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Volunteer Firefighter Indicted

TRENTON – A Mercer County grand jury recently returned a five-count indictment charging a volunteer firefighter from Lawrence with endangering the welfare of a child and showing obscene material to a minor.

Joseph Dlabik, age 38, was indicted on one count of second-degree official misconduct, one count of second-degree luring, two counts second-degree endangering the welfare of a child and one count of third-degree obscenity for persons under 18. The indictment alleges that on various dates between January 27, 2014, and March 31, 2014, Dlabik exhibited obscene material on his cell phone to a teenage girl while at the Lawrence Road Fire Company on Lawrence Road in Lawrence, NJ. He is also accused of luring the same victim to a secluded area of the firehouse in July 2014 and telling her to remove an article of clothing for each training question she answered incorrectly.

Assistant Prosecutor Michael J. Mennuti of the prosecutor's Special Victims Unit presented the cases to the grand jury.

Dlabik is free on \$50,000 bail.

An indictment is merely an accusation. All persons charged are presumed innocent until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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