

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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NEWS RELEASE

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1 Page(s)

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MAYS LANDING – A Dennis Township man charged with inappropriately touching a 12-year-old girl at the Acme in Hamilton Township in October, entered a guilty plea to one count of sexual assault and will be sentenced to six years in prison, First Assistant Prosecutor Murray Talasnik said Monday.

During a plea hearing on Friday Thomas Moran, 49, admitted that on Oct. 19 he was at the supermarket, walked down one of the aisles and saw the young girl. He further stated that he purposely touched the victim's buttocks under circumstances making his conduct a sexual assault, according to Assistant Prosecutor Pamela K. D'Arcy who represented the State.

On Nov. 7 Hamilton Township police arrested Moran at his Cape May County home. The case was further investigated by the Prosecutor's Office Crimes Against Children Unit.

Superior Court Judge Albert Garofolo will sentence Moran at a future date. The defendant must serve 85 percent of the six-year prison term before parole eligibility. He also will be subject to sex offender registration requirements under Megan's Law.

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.