

## Crossing guard faces sexual abuse charges

*by UPI*

BERWICK, Pa. - A Pennsylvania school crossing guard faces more than 1,000 charges of sexual assault involving seven children, police said.

Dale Hutchings, 59, was arrested Tuesday and was being held in lieu of \$300,000 bail, the Wilkes-Barre (Pa.) Times-Leader reported.

Police began investigating Hutchings after an 11-year-old girl went to police June 8 and said she had been molested by him, the newspaper reported. An investigation found more alleged victims, all younger than 13.

The alleged abuse took place between 1998 and 2007, the Times-Leader reported.

Hutchings worked as a crossing guard near a Berwick, Pa., elementary school and was a band booster. He also worked for the local ambulance association, the newspaper said.

Hutchings was charged with 305 counts of raping a child, 356 counts of aggravated indecent assault against a child under 13, and 356 counts of indecent assault against a child under 13, the Times-Leader reported.

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