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NEWS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: May 7, 2021, 5:00pm
From: Patty Perlow, Lane County District Attorney
RE: Lisa Defluri

Lisa Defluri, a former Thurston High School teacher and coach was sentenced yesterday to 86 months in the Department of Corrections, with 42 months of post-prison supervision. She will be required to register as a sex offender for the remainder of her life. This case was the result of an excellent investigation by the Springfield Police Department who worked cooperatively with the Springfield Public School District in this matter.

This case is unfortunately not an unusual case in our community. Our office has a team of prosecutors who prosecute dozens of child sex abuse cases each year. The significance of a case like this is the position of trust Ms. Defluri was in when she committed this crime, which was an aggravating factor.

However, parents of children should always be aware that individuals who hurt children are often the same adults that the parents trust. Sexual offenders against kids routinely engage in grooming behavior over months and years, not just of the child, but also the family of that child, to gain increased access to the child alone. Parents of young children should start as early as possible discussing with children where it is ok to touch their body and help young children practice consent. Parents of older children and teens need to become experts in technology themselves and monitor the online and cell phone activity of their children regularly. As a community, we can recognize the early signs of an adult being inappropriate with a child and trust that our intuition is often right when it comes to these matters.

The Lane County District Attorney's Office is committed to holding offenders of child sexual abuse appropriately accountable and working alongside local law enforcement and community partners to ensure child sexual abuse is adequately addressed within the criminal justice system.

