



# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **International Fugitive Arrested and Extradited to Pittsburgh After Eluding Police for 15 Years**

Pittsburgh, PA-- Special Agent in Charge Robert Jones of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Pittsburgh Field Office and Allegheny County Sheriff William Mullen announce the arrest of Moshe Journo.

In September 2004, Journo was arrested for an alleged sexual assault in Dormont, PA. He posted bond, was released, fled the country and remained a fugitive from justice for 15 years. On May 24, 2006, a criminal complaint charged Journo with rape for the same incident. The state criminal complaint is attached to this news release.

In 2006, FBI Pittsburgh obtained an unlawful flight to avoid prosecution warrant. Through joint efforts with local, state, federal and international law enforcement partners, the FBI and Allegheny County Sheriff's Office successfully located Journo, who is of Israeli descent, in Israel. In December 2017, he was arrested and detained by Israeli authorities on the rape charge from Western Pennsylvania. Journo appealed his extradition, but this week Special Agents with the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force and Allegheny County Sheriff's office, working with the FBI's office in Tel Aviv, traveled to Israel and returned with Journo.

"The FBI remains steadfast in searching for individuals trying to avoid prosecution," said Special Agent in Charge Robert Jones. "This case is an excellent example of how teamwork among local and international law enforcement agencies, including the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office, Allegheny County Police and Dormont Police are vital to ensuring criminals are tracked down and prosecuted. We will use all of our resources to find you."

"Today's arrest is another great example of the persistence demonstrated by the Sheriff's Office when conducting fugitive investigations. It also underscores the importance of working in collaboration with fellow law enforcement partners on all levels, and the critical work we can shoulder and accomplish together. The Sheriff's Office is extremely appreciative for the extraordinary efforts taken to bring overdue justice to this fugitive, an individual who has gone to extreme and appalling lengths to avoid prosecution for intolerable sex crimes," said Chief Deputy Kevin Kraus with the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office.



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The FBI is known around the world for its fugitive program and we work with local, state and federal law enforcement partners as well as international organizations like Interpol to capture criminals on the run. One of the primary focuses of the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office is to find and apprehend fugitives who have abandoned their obligation to the court. Together, both offices worked tirelessly to apprehend this suspect and bring him back to face the allegations.

Journo was taken to the Allegheny County Jail. This matter will be prosecuted by the State of Pennsylvania. The public is reminded that criminal complaints contain only charges and are not evidence of guilt. Defendants are presumed to be innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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