

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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Prosecutor

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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MAYS LANDING – An Atlantic County Grand Jury indicted an Egg Harbor Township man on Thursday afternoon who allegedly sexually assaulted and stabbed a teen in August 2009, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel stated today.

Robert Washington, 28, was indicted on three counts of aggravated sexual assault, weapons offenses, including possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose and unlawful possession of a weapon, aggravated assault, luring and enticing a child and criminal restraint, according to Chief Assistant Prosecutor Ellen Loughney, who presented the case to the Grand Jury.

It is alleged that on Aug. 8, 2009 at 6 a.m., a 17-year-old girl was walking from her friend's house in Atlantic City to Ventnor when Washington drove up to her in the area of Kentucky Avenue and asked if she needed a ride. They spoke for a few minutes and then the girl got into Washington's vehicle. The defendant drove to Venice Park in Atlantic City instead of Ventnor and sexually assaulted the teen. He then stabbed her several times in the neck, face and forehead. The victim then jumped out of the vehicle while it was moving on N. Ohio Avenue in Atlantic City. Police responded to a report from a resident of a female knocking on doors and screaming for help in the 1800 block of N. Ohio Avenue. The victim was transported to the AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center, City Campus, where she received sutures and staples for her wounds. She continues to recover from her injuries, Loughney stated.

Atlantic City police located a man on Aug. 9 at 5:30 a.m. who matched the suspect's description and the vehicle description, traveling east on Atlantic Avenue. Police stopped the vehicle and arrested the man, who turned out to be the defendant. Washington is in the Atlantic County Justice Facility in lieu of \$300,000 cash or bond bail.

If convicted, the defendant could face decades in prison.

*****The indictment is merely an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.**

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) or visit the Crime Stoppers Website at <http://www.crimestoppersatlantic.com/>. Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.