

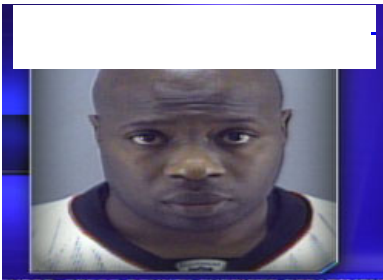
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3/30/06-Longview

## Longview Officer Arrested On Sexual Assault Charge

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A Longview Police Officer Trainee has been arrested and charged with sexual assault involving a minor. 31 year old Eric Dejuan Bradley was fired by the Longview Police Department yesterday after a formal complaint that he had a sexual relationship with a minor. Bradley was just days away from finishing his probationary training with the department, and becoming a full time officer.

"We received some information on Monday that this relationship had been taking place , he was called in , placed on administrative leave" said Longview Police Sergeant Shaun Pendleton.

Bradley had been with the department just over a year. News of his arrest has left fellow officers stunned.

"We do have a very specific and strict code of conduct, we're held to a higher standard than anyone else" Pendleton said.

According to the arrest affidavit, police began investigating a possible relationship between Bradley and a Longview High School student under the age of 17. Other officers actually informed the department of Bradleys relationship with a high school student, and when questioned the student confirmed the departments worst fears.

Police say the student received numerous inappropriate text messages from Bradley, one even telling her "he loved her". Later, the girl reportedly told officers she and Bradley had a sexual rendezvous at a local hotel. Police say after the allegations were made, it was important for them to take immediate action.

"We're a professional organization, unfortunately this did happen, we're not hiding anything about it we made the arrest and we're taking care of the problem" Pendleton said.

A criminal case against Eric Bradley is expected to be forwarded to the Gregg County District Attorney's office. Bob Hallmark reporting.

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