



BCPO News

Scott A. Coffina, Prosecutor



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Marlton Man Indicted for Having Sex with Underage Girl in His Home

Burlington County Prosecutor Scott Coffina announced that a Marlton man has been indicted on charges of having sex in his home last year with an underage girl he met through a messaging app.

Charles E. Torrence, 50, of the 300 block of Summer Lane, was indicted on four counts of Sexual Assault (Second Degree), two counts of Luring or Enticing a Child (Second Degree), four counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child (Third Degree), two counts of Criminal Attempt Endangering the Welfare of a Child (Third Degree) and Promoting Prostitution (Third Degree).

The indictment was returned yesterday and signed by Prosecutor Coffina.

The investigation began in June 2019 after law enforcement authorities from Ocean County, where the victim resides, contacted the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office and indicated she had come forward with her parents to report the assault.

The investigation revealed that Torrence and the victim met through the Kik social media app and corresponded by texting and using FaceTime for approximately one week before he traveled to her home and returned with her to his residence to have sexual intercourse. (For more information about Kik, visit <https://www.facebook.com/newjerseyicactaskforce/posts/1257972971049671>).

Torrence's criminal behavior in Ocean County was incorporated into the charges filed in Burlington County. He was arrested in June 2019 and released pending the outcome of the charges. He subsequently failed to appear for a Superior Court proceeding and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

He is considered a fugitive. Anyone with information concerning his whereabouts is asked to call the Evesham Township Police Department at 856-983-1116 or the department's confidential tip line at 856-983-4699.

Torrence will be prosecuted by Assistant Prosecutor Stephen Eife, supervisor of the BCPO Major Crimes Unit – Special Victims Section.

The case was investigated by the Evesham Township Police Department and the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office, with assistance from the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office and the Stafford Township Police Department. The lead investigators are ETPD Detective David Niji and BCPO Detectives Mel Rogers and Brian Cunningham.

An indictment is merely an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent unless or until proven guilty.

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END