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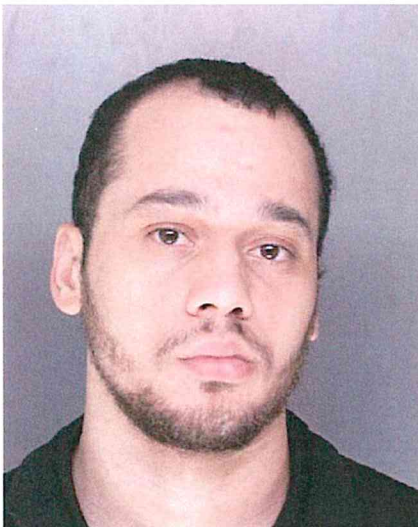
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWO AREA MEN ARRESTED FOR SEEKING TO HAVE SEXUAL RELATIONS WITH MINOR CHILDREN



Michael Houston



Nicholas Mosk

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Aug. 22, 2017) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele, Upper Merion Township Police Chief Thomas Nolan, Conshohocken Borough Police Chief Michael Orlor, East Norriton Township Police Chief Karyl Kates, Abington Township Police Department Chief John Livingood and the Pennsylvania Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force announce the arrest of Philadelphia resident Michael Houston, 25, and Willow Grove resident Nicholas Mosk, 26, for felony charges related to their individual attempts to use the Internet to contact minor children and have sexual relations with the children.

From Aug. 16 to Aug. 21, 2017, ICAC-affiliated detectives from law enforcement agencies along with members of the Montgomery County Detective Bureau's Major Crimes Unit joined forces in a proactive effort to safeguard children by identifying and arresting individuals who use the Internet to contact and have sexual relations with children.

During this operation, both Mosk and Houston separately engaged in extensive online communications with undercover detectives posing as minors online. Each engaged in sexually explicit, electronic communications with a person they believed was a minor child. Each then appeared at an agreed upon meeting location in Upper Merion Township with the intent of having sexual relations with the minor child.

Mosk was arrested Aug. 18, 2017, and charged with Attempt at: Indecent Assault, Statutory Sexual Assault, Involuntary Deviant Sexual Intercourse, and Unlawful Contact with a Minor, as well as Criminal Use of a Communication Facility. He was arraigned before Magisterial District Judge John D. Kessler, who set bail at \$200,000 cash. He was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility after failing to post bail. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for 9 a.m., Aug. 31, 2017, before Magisterial District Judge William I. Maruszczak in King of Prussia. The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Erika Wevodau.

Houston was arrested on Aug. 19, 2017, and charged with Attempt at: Indecent Assault, Statutory Sexual Assault, Involuntary Deviant Sexual Intercourse, and Unlawful Contact with a Minor, as well as Criminal Use of a Communication Facility. He was arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Christopher Cerski, who set bail at \$125,000 cash. He was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility after failing to post bail. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m., Sept. 1, 2017 before Judge Maruszczak. The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Lauren Marvel.

Major Crimes Detectives of the Montgomery County Detective Bureau, along with specially trained and sworn detectives from police departments in Montgomery County, routinely work with the ICAC Task Force to protect children from Internet predators by aggressively and proactively investigating Internet crimes that exploit children.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.