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NEWS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: December 4, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

From: Patty Perlow, District Attorney

RE: **Matthew Werner was sentenced to 120 months in the Department of Corrections after pleading guilty to 10 counts of Encouraging Child Sex Abuse in the First Degree. Mr. Werner was identified when the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children became aware that he possessed a video that was known to be child sexual abuse imagery. Detectives from the Springfield Police Department investigated further and found that Mr. Werner had a significant amount of child sexual abuse imagery in his possession.**

Child abuse images being circulated on the internet harm real children whose sexual abuse is forever memorialized and then traded on the internet, sometimes for decades. The offenders who collect these images perpetuate the harm done to these children and this sentence reflects that conduct.

Any additional questions regarding this case and press release can be directed to Sr. Prosecutor Katherine Green at Katherine.Green@lanecountyor.gov.