## **Incident Number**

22-00254

## **SAGAMORE HILLS**



**Investigative Report** 

Title / Subject: PANDERING OBSCENITY

On this day, SHPD executed a search warrant at the residence of Anthony Strong. Anthony was a suspect in a child pornography case from cybertip # 134960291. The cybertip was submitted through Google to ICAC. The ICAC investigator then forwarded the cybertip to SHPD where it was assigned to the detective bureau to investigate.

Throughout the course of the investigation, subpoena's were sent for the email addresses and phone numbers for the information on file from the cybertip. The results produced the phone number for Anthony Strong and the email for Anthony Strong. The tip was submitted due to a 14 second file that was downloaded of an adult male penis having sexual intercourse with what appears to be a young white female.

I reached out to Anthony Strong on September 21, 2023 in an attempt to just have a conversation about what was brought to SHPD's attention. I advised him that his name came up in a case that I was working on. Anthony appeared very cooperative and stated he would stop by SHPD on his way home from work on September 25, 2023 around 0700 hours. After 0700 hours had passed, I reached out to Anthony. He answered and stated that he had spoken to his friends and others and they advised him to obtain an attorney, which he did. Anthony said his attorney then advised him to not make any statements. I asked Anthony for the name of the attorney which he then provided me the name of James McDonnell. (216-781-2125)

I reached out to Mr. McDonnell. Mr. McDonnell stated he advised his client to not make any statements. I explained to Mr. McDonnell that I never even spoke to his client in regards to what I wanted to talk to him about and how would he have known he needed an attorney. He stated that he believes it may or may not have to do with something his client was viewing on the Internet. I then informed Mr. McDonnell that we are on the same page and that his client was downloading child pornography which is illegal. It was at this time I suggested to him that to save him and his family the embarrassment, I only had 1 file downloaded to our knowledge. I advised Mr. McDonnell if his client wanted to turn himself in and the equipment and take the one charge, I could speak to the Summit County prosecutor and see if he could get probation or something. Otherwise, I would get a search warrant. Mr. McDonnell stated that he would talk to his client and get back to me the next day.

The next day, I spoke to the Summit County prosecutor and she confirmed that was okay to offer that to the attorney's client. On September 26, 2023, Mr. McDonnell called back and stated that after talking to his client he told him to tell the police to get a search warrant. I advised Mr. McDonnell that is what we would do and once it was executed I would notify him.

The search warrant was obtained on October 10, 2023 and executed on October 12, 2023 at the residence of Anthony Strong. Anthony was provided a copy of the search warrant as well as the homeowner, Tammy Strong. I advised them that SHPD was there to search for and seize anything that SHPD felt was related to child pornography. Anthony was detained in the kitchen, while his mother Tammy and her son Zachary were observed in the kitchen.

While talking to Tammy she stated that her son basically only uses his bedroom which was upstairs in the northeast corner of the home. Myself, Ptl. DeCrane and Ptl. Danko went upstairs to conduct a search for evidence. There was a Samsung phone cord next to the bed, but no laptop, no computer or any phones were located in the bedroom. When I asked Tammy where Anthony's phone was she stated it was behind her on the kitchen counter. On the counter, I located a TCL flip phone that appeared to be brand new. Tammy said that

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## **SAGAMORE HILLS**

POLICE

Incident Number

22-00254

Investigative Report Title / Subject: PANDERING OBSCENITY

Anthony lost his phone about a week ago. I also asked Tammy about any computers or laptops in the home and she stated Anthony had a Chromebook which he used and she asked Anthony what he did with the Chromebook. Anthony told her that it broke and he threw it out in March.

Another laptop was located in the dining room area which looked to be setup like an office. Tammy advised that was her work area and work laptop. There was a desktop computer located in the family room that contained a Playstation and an X-Box. Zachary and Tammy both advised that was Zachary's and Anthony did not use it at all. After conducting a thorough search of the bedroom and the areas of the home where Anthony used, SHPD was confident that any items that could have contained illegal activity are long gone and have been disposed of. Upon speaking to Anthony, I provided him a copy of the inventory receipt that showed SHPD taking possession of the flip phone. I explained to Anthony that the items we were looking for he had already gotten rid of and he shook his head with a nod, which I understood to mean, yes he did. I explained to Anthony that I would let his attorney know that SHPD executed the search warrant and that when the time came he would most likely be charged with the one charge of Pandering Obscenity Involving a Minor, a felony of the fourth degree, and he will have to turn himself in to SHPD. It was later told to me by another officer that Anthony said he just got the phone about a week ago as a suggestion by his therapist. Anthony also told A/C Rice that he was in therapy. All SHPD units cleared the residence and the phone was taken back to SHPD to be placed into the evidence locker. I reached out and left a message for Mr. McConnell to call me regarding his client. There is no further investigation into this incident.

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