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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2016

JOEL SPRINGER OF PHILADELPHIA ARRESTED FOR AN INSTITUTIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AT COUNTY YOUTH CENTER



NORRISTOWN, Pa.—Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and West Norriton Police Chief A. Dale Mabry announce the arrest of Joel Springer, 34, of Philadelphia, for Rape, Sexual Assault, Indecent Assault, Institutional Sexual Assault and Unlawful Restraint related to the rape of an 18-year-old female resident at the Montgomery County Youth Center.

An investigation by Montgomery County Detectives revealed that the victim was raped twice on Saturday, August 27, 2016, while she was a resident at the youth center's 12-bed shelter for dependent youth. The victim said she walked with Springer, who was employed as a youth and family advocate at the Youth Center, to the cafeteria to get ice, and after they left the cafeteria, they went into an empty classroom where he sexually assaulted her. They left the building and

when they returned to the area of the juvenile courtroom, Springer pushed the victim to the floor in an unoccupied interview room and sexually assaulted her again. The Montgomery County Youth Center personnel immediately contacted law enforcement when the sexual assault was reported by the victim and have been cooperative in the investigation.

Springer was arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Kathleen Kelly Rebar last night, who set bail at \$500,000 cash. The defendant failed to make bail and was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 9 a.m., September 9, 2016 in front of Magisterial District Judge Ester J. Casillo.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney M. Stewart Ryan, Captain of the Sex Crimes Unit.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.