

## CHESTER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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June 14, 2018

## PRESS RELEASE

## Stranger Abducts and Sexually Assaults Four-Year Old Girl

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan and the Pennsylvania State Police announced the arrest of defendant Humberto Guzman-Garcia for kidnapping and sexually assaulting a four-year old girl in Avondale, Chester County, Pennsylvania. The defendant was a stranger to the victim and the victim's family.

District Attorney Hogan stated, "This crime is every parent's nightmare. A monster comes out of the night, abducts your child, and sexually assaults her. This is proof that evil exists in this world."

"Vigilance on the part of the young girl's parents and quick work from responding troopers were instrumental in apprehending a dangerous predator," said Captain James H. Fisher, commanding officer of Pennsylvania State Police Troop J. "We appreciate the diligence of District Attorney Hogan and his team in seeking justice for the victim."

The defendant is 35 years old. His last known address was 326 Lake Road, Avondale, Pennsylvania.

The facts alleged in the criminal complaint are as follows:

At approximately 3:30 a.m. on June 10, 2018, the victim's father and mother realized that their four-year old daughter<sup>2</sup> was missing from her bedroom in the family residence. Both parents began to look for the victim.

The victim's father went outside. He spotted the defendant about 50 yards away behind a shed, holding down the victim, and the defendant's pants were unbuckled. The defendant fled. The victim's father retrieved his daughter. He noted that her underwear had been taken off and was on the ground.

The little girl told her father that she heard a knock at the front door and opened it. The defendant then took her outside and sexually assaulted her.

The police were called immediately. They found the defendant hiding in a nearby disabled car. The victim's father identified the defendant.

The defendant is a complete stranger to the victim's family. It is unknown whether he had observed the victim earlier in the day and followed her to the family's residence.

The defendant has been charged with kidnapping, aggravated indecent assault, attempted rape, and related charges. He was arrested, failed to post bail, and was remanded to Chester County Prison.

District Attorney Hogan added, "This was a bold and brazen attack. Given the nature of the attack, we are concerned that there could have been prior victims. Anybody with information about Humberto Guzman-Garcia should call the police to assist in the investigation. We will not stand for children being hurt in Chester County."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A criminal defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The criminal complaint erroneously states that the child is five years old, but that will be amended to the correct age at the preliminary hearing.

Deputy District Attorney Megan King is the assigned prosecutor. Pennsylvania State Police – Avondale Barracks investigated this case, assisted by the Chester County Detectives. Anybody with information should contact Trooper Stefano Gallina at (610) 268-2022.

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan