

**COUNTY OF SUFFOLK  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**



**THOMAS J. SPOTA  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

May 6, 2013

## Former teacher indicted for sexual relationship with teen

A 27 year old former teacher and coach at Bellport High School is expected to post bail this afternoon following his arraignment on an indictment charging him with have a sexual relationship with a 16 year old former student.

According to the indictment Jonathan Elsalam had sexual relations with the teenage female between December 2011 and May 8, 2012.

Elsalam pleaded not guilty this morning in Suffolk County court to two felony charges of rape in the third degree, four felony charges of criminal sexual act in the third degree and endangering the welfare of a minor, a misdemeanor. Judge Barbra Kahn set bail at \$5,000 cash, or \$25,000 bond.

Elsalam was suspended by the South Country School District last October when the district announced it was investigating "serious accusations" against him. According to published reports, the defendant was an assistant football coach and a social studies teacher at the school.

"This defendant violated a trust and stands accused of preying upon a teenage girl, one of his students," District Attorney Thomas Spota said. "After reviewing the evidence and listening to testimony about these alleged crimes, a grand jury indicted him and issued a warrant culminating in his arrest last Friday evening in Ridge."

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