Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Southern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, August 2, 2017

New York City Health And Hospitals Employee Charged With Possessing Child Pornography

Daniel Sherlock Charged With Possessing Images of Child Pornography on His Work Computer

Joon H. Kim, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and Mark G. Peters, the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation, announced the arrest of DANIEL SHERLOCK stemming from his possession of child pornography. SHERLOCK was arrested today and will be presented today before United States Magistrate Judge Henry Pitman in Manhattan.

Acting Manhattan U.S. Attorney Joon H. Kim said: "As alleged, Daniel Sherlock, a city employee, had child pornography on his work computer, which he tried to conceal through a computer program designed to permanently delete files. Whatever efforts are made to avoid detection, we are committed to prosecuting child pornography offenses and protecting children from sexual exploitation."

DOI Commissioner Mark G. Peters said: "This defendant allegedly used his access to NYC Health + Hospitals' computers to download child pornography, according to the criminal complaint. DOI's comprehensive investigation recovered dozens of these disturbing images, and even before today's arrest DOI quickly put protocols in place to prevent this defendant from accessing City hospital computers and properties. This charged crime is serious and the security of City facilities of paramount importance – there can be no tolerance for this type of grotesque behavior. We thank the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York for their swift response and partnership on this investigation."

According to the Complaint unsealed today in federal court:

In June 2017, law enforcement agents searched SHERLOCK's work computer and recovered 86 images of child pornography, many of which depicted prepubescent children engaged in sexual activity with adults. Law enforcement agents also discovered that a program named "CCleaner," which is a privacy and cleaning tool for computers that removes files, cleans the computer registry, and cleans traces of online activities, had been installed on SHERLOCK's computer.

New York City Health and Hospitals' records confirmed that SHERLOCK had been at work on the days the child pornography was created and "CCleaner" was installed.

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DANIEL SHERLOCK, 28, of East Meadow, New York, is charged with one count of possession of child pornography, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. The maximum potential sentence in this case is prescribed by Congress and is provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentencing of the defendant will be determined by the judge.

Any individuals who believe they have information concerning DANIEL SHERLOCK that may be relevant to the investigation should contact the United States Attorney's Office through its toll-free hotline at 212-637-0650.

Mr. Kim praised the Criminal Investigators of the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the New York City Department of Investigation and its Office of the Inspector General for NYC Health + Hospitals for their outstanding investigative work.

This case is being handled by the Office's General Crimes Unit. Assistant United States Attorney Alexandra N. Rothman is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

[1] As the introductory phrase signifies, the entirety of the text of the Complaint and the description of the Complaint set forth below constitute only allegations and every fact described should be treated as an allegation.