

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
PENSACOLA DIVISION**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**v.**

**Case No. 3:18cr29/MCR**

**CHRISTOPHER M. ARGUELLES**  
\_\_\_\_\_ /

**FACTUAL BASIS FOR GUILTY PLEA**

The defendant admits that if this case were to proceed to trial, the government could prove the following facts.

On or about February 2, 2018, an investigator with the State Attorney's Office in Pensacola, Florida, attempted to serve Christopher Arguelles with a subpoena at Arguelles's purported residence. The investigator discovered Arguelles had vacated the room on or about January 1, 2018, and failed to pay for the room. On or about February 8, 2018, the investigator contacted the Escambia County Sheriff's Office ("ECSO") concerning Arguelles. The ECSO checked the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Sex Offender Database and confirmed Arguelles was a registered sex offender. As a sex offender, Arguelles was required to register his residence. On or about February 8, 2018, an arrest warrant charging Arguelles with failing to report his change in residence was initiated.

Approximately two days after the arrest warrant affidavit was filed, a National

Center for Missing and Exploited Children Cyber Tipline Report was submitted by a local telecommunications provider concerning Arguelles. Per the Cyber Tipline Report, on or about February 10, 2018, Arguelles entered the local telecommunications provider's store complaining about his cellular telephone running slow. As Arguelles was being assisted with his complaint, a large amount of pornographic material was observed on the cellular telephone. This included numerous folders on the phone with one of the folders titled "underage." This raised concern for the local telecommunications provider who then called in the Cyber Tip regarding the defendant's cellular telephone.

On or about February 14, 2018, Arguelles was arrested for failure to register a change in his residence. Incident to Arguelles's arrest, an LG Aristo cellular telephone was found on his person. The cellular telephone was seized incident to arrest and taken into custody. The FBI obtained a federal search warrant for the defendant's cellular telephone. A forensic review of the device revealed images/videos of child pornography on the phone itself (in allocated space) and images/videos of child pornography in the unallocated space on the SD card within the phone. The defendant maintained a folder structure within his phone with folders titled such as "underage," "underage porn," and "Gallery." Within these folders, the defendant maintained subfolders with such titles as "Sammy 14 yo," "15yo Jen," and "14 year old Erin." It should be noted that some of the child

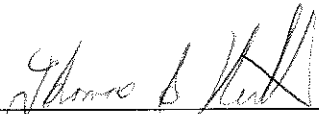
pornography involved small females under the age of 12 years old. The defendant's cellular telephone was manufactured in China, and the images/videos he possessed came from internet sources, which is a means or facility of interstate and foreign commerce. The defendant maintained a Dropbox cloud storage account with similar illicit materials.

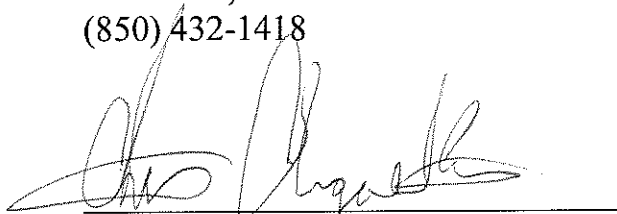
## Elements of the Offense

It's a Federal crime to knowingly possess, or access with intent to view, any child pornography that has been transported, shipped or mailed in interstate or foreign commerce or by utilizing a facility of interstate or foreign commerce, including by computer or cellular telephone.

The Defendant can be found guilty of this crime only if all the following facts are proved beyond a reasonable doubt:

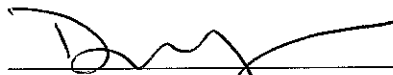
1. the Defendant knowingly possessed, or accessed with intent to view, an item or items of child pornography;
2. the item[s] of child pornography had been transported, shipped or mailed in interstate or foreign commerce or by utilizing such a facility, including by computer or cellular telephone; and
3. when the Defendant possessed the item[s], the Defendant believed the item[s] were or contained child pornography.

  
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CHRISTOPHER M. ARGUELLES  
Defendant

11/15/18  
Date

CHRISTOPHER P. CANOVA  
United States Attorney

  
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11/15/18  
Date