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Indictment: Watch guard befriended suicidal teen prior to sexual assault

Severe indictment filed against elderly man with prior convictions for murder and rape who allegedly sang, gave candy to 14-year-old hospitalized suicidal teen he was tasked with guarding, before molesting her. Suspect says wanted to 'lift the girl's spirits'

Raanan Ben-Zur

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An indictment was filed Wednesday against 70-year-old Herzliya resident Yosef Nunu for molesting a 14-year-old suicidal girl he was watching over at Kfar Saba's Meir Hospital.

Nunu, who was hired by the hospital through the nursing-care agency Matarav to supervise the teen overnight despite being a convicted murderer and sex offender, is accused of performing an indecent act while exploiting a position of supervision and authority.

The girl was admitted to the hospital last week after attempting suicide. Nunu was hired to watch over her for fear she may harm herself again.

"He took advantage of the girl's innocence and mental state to satisfy his urges," the indictment read.

According to the charges, filed with the Kfar Saba Magistrates' Court, last Friday night Nunu carried on a friendly chat with the girl and her 17-year-old sister in the hospital's children's ward. He even sang to the suicidal teen, made her laugh and gave her candy.

He then began stroking the girl's arm and forehead, massaged her hands and feet and kissed her on the cheek and forehead. The older sister was witness to Nunu's advances, but a curtain separated the girl's bed from the beds of the other patients.

At some point Nunu accompanied the suicidal girl to the bathroom while hugging her, and on the way stroked her face, neck, back and the area above her sternum. She pushed him away when he tried to touch her breasts, the indictment said. He managed to touch her stomach underneath her shirt, and later kissed her lips and the palm of her hand.

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Sex Crime



Nunu in court Photo: Ido Erez





The teen later complained to the hospital's nurses about Nunu.

In 1968 Nunu was sentenced to life in prison for murdering a nurse in his cab after she had resisted his advances. He eventually served 13 years for the crime.

In 1993 he was convicted of assault, and in 1998 he was convicted of sexually assaulting an underage girl, for which he was sentenced to four months community service.

In 2000 Nunu was convicted of sexually assaulting an underage boy and performing a lewd act in front of a minor. He was sentenced to six years in prison for these crimes.



The prosecution asked that Nunu remain in custody until the conclusion of legal proceedings, claiming he poses a danger to the public. The prosecution will present the testimonies of the two sisters and doctors who claim they saw Nunu commit some of the acts he is accused of.

Nunu has admitted to some of the allegations, but claims his actions were not of a sexual nature and were meant to lift the suicidal girl's spirits.

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