
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon. Douglas E. Arpert
:
v. : Mag. No. 22-6014
:
BRIAN J. CRANN : CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, Kevin Matthews, being duly sworn, state that 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 Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that this Complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHMENT B


continued on the attached pages and made a part hereof.

S/KEVIN MATTHEWS

Kevin Matthews, Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Attested to me by telephone,
pursuant to FRCP 4.1(b)(2)(A)

January 25, 2022,
in the District of New Jersey,



HONORABLE DOUGLAS E. ARPERT
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

ATTACHMENT A

(Distribution of Child Pornography)

On or about January 22, 2022, in Burlington County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

BRIAN J. CRANN,

did knowingly distribute material containing child pornography, as defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 2256(8)(A), using any means or facility of interstate or foreign commerce or that had been mailed, or had been shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A(a)(2)(B) and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

ATTACHMENT B

I, Kevin Matthews, am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"). I have participated in this investigation, discussed this matter with other law enforcement officers, and have reviewed documents and other materials. Accordingly, I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth below. Because this criminal complaint is being submitted only for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause, I have not included each and every fact known to me concerning this investigation. Rather, I have set forth only the facts that I believe are necessary to establish probable cause. Unless specifically indicated, all conversations and statements described in this complaint are related in sum and substance and in part, and all dates and figures are approximate.

1. On or about January 22, 2022, an individual, later identified as defendant BRIAN J. CRANN ("CRANN"), used an account with an identified screen name (the "Account") on an instant messaging mobile application (the "App") to send another individual one video and two images of suspected child pornography, described in the table below:

Filename	Description
Filename: 0871341f-6838-4269-983d- cd339be1b237.mp4	This video appears to depict a masturbating prepubescent female, sitting on the floor wearing only a t-shirt. This video is approximately 20 seconds in length.
Filename: 71740f9b-22fe-4d25-bee2-13a9fe6a65cb.jpg	This image appears to depict a prepubescent female, sitting on the floor wearing only a t-shirt with her genital area exposed.

Filename	Description
Filename: 7eb9dea-1c30-4bcd-bd07-7cb91c9644b6.jpg	This image appears to depict a prepubescent female, sitting on the floor wearing only a t-shirt with her genital area exposed.

2. In addition to the images of child pornography sent to the other individual, CRANN, using the Account, also sent the other individual a non-pornographic image of himself with a minor, who appeared to be the same minor depicted in the child pornography described above. CRANN commented to the individual, in sum and substance, that he (CRANN) had previously engaged in sexual contact with the minor.

3. Records obtained by law enforcement revealed that, a short time before the user of the Account transmitted the child pornography identified above, the Account was accessed on the App using a Wi-Fi Internet Protocol ("IP") address ending in 223 (the "223 IP Address"), which was serviced by Service Provider 1. These records also revealed that the Account also had been accessed on the App on other occasions via multiple mobile IP addresses serviced by Service Provider 2. Finally, the records identified that an Android smartphone was associated with the Account.

4. Records obtained from Service Provider 1 revealed that on January 22, 2022, the 223 IP Address was assigned to an internet service account subscribed in CRANN's name at a residential address on Joint Base McGuire-Fort Dix-Lakehurst ("CRANN's Residence"). The contact number for CRANN's account with Service Provider 1 was a mobile telephone number ending in 5148 (the "5148 Phone"). Records obtained from Service Provider 2 revealed that the 5148 Phone was subscribed in CRANN's name at CRANN's Residence.

5. Based on its investigation, on or about January 25, 2022, law enforcement executed search warrants for, among other things, CRANN's person and the 5148 Phone. During the search of CRANN's person, law enforcement seized an Android smartphone, which law enforcement confirmed was the 5148 Phone.

6. Also on January 25, 2022, CRANN gave a voluntary statement to law enforcement in which he admitted, among other things, to being the user of the Account and the user of the 5148 Phone. CRANN stated that he had recently deleted the App from the 5148 Phone. The search of the 5148 Phone revealed a copy of the non-pornographic image of CRANN with a minor that had been sent from the Account via the App on January 22, 2022, as described in paragraph 2, above.

7. Based upon my education, training and experience, and my discussions with other law enforcement officers, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, the images and video described above were transported and transmitted in interstate commerce and were transported and transmitted using any means and facility of interstate and foreign commerce, including by computer, based upon, among other things, their transmission from CRANN to another individual over the internet using an instant messaging mobile application.

8. In addition, based upon my education, training and experience, and my discussions with other law enforcement officers, and to the best of my knowledge, the images and videos described above were produced using materials that were mailed, shipped, and transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer.