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QUEENS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY
Defendant Faces Prison Time At Sentencing

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that an Astoria man has pleaded guilty to possessing a sexual performance by a child after police received a cybertip report from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children that the 23-year-old man had uploaded images of child pornography to his Google account in September 2016.

District Attorney Brown said, "The defendant has admitted that his curiosity became an obsession and that he sought out, downloaded and saved several thousand images and videos of children - some as young as five - being sexually abused by adults. These are not just pictures and videos. They are for all intents and purposes crime scene photos of children being sexually abused. They are real people who will have to live with the abuse they suffered for the rest of their lives. This defendant will go to prison as a result of his actions."

District Attorney Brown identified the defendant as Charles Flores, 23, of 38th Street in Astoria, Queens. The defendant pleaded guilty yesterday to possessing a sexual performance by a child before Queens Criminal Court Judge Gia Morris, who indicated she will sentence Flores to one to three years in prison on June 12, 2017.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to the charges, an NYPD detective received a tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children about a gmail account that had uploaded two images possibly involving child exploitation. The defendant admitted that charlesf20@gmail.com was his email address when interviewed by police. During a forensic preview of the defendant's external hard drive, investigators found 20 images of prepubescent children roughly between the ages of five and 12 being vaginally and anally penetrated by adult males. Flores told police he began seeking out child pornography to help his girlfriend and it turned into an obsession. Further forensic analysis of the hard drive, as well as other electronic devices in the defendant's possession, revealed hundreds of videos and images of children as young as four years old being sexually abused by adults.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Anthony Santilli of the New York City Police Department's Computer Crime Squad.

Assistant District Attorney Kateri A. Gasper, Chief of the District Attorney's Computer Crimes Unit, is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Gerard A. Brave, Bureau Chief of the District Attorney's Organized Crime and Rackets Bureau, and Catherine C. Kane and Mary M. Lowenburg, Deputy Bureau Chiefs, and the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Peter A. Crusco.

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Note to Editor: An e-version of this press release are posted on QDA website at www.queensda.org.