

# BuffaloNews.com

## NFTA officer is charged with felony, suspended

### Accused of sending sexual image to girl younger than 17

By **Maki Becker**

Published: July 7, 2011, 12:41 PM

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14

Updated: July 7, 2011, 10:38 PM

A police officer with the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority was arrested Wednesday night and accused of sending a sexually explicit image of himself to a minor's cell phone, state police said Thursday.

John W. Ingham, 27, of Barker, was charged with one Class D felony count of first-degree disseminating indecent material to a minor and one Class A misdemeanor count of endangering the welfare of a child.

Ingham was immediately suspended without pay from his his job, said NFTA spokesman C. Douglas Hartmayer.

State police in Lockport last Wednesday received a complaint that Ingham had sent a sexually explicit image of himself from his cell phone to a girl's cell phone. Authorities would only say the girl is under 17.

State police opened an investigation in conjunction with the NFTA and uncovered information that led them to believe that Ingham sent the girl the image "in an attempt to induce the child to meet him for a sexual encounter," according to a statement from police.

Investigators said Ingham knew the girl from the community and not through his work as a law enforcement officer.

NFTA officials added the alleged acts all took place while Ingham was off duty.

"Nothing involved the NFTA computer system," Hartmayer said. "In no way was this done while he was on duty, allegedly."

Ingham has worked for the NFTA for a little more than three years.

Ingham was arraigned before Town of Lockport Judge Raymond Schilling and sent to Niagara County Jail on \$10,000 cash bail or \$20,000 secured bond. He is scheduled to appear in court at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

Investigators are trying to determine whether Ingham had any physical contact with the girl or any other minors, said State Police Lt. John Aquilina.

"We're asking anyone in the public to come forward and contact us," he said.

Anyone with information related to the case should call 434-5588 and ask for the Bureau of Criminal Investigation.

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## Comments

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Karma for sure!!! YOU get what YOU give & deserve!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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**DAVE MILBRAND, CUBA, NY** on Wed Jul 13, 2011 at 07:08 AM

FLAG AS INAPPROPRIATE

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"Over Officiating Jerks" comes to mind with this group of facility almost cops. Handing out tickets for expired inspecting stickers in the employee parking lots when a car a month gets stolen from those same lots was a common harassment. Working at Buffalo International Airport on 3rd shift for 19 years for one of the Airlines gave me plenty of stories about the NFTA police officers. You would think being an officer of the law would smarten a person up.

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**BRUCE BARRON, ALDEN, NY** on Fri Jul 8, 2011 at 12:23 PM

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