

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR
413 Second Street
Belvidere New Jersey 07823
Phone: (908) 475-6275
Fax: (908) 475-6286



RICHARD T. BURKE
County Prosecutor
MICHAEL J. MCDONALD
First Assistant Prosecutor
KIRK T. TRAUGER
Chief of Detectives

County of Warren

PRESS RELEASE

Arrested: Thomas R. Degroat
79B Glenn Avenue
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Date of Birth: May 26, 1948

The above-named individual was arrested Thursday, November, 2 2017 on the following charges: one count of Aggravated Sexual Assault [victim under thirteen (13) years old], one count of Sexual Assault by Contact [victim under thirteen (13) years old], and one count of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. Aggravated Sexual Assault where the victim is under thirteen (13) years old is a First Degree Crime punishable by up to life imprisonment. Sexual Assault by Contact where the victim is under thirteen (13) years old is a Second Degree Crime punishable by up to ten (10) years New Jersey State Prison. Endangering the Welfare of a Child is also a Second Degree Crime punishable by up to ten (10) years New Jersey State Prison.

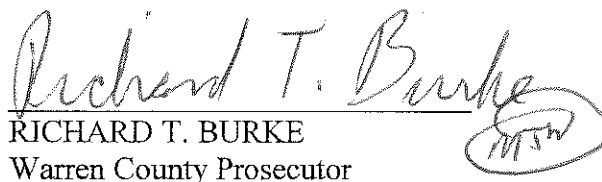
The complaint alleges that the defendant committed multiple acts of sexual contact including sexual penetration, specifically digital penetration, upon a child under thirteen (13) years old. The child in question was known to the defendant.

The defendant's first appearance took place Friday, November 3, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. The defendant remains lodged at Warren County Correctional Center. The State filed a Motion for Pretrial Detention.

The Warren County Prosecutor's Office Special Victims Unit along with the Phillipsburg Police Department conducted the investigation.

Please be advised that the charges are merely accusations and that the defendant is presumed innocent until or unless proven guilty.

APPROVED BY:


RICHARD T. BURKE
Warren County Prosecutor

DATE: November 6, 2017