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RIVERSIDE: Ex-cop convicted of sex charges in retrial



Anthony Wayne Fletcher

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A former Riverside police officer whose first conviction on sex charges was thrown out has been retried and found guilty again.

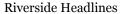
Anthony Wayne
Fletcher, 41, of
Eastvale, was convicted
in 2010 on six counts of

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He served a year in jail, but his conviction was thrown out last year after a court of appeals said the jury shouldn't have heard about Fletcher's discipline record as a Riverside police officer.

A second jury found Fletcher guilty Wednesday, Nov. 7, on three felonies and three misdemeanors related to the same crime. Because he already served his one-year sentence, he will not serve any additional time, but his five-year probation could be reinstated when he is sentenced Dec. 7. He will be required to register as a sex offender.

Fletcher worked as a Riverside police weapons expert, but was terminated after the department investigated the girl's allegations.

The girl came forward when she was 17 and reported that Fletcher had been fondling her breasts when he thought she was asleep. It started when she was 15 years old, she said.

She said she didn't want to come forward at first because she didn't want to upset relatives. She contacted police after hearing allegations that Fletcher was having an extramarital affair.

An appeals court ruled last year that the case against Fletcher was weak and said the accuser was motivated to lie.

But prosecutors have said Fletcher showed guilt when he was first confronted with the allegations and fled the state. He initially resigned from the Riverside Police Department, then rescinded his resignation and was later fired.

The jury this week deliberated for two days before finding Fletcher quilty on all charges.

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