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Update: Police Chief Ordered No Contact With Alleged Rape Victim

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Shawn Goodwin



Written by Ashley Blackstone

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A Pope County judge set Plainview Police Chief Shawn Goodwin's bond Monday morning at \$80,000. Goodwin posted bail about an hour later. Goodwin is accused of raping a 13-year-old girl at his Russellville home in May 2006. He became chief in October. Goodwin's lawyer Mark Mobley says, "People that know Shawn know that he just doesn't have it in him. He's not that type of guy. Shawn is a solid person." Last week, a report was filed with police by the alleged victim and her parents. Police arrested Goodwin Friday, after he agreed to meet with them for questioning. He was given a polygraph test and failed. Detective Steve Barker says, "He denied the allegations. He was upset. I guess that is the best way to describe it. He was upset that I guess it came up." Russellville police say the teenage girl was babysitting Goodwin's three kids





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when Goodwin came home early and allegedly forced her to have sex with him. According to the incident report, the girl says the same thing happened two days later, but that she didn't report the crime because he threatened her by saying, "If you tell anyone, bad things will happen to

you and your family." Barker explains, "She's being seen by medical personnel that specialize in this. We've sent her down there and she's was also interviewed by the Arkansas Crimes Against Children." Barker says the 13-year-old girl isn't the only one to accuse Goodwin of rape. In 2001, a 16-year-old girl, who was also a babysitter for Goodwin, went to police claiming that he also forced himself on her. She later recanted her story. The charges were dropped. Mobley says, "If anybody ever took it seriously or thought there was any truth to it, they would have been doing what they did today. They would have done something." Barker plans to interview the woman again about the alleged relationship she had with Goodwin. In the meantime, Goodwin is not patrolling the streets of Plainview. He's been suspended with pay until the investigation is complete. The judge has ordered Goodwin to avoid contact with his alleged victim, her family, and anyone under the age of 18.

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