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Former prison guard indicted in Hunterdon on charges of aggravated sexual assault involving child

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Joseph F. Doscher, 43, of Glen Gardner was indicted by a Hunterdon County Grand Jury on Feb. 16 on charges of aggravated sexual assault, first degree; sexual assault, second degree and endangering the welfare of a child, second degree.



Doscher, a former corrections officer at a women's prison, was arrested Jan. 19.

On multiple occasions between Jan. 1, 2010 and Jan. 17 this year, in the borough, Doscher allegedly engaged in sexual conduct with a child under age 13, for whom he had assumed responsibility.

According to a state Department of Corrections spokesman on Jan. 23, Doscher was "removed for a disciplinary issue" on July 24, 2009 after working at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women for five years and four months. His salary prior to dismissal was \$64,163.

Online Civil Service Commission meeting minutes showed that Doscher was to appear before the commission on Feb. 2, 2011, but his case for removal was one of a number of appeals "withdrawn and removed from the hearing calendar."

Hunterdon County Prosecutor Anthony Kearns said that the arrest resulted from a joint investigation by the county Prosecutor's Office Special Victims Unit detectives and State Police at the Washington barracks.

Superior Court Judge Stephen B. Rubin set bail at \$150,000 and ordered that Doscher have no contact with the victim as a provision of his bail. Doscher was taken to the county jail.

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If he's abusing someone who's dependant on him, chances are he was abusive with those depended on him in that role as well.

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