

Former deputy indicted in molestation case

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<#>A grand jury has indicted a former Henry County sheriff's deputy on multiple charges in connection with an alleged sexual relationship with a teenage girl.

<#>Carl Milton Maddox, Jr., 35, of McDonough, has been charged with aggravated child molestation, statutory rape, and two counts each of child molestation, and enticing a child for indecent purposes. Maddox is suspected of having an inappropriate relationship with a 15-year-old girl, according to police.

<#>Maddox, 35, the father of three children, was a 12-year, law-enforcement employee in Henry County. He worked from 1998 to 2005 with the sheriff's office, before joining the Henry Police Department, from June 2005 to February 2009. He returned to the sheriff's office in February 2009, and worked in public relations until his arrest, and dismissal, according to David McCart, chief deputy in the Henry County Sheriff's Office.

<#>Sheriff Keith McBrayer did not offer a reaction to the court proceedings involving his former deputy. "It's in the court system's hands now, and it should play out its course there," McBrayer said Thursday, after the indictment.

<#>Maddox was arrested Dec. 31 by Henry County Police when a complaint was leveled by the victim's mother, according to Henry County Police Capt. Jason Bolton.

<#>"Maddox was discovered bringing the victim home around 4 a.m.," Bolton said in January.

<#>Maddox is being held without bond in the Butts County Jail, due to his connections with law enforcement in Henry, according to McCart.

<#>In the initial days of the investigation, Maddox was represented by defense attorney Fred Jones. He is now represented by attorney Ricky Morris. Morris could not be reached for comment on the case Thursday. Neither could Henry County District Attorney Tommy Floyd.

<#>Henry County Police Chief Russell Abernathy said he was "certainly surprised and caught off guard by the allegations" against the former police officer.

<#>"It would be improper for me to make any comments regarding the allegations while the case is pending," he said. "I am sure the truth will come out when the case is adjudicated."