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County of Warren _____

PRESS RELEASE

Arrested: **John T. Pursell**
 3B Memorial Parkway
 Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865

Date of Birth: **November 4, 1973**

The above named individual was charged with one count of second degree Aggravated Sexual Assault by Contact and one count of second degree Endangering the Welfare of a Child on January 14, 2009 for an incident which occurred on or about December 22, 2009. Mr. Pursell is presently incarcerated at the Warren County Correctional Facility in Belvidere, New Jersey. The second degree charges carry a maximum term of imprisonment of up to ten (10) years in New Jersey State Prison, for each offense.

The complaint alleges that on or about December 22, 2009, Mr. Pursell committed aggravated sexual assault by contact on another person when the person was less than 13 years of age. The assault occurred in the Town of Phillipsburg, New Jersey. The victim was known to the defendant.

Bail was set by the Honorable John J. Coyle, J.S.C., at \$150,000.00, no ten (10%) percent option. The defendant's bail also includes conditions that she is not to have contact with the victim, victim's family, or anyone under the age of eighteen (18). The defendant's first appearance is scheduled for Friday, January 15, 2010, at 1:00 P.M., before the Honorable John J. Coyle, Jr., J.S.C.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Hernani Goncalves of the Warren County Prosecutor's Office / Special Victims Unit and Detective James Stettner of the Phillipsburg Police Department.

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



Thomas S. Ferguson
Warren County Prosecutor

DATE: January 15, 2010