



Warrensburg police officer facing sexual abuse charges arrested again after leaving court

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DECATUR - Warrensburg police officer Douglas H. Spensley, 42, was charged Friday in Macon County Circuit Court with one count of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child and two counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse for allegedly molesting a 9-year-old girl.

Spensley appeared Friday before Associate Judge James Coryell and waived arraignment on the charges. He had posted \$50,000 cash bail on his \$500,000 bond Thursday and been released from the county jail.

However, as Spensley walked out of court, he was met by a half-dozen Decatur juvenile detectives, who arrested him on a preliminary charge of possession of child pornography.

Macon County State's Attorney Jack Ahola said he was unsure Friday how many counts of child pornography will be filed. He said Spensley will appear in court today for a new bond to be set.

The investigation into Spensley's activities is ongoing, Ahola said.

Coryell scheduled a preliminary hearing on the original charges for Oct. 28 that will determine if there is probable cause to believe Spensley was involved in the acts that led to the charges. If a finding of probable cause is made, a hearing will be scheduled in December or January to determine if the case is ready for trial.

Springfield attorney Peter Wise is representing Spensley.

An arrest warrant for Spensley, which was issued Wednesday by Presiding Circuit Judge Theodore Paine, was unsealed Friday by Coryell at the request of the Assistant State's Attorney Elizabeth Dobson.

In the complaint for arrest warrant, Decatur juvenile detective James Wrigley said the alleged sexual assault occurred at Spensley's residence Oct. 9. He said Wednesday a police officer interviewed the 9-year-old at the Macon County Child Advocacy Center.

The girl stated she was in Spensley's care while her parents were out of town, Wrigley said. During the afternoon hours, she stated she was seated on Spensley's lap on a couch in his residence when he reached his hand down her pants and fondled her.

The charge of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child is based on that alleged action. If Spensley is convicted of the Class X felony, he would face a prison term of six to 60 years, an enhanced penalty because a child was the victim of the assault.

The aggravated criminal sexual abuse charges allege that Spensley fondled the girl twice more for the purpose of sexual arousal. They are Class 2 felonies, punishable by a term of probation, a fine up to \$25,000 or a prison term of three to seven years if convicted.

Spensley has been placed on unpaid administrative leave by the Warrensburg Police Department, pending in internal investigation and criminal proceedings.

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