### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon. James B. Clark, III, U.S.M.J. : v. : Mag. No. 20-20-12396

QUENTIN ANTHONY BLOUNT : CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, Kelsey Granger, being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

### SEE ATTACHMENT A

I further state that I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

#### SEE ATTACHMENT B

continued on the attached page and made a part hereof.

Kelsey Granger, Special Agent Federal Bureau of Investigation

Special Agent Granger attested to this Complaint by telephone pursuant to F.R.C.P. 4.1(b)(2)(A).

October 19, 2020 at New Jersey
Date State

Honorable James B. Clark, III

<u>United States Magistrate Judge</u>

Name and Title of Judicial Officer

Sign

### ATTACHMENT A

# COUNT ONE (Travelling with the Intent to Engage in Illicit Sexual Conduct)

On or about October 15, 2020, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

### QUENTIN ANTHONY BLOUNT.

did knowingly travel in interstate commerce from Pennsylvania to New Jersey, for the purpose of engaging in any illicit sexual conduct, that is sexual conduct, as that term is defined in 18 U.S.C. 2246, with another person believed to be under the age of eighteen, which sexual conduct would constitute a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Chapter 109A.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2423(b) and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

## COUNT TWO (Attempted Sex Trafficking of a Minor)

On or about October 15, 2020, in Somerset County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

### QUENTIN ANTHONY BLOUNT,

did knowingly attempt to recruit, entice, harbor, transport, provide, obtain, advertise, maintain, patronize and solicit by any means, in and affecting interstate commerce, a person who had not attained the age of 18 years, knowing and in reckless disregard of the fact that the person had not attained the age of 18 years and would be caused to engage in a commercial sex act, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1591(a)(1) and (b)(2).

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1594

### ATTACHMENT B

- I, Kelsey Granger, am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"). I am fully familiar with the facts set forth herein based on my own investigation, my discussions with other law enforcement officers, and my review of reports, documents, and other items of evidence. Where statements of others are related herein, they are related in substance and in part. Because this Affidavit is being submitted for the sole purpose of establishing probable cause to support the issuance of a complaint, I have not set forth each and every fact that I know concerning this investigation. Where I assert that an event took place on a particular date, I am asserting that it took place on or about the date alleged.
- 1. At all times relevant to this Complaint, defendant Quentin Anthony Blount ("BLOUNT") resided within the State of Pennsylvania.
- 2. In or around mid-October 2020, a law enforcement officer, acting in an undercover capacity (hereinafter "UC-1") placed an advertisement on a web-based application known to be utilized by individuals to sexually exploit children ("Application-1"). The advertisement contained a partial photograph of a female child who appeared to be approximately 14 years old and indicated that the poster of the advertisement (i.e., UC-1) was interested in "sexual adventures," "extreme taboo" and that this was "definitely not for everyone."
- 3. On or about October 15, 2020, UC-1 received a private message from "Anthony," subsequently determined to be BLOUNT, in response to the above advertisement. UC-1 asked BLOUNT whether he had seen the advertisement, to which BLOUNT answered affirmatively. UC-1 provided BLOUNT with a telephone number and asked him to text UC-1 on that number, stating that it was "not safe here for what we do."
- 4. BLOUNT proceeded to send a text message to UC-1 and the following exchanges occurred:

BLOUNT: Hey it's Anthony from [Application-1].

UC-1: Hey you cool with profile?

BLOUNT: Yes I'm cool with it so how extreme are these taboo

adventures that you guys do?

UC-1: So its me and my 14 year old daughter. I'm looking for a

man to teach her the right way of doing things.

BLOUNT: She's a minor tho

UC-1:

Yes

UC-1:

If its not for you I get it but being honest

BLOUNT:

And where are you locates

BLOUNT:

Located

UC-1:

[This text message described the meeting location in Hillsborough, New Jersey and is intentionally omitted]

BLOUNT:

We'll I can come to you any time

BLOUNT:

I'm free all night

UC-1:

What time would work for you

- 4. The pair continued speaking about the specific sex acts that BLOUNT could engage in with the minor victim, with BLOUNT stating "I like doggy style love having my dick sucked."
- 5. UC-1 advised BLOUNT that she was "strapped for cash" and the pair proceeded to discuss the price that BLOUNT would pay to have sex with the minor victim. The pair agreed that BLOUNT would pay \$40 and bring specified alcoholic beverages to have sex with the minor victim. UC-1 instructed BLOUNT that he would have to use a condom, to which he agreed, stating that he would purchase condoms on the way. The pair arranged to meet at a location in Hillsborough, New Jersey (Somerset County) at approximately 9:00 p.m.
- 5. Law enforcement conducted physical and electronic surveillance of the intended location of the meeting in Hillsborough. Shortly thereafter, law enforcement observed BLOUNT drive into the area. BLOUNT parked his vehicle and walked to the prearranged location, where he met an undercover officer ("UC-2") who he believed was the "mother" with whom he had been speaking. During the course of the conversation, the pair discussed the specific sex acts that BLOUNT could engage in with the minor victim. Approximately five minutes into the conversation, BLOUNT gave UC-2 \$20, half of the prearranged amount, in order to have sex with the minor victim; BLOUNT stated that he would give UC-2 the remaining balance of \$20 afterwards. UC-2 gave a prearranged signal and law enforcement moved into the area.
- 6. Law enforcement arrested BLOUNT without incident. Notably, law enforcement located approximately six condoms on BLOUNT's person.

7. Law enforcement advised BLOUNT of his <u>Miranda</u> rights, which BLOUNT waived. In a video-recorded statement, BLOUNT acknowledged travelling to New Jersey from Pennsylvania to meet a mother and a daughter after meeting the mother on Application-1. BLOUNT also acknowledged withdrawing \$40 and purchasing the specified alcoholic beverages and condoms while travelling to the meeting location.