



# BCPO News

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## **Bordentown City Man Charged with Soliciting Nude Photos Online from Teen Boy, Possession of Child Pornography**

Burlington County Prosecutor Scott Coffina and Bordentown City Police Chief Frederic Miller announced that a 58-year-old Bordentown City man has been charged with assuming the persona of a teenage girl in order to convince a teenage boy to send him nude photos and videos of himself through an online video streaming application.

Alan J. Berman, of the 100 block of Lucas Drive, also stands accused of engaging in additional sexually-explicit conversations with the teenage boy as well as possession of child pornography. He was charged Friday with four counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. One count was second degree and the rest were third degree.

Berman is employed as a campus security officer at Rider University in Lawrence, New Jersey, and also serves as a captain in his hometown's volunteer fire department. A detention hearing will be held later this week in Superior Court in Mount Holly. The Prosecutor's Office will then prepare the case for presentation to a Grand Jury to be considered for indictment.

The investigation began earlier this year after the BCPO High-Tech Crimes Unit received intelligence from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children concerning Berman's online activities. NCMEC was told by an Arkansas woman that her teenage son was contacted online by a man – later identified as Berman – who was attempting to engage the teen in inappropriate conversations.

Berman was taken into custody Friday morning at his residence following the execution of a search warrant. A cell phone, tablet, and other digital devices were seized and will be analyzed by the BCPO High-Tech Crimes Unit.

Anyone who suspects Berman of inappropriate behavior is asked to call the Prosecutor's Office at 609-265-5035 and ask to speak with a detective in the High-Tech Crimes Unit.

The investigation was conducted by the Prosecutor's Office, with assistance from the New Jersey State Police Digital Technology Investigations Unit, United States Immigrations and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations and the Bordentown City Police Department. Berman will be prosecuted by Assistant Prosecutor LaChia Bradshaw. The lead investigator was BCPO High-Tech Crimes Unit Detective Kevin Sobotka. The BCPO is a member of the New Jersey State Police Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force and the New Jersey State Police Cyber Terrorism Task Force.

*All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

**END**