## COMMONVEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

COUNTY OF:LANCASTER

Magisterial District Number: 02-1-01 MDJ: Hon. ADAM J. WITKONIS

Address: 641 UNION ST. LANCASTER PA 17603



# POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA VS.

DEFENDANT:

(NAME and ADDRESS):

JOSE First Name ANTONIO Middle Name SERRANO Last Name

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### POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Docket Number:	Date Filed:	OTN	/LiveScan Number	Complaint Number	Incident Number
Defendant Name	First: JOSE	8	Middle: ANTONIO	Last: SERRANO	

- 2. I ask that a warrant of arrest or a summons be issued and that the defendant be required to answer the charges I have made.
- 3. I verify that the facts set forth in this complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge or information and belief. This verification is made subject to the penalties of Section 4904 of the Crimes Code (18 Pa.C.S. § 4904) relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.
- 4. This complaint consists of the preceding page(s) numbered 1 through \_\_\_\_.
- 5. I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Case Records Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

The acts committed by the accused, as listed and hereafter, were against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and were contrary to the Act(s) of the Assembly, or in violation of the statutes cited. (Before a warrant of arrest can be issued, an affidavit of probable cause must be completed, sworn to before the issuing authority, and attached.)

DCT. 267H	2077		*866
DCT. 26 <sup>7M</sup> (Date)	(Year)		(Signature of Affiant)  J. MUMMIN / S. ADAMITE / NI DECKA
AND NOW, on this date	10/20/22	I certify that the compla	int has been properly completed and verified.
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Statute D	escription (inclu	ude the na	me of stat	tute or ord	inanc	e): INDECE	NT ASSA	ULT (F	=-3), TITLE	18, SECT	ION 3126, S	UBSECTION
Acts of the accused associated with this Offense: The Actor, herein identified as Jose Antonio Serrano H/M, DOB:05 November 1953 did on or about the above time, date and location, did have indecent contact with the Victim. The Victim, herein identified as JR DOB:03 February 1990, who was less than 13 years of age at the time of the offense.												
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Statute Description (include the name of statute or ordinance): ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A MINOR, TITLE 18, SECTION 4304, SUBSECTION (A)(1).												
Acts of the accused associated with this Offense: The Actor, herein identified as Jose Antonio Serrano H/M, DOB:05 November 1953 did on or about the above time, date and location, being being a parent, guardian or other person supervising the welfare of a child under 18 years of afe, or a person that employs or supervises such a person, committs an offense if he knwingly endangers the welfare of the child by violating duty of care, protection or support. To WIT: The Actor did engage in a course of conduct of sexual acts with the Victim herein identified as JR DOB:03 February 1990, who was less than 13 years of age at the time of the offense.												



### POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Docket Number:	Date Filed:	OTN/LiveScan Num	reScan Number Comple 63490		Incident Number 63490
Defendant Name	First: JOSE	Middle: ANTONIC		Last: SERRANO	

### **AFFIDAVIT of PROBABLE CAUSE**

Your Affiants, Jimmy Mummau, Badge #795, Special Agent(s) Stephen J. Adametz, Badge #507 and Special Agent Nathan Nickel Badge #866 of the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) being duly sworn according to law, deposes and say:

Your Affiants are empowered by law to conduct investigations and make arrests for offenses involving violations of the Crimes Code of Pennsylvania. In the course of his/her official duties, your Affiants have personally been involved in an investigation into allegations of Child Sexual Assault.

On Monday, October 24, 2022 the 49th Statewide Investigating Grand Jury issued Presentment No. 6, recommending that criminal charges be filed against JOSE ANTONIO SERRANO (DOB:11/05/1953) for violations of the Crimes Code of Pennsylvania. The aforementioned Presentment was accepted by the Honorable Richard A. Lewis, Supervising Judge of the 49th Statewide Investigating Grand Jury by Order dated October, 24, 2022.

Having read and reviewed the Presentment, and after having participated in this investigation and considering all the facts and circumstances, your Affiants are adopting the Presentment and incorporating it fully into this Affidavit of Probable Cause (A copy of the Presentment is attached hereto). Based upon our review of the testimony given before the Grand Jury and the documents produced for the Grand Jury, we believe that the testimony of the various witnesses is accurately summarized in the Presentment and that the records referred to in the Presentment are stated accurately.

Based upon our review of the evidence, we have concluded that there is probable cause to believe that JOSE ANTONIO SERRANO engaged in illegal activities which are accurately summarized in the attached Presentment. Your Affiants determined that there is probable cause to conclude that JOSE ANTONIO SERRANO violated the following laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

I, ALCOUNTIES, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO THE LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FOREGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS FILING COMPLIES WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CASE RECORDS PUBLIC ACCESS POLICY OF THE UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF PENNSYLVANIA THAT REQUIRE FILING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS DIFFERENTLY THAN NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS.



### POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

**AFFIDAVIT CONTINUATION PAGE** 

Docket Number:	Date Filed:	Date Filed: OTN/Liv		eScan Number Compla 63490		Incident Number 63490	
Defendant Name:	First: JOSE	12	Middle: ANTONIO	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Last: SERRANO		

### AFFIDAVIT of PROBABLE CAUSE CONTINUATION

DELAYED DISSEMINATION WARRANT. Affiant has reason to believe that the immediate dissemination of this warrant and the sensitivity of the charges could alert the suspect prematurely causing possible destruction/tampering or witness intimidation and or creates an officer safety issue when executing this warrant.

SEE THE ATTACHED THREE (3) PAGE ADDENDUM/PRESENTMENT (Number 6) TO THIS AFFIDAVIT.

That based on the facts and circumstances, your Affiants charge JOSE ANTONIO SERRANO with the following criminal offenses;

AGGRAVATED INDECENT ASSAULT (F-2), TITLE 18, SECTION 3125, SUBSECTION (a)(1), (7), (8). INDECENT ASSAULT (F-3), TITLE 18, SECTION 3126, SUBSECTION (a)(1)(7)(8). ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A MINOR, TITLE 18, SECTION 4304, SUBSECTION (A)(1).

(Signature of Affiant)

(Signature of Affiant)

(Signature of Affiant)

(Signature of Affiant)

### INTRODUCTION

We, the members of the Forty-Ninth Statewide Investigating Grand Jury, having received and reviewed evidence regarding violations of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code occurring in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania pursuant to Notice of Submission of Investigation No. 3, do hereby make the following findings of fact and recommendation of charges.

### **OVERVIEW**

In 2019, the Office of Attorney General received a resource referral from a District Attorney's Office pursuant to the Commonwealth's Attorney's Act. As a result, the Grand Jury undertook the investigation of allegations of sexual assault involving members of the Jehovah's Witnesses and learned of several incidents of sexual assault committed by different members of the Jehovah's Witness religious organizations.

During the investigation it was determined that Jose Antonio Serrano ("Serrano") (DOB: November 5, 1953) used his influence and common faith to sexually molest at least six minors, including his own daughter. He confessed to committing many of these criminal offenses to members of his community and to this Grand Jury.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

The Grand Jury obtained documents indicating that Serrano confessed to molesting numerous children. In these documents, he identified six children and their ages at the time he assaulted them.

G.I., one of the six child victims of Serrano, appeared before the Grand Jury. G.I. testified that when she was a child, she often babysat for the same family and that Serrano was aware of this fact. He regularly visited the home when the parents were away and began groping G.I. as she

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slept. The groping then escalated into forcible rape. G.I. testified that, despite the years that have passed, she still lives in fear of Serrano to this day.

The Grand Jury also heard a report involving another one of the six victims who described a period of time in the 1980s when Serrano indecently assaulted her by subjecting her to a barrage of unwanted touching and kissing. She was just 13 years old at the time. He also stalked her during that time period.

Although the above criminal offenses are no longer prosecutable due to the expiration of the statute of limitations period, they demonstrate a common plan, scheme or design that corroborates other evidence presented to the Grand Jury; in particular, the testimony of J.S., Serrano's own daughter. J.S. (DOB: February 3, 1990) testified that she lived an abnormal, isolated childhood. Serrano pulled her out of public education in order to "home-school" her in their residence in Lancaster County. He taught her that "in the Bible you have to obey your parents and we are your parents and therefore, you have to listen to us and whatever we do." These controlling actions were reinforced by physical assaults.

Some assaults were not just physical; they were sexual. J.S. testified that on one occasion, she was in her father's bed and "I remember having his penis in my hand and I don't know why and I remember him getting out of bed and changing the sheets and then he told me to go to my own bed... that was my first memory of sexual contact with my dad." On other occasions, Serrano came into her room as she slept. She stated, "I would wake up in the morning and I would feel different." These acts began occurring as early as 1993 and continued for years. J.S. explained that once she was a married adult and having intimate contact with her husband, she realized the sensation of feeling wet or "squishy" was the aftermath of sex. She then recognized it as being the same as when her father had contact with her when he entered her room. Her mother, who knew

about Serrano's conviction for assaulting other girls as they slept, would remind her to keep her door locked at night if Serrano was around.

J.S. also explained that she suffered from a constant and inexplicable case of severe hemorrhoids while she was growing up and Serrano insisted that she not be examined regarding the condition. Similarly, Serrano would not permit her to see a gynecologist.

In May 2016, J.S. reported Serrano's abuse of her to the Lancaster City Police. Faced with the victim's dated report alone, however, the investigation stalled until the Grand Jury uncovered the evidence that corroborated her account.

Serrano himself appeared before the Grand Jury. While under oath, Serrano acknowledged that he had molested children in the past. He admitted to the conduct memorialized in criminal court records of his prior convictions, and also confirmed the admissions to child sexual abuse that he previously made. He further confirmed that his wife would warn their daughter to keep her door locked at night. He stated that this aided him in controlling his urges. Serrano testified that his deviant impulses are life-long, that he struggles to contain them, and that he must avoid tempting situations. When questioned about the alleged sexual conduct with his daughter, he admitted it was "possible" that his finger(s) had slipped into J.S.'s anus, and, perhaps, the anuses of his other daughters, as well.