

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

:

:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mag No. 18-8057

V.

ANGELO N. CURATO

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, Robert Fitzsimmons, being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

#### SEE ATTACHMENT A

I further state that I am a Special Agent with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and that this Complaint is based on the following facts:

#### SEE ATTACHMENT B

continued on the attached page and made a part hereof.

Robert Fitzsimmons, Special Agent U.S. Department of Homeland Security Homeland Security Investigations

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence,

May 29, 2018

at

Newark, New Jersey

Date

City and State

Honorable Leda Dunn Wettre

<u>United States Magistrate Judge</u>

Name and Title of Judicial Officer

Signature of Judicial Officer

## **ATTACHMENT A**

#### Count I

## Sexual Exploitation of Children

From in or about January 2017 through in or about June 2017, in Monmouth County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, defendant

## ANGELO N. CURATO

did knowingly employ, use, persuade, induce, entice, and coerce an identified minor, "VICTIM-1," to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing any visual depiction of such conduct, which visual depiction was produced and transmitted using materials that had been mailed, shipped, and transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer, and such visual depictions having actually been transported and transmitted using any means and facility of interstate and foreign commerce and in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2251(a) and 2.

## ATTACHMENT B

I, Robert Fitzsimmons, am a Special Agent with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("HSI"). I have knowledge of the following facts based upon both my investigation and discussions with other law enforcement personnel and others. Because this Affidavit is being submitted for the sole purpose of establishing probable cause to support the issuance of a complaint, I have not included each and every fact known to the government concerning this matter. Where statements of others are set forth herein, these statements are related in substance and in part. Where I assert that an event took place on a particular date, I am asserting that it took place on or about the date alleged.

## Background

1. At all times relevant to this Complaint, defendant ANGELO N. CURATO ("CURATO") was a 26 year-old man who resided in Manalapan, New Jersey.

## Sexual Exploitation of Children

- 2. On or about June 2, 2017, as a result of an ongoing investigation into the commission of child pornography crimes on the Internet, law enforcement executed a search warrant for CURATO's residence and seized certain electronic devices.
- 3. Also on or about June 2, 2017, CURATO agreed to be interviewed by law enforcement. After being advised of his Miranda rights, CURATO admitted to law enforcement, among other things, to, beginning in 2013 or 2014: 1) using online applications, including Skype, to interact with dozens of minor males; 2) having falsely represented himself to be a 17-year-old female while interacting with the minor males; 3) receiving naked pictures from minors males; 4) watching the minor males engage in sexually explicit conduct on video; and 5) creating images and videos of the minor males engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Further, CURATO identified for law enforcement certain of the Skype accounts he used and controlled ("CURATO Skype Account-1" and "CURATO Skype Account-2," together the "CURATO Skype Accounts") and admitted that the laptop computer in question was his.

- 4. A preliminary forensic review of the laptop computer belonging to CURATO revealed files that appeared to depict child pornography, as defined by Title 18, United States Code, Section 2256(8). The search of CURATO's laptop also revealed evidence of the CURATO Skype Accounts.
- 5. Further review of CURATO's laptop revealed hundreds of sexually explicit chat messages between the CURATO Skype Accounts and individuals who appear to be minor males. CURATO's Skype folder ("Folder-1") contained hundreds of what appear to screenshots of minor males engaging in sexually explicit conduct.
- 6. Based on law enforcement's review of CURATO's laptop computer, from in or about January 2017 through in or about June 2017, CURATO communicated via Skype and an online chat application with VICTIM-1, who resides in New Jersey.
- 7. Over the course of their correspondence, CURATO asked VICTIM-1, on multiple occasions, to get on "cam" to engage in sexually explicit conduct, as defined by Title 18, United States Code, Section 2256(2).
- 8. Certain of the images in Folder-1 depict VICTIM-1 engaged in sexually explicit conduct. As only one example, the following describes an image file recovered from CURATO's laptop computer:

	DESCRIPTION
Image file #1	Image depicts an identified minor male lying on what appears to be a bathroom floor, with a focus on the minor male's genitals.

9. In or about April 2018, law enforcement officers interviewed VICTIM-1, who indicated that he met CURATO through an online chat application when VICTIM-1 was 13 years old. VICTIM-1 stated that VICTIM-1 believed CURATO had represented himself to be a 16 or 17-year old female. After meeting on the online chat application, VICTIM-1 and CURATO communicated via Skype. VICTIM-1 acknowledged having engaged in sexually explicit conduct during live Skype chats with the CURATO Skype Account-1. VICTIM-1 stated that he did not know CURATO was recording his live chats with CURATO.

10. Based upon my education, training, and experience, and my discussions with other law enforcement officers, and to the best of my knowledge, the image described in paragraph 8 above traveled in interstate commerce and was produced using materials that were mailed and shipped and transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer.