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Thomas P. Hogan  
District Attorney

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**New Child Sex Abuse Charges Announced Against Former  
Prison Lieutenant Who Was Coach and Foster Parent**

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan announced new child sexual abuse charges against Leroy Mitchell, a former lieutenant at the Chester County Prison. Mitchell originally was charged with sexually abusing two girls in his care. The new criminal complaint includes five additional juvenile victims, detailing a course of criminal conduct over forty years.

The defendant is 60 years old. He formerly resided at 1868 West Strasburg Road in West Bradford Township and 275 Brandywine Drive in Newlin Township. Both residences are in Chester County.

The defendant and his wife were foster parents to over 50 children throughout the years. The defendant also served as a girls' softball coach for the Unionville Recreation Association. The victims include the defendant's foster children.

District Attorney Hogan stated, "For the last 40 years, the defendant built his life around getting access to children in order to sexually abuse them. His job, his family life, and his coaching activities were part of an act to lure children to him. The defendant was a wolf in sheep's clothing."

The allegations of the criminal complaint are as follows:<sup>1</sup>

The defendant initially was charged with sexually abusing two girls who were in his care. The children were seven and nine years old. The abuse took place as recently as 2012.

The new complaint lists five more victims. The sexual abuse of the first victim dates back to 1966, when the victim was five years old and the defendant was in his teens.

The newly identified victims include both male and female victims. Three of the victims are former foster children of the defendant. The ages of the victims ranged from as young as three years old to ten years old.

For one victim, the defendant gave the victim lollipops to “reward” her after the sexual abuse. For another victim, the defendant gave the victim a milkshake as part of the sexual abuse, and promised to take the victim to McDonald’s on other occasions.

The defendant is charged with multiple counts of involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, indecent assault, endangering the welfare of children, and related charges.<sup>2</sup>

In order to alert other potential victims, this press release includes photographs of the defendant at his current age (60) and from when he was approximately 42 years old.

District Attorney Hogan added, “This is a rapidly expanding investigation. After the media reported the initial abuse charges, multiple other victims have come forward. With abuse occurring over decades and with the defendant’s role as both a foster parent and coach, we are concerned that there are even more victims. We will not stop investigating until every victim has a chance to be heard and seek justice.”

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<sup>1</sup> A criminal defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

<sup>2</sup> Out of the seven victims, five are within the statute of limitations. Two victims are outside the statute of limitations, but are part of the same criminal course of conduct. The statute of limitations for child sex abuse cases remains an issue of legislative debate.

This case was investigated by the Pennsylvania State Police and the Chester County Detectives. Assistant District Attorney Deb Ryan from the District Attorney's Child Abuse Unit has been assigned to prosecute the case.

Anybody with information should call PSP Trooper David Brodeur at (610) 486-6280 or Chester County Detective James Ciliberto at (610) 344-6866.

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan