ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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NEWS RELEASE

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MAYS LANDING – A former St. Joseph's High School teacher and wrestling coach in Hammonton was sentenced today to 364 days of day reporting and forfeited his teaching license in connection with a January 2008 incident involving one of his students, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel announced.

Joseph Mauro, 31, of Forked River in Ocean County, entered a guilty plea on April 17, 2009, to endangering the welfare of a child. In accordance with the plea agreement Mauro would only be sentenced to day reporting at the Atlantic County Justice Facility if he had proof of a full-time job or proof that he was a full-time student. The defendant provided the both forms to the Court. In addition to day reporting, Mauro will be subject to three years of probation.

Mauro's arrest was a result of an investigation by the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office Crimes Against Children Unit and the Hammonton Police Department into allegations that Mauro touched one of his students inappropriately during wrestling practice. In February of 2008 Mauro resigned from his position with the school. He was arrested at his home without incident on April 1, 2008.

The victim and his family attended the sentencing. Assistant Prosecutor Pamela K. D'Arcy said it was the desire of the family to see that Mauro lost his ability to teach in the school system. The forfeiture was a condition of the plea.

Superior Court Judge Michael A. Donio presided over the sentencing.

Anyone with information involving serious crimes is asked to call the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office at 609-909-7800 or go to the Prosecutor's Office Web site at http://www.acpo.org/tips.html and provide information by filling out the form anonymously on the Submit a Tip page. People can also call Crime Stoppers at 609-652-1234 or 1-800-658-8477 (TIPS). Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.