



BCPO News

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Bordentown City Man Charged with Sexual Assault of Teenage Boys

Defendant showed pornography, provided marijuana and access to firearm

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 sexually assaulting three boys at his residence, allowing multiple youths unrestricted access to a handgun, providing some of them with marijuana, and showing pornography to one of the boys.

Alan J. Berman, of the 100 block of Lucas Drive, was charged with three counts of Sexual Assault (Second Degree), seven counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child (Second Degree), and one count of Showing Obscenity to a Minor (Third Degree).

Berman was arrested at his home on Friday and is being held in the Burlington County Jail.

This is the second round of charges against Berman, who was arrested last month for 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. He was also accused of engaging in additional sexually-explicit conversations with the teenage boy as well as possession of child pornography. The previous charges include four counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child.

The new charges allege that he sexually assaulted three boys, gave marijuana to two, showed pornography to one, and gave unrestricted access in his home to a handgun, ammunition and magazines to five youths. One of the boys claimed that another boy pointed the firearm at him while it was loaded.

The incidents occurred at Berman's residence prior to his initial arrest. The boys are presently between the ages of 12 and 15. The victims and their families were acquainted with Berman at the time of the offenses.

At the time of his initial arrest, Berman was employed as a campus security officer at Rider University in Lawrence, New Jersey, and also served as a captain in his hometown's volunteer fire department.

One of the boys who was assaulted told investigators that Berman threatened him not to divulge the abuse, saying that nobody would believe him because of Berman's status with the fire company.

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The investigation into Berman's actions began earlier this year after the BCPO High-Tech Crimes Unit received intelligence from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children concerning his 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.

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, who will prepare the case for presentation to a Grand Jury to be considered for indictment.

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.

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