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Deputy under arrest on multiple charges

By MARY HURST
Nassau Neighbors staff writer,

Nassau County Sheriff Tommy Seagraves arrested one of his own Thursday on multiple criminal charges, including molesting a male inmate in the Sheriff's Office evidence room.

Jarrett Wade Hodges, 36, a deputy since February 1998, was arrested on charges of official misconduct, tampering with evidence, battery and unnatural and lascivious acts.

Hodges was arrested after asking a 24-year-old jail inmate into the evidence room June 30.

Authorities said Hodges was playing a pornographic video that was found property in another case. Hodges fondled the victim, but stopped his actions when he realized the victim was wired, according to a news release.

Shortly after, Undersheriff Carl Woodle escorted Hodges from the evidence room.

According to Seagraves, Hodges handed Woodle a resignation letter and his keys. Woodle then took him to an interview room, where Hodges was read his rights and admitted to the allegations, according to the news release.

Sheriff's officials don't think any evidence has been tampered with, but Seagraves said in the release he called in the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to audit "high profile" items in the evidence room, such as guns, drugs and money.

Hodges's bond was set at \$100,002. He has been released on bail.

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