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## ARREST MADE IN NEW YEAR'S DAY CHILD SEX ATTACK IN PALISADES CENTER MALL RESTROOM

The Clarkstown Police Department announced the arrest of Elio R. Pintado (DOB 09/15/73) of 71 Morris Avenue, 2nd Floor, Summit, New Jersey in the January first sexual assault of a seven-year-old girl in the restroom of the AMC Loews theater in the Palisades Center mall in West Nyack.

Pintado is charged in New York with:

- \* Two counts of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree, a class "D" Felony
- \* One count of Endangering the Welfare of a Child, a class "A" Misdemeanor
- \* One count of Unlawful Imprisonment in the Second Degree, a class "A"

Misdemeanor

On January 1, 2010, at about 2:30 p.m., the seven-year-old victim was visiting the fourth-floor theater complex with her father and younger sibling. The girl's father waited nearby in the concession while she used the women's restroom.

The victim was in the bathroom for less than three minutes when Pintado, who had entered before her, assaulted the child in a stall.

The defendant, who had pulled-up his collar as he entered the women's bathroom, was captured on surveillance video exiting the restroom seconds before the girl returned to her father.

Pintado is currently being held at the Union County Jail in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He was arrested last week on an unrelated charge of 2nd degree luring and enticing a child and was ordered held without bail because of a parole violation, said Union County Prosecutor Theodore J. Romankow.

The Rockland County District Attorney's Office is in the process of filing papers with the Union County Prosecutor on the extradition of Pintado.

Through the many tips the Clarkstown Police Detectives received information from two residents from New Jersey and New York greatly assisted with the possible connection of Pintado to the January first crime.

After coordinating with New Jersey authorities, the Clarkstown Police Detective Bureau executed search warrants in several municipalities and recovered evidence that directly connects Pintado to the Palisades Center mall incident.

Since the incident on January 1st, multiple law enforcement agencies have supported the efforts of the Clarkstown Police Department. As a result, the Clarkstown Police Department, would like to thank the following agencies and organizations, among others, for their assistance in this case: the U.S. Marshals Service, the Nassau County Police Department, AMC/Loews Theaters, New York State Crime Stoppers, the Ramsey Police Department and the New Milford Police Department.

Pintado's arraignment is pending.

He faces up to seven years in state prison.