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Former Teacher Charged with Sexual Assault

TRENTON – Acting Mercer County Prosecutor Theresa L. Hilton and Trenton Police Director Steve Wilson announced today the arrest of a former teacher and basketball coach for multiple counts of sexual assault between 2014 and 2019.

Darrell R. Moody, 51, of Plainfield, NJ, was arrested in Trenton on Monday. He is charged with one count of first-degree aggravated sexual assault, one count of second-degree sexual assault, two counts of third-degree aggravated criminal sexual contact, two counts of fourth-degree criminal sexual contact and two counts of second-degree endangering the welfare of a child. The prosecutor's office has filed a motion to detain Moody pending trial.

In May 2024, the victim contacted the Trenton police to report incidents of sexual assault that began when the victim was in middle school. A joint investigation with the MCPO Special Victims Unit commenced. Detectives learned that the victim met Moody when Moody was teaching fifth grade at Parker Elementary School. Moody sexually assaulted the victim over the course of several years beginning in middle school and continuing to high school. Moody was also coaching basketball at Joyce Kilmer Middle School during that time.

In an unrelated incident, on June 27, 2023, South Plainfield Police Department charged Moody with one count of second-degree endangering the welfare of a child and one count of second-degree solicitation of a minor for prostitution.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact the prosecutor's SVU at (609) 989-6568 or mcposvu@mercercounty.org.

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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