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PRESS RELEASE

CONVICTED: Brandon Blehl
173 Washington Street
Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865
DOB: November 20, 1981

The above named defendant was convicted today by a Warren County jury in Superior Court of:

3 Counts of Aggravated Sexual Assault – 1st degree
3 Counts of Sexual Assault – 2nd degree
2 Counts of Aggravated Criminal Sexual Contact – 3rd degree
2 Counts of Criminal Sexual Contact – 4th degree

The above convictions involve acts of sexual penetration and acts of sexual contact with a female while she was between the ages of 13 and 15 years old. The incidents happened between November 20, 1999 and June 26, 2002.

The trial was presided over by John H. Pursel, J.S.C. Assistant Prosecutor Kelly Shelton handled the case on behalf of the State and she was assisted by Agent John Vernotica. The defendant was represented by Thomas C. Pluciennik, Esq.

The defendant had previously been convicted of Endangering the Welfare of a Child, 3rd degree in this matter.

After the jury returned the verdict, Judge Pursel revoked the defendant's bail and remanded him to the Warren County Correctional Center pending sentencing.

The investigation of this matter was conducted by Detective Vincent Torre of the Warren County Prosecutor's Office and Officer

Robert Schmeltzly of the Phillipsburg Police Department.



THOMAS S. FERGUSON
Warren County Prosecutor

DATE: 2/28/08