



MAT HECK, JR.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Montgomery County, Ohio

(937) 225-5757

info@mcpo.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dayton Man Sentenced for Gross Sexual Imposition and Child Pornography *State v. Christopher Searls, 2020-CR-1066*

DAYTON, OH (11/24/2020) – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced that **CHRISTOPHER SEARLS**, 38, of Dayton, was sentenced to a total range of 19-23 years in prison after being convicted for possessing dozens of sexually explicit videos depicting minors and for Gross Sexual Imposition.

In April 2020, the 9-year-old victim disclosed that the defendant has inappropriately touched her. On May 6, 2020, the defendant was indicted for two counts of Gross Sexual Imposition <13.

During the investigation, it was learned that the defendant had shown pornographic videos to the victim. A search warrant was obtained for the defendant's residence, and a computer hard drive was located. A forensic examination of the hard drive uncovered a significant amount of pornographic material, including dozens of sexually explicit images of children.

On August 26, 2020, the Montgomery County Grand Jury indicted the defendant on:

- 60 counts of Pandering Obscenity Involving a Minor
- One count of Attempt to Commit Tampering with Evidence

On November 9, 2020, the defendant was found guilty as charged on all counts.

Today, he was sentenced to a total of 19-23 years in prison. In addition, he was designated a Tier III Sex Offender, meaning he will need to register with the Sheriff's Office every 90 days for life.

Prosecutor Heck added, "Not only did this defendant sexually assault a 9 year old child, he showed her pornographic videos and child pornography. In order to protect other children from this defendant, he deserves the lengthy prison sentence."

###