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PRESS RELEASE

Arrested: **PATRICK CROUSE**
250 HECKMAN STREET, APT. 2
PHILLIPSBURG, NEW JERSEY 08865
DOB: 12-26-1980

The above-named individual was arrested on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 in Atlantic City by members of the New Jersey State Police. He is charged with 2 counts of Sexual Assault, one count Simple Assault and one count Possession of a Hypodermic Needle. Sexual Assault is a second-degree crime. Simple Assault and Possession of a Hypodermic Needle are disorderly persons' offenses. The second-degree crimes carry a maximum term of imprisonment of up to ten (10) years in New Jersey State Prison. A disorderly persons offense carries a maximum penalty of up to (6) months.

The complaint alleges that on December 10, 2008, the defendant sexually assaulted an adult female in Phillipsburg, New Jersey. The complaint also alleges that the suspect physically assaulted the victim.

Bail was set by the Honorable John H. Pursel, J.S.C. at \$200,000.00, no ten percent. The defendant's bail also includes conditions that the defendant not have contact with the victim or victim's family, and the defendant is not allowed within 500 feet of victim's residence. The defendant is currently lodged in Warren County Correctional Center in lieu of bail. The defendant's first appearance was held on Monday, December 22, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. before Honorable John H. Pursel, J.S.C.

Members of the Phillipsburg Police Department and Warren County Prosecutor's Office 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:



THOMAS S. FERGUSON
Warren County Prosecutor

Date: December 22, 2008