

Sex assault case proceeds against suspended Pemberton Twp. officer

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Pemberton Township police Ptl. Jason Kreig who was charged Friday with sexually assaulting a juvenile.

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- by *Danielle Camilli*

A suspended Pemberton Township police officer charged with sexually assaulting a child will return to Superior Court in Mount Holly next month as attorneys continue to work to resolve the case.

Jason W. Kreig, 32, was indicted in December on two counts of aggravated sexual assault and three counts of endangering the welfare of a child for alleged acts in December 2011 and from June 2007 to April 2008.

Kreig was arrested in February 2012 and has since pleaded not guilty to the charges. A seven-year veteran of the force who earned \$72,142 in 2010, Kreig has been suspended without pay pending the outcome of the criminal investigation.

He remains free on bail and attended a brief status conference in the case at the Burlington County Courthouse on Monday morning with his attorney.

“We are continuing to discuss the matter, but there is no resolution today,” Burlington County Assistant Prosecutor Michael Luciano told Judge James W. Palmer Jr.

Palmer asked if the attorneys felt the matter should be placed for pretrial conference, meaning the next date would be an opportunity for Kreig to enter into a negotiated plea on the charges or have the case scheduled for trial. His attorney, James Gerrow, asked for another status conference, and the judge ordered Kreig back to court Sept. 9.

Authorities have released few details about the allegations, citing the need to protect the child’s identity. The indictment indicates the alleged assaults involve the same victim on different dates. Authorities said the assaults occurred while Kreig was off duty, but did take place in the township.

Although he is out on bail, Kreig has had to surrender all firearms. He also can have no contact with the alleged victim.

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