



JACKSON COUNTY

Oregon

**District Attorney
Criminal**

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December 1, 2020
11:30 a.m.

MEDIA RELEASE
For immediate release

The Jackson County District Attorney's Office announced today that Christopher Wade Sartin (DOB 07-03-1965) pled guilty to three counts of Using a Child in Display of Sexually Explicit Conduct and was sentenced to a total of 210 months (17 years, 6 months) in the Oregon Department of Corrections with lifetime post-prison supervision and sex offender registration. Additionally, the 210 months fall under Ballot Measure 11 meaning that Mr. Sartin will not be eligible for early-release.

In August of 2019 the Medford Police Department began an undercover operation to identify suspects who were using Peer-to-Peer software to traffic in child exploitation. Through their investigation law enforcement learned that Christopher Sartin was uploading and downloading images depicting sexually explicit conduct involving children. The images were cross referenced with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) who confirmed the images were child exploitation. Additionally, several images were associated with identified child victims. Multiple search warrants were executed and several items of evidence were seized and analyzed by the Southern Oregon High Tech Crimes Task Force (SOHTCTF).

While analyzing the digital evidence, detectives with SOHTCTF found a high-resolution image depicting child exploitation. Part of that image was a thumbprint which law enforcement believed could belong to their suspect. That thumbprint was sent for comparison and was a match for Christopher Sartin. At that point law enforcement believed that the child in the recovered photographs could be local, and the investigation turned to identifying the victim.

Medford Police detectives were able to positively identify the child in the images as a local girl who was under the age of twelve (12). Christopher Sartin was lodged at the Jackson County Jail on December 9, 2019 and the Grand Jury indicted him on December 12, 2019. He has remained lodged during the pendency of this case. Sartin has a prior conviction for one count of Using a Child in Display of Sexually Explicit Conduct from 2011.

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