



OFFICE OF THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR

ANGELO J. ONOFRI

Prosecutor

209 S. Broad Street, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 8068
Trenton, New Jersey 08650-0068
Phone: (609) 989-6350
mercercountyprosecutor.com

STEPHANIE A. KATZ

First Assistant Prosecutor

JESSICA PLUMERI

Chief of County Detectives

BRYAN COTTRELL

Deputy Chief of County Detectives

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Casey A. DeBlasio

cdeblasio@mercercounty.org

Former High School Teacher Charged with Sexual Assault, Endangering the Welfare of a Child

A former teacher at Steinert High School in Hamilton has been arrested and charged with one count of second-degree sexual assault and one count of second-degree endangering the welfare of a child, Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri reported today.

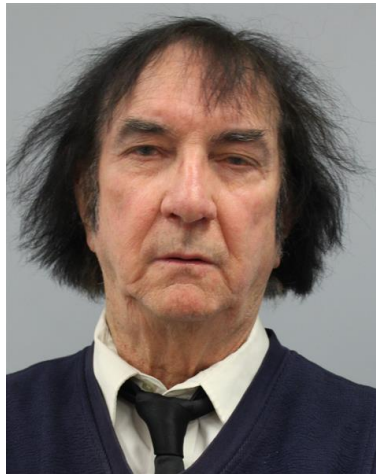
Joseph DePuglio, 76, of Ewing, was arrested on Monday, March 27, 2023, following an investigation conducted by the Mercer County Prosecutor's Special Victims Unit and the Ewing Police Department. He was released pending future court proceedings.

The victim, now an adult, reported the allegations to Ewing police at the end of 2022 and an investigation ensued. DePuglio is accused of having a sexual relationship with the victim while having supervisory or disciplinary power over her. The offenses occurred at DePuglio's Ewing Township residence between the years of 1998 and 2000, when he was actively employed as the victim's teacher at Steinert High School.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact Prosecutor's Detective Jonathan White at (609) 989-6399 or Ewing Detective Andrew Condrat at (609) 882-1313 ext. 7583.

Despite having been charged, every defendant is presumed innocent until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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Joseph DePuglio