



Cape May County Prosecutor's Office

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NEWS

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For Immediate Release – February 14, 2023

Cape May Court House, New Jersey - Cape May County Prosecutor Jeffrey H. Sutherland, Sheriff Robert Nolan of the Cape May County Sheriff's Department and New Jersey State Police, announce the arrest of Jonathan Perez, a 33-year-old Corrections Officer from the Cape May County Correctional Facility for first-degree and second-degree Sexual Assault charges and related charges.

On February 11, 2023, the New Jersey State Police Woodbine barracks received a report that Jonathan Perez has been sexually assaulting a juvenile female over an extended period of time. On this same date, detectives from the State Police and the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office Special Victims Unit initiated an investigation into these allegations.

As a result of this investigation, in the early morning of February 12, 2023, the following charges were filed against Perez:

- Two counts of Aggravated Sexual Assault, crimes of the first-degree
- Sexual Assault, a crime of the second-degree
- Two Counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child, crimes of the second-degree

At the time these charges were filed, Perez's location was unknown. On February 12, 2023, Troopers for the New Jersey State Police Woodbine Barracks located Perez and took him into custody. Perez was then processed on the above charges and lodged in the Atlantic County Jail pending Court proceedings. *

Perez is currently suspended without pay from the Cape May County Correctional Facility pending the resolution of these charges in Court.

An individual convicted of a first-degree crime is subject to a term of imprisonment of 10 to 20 years in New Jersey State Prison and second-degree crimes can carry a sentence of 5 to 10 years in State Prison.

Prosecutor Sutherland advises this is an on-going investigation and urges anyone who may have additional information relating to this investigation to contact the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office Special Victims Unit at **609-465-1135**, or anonymously through the Prosecutor's Office website at **cmcpo.tips** as well as through the Cape May County Sheriffs Tip Line at **cmsherrif.net** and click on **anonymous tip**, or through the Cape May County Crime Stoppers at **609-889-3597**.

**Any charges are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless he is proven guilty.*