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PRESS RELEASE

**Unionville High School Teacher's Aide Arrested for
Sexual Misconduct with Students**

The Chester County District Attorney's Office and the Pennsylvania State Police announced the arrest of defendant Sheri Maufort for Institutional Sexual Assault, Corruption of Minors, and related charges. The defendant engaged in sexual contact with two male students while working as a teacher's aide at Unionville High School. The illegal conduct occurred off-campus and outside of regular school hours.

The defendant is 42 years old and resides in West Chester, Pennsylvania. She is married. The defendant was an employee since 2015 with a company which provides substitute teachers, aides, and administrative support staff to various schools, including the Unionville-Chadds Ford School District. During the time of the crimes, she was working at Unionville High School as a substitute teacher's aide.

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan stated, "I have said it before and I will say it again. Rule No. 1 for school staff is: 'DO NOT HAVE SEXUAL CONTACT WITH A STUDENT.' If you break this rule, you will be fired, sent to jail, and never work in a school again."

Unionville-Chadds Ford Superintendent John Sanville stated, "The Unionville-Chadds Ford School District will not stand for this type of behavior.

We immediately reported this incident to law enforcement and are grateful for the rapid response. We now will begin the difficult task of addressing this incident with our students, parents, and teachers.”

Lt. Richard D’Ambrosio, Pennsylvania State Police - Avondale Barracks, stated, “Any sexual contact between an adult and a minor is a serious matter. The involvement of a teacher’s aide, someone who is entrusted with the well-being of a student and who is in a position of authority, cannot and will not be tolerated.”

The allegations from the criminal complaint are as follows:¹

The defendant had worked as a substitute teacher’s aide in a classroom at Unionville High School on a few occasions. The two victims were students in that classroom.

The defendant contacted the first victim, who was under the age of 18, by text and asked him to come outside his home to meet her. The victim got into her car and she took him out of his neighborhood. She supplied him with alcohol. She then parked at a restaurant in Birmingham Township, Chester County, PA. They walked out into a field where she kissed the victim on the mouth and performed oral sex on him. The defendant’s husband later showed up at the restaurant. The defendant told the victim not to tell anyone what happened and to call her when he turned 18. The defendant’s husband then drove the victim home.

Approximately three weeks later, the defendant had contact with the second victim in this case, who was 18 at the time but still a student at Unionville High School. The second victim ran into the defendant while at a party in the area after a high school football game. The second victim got into the defendant’s car and she drove him out of the neighborhood where the party was being held. The defendant parked the vehicle and kissed the second victim and touched his penis. The defendant then drove the second victim back to the party.

These incidents originally happened in August and September of 2016. The incidents were reported to law enforcement on November 11, 2016. The Pennsylvania State Police and Chester County Detectives immediately investigated the matter.

¹ A criminal defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

The defendant was arrested on November 16, 2016 and charged with multiple counts of Institutional Sexual Assault, Unlawful Contact with Minor, Endangering Welfare of Children, and Corruption of Minors.

This case was investigated by the Pennsylvania State Police with assistance from the Chester County Detectives. Assistant District Attorney Emily Provencher is the assigned prosecutor. Anyone with further information should contact Pennsylvania State Police Trooper Jason Pennington at 610-268-2022.

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan