

**Office of the
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Kendall County, Illinois**



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PRESS RELEASE

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18 Year Prison Sentence for Man Who Disseminated Child Pornography

Kendall County State's Attorney Eric Weis announced that Nicholas J. Pantano, of Yorkville, Illinois was sentenced to 18 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections by the Honorable Robert Pilmer for three counts of Child Pornography in an agreed plea this week.

The case against Pantano was initially investigated by the Yorkville Police Department and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, due to a tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. After a lengthy investigation, a search was conducted on the Pantano's residence, his computers, and personal electronic devices. Based on the investigation, Pantano was charged with numerous counts of possession of child pornography and three instances of disseminating or sharing the images. Pantano plead guilty to multiple counts of disseminating child pornography in January of 2023, but then fled the State of Illinois prior to his sentencing hearing.

Mr. Weis praised the agencies involved in apprehending Pantano. "Due to the diligence of the Kendall County Sheriff's Office and the United States Marshall's Service, this defendant was apprehended in rural Kentucky, and was brought back to Kendall County to begin his lengthy prison sentence. Seeing our local agencies work hand in hand with their federal counterparts ensured that justice was served."

Pantano will have to register as a sex offender for the remainder of his life and will serve 3 years to life on mandatory supervised release, formerly known as parole.

This matter was prosecuted by Criminal Felony Supervisor Assistant State's Attorney Frank S. Gorup, and Pantano was represented by the Kendall County Public Defender's Office.