

Ex-officer jailed for fondling female relative

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A former **Riverside** police officer was led away in handcuffs Friday to begin a one-year jail sentence for fondling a female relative.

Anthony Wayne Fletcher, 39, was sentenced to a year in **Riverside** County jail after being convicted of six charges. He also must register as a sex offender. Fletcher had faced up to four years in prison.

A jury found Fletcher guilty on three felony counts of lewd acts with a child for fondling the girl's breasts when he thought she was sleeping. He also was convicted of three misdemeanor counts of molesting a child under 18.

The crimes occurred during a two-year span. The girl is now 18.

Fletcher was arrested in December 2009 after a four-month investigation by Riverside County sheriff's deputies. The girl's allegations were corroborated by a friend and incriminating statements Fletcher said to former co-workers, prosecutors said.

Fletcher worked as a Riverside police weapons expert at the time of his arrest and fled after hearing the allegations. He was later terminated by the Police Department.

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Anthony Wayne
Fletcher