



# PRESS RELEASE

**Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes**  
Passaic County Prosecutor's Office  
401 Grand Street  
Paterson, NJ 07505  
(973) 881-4800

---

## **PASSAIC HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER CHARGED WITH CHILD ENDANGERMENT AND OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT**

---

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

JANUARY 24, 2018

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes and Passaic Police Chief Luis A. Guzman announce the arrest of Jose Maria, age 39, of Passaic, New Jersey.

Jose Maria, a teacher at Passaic High School, was charged with four counts of Second Degree Endangering the Welfare of a Child and one count of Second Degree Official Misconduct for sexually inappropriate conversations and behavior with two teenage victims that allegedly occurred between 2010 and 2012. The two victims, whose identities are being withheld based upon the nature of the charges, were students at the school during the relevant time period and are now adults.

Jose Maria was arrested on January 24, 2018, after an investigation conducted by the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Special Victims Unit, the Department of Children and Families Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit and the Passaic Police Department.

Endangering the Welfare of a Child carries a maximum term of ten years in New Jersey State Prison and carries the additional penalties of Megan's Law registration and Parole Supervision for Life; Official Misconduct carries a maximum term of ten years in New Jersey State Prison.

Anyone with additional information about Mr. Maria is asked to contact Detective Kristin Falotico of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Special Victims Unit at (973) 837-7661.

Central Judicial Processing is scheduled for January 24, 2018 in the Criminal Division, Superior Court of New Jersey, Passaic Vicinage, at 1:30PM.

Media inquiries about this case should be directed to Chief Assistant Prosecutor Christopher Freid of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Special Victims Unit at 973-837-7639 (office), 862-849-9415 (cell) or [cfreid@passaiccountynj.org](mailto:cfreid@passaiccountynj.org).

All inquiries regarding Mr. Maria's employment status should be directed to the Passaic Public Schools at 973-458-6054.

**A criminal complaint is merely an accusation. Despite this accusation, the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.**



**Jose Maria**