

**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR**

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*Chief of Detectives*

**County of Warren**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Arrested:**                           **Gary A. Ricker, Jr.**  
**DOB 4/24/1989**  
**Phillipsburg, NJ 08865**

On January 31, 2022, the Warren County Prosecutor's Office received a cyber-tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children that an individual in the Phillipsburg area had distributed Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) through the messaging application KIK. Further investigation identified the perpetrator as Phillipsburg Police Officer Gary Ricker and a search warrant was executed on his home on February 24, 2022. Ricker was found to be in possession of 39 files, both pictures and videos, containing Child Sexual Abuse Material.

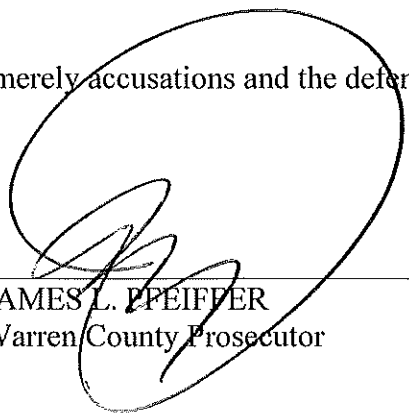
Ricker was charged with the following:

- 1) Endangering the Welfare of a Child, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4(b)(5)(a)(i), a second degree offense. Second Degree crimes are punishable by five (5) to ten (10) years New Jersey State Prison.
  
- 2) Endangering the Welfare of a Child, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4(b)(5)(b), a third degree offense. Third degree crimes are punishable by up to five (5) years New Jersey State Prison.

Ricker was brought to Morris County Jail pending his first appearance in Warren County Superior Court.

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

Approved by:

  
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**JAMES L. PFEIFFER**  
Warren County Prosecutor

Date: April 27, 2022