



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NOVEMBER 21, 2013

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Children's Village Employee Arrested for Allegedly Assaulting Resident

Incident Reported to NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs Hotline

Dobbs Ferry, NY-- NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs Special Prosecutor Patricia E. Gunning announced today that Troy Esdaille (5/16/70), who is employed as a sociotherapist at The Children's Village has been arrested for allegedly assaulting a resident in his care following an investigation conducted by the Justice Center. The facility is licensed by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS).

The incident first came to the attention of law enforcement officials when it was reported to the Justice Center's Vulnerable Persons Central Register (VPCR) Hotline. A call center representative opened a case tracking file. Justice Center investigators launched an investigation and received assistance from the Dobbs Ferry Police Department in making the arrest.

Esdaille, who lives at 359 Third Avenue, Bronx, was arrested today on a Misdemeanor Complaint charging him with:

- Two counts of Assault in the third degree, a class "A" Misdemeanor; and
- One count of Endangering the Welfare of a Child, a class "A" Misdemeanor.

According to the complaint, the defendant allegedly stomped on the victim's face while the victim was being restrained. Esdaille was arraigned on the charges in the Village of Dobbs Ferry Justice Court and released on his own recognizance. An order of protection was issued by the Court. Esdaille has been suspended from his position without pay. The case is being prosecuted by Justice Center Assistant Special Prosecutor Christina Calabrese.

-Continued on page 2-

Page 2 –Children’s Village Employee Arrested for Allegedly Assaulting Resident

The Justice Center and its statewide hotline and incident reporting system began operations on June 30, 2013. It is staffed 24-hours a day, seven days a week by trained professionals who receive reports of allegations of abuse and neglect of people with special needs. Once a report is received by its (VPCR) Hotline, it is logged and assessed. Serious cases of abuse or neglect are assigned to the Justice Center’s investigation team or, when appropriate, to a local law enforcement agency for follow-up.

The Justice Center also maintains a statewide registry of all persons who have been found to be responsible for serious or repeated acts of abuse and neglect. Once placed on the registry, known as the “Staff Exclusion List” or SEL, they are prohibited by law from ever working again with people with disabilities or special needs.

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is one of six state agencies under the jurisdiction of the Justice Center. It also oversees certain facilities or programs that are operated, licensed or certified by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), the Department of Health (DOH), the Office of Mental Health, (OMH), the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS), and the State Education Department (SED).

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Editor’s note: In compliance with Disciplinary Rule 7-107A of the Code of Professional Responsibility, you are advised that a charge is an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.