

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR COUNTY OF WARREN

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PRESS RELEASE

CHARGED:

**KENNETH LUTZ
4 RALEIGH COURT
PHILLIPSBURG, NJ
DOB: 01/20/1971**

It is alleged that on various dates between 1998 and 1999, Kenneth Lutz, sexually assaulted a child in Phillipsburg, New Jersey. It is alleged that the defendant engaged the victim in acts of sexual penetration and contact while the victim was between the ages of twelve (12) and thirteen (13) years old. At the time of the alleged sexual assaults, the defendant was a teacher at the victim's elementary school and a family friend. Due to the defendant's relationship with the family, the defendant was responsible for driving the victim to and from school.

The defendant was charged with the following:

- 1) Aggravated Sexual Assault, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:14-2a(2)(b), a first degree offense. This offense carries a maximum of twenty (20) years in New Jersey State Prison, with a minimum of ten (10) years. This offense is subject to the No Early Release Act, which requires 85% of the sentence be served prior to becoming eligible for parole.
- 2) Sexual Assault by Contact, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:14-2b, a second degree offense. This offense carries a maximum of ten (10) years in New Jersey State Prison, with a minimum of five (5) years. This offense is also subject to the No Early Release Act.

The criminal investigation remains ongoing. Mr. Lutz has been employed by the following schools in New Jersey: Lopatcong Township Elementary School, Merriam Avenue Elementary School in Newton, and Beloved Community Charter School in Jersey City. He has also been employed as a teacher in Florida at the following schools: New Smyrna Beach High School in New Smyrna and Blue Lake Elementary School in DeLand. If anyone has information regarding the charged incidents or has additional information concerning Kenneth Lutz, please contact the Warren County Prosecutor's Office, Special Victim's Unit, at 908-475-6040 or 908-475-6060.

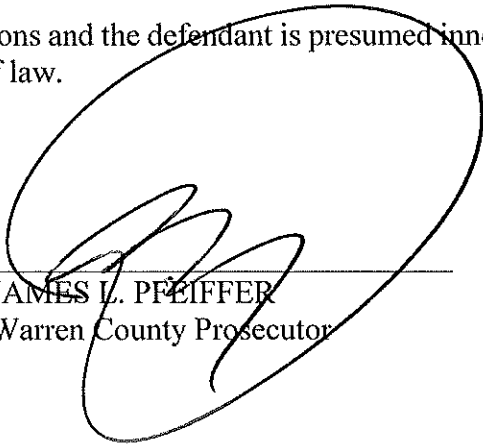
Lutz remains lodged in the Warren County Jail pending his First Appearance in Warren County Superior Court.

Prosecutor James L. Pfeiffer would like to thank the Warren County Prosecutor's Office Special Victim's Unit, the Phillipsburg Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation/Newark Office, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Newton Police Department whose efforts contributed to this successful investigation.

Please be advised that the charges are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Approved by:

Date: August 15, 2023



JAMES L. PFEIFFER
Warren County Prosecutor