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LOCAL NEWS

Taft Police Officer Arrested For Sexual Assault

Posted: May 14, 2011 12:49 PM by Rashi Vats - rvats@kristv.com

TAFT- Chief John Landreth confirmed the arrest of one of his own police officers this morning. Armando Padilla, 22, was charged for sexual assault of a child and was also terminated from the Taft Police Department.

"This is disheartening. We are working hard to put the shine back on the badge in Taft and hold them accountable. If you're wearing a badge or not, we still hold you accountable," said Chief Landreth.

Around 6:30 p.m. yesterday, the Chief received a phone call from the victim's parents about Padilla. The police chief then called the Texas Rangers and both agencies started an investigation that lasted all night.

Chief Landreth says Padilla was called into the police station this morning around 8 a.m. and was arrested.

"He was cooperative," said Chief Landreth.

Padilla has been working with the Taft Police Department as a patrol officer for a year. There are now a total of 8 police officers in the department.

We'll have more tonight at 6!

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