



Home

News

Weather

Investigations

Entertainment



Connect ▾



[Local](#) [Top Video](#) [U.S. & World](#) [Sports](#) [Health](#) [Weird](#) [Weather](#) [Tech](#)

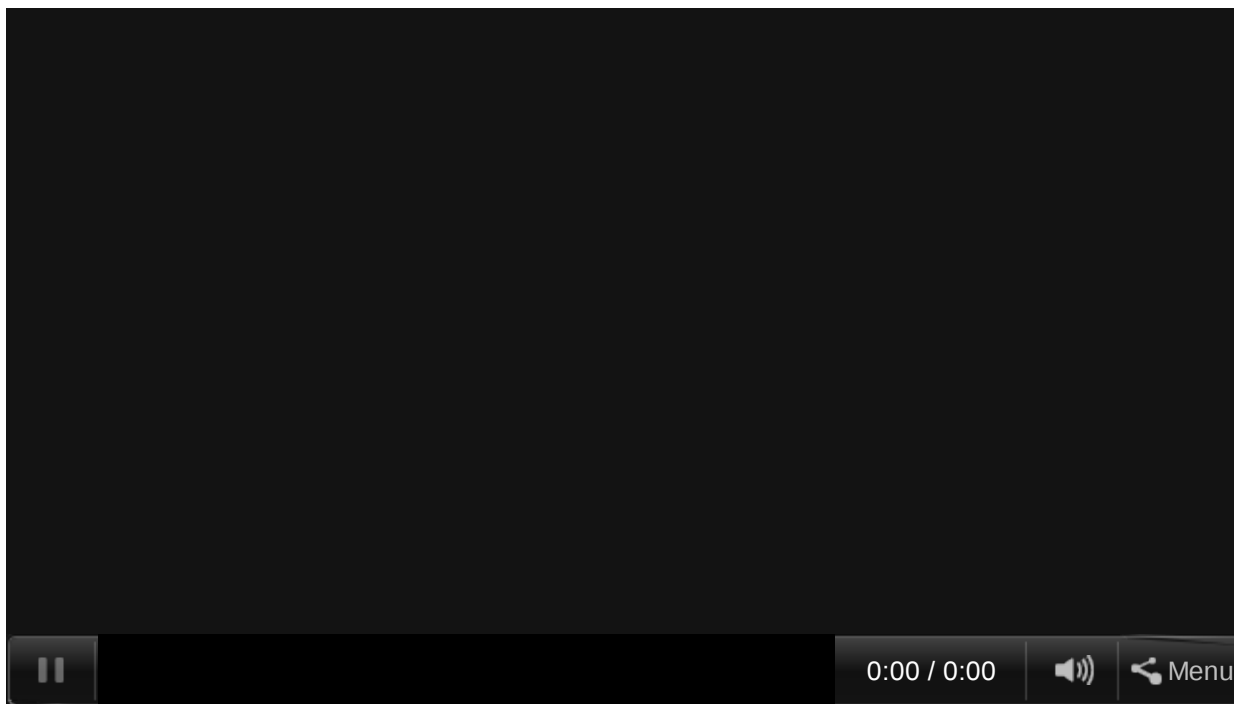
CRIME AND COURTS

CHIEF INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER JONATHAN DIENST ON CRIME, CORRUPTION AND TERRORISM.

NJ Therapist Sexually Abused 16-Year-Old Patient: Prosecutors

By Jonathan Dienst, Joe Valiquette and Brynn Gingras





A therapist who counsels children and teens was arrested by the FBI Tuesday for allegedly sexually abusing a 16-year-old patient. Brynn Gingras reports (Published Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015)

A therapist who counsels children and teens was arrested by the FBI Tuesday for allegedly sexually abusing a 16-year-old patient.

Prosecutors charged Elliot Halberstam of Bergenfield, New Jersey, of filming his own sexual relations with the teenage boy, whom he had been seeing since 2011.

- [Nature Made Vitamins Recalled](#)

Halberstam, who is listed as an assistant director with Jewish Family Service & Children's Center of Clifton-Passaic, is also accused of asking the teen to make numerous explicit videos that were later emailed or texted to him.

According to the FBI, Halberstam groomed the victim, who had dreams of becoming

TRENDING STORIES

- 1** **VIDEO** 3 Nabbed With Loaded Guns, Knives, Armor on Way to NYC
- 2** **VIDEO** 'Mass Hysteria' Causes Stampede at NYC Subway Station
- 3** **VIDEO** 100 Drivers Blow Through NJ Stop Sign in 90 Minutes: Video
- 4** Arrested NYC Hedge Fund Manager Dead in Apparent Suicide
- 5** School Mourns Star Athletes, Best Friends Killed in Crash

a model, then exploited him. Authorities said Halberstam created fake email accounts, posing as a lawyer promising to help the teen break into the modeling industry.

- **SUV Smashes Cars, Crashes Onto Sidewalk in Wild Chase**

The graphic emails encouraged the victim to perform and record sex acts with Halberstam. In one email, Halberstam allegedly said alcohol would be provided at a photo shoot in a hotel room to "take the edge off."

Halberstam rented hotel rooms to film some of his interactions with the teen, the FBI said.

- **Meryl Streep Dressed as Donald Trump at NYC Gala**

He also allegedly wrote to the teen, "Break through the barrier and let go of your prudishness."

The victim eventually reported Halberstam to authorities. The FBI arrested him Tuesday, and investigators searched his home Tuesday morning.

- **Rold Gold Pretzels Recalled Over Peanut Traces**

Authorities are concerned there may be more victims, especially because in one email he said, "I'm actually currently trying to use my amazing grooming techniques to convince and lure another teenager into coming to a hotel room." according to

WEATHER FORECAST

 WEATHER ALERTS [View all](#)

Flushing, NY 

 **86°** Overcast
Feels Like 86°



Radar



Forecast



Maps



NEWSLETTERS 

Receive the latest local updates in your inbox

[Sign up](#)

[Privacy policy](#) | [More Newsletters](#)

to continue and take another teenager into custody to a hotel room, according to officials familiar with the case.

Calls and emails to Halberstam were not returned. Workers at the Jewish Family Center in Clifton told NBC 4 New York he no longer worked there, and the center later released a statement saying it was cooperating with law enforcement and trying to learn more about the situation.

- **Woman Said She Pulled Plug on Fiancé's Kayak: Investigator**

"Our chief concern of course is the privacy and welfare of our clients," the statement said.

During a court hearing Tuesday afternoon in federal court in Manhattan, Halberstam was ordered held without bail. He's facing federal charges because he sent emails from computers in several states, and from the U.K., where he's originally from.

- **VIDEO Savannah Guthrie Pregnant With 2nd Baby**

At his Bergenfield home, his wife seemed stunned and offered no comment Tuesday night.





Top News Photos of the Week

Published at 6:49 PM EST on Nov 10, 2015



Follow Jonathan Dienst



Get the latest from NBC 4 New York anywhere, anytime



YOU MAY LIKE

Promoted Links by Taboola



18 Times Queen Elizabeth Looked Pretty Annoyed With Meghan Markle

The Stir



Gamers around the world have been waiting for this

Forge Of Empires - Free Online Game



"Shark Tank" Star Reveals Brilliant Mortgage Payoff

The Easy Loan Site



FDNY EMS Lieutenant Dies in Upstate Hiking Accident



Armed Man Threatens Officers, Shot and Killed: NYPD



Subway Argument Ends in Slashing at Columbus Circle: NYPD

SPONSORED LINKS

- Are you a strategic thinker? Test your skills with millions (Sparta: Free Online Game)
- This Service in Newark is Making It Easy to Eat Healthier (HelloFresh)
- These 21 Baby Names Really Are the Worst of 2016 (The Stir)
- 11 Summer Foods Not to Eat (Weather.com)
- You're In For A Big Surprise in 2016 If

MORE FROM NBC NEW YORK

- Man Puts Sharp Object to Woman's Throat, Tells Her to Bend Over: NYPD
- Gang Beats Girls on DC Train Station and Posts Video on Social Media
- Man Slashed While Scolding Abusive Dog Handler: Cops
- 'Mass Hysteria' Causes Stampede at NYC Subway Station: NYPD

Leave Comments

0 Comments



Add a comment...

 Facebook Comments Plugin



Contact Us

Entertainment

Connect With Us



Privacy policy

 AdChoices