

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :

v. :

CHRISTOPHER STEELE, :

a/k/a "Mike Dozor" :

CRIM. NO. 14-110

PRETRIAL DETENTION ORDER

AND NOW, this 27th day of March, 2014, after an evidentiary hearing and argument of counsel for the government and the defendant, the Court finds that:

- (a) the government has proved by a preponderance of the evidence that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required; and
- (b) the government has proved by clear and convincing evidence that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of other persons and the community, as required by Title 18, United States Code, Section 3142(e) and (f)(1)(E).

The Court makes the following findings of fact:

This case is appropriate for detention under Title 18, United States Code, Section 3142(e) and (f)(1)(E) because:

- (a) There is probable cause to believe that the defendant has violated Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2422(b), 2423(b), and 2252(a)(2), as charged in the indictment.

Two of the offenses charged against this defendant involve mandatory minimum terms of

incarceration if convicted, the most significant of which is a 10-year term. They also carry a rebuttable presumption that the defendant must be detained. See 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(3)(E).

(b) The evidence in this case is overwhelming, and includes:

1. Positive identification by each minor victim of this defendant from photographs;
2. Recovery of a nude and sexually explicit photograph of the 14 year old victim from the defendant's personal cell phone;
3. Discovery of a second minor victim with whom the defendant had corresponded and exchanged nude and sexually explicit images;
4. Additional child pornography videos and evidence of the defendant's involvement in child exploitation offenses found on his computers and digital storage devices, which were taken from his home and searched pursuant to search warrants;
5. Seizure of the "popper" substance from the defendant's bedroom that matched the substance given to the victim prior to sex with the defendant;
6. Records from the defendant's internet accounts and cell phone service, among other evidence, that link this defendant to the crimes and corroborate the victim's account of sexual exploitation;
7. Contact information and chats found on the victim's cell phone and iPad that corroborate sexual contact with the defendant;
8. The defendant's own videotaped confession, given after Miranda warnings, in which he admitted to each of the offenses charged in the federal indictment.

(c) The total maximum penalty defendant Steele faces is life imprisonment, which includes a mandatory year 10 year period of imprisonment, and a minimum 5 years up to a lifetime of supervised release. A preliminary review calculates his sentencing guidelines at a minimum of 210 to 262 months imprisonment. At 34 years of age Steele will likely spend a significant portion of his life in prison.

(d) The strength and nature of the case against the defendant, combined with the fact that the defendant will be incarcerated for a mandatory minimum term of 10 years and a maximum of life on this indictment, establishes the defendant's danger to the community and increases the high risk that the defendant will not appear as required by the Court.

Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that the defendant be committed to the custody of the Attorney General for confinement in a correction facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal; that the defendant be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel; and that, on order of a Court of the United States, or on request of an attorney for the government, the person in charge of the corrections facility in which the defendant is confined deliver the defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding.

BY THE COURT:



HONORABLE THOMAS J. RUETER
United States Magistrate Court Judge