

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
WESTERN DIVISION

<p>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Plaintiff,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">vs.</p> <p>STEPHEN GREGORY FONTENOT, JR.,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Defendant.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CR. 21-50137-JLV</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PRIMARY JURY INSTRUCTIONS</p>
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**INSTRUCTION NO. 1 –
ROLE OF INSTRUCTIONS**

Members of the jury, I will take a few minutes to give you the instructions about this case and about your duties as jurors. At the end of the trial, I will give you further instructions. I may also give you instructions during the trial. These instructions explain the law that applies to this case. Unless I specifically tell you otherwise, all instructions, both those I give you now and those I will give you later, are equally binding on you and must be followed. Consider these instructions with all written and oral instructions given to you during and at the end of the trial and apply them to the facts of the case. You must consider my instructions as a whole and not single out some instructions and ignore others.

INSTRUCTION NO. 2 –

DUTY OF JURORS

This is a criminal case brought by the United States government against the defendant, Stephen Fontenot, Jr. Mr. Fontenot is charged with attempted sexual exploitation of a minor, attempted enticement of a minor using the internet and attempted receipt of child pornography. Your duty is to decide from the evidence whether Mr. Fontenot is not guilty or guilty of the offenses charged against him.

You will find the facts from the evidence presented in court. “Evidence” is defined in Instruction **No. 12**. You are entitled to consider that evidence in light of your own observations and experiences. You may use reason and common sense to draw conclusions from facts established by the evidence. You are the sole judges of the facts, but you must follow the law as stated in my instructions, whether you agree with the law or not. You will then apply the law to the facts to reach your verdict.

It is vital to the administration of justice that each of you faithfully perform your duties as jurors. Do not allow sympathy or prejudice to influence you. The law demands of you a just verdict based solely on the evidence, your common sense and the law as I give it to you. Do not take anything I may say or do during the trial as an indication of what I think about the evidence or what I think your verdict should be. Do not conclude from any

ruling or comment I may make that I have any opinion on how you should decide the case.

Please remember only Mr. Fontenot, not anyone else, is on trial here. Also, remember Mr. Fontenot is on trial only for the offenses charged against him, not for anything else.

INSTRUCTION NO. 3 –

DESCRIPTION OF THE OFFENSES

An offense consists of “elements” which the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt in order to convict a defendant of that offense. To help you follow the evidence, I will give you the elements of the offenses charged in the indictment. However, I must first explain some preliminary matters.

The charges against Mr. Fontenot are set out in an indictment. An indictment is simply an accusation. It is not evidence of anything. Mr. Fontenot pled not guilty to the charges brought against him. Mr. Fontenot is presumed to be innocent unless and until the government proves beyond a reasonable doubt each element of the offenses charged.

The indictment charges the offenses were committed “on or about between” certain dates. The government does not have to prove with certainty the exact date of an offense charged. It is sufficient if the evidence establishes that an offense occurred within a reasonable time of the dates alleged in the indictment. I will now give you the elements for the offenses charged in the indictment.

Keep in mind that each count charges a separate offense. You must consider each count separately and return a separate verdict for each count.

INSTRUCTION NO. 4 –

COUNT I: ATTEMPTED SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR

Count I of the indictment charges that on or about between August 9, 2021, and August 10, 2021, at Summerset, in the District of South Dakota, the defendant, Stephen Gregory Fontenot, Jr., did attempt to persuade, induce, entice and coerce a minor, namely an undercover law enforcement agent posing as a 12-year-old child, to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing a visual depiction of such conduct, and such visual depiction was produced using materials mailed, shipped, and transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer and cell phone, all in violation of federal law.

Elements

For you to find Mr. Fontenot guilty of the offense of attempted sexual exploitation of a minor as charged in Count I of the indictment, the government must prove the following essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt:

One, on or about between August 9, 2021, and August 10, 2021, at Summerset, in the District of South Dakota, Mr. Fontenot knowingly attempted to persuade, induce, entice or coerce a person under the age of 18 years, namely an undercover law enforcement agent posing as a 12-year-old child, to engage in sexually explicit conduct;

“Attempt” is defined in Instruction **No. 7**.

“Sexually explicit conduct” is defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

It is not necessary for the government to prove a minor was actually persuaded, induced, enticed or coerced to engage in sexually explicit conduct.

Two, Mr. Fontenot believed the individual was less than 18 years of age;

It is not necessary for the government to prove Mr. Fontenot communicated with an actual individual who was less than 18 years of age, but it is necessary for the government to prove Mr. Fontenot believed the individual to be under that age.

Three, Mr. Fontenot acted with the purpose of producing a visual depiction of such conduct;

“Produced” is defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

A “visual depiction” is defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

and

Four, the visual depiction would have been produced using materials that had been mailed, shipped or transported in interstate commerce or in foreign commerce by any means, including a computer or cell phone.

The terms “interstate commerce” and “foreign commerce” are defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

To find Mr. Fontenot guilty of the offense of attempted sexual exploitation of a minor as charged in Count I of the indictment the government must prove all the essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt. If the government proves all the essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt you must find Mr.

Fontenot guilty of Count I. If the government fails to prove any essential element beyond a reasonable doubt you must find Mr. Fontenot not guilty of Count I.

INSTRUCTION NO. 5 –

**COUNT II: ATTEMPTED ENTICEMENT OF A
MINOR USING THE INTERNET**

Count II of the indictment charges that on or about between August 9, 2021, and August 10, 2021, at Summerset, in the District of South Dakota, the defendant, Stephen Gregory Fontenot, Jr., did use a facility and means of interstate commerce to attempt to knowingly persuade, induce, entice and coerce an individual who had not yet attained 18 years of age to engage in sexual activity for which the defendant could be charged with a criminal offense, namely, rape in the first degree and felony sexual contact with a child under twelve years of age in violation of South Dakota law, all in violation of federal law.

Elements

For you to find Mr. Fontenot guilty of the offense of attempted enticement of a minor using the internet as charged in Count II of the indictment, the government must prove the following essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt:

One, on or about between August 9, 2021 and August 10, 2021, at Summerset, in the District of South Dakota, Mr. Fontenot used a facility and means of interstate commerce, that is, a cell phone or computer attached to the internet or a phone connected to a cellular network, to

attempt to knowingly persuade, induce, entice or coerce an individual under the age of 18 to engage in sexual activity;

“Attempt” is defined in Instruction **No. 7**.

“Interstate commerce” is defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

It is not necessary for the government to prove that the individual was actually persuaded, induced, enticed or coerced to engage in sexual activity. The government also need not prove Mr. Fontenot intended to participate in a physical sexual act.

But the government must prove Mr. Fontenot intended to persuade or entice a minor into engaging in illegal sexual activity.

It is not a defense Mr. Fontenot did not directly communicate with the fictitious minor child. Direct communication with a child is unnecessary. The government must only prove Mr. Fontenot believed he was communicating with someone who could arrange for the child to engage in unlawful sexual activity.

Two, Mr. Fontenot believed the individual was less than 18 years of age;

It is not necessary for the government to prove Mr. Fontenot communicated with an actual individual who was less than 18 years of age, but it is necessary for the government to prove Mr. Fontenot believed the individual to be under that age.

and

Three, if the sexual activity had occurred, Mr. Fontenot could have been charged with a criminal offense under South Dakota law.

Rape in the first degree is a criminal offense under South Dakota law. The offense is committed when

someone engages in an act of sexual penetration with an individual who has not reached 13 years of age.

“Sexual penetration” means an act, however slight, of sexual intercourse, fellatio, anal intercourse, or any intrusion, however slight, of any part of the body or of any object into the genital or anal openings of another person’s body.

Sexual contact with a child under 16 years of age is a criminal offense under South Dakota law. The offense is committed when someone who is 16 years of age or older knowingly engages in sexual contact with a person under 16 years of age.

“Sexual contact” means any touching, not amounting to rape, whether or not through the clothing or covering of the breast of a female or the genitalia or anus of any person with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of either person.

To find Mr. Fontenot guilty of the offense of attempted enticement of a minor using the internet as charged in Count II of the indictment the government must prove all the essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt. If the government proves all the essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt you must find Mr. Fontenot guilty of Count II. If the government fails to prove any essential element beyond a reasonable doubt you must find Mr. Fontenot not guilty of Count II.

INSTRUCTION NO. 6 –

COUNT III: ATTEMPTED RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Count III of the indictment charges that on or about between August 9, 2021, and August 10, 2021, at Summerset, in the District of South Dakota, the defendant, Stephen Gregory Fontenot, Jr., knowingly attempted to receive any visual depiction that had been shipped and transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer, and the defendant, Stephen Gregory Fontenot, Jr., knew the production of such visual depiction involved the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct and the defendant, Stephen Gregory Fontenot, Jr., knew the visual depiction was of such conduct, all in violation of federal law.

Elements

For you to find Mr. Fontenot guilty of the offense of attempted receipt of child pornography as charged in Count III of the indictment, the government must prove the following essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt:

One, on or about between August 9, 2021, and August 10, 2021, at Summerset in the District of South Dakota, Mr. Fontenot knowingly attempted to receive images that contained visual depictions of child pornography;

“Attempt” is defined in Instruction **No. 7**.

“Visual depiction” is defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

“Child pornography” is defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

Two, Mr. Fontenot knew the visual depictions would be of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct;

“Minor” is defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

“Sexually explicit conduct” is defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

It is not necessary for the government to prove that a minor was actually persuaded, induced, enticed or coerced to engage in sexually explicit conduct.

and

Three, the visual depiction would have been produced using materials that had been mailed, shipped or transported in interstate commerce or in foreign commerce by any means, including a computer.

The terms “interstate commerce” and “foreign commerce” are defined in Instruction **No. 8**.

To find Mr. Fontenot guilty of the offense of attempted receipt of child pornography as charged in Count III of the indictment the government must prove all the essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt. If the government proves all the essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt you must find Mr. Fontenot guilty of Count III. If the government fails to prove any essential element beyond a reasonable doubt you must find Mr. Fontenot not guilty of Count III.

INSTRUCTION NO. 7 –

ATTEMPT

A person may be found guilty of an attempt to commit an offense if he intended to engage in an offense and voluntarily and intentionally carried out some act which was a substantial step towards engaging in the offense.

A substantial step must be something more than mere preparation yet may be less than the last act necessary before the actual commission of the substantive offense. In order for behavior to be punishable as an attempt, it need not be incompatible with innocence, yet it must be necessary to the consummation of the offense and be of such a nature that a reasonable observer, viewing it in context, would conclude beyond a reasonable doubt that it was undertaken in accordance with a design to commit the substantive offense.

This instruction applies to Counts I, II and III of these instructions.

INSTRUCTION NO. 8 –

DEFINITIONS

“Child pornography” means any visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

“Foreign commerce” means commerce between any state, territory or possession of the United States and a foreign country. “Commerce” includes, among other things, travel, trade, transportation and communication.

“Interstate commerce” means commerce between any combination of states, territories and possessions of the United States, including the District of Columbia. “Commerce” includes, among other things, travel, trade, transportation and communication.

“Minor” means any person under the age of eighteen years.

“Produced.” An item is “produced” if it is created, directed, manufactured, issued, published, advertised, made or is in any other way brought into being by the involvement of an individual participating in the recording of sexually explicit conduct.

“Sexually explicit conduct.” For purposes of this case, “sexually explicit conduct” means masturbation or lascivious exhibition of the genitals or pubic area of any person. Whether a visual depiction of the genitals or pubic area constitutes a “lascivious exhibition” requires a consideration of the overall content of the material. You may consider such factors as (1) whether the focal point of the picture is on a person’s genitals or pubic area; (2) whether the

setting of the picture is sexually suggestive, that is, in a place or pose generally associated with sexual activity; (3) whether the picture suggests sexual coyness or a willingness to engage in sexual activity; (4) whether the picture is intended or designed to elicit a sexual response in the viewer; and (5) the caption, if any, on the picture. It is for you to decide the weight, if any, to be given to any of these factors. A picture need not involve all of these factors to constitute a lascivious exhibition of the genitals or pubic area.

“Visual depiction” includes any photograph, film, video, picture, or computer or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical or other means. It includes undeveloped film and videotape, and data stored on a computer disk or by electronic means which is capable of conversion into a visual image.

INSTRUCTION NO. 9 –

PROOF OF INTENT AND KNOWLEDGE

“Intent” and “knowledge” are elements of the offense charged in this case and must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt. The government is not required to prove the defendant knew his acts or omissions were unlawful. An act is done “knowingly” if the defendant realizes what he is doing and does not act through ignorance, mistake or accident. You may consider the evidence of the defendant’s words, acts or omissions, along with all other evidence, in deciding whether the defendant acted knowingly.

Intent may be proven like anything else. You may consider any statements made or acts done by the defendant and all the facts and circumstances in evidence which may aid in determining the defendant’s intent. You may, but are not required to, infer that a person intends the natural and probable consequences of acts knowingly done or knowingly omitted.

INSTRUCTION NO. 10 –

PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE AND BURDEN OF PROOF

Mr. Fontenot is presumed innocent and, therefore, not guilty. This presumption of innocence requires you to put aside all suspicion that might arise from the arrest or charge of the defendant or the fact he is here in court. The presumption of innocence remains with Mr. Fontenot throughout the trial. This presumption alone is sufficient to find Mr. Fontenot not guilty. The presumption of innocence may be overcome only if the government proves beyond a reasonable doubt each essential element of the offense charged. The burden is always on the government to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. This burden never shifts to Mr. Fontenot to prove his innocence, for the law never imposes upon a defendant in a criminal case the burden or duty of calling any witnesses or producing any evidence. The defendant is not even obligated to cross-examine the witnesses called to testify by the government.

If Mr. Fontenot does not testify, this fact must not be considered by you in any way or even discussed in arriving at your verdict. If Mr. Fontenot testifies, you should judge his testimony in the same manner in which you judge the testimony of any other witness.

If the government proves beyond a reasonable doubt all the essential elements of an offense charged, you must find Mr. Fontenot guilty of that charge. If the government fails to prove beyond a reasonable doubt any essential element of an offense charged, you must find Mr. Fontenot not guilty of that charge.

INSTRUCTION NO. 11 –

REASONABLE DOUBT

A reasonable doubt may arise from the evidence or lack of evidence produced during trial. A reasonable doubt is a doubt based upon reason and common sense and not doubt based on speculation. A reasonable doubt is the kind of doubt that would make a reasonable person hesitate to act. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt must be proof of such a convincing character that a reasonable person would not hesitate to rely and act upon it in the more serious and important affairs of life. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is proof that leaves you firmly convinced of Mr. Fontenot's guilt. However, proof beyond a reasonable doubt does not mean proof beyond all possible doubt.

INSTRUCTION NO. 12 –

DEFINITION OF EVIDENCE

I mentioned the word “evidence.” “Evidence” includes the testimony of witnesses, documents and other things received as exhibits and stipulated facts. Stipulated facts are facts formally agreed to by the parties. Certain things are not evidence. I shall list those things for you now:

- Statements, arguments, questions and comments by lawyers representing the parties in the case are not evidence. Opening statements and closing arguments by lawyers are not evidence.
- Objections and rulings on objections are not evidence. Lawyers have a right to object when they believe something is improper. You should not be influenced by the objection. If I sustain an objection to a question, you must ignore the question and must not try to guess what the answer might have been.
- Testimony I strike from the record or tell you to disregard is not evidence and must not be considered.
- Anything you see or hear about this case outside the courtroom is not evidence.

The fact an exhibit may be shown to you does not mean you must rely on it more than you rely on other evidence.

Furthermore, a particular piece of evidence is sometimes received for a limited purpose only. That is, it can be used by you only for one particular purpose and not for any other purpose. I will tell you when that occurs and instruct you on the purposes for which the piece of evidence can and cannot be used.

Some of you may have heard the terms “direct evidence” and “circumstantial evidence.” You should not be concerned with those terms. The law makes no distinction between direct and circumstantial evidence. You should give all evidence the weight and value you believe it is entitled to receive.

The weight of the evidence is not determined by the number of witnesses testifying as to the existence or nonexistence of any fact. Also, the weight of the evidence should not be determined merely by the number or volume of documents or exhibits. The weight of evidence depends on its quality, not quantity. The quality and weight of the evidence are for you to decide.

INSTRUCTION NO. 13 –
CREDIBILITY OF WITNESSES

In deciding what the facts are, you may have to decide what testimony you believe and what testimony you do not believe. You may believe all of what a witness says, only part of it, or none of it. In deciding what testimony to believe, consider:

- The witness' intelligence;
- The opportunity the witness had to see or hear the things testified about;
- The witness' memory;
- Any motives the witness may have for testifying a certain way;
- The behavior of the witness while testifying;
- Whether the witness said something different at an earlier time;
- The witness' drug or alcohol use or addiction, if any;
- The general reasonableness of the testimony; and
- The extent to which the testimony is consistent with any evidence that you believe.

In deciding whether or not to believe a witness, keep in mind people sometimes see or hear things differently and sometimes forget things. You need to consider whether a contradiction results from an innocent misrecollection or sincere lapse of memory or instead from an intentional falsehood or pretended lapse of memory.

INSTRUCTION NO. 14 –

IMPEACHMENT

In the last instruction, I instructed you generally on the credibility of witnesses. I now instruct you further on how the credibility of a witness may be “impeached” and how you may treat certain evidence. A witness may be discredited or impeached by:

- Contradictory evidence;
- A showing that the witness testified falsely concerning a material matter; or
- Evidence that at some other time the witness said or did something or failed to say or do something, that is inconsistent with the witness’ trial testimony.

You may consider a witness discredited or impeached for other reasons as well. If you believe a witness has been discredited or impeached, it is your exclusive right to give that witness’ testimony whatever weight you think it deserves.

If earlier statements of a witness are admitted into evidence, they are not admitted to prove that the contents of those statements are true. Instead, you may consider those earlier statements only to determine whether you think they are consistent or inconsistent with the trial testimony of the witness and, therefore, whether they affect the credibility of that witness.

INSTRUCTION NO. 15 –

EXPERT WITNESSES

You may hear testimony from individuals described as experts. An individual who, by knowledge, skill, training, education or experience has become an expert in some field may state their opinions on matters in that field and may also state the reasons for their opinion.

Expert testimony should be considered just like any other testimony. You may accept or reject it and give it as much weight as you think it deserves considering the witness' education and experience, the soundness of the reasons given for the opinion, the acceptability of the methods used and all the other evidence in the case.

INSTRUCTION NO. 16 –

STATEMENT BY THE DEFENDANT

You may hear testimony Mr. Fontenot made a statement to others. It is for you to decide:

First, whether the statement was made; and

Second, if so, how much weight you should give the statement.

In making these two decisions, you should consider all of the evidence, including the circumstances under which the statement may have been made.

INSTRUCTION NO. 17 –

BENCH CONFERENCES AND RECESSES

During the trial it may be necessary for me to talk with the lawyers out of the hearing of the jury, either by having a bench conference while the jury is present in the courtroom or by calling a recess. The purpose of these conferences is to decide how certain evidence is to be treated under the rules of evidence, to avoid confusion and error and to save your valuable time. We will do what we can to keep the number and length of these conferences to a minimum.

Please be patient because while you are waiting, we are working.

INSTRUCTION NO. 18 –

OBJECTIONS

The lawyers may make objections and motions during the trial that I must rule upon. If I sustain an objection to a question before it is answered, do not draw any inferences or conclusions from the question itself. The lawyers have a duty to object to testimony or other evidence they believe is not properly admissible. Do not hold it against a lawyer or the party the lawyer represents because the lawyer has made an objection.

INSTRUCTION NO. 19 –

NOTE TAKING

At the end of the trial, you must make your decision based on the evidence. We have an official court reporter making a record of the trial. However, we will not have a typewritten transcript of the trial testimony of any witness for your use in reaching a verdict. You must pay close attention to the evidence as it is presented.

If you want to take notes during the trial, you may, but be sure your note taking does not interfere with listening to and considering all the evidence. If you choose not to take notes, remember it is your responsibility to listen carefully to the evidence.

Notes you take during the trial are not necessarily more reliable than your memory or another juror's memory. Therefore, you should not be overly influenced by the notes.

If you take notes, do not discuss them with anyone before you begin your deliberations. At the end of each day, please leave your notes in the jury room. At the end of the trial, you may take your notes out of the notebook and keep them or leave them, and we will destroy them. No one will read the notes, either during or after the trial.

INSTRUCTION NO. 20 –

MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

You are required to decide this case based solely on the evidence and exhibits that you see and hear in the courtroom. If one or more of you were to get additional information from an outside source, that information might be inaccurate or incomplete or for some other reason not applicable to this case, and the parties would not have a chance to explain or contradict that information because they would not know about it. This is why it is so important that you base your verdict only on information you receive in this courtroom.

In order for your verdict to be fair, you must not be exposed to any other information about the case, the law or any of the issues involved in this trial during the course of your jury duty. This is very important, so I am taking the time to give you a detailed explanation about what you should do and not do during your time as jurors.

First, you must not try to get information from any source other than what you see and hear in this courtroom. That means you may not speak to anyone, including your family and friends, about this case. You may not use any printed or electronic sources to get information about this case or the issues involved. This includes the internet, reference books or dictionaries, newspapers, magazines, television, radio, computers, smartphones or any other electronic device. You may not do any personal investigating, such as

visiting any of the places involved in this case, using internet maps or Google Earth or any other such technology, talking to any possible witnesses, or creating your own demonstrations or reenactments of the events which are the subject of this case.

Second, you must not communicate with anyone about this case or your jury service, and you must not allow anyone to communicate with you. In particular, you may not communicate about the case through emails, text messages, tweets, blogs, chat rooms, comments or other postings, social networking sites, including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or any other website. This applies to communicating with your fellow jurors, your family members, your employer and the people involved in the trial, although you may notify your family and employer that you have been seated as a juror in the case. If you are asked or approached in any way about your jury service or anything about this case, you must respond that you have been ordered not to discuss the matter and immediately report the contact to the court.

I recognize these rules and restrictions may affect activities you may consider to be normal and harmless. I assure you that I am very much aware I am asking you to refrain from activities which may be very common and very important in your daily lives. However, the law requires these restrictions to ensure the parties have a fair trial based on the evidence each party has an opportunity to address.

Any juror who violates the restrictions I have explained to you jeopardizes the fairness of these proceedings, and a mistrial could result which would require the entire trial process to start over. As you can imagine, a mistrial is a tremendous expense and inconvenience to the parties, the court and the taxpayers. If any juror is exposed to any outside information or has any difficulty whatsoever in following these instructions, please notify the court immediately. If any juror becomes aware that one of your fellow jurors has done something that violates these instructions, you are obligated to report that violation to the court as well.

These restrictions remain in effect throughout this trial. Once the trial is over, you may resume your normal activities. At that point, you will be free to read or research anything you wish. You will be able to speak—or choose not to speak—about the trial to anyone you wish. You may write, post or tweet about the case if you choose to do so. The only limitation is that you must wait until after the verdict, when you have been discharged from your jury service.

INSTRUCTION NO. 21 –

CONDUCT OF THE JURY DURING TRIAL

To ensure fairness, you as jurors must obey the following rules:

First, do not talk among yourselves about this case, or about anyone involved with it, until the end of the case when you go to the jury room to decide your verdict.

Second, do not talk with anyone else about this case, or about anyone involved with it, until the trial has ended, and I discharge you as jurors. This means you must not talk to your spouse, other family members or friends about this case until I discharge you as jurors.

Third, when you are outside the courtroom, do not let anyone tell you anything about the case or about anyone involved with it, until the trial has ended, and I accept your verdict. If someone should try to talk to you about the case, please report it to me.

Fourth, during the trial, you should not talk with or speak to any of the parties, lawyers or witnesses involved in this case—you should not even pass the time of day with any of them. It is important you not only do justice in this case, but that you also give the appearance of doing justice. If a person from one side of the case sees you talking to a person from the other side, even if it is simply to pass the time of day, an unwarranted and unnecessary suspicion about your fairness might be created. If any lawyer, party or

witness does not speak to you when you pass in the hall, ride the elevator or the like, it is because they are not supposed to talk or visit with you.

Fifth, during the trial, do not make up your mind about what the verdict should be. Keep an open mind until you have gone to the jury room to decide the case and you and your fellow jurors have discussed the evidence.

Sixth, if at any time during the trial you have a problem you would like to bring to my attention or if you feel ill or need to go to the restroom, please send a note to the court security officer, who will deliver it to me. Or just raise your hand and get my attention. I want you to be comfortable, so please do not hesitate to inform me of any problem.

INSTRUCTION NO. 22 -

OUTLINE OF THE TRIAL

The trial will proceed as follows:

After these instructions, the lawyer for the government may make an opening statement. Next, the lawyer for Mr. Fontenot may, but does not have to, make an opening statement. An opening statement is not evidence. It is simply a summary of what the lawyer expects the evidence to be.

The government will then present its evidence and call witnesses. The lawyer for Mr. Fontenot may, but has no obligation to, cross examine them. Following the government's case, Mr. Fontenot may, but does not have to, present evidence or call witnesses. If the defendant calls witnesses, the government may cross examine them.

After presentation of the evidence is complete, the lawyers will make their closing arguments to summarize and interpret the evidence for you. As with opening statements, closing arguments are not evidence. I will then give you additional instructions, and you will retire to deliberate on your verdict.

Dated November 1, 2022.

BY THE COURT:



JEFFREY L. VIKEN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
WESTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff, vs. STEPHEN GREGORY FONTENOT, JR., Defendant.	CR. 21-50137-JLV SUPPLEMENTAL JURY INSTRUCTIONS
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VERDICT

INSTRUCTION NO. 23 –

EQUALLY IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

Members of the jury, I will now take a few minutes to give you additional instructions explaining the law which applies to this case. All instructions, both those I gave you earlier and these instructions, are equally binding on you and must be followed. You must consider my instructions as a whole and not single out some instructions and ignore others.

INSTRUCTION NO. 24 –

ABANDONMENT IN THE CRIME OF ATTEMPT

Abandonment cannot be considered once a criminal defendant completes the crime of attempt. An attempted crime is complete with proof of intent together with acts constituting a substantial step toward commission of the substantive offense. When a defendant withdraws prior to forming the necessary intent or taking a substantial step toward the commission of the offense, the essential elements of the crime cannot be proved. After a defendant has evidenced the necessary intent and has committed an act constituting a substantial step toward the commission of the offense, he has committed the crime of attempt, and can withdraw only from the commission of the substantive offense, not the crime of attempt.

INSTRUCTION NO. 25 –

DUTY TO DELIBERATE

A verdict must represent the considered judgment of each juror. Your verdict must be unanimous. It is your duty to consult with one another and to deliberate with a view of reaching agreement if you can do so without violence to your individual judgment. Of course, you must not surrender your honest convictions as to the weight or effect of the evidence solely because of the opinions of other jurors or for the mere purpose of returning a verdict. Each of you must decide the case for yourself but you should do so only after consideration of the evidence with your fellow jurors.

In the course of your deliberations, you should not hesitate to re-examine your own views and change your opinion if you are convinced it is wrong. To bring the jury to a unanimous result, you must examine the questions submitted to you openly and frankly with proper regard for the opinions of others and with a willingness to re-examine your own views.

Remember that if, in your individual judgment, the evidence fails to establish Mr. Fontenot's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt on an offense charged, then your vote should be for a not guilty verdict on that charge. If all of you reach the same conclusion, the verdict of the jury must be not guilty. Of course, the opposite also applies. If, in your individual judgment, the evidence establishes Mr. Fontenot's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt on an offense charged, then your vote should be for a guilty verdict on that charge.

If all of you reach that conclusion, the verdict of the jury must be guilty on that charge.

The question before you can never be whether the government wins or loses the case. The government, as well as society, always wins when justice is done, regardless of whether your verdict is not guilty or guilty.

Finally, remember that you are not partisans. You are judges of the facts. Your sole interest is to seek the truth from the evidence. You are the judges of the credibility of the witnesses and the weight of the evidence.

You may conduct your deliberations as you choose. You may take all the time you feel is necessary.

There is no reason to think that another trial would be tried in a better way or that a more conscientious, impartial or competent jury would be selected to hear it. Any future jury must be selected in the same manner and from the same source as you. If you should fail to agree on a verdict, then this case is left open and must be resolved at some later time.

**INSTRUCTION NO. 26 –
DUTY DURING DELIBERATIONS**

There are certain rules you must follow while conducting your deliberations and returning your verdict:

First, when you go to the jury room, you must select one of your members as your foreperson, who will preside over your discussions and speak for you here in court.

Second, if Mr. Fontenot is found guilty, the sentence to be imposed is my responsibility. You may not consider punishment in any way in deciding whether the government proved its case beyond a reasonable doubt as to the offense charged in the indictment.

Third, if you need to communicate with me during your deliberations, you may send a note to me through the court security officer, signed by one or more jurors. After conferring with the lawyers, I will respond as soon as possible, either in writing or orally in open court. Remember you should not tell anyone—including me—how your votes stand numerically.

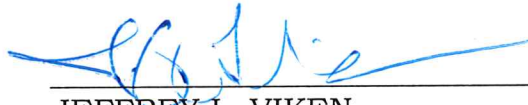
Fourth, your verdict must be based solely on the evidence and on the law in these instructions. **The verdict, whether not guilty or guilty, must be unanimous.** Nothing I have said or done is intended to suggest what your verdict should be—that is entirely for you to decide.

Fifth, the verdict form is simply the written notice of the decision you reach in this case. You will take this form to the jury room. When you have

unanimously agreed on the verdict, the foreperson will fill in the form, date and sign it and advise the court security officer you have reached a verdict. You will then return to the courtroom where your verdict will be received and announced.

Dated November 3, 2022.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey L. Viken', is written over a horizontal line.

JEFFREY L. VIKEN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
WESTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff, vs. STEPHEN GREGORY FONTENOT, JR., Defendant.	CR. 21-50137-JLV VERDICT
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We, the jury, duly empaneled and sworn to try the issues in the above-captioned case, unanimously find as follows:

1. We unanimously find the defendant STEPHEN GREGORY FONTENOT, JR. _____ (fill in either “not guilty” or “guilty”) of Attempted Sexual Exploitation of a Minor as charged in Count I of the indictment.
2. We unanimously find the defendant STEPHEN GREGORY FONTENOT, JR. _____ (fill in either “not guilty” or “guilty”) of Attempted Enticement of a Minor Using the Internet as charged in Count II of the indictment.

If you find STEPHEN GREGORY FONTENOT, JR. guilty of Attempted Enticement of a Minor Using the Internet, you must also unanimously find one or both of the following:

We unanimously find that, if sexual activity had occurred, STEPHEN GREGORY FONTENOT, JR. could have been charged with the following (mark with an “X”):

_____ Rape in the First Degree under South Dakota Law

_____ Sexual Contact with a Child Under 13 Years of Age

3. We unanimously find the defendant STEPHEN GREGORY FONTENOT, JR. _____ (fill in either “not guilty” or “guilty”) of Attempted Receipt of Child Pornography as charged in Count III of the indictment.

Date

Foreperson