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NEW: Ex-cop gets two years in underage sex case

By Colin DeVries
Hudson-Catskill Newspapers

Published: Thursday, October 21, 2010 12:41 PM EDT

COXSACKIE — Nathan Van Fleet, the former police officer of Durham and Hunter convicted of sex abuse in February, was sentenced Thursday to two years in county jail.

Coxsackie Town Justice Thomas J. Fori imposed his sentence, the maximum penalty allowed by law, stating Van Fleet had "violated a special trust" as a police officer and violated an oath in which he swore to protect the citizens of the community.

Van Fleet was convicted of two counts of sexual misconduct, a class A misdemeanor, after a jury found him guilty of engaging in sex with a 16-year-old Tannersville girl while on and off duty as a police officer in September 2008.

Van Fleet was employed with Durham and Hunter police departments, but was terminated after his February conviction.

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Today's Weather

Catskill, NY

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7-day forecast

He still faces illegal weapons charges in Catskill Village Court. A hearing is scheduled for this afternoon.

State police took Van Fleet into custody immediately after sentencing.

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