, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or

- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty;

the United States shall seek a money judgment and, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), forfeiture of any other property of the defendant up to the value of said property.

A TRUE BILL:



FOREPERSON

DUANE A. EVANS
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. M. Klebba", written over a horizontal line.

BRIAN M. KLEBBA
Assistant United States Attorney

New Orleans, Louisiana
March 19, 2021