FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 6, 2025

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ULSTER COUNTY DA'S OFFICE ANNOUNCES PLEA AND SENTENCE OF IN SPECIAL VICTIMS CASE

KINGSTON, NY – On November 6, 2025, Ian Welling, age 43, of Saugerties, pled guilty to Sexual Abuse in the First Degree, a Class D violent sexual felony, before the Honorable Bryan Rounds. In pleading guilty, Welling admitted to touching a child less than 11 years old for the purposes of sexual gratification.

Following a sentencing hearing on the same day, the Prosecution requested that the defendant be sentenced to at least 5 years in state prison; his attorney requested that he be placed on 10 years of probation. Thereafter, Judge Rounds sentenced the defendant to 5 years in state prison to be followed by 10 years of post-release supervision.

The Saugerties Police Department investigated this matter.

"The defendant, in just ten short minutes alone with the victim, molested her while her father was a stones-throw away. It is likely that this defendant would never have been caught if the victim's father had not walked in while the defendant's conduct was in progress," said Jenna Hastings of the Special Victims Bureau.

The defendant will be required to register as a sex offender at a level to be determined later shortly before his release from prison.

The case was prosecuted by Special Victims Senior ADA Jenna Hastings. The defendant was represented by Richard Berube of the Ulster County Public Defender's Office

If you or a loved one are experiencing sexual or domestic violence, please call Ulster County Crime Victims Assistance Program at (845) 340-3443, or 911 if you are in immediate danger.

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