

Deputy fired, charged in sex with minor case

By Larry Chambers, Publisher
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Shane Allan Widner, 33, of Independence, a former sergeant for the Grayson County Sheriff's Department, was arrested last Wednesday and charged with sexual intercourse with a minor under age 13.



SHANE WIDNER

Sheriff Richard Vaughan said Widner was suspended after the allegations surfaced on Jan. 11 and terminated Jan. 13 after the charges were filed.

Vaughan said the Grayson County Department of Social Services received a complaint of the alleged sexual misconduct against one of his officers. He turned the investigation over to the Virginia State Police who investigated the case, along with Child Protective Services.

"The offense allegedly took place while Widner was off duty and had nothing to do with his official duties at the Sheriff's Office," Vaughan said. "However, the allegations are both shocking and disheartening. This is not a reflection of the other professional men and women of the Grayson County Sheriff's Office that continue to serve the citizens of Grayson County."

The Virginia State Police reported in a press release that Montgomery County Commonwealth's Attorney Brad Finch has been appointed as a special prosecutor in the case.

Widner is being held at the New River Valley Regional Jail in Dublin without bond pending his arraignment in Grayson County General District Court.