

Rabbi charged in 1999 Woodcliff Lake sexual assault of boy

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(Photo: Bergen County Prosecutor's Office)

A man who served as a rabbi and teacher was arrested and charged in a 1999 sexual assault of a boy in Woodcliff Lake, according to the Bergen County prosecutor's Office.

Rabbi Menachem M. Weiss, 46, of Los Angeles, was accused of sexually assaulting a boy from January to June 1999 in Woodcliff Lake, the prosecutor's office stated.

Woodcliff Lake police received information of the sexual assault in December 2016, and Weiss was indicted on Tuesday.

The rabbi was taken into custody by Port Authority police Thursday evening at Newark Airport and taken to Bergen County Jail pending a detention hearing scheduled for Monday, according to the prosecutor's office. He arrived on a flight from Los Angeles and there was a warrant out for his arrest, according to Port Authority spokesman Joseph Pentangelo.

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Weiss used to live in Woodcliff Lake and Park Ridge, according to a 1999 article in The Record. In the article he spoke of a menorah outside his house being vandalized. He ran the home-based Pascack Valley Outreach Chabad Center.

He previously served at Milken Community Schools in California and was married for more than 20 years, according to a [2016 article by the student publication at the school Milken Roar](#).

"The thing that I am most excited about is being able to get to know all of the students at Milken," he was quoted as saying in the 2016 article. "I am very excited to be able to work with students and the entire Milken family on making Milken a true center for Israel."

Staff Writer Keldy Ortiz contributed to this report.

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