

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts PLYMOUTH DISTRICT

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TIMOTHY J. CRUZ
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

MAIN OFFICE: 166 MAIN STREET BROCKTON, MA 02301 TEL: (508) 584-8120

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## FORMER ROCHESTER TEACHER CONVICTED OF RAPE

**PLYMOUTH** – A former Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School teacher was convicted of Rape today in Plymouth Superior Court following allegations he victimized a student, Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz has announced.

Andre Arsenault, 37, of Marion, was convicted of nine counts of Indecent Assault & Battery on a Person 14 or Over, one count of Assault with Intent to Rape, and one count of Rape following a three-day jury trial and an additional day of deliberations.

Arsenault is scheduled to be sentenced on December 19.

In October 2022, a former student of Arsenault's came forward to Rochester Police and informed investigators she had been groomed and victimized by her Culinary Art Teacher while in high school. The victim reported inappropriate behavior from Arsenault dating back to 2018 which ultimately culminated in his victimization of her. Arsenault's abuse took place between 2021 and 2022.

"Teachers in our community hold a great deal of power over our children and have the ability to help them succeed in life. Rather than working to better our community, Andre Arsenault used this privileged position to prey upon a student," DA Cruz said. "I am proud of the young woman who came forward and testified in order to secure Arsenault's conviction today. It is because of her bravery that he will no longer be in a position to victimize anyone else."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney James Duffy, and was investigated by the Rochester Police Department.