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California officer Lance Montgomery Mosher pleads no contest to count of lewd or lascivious acts with a child under the age of 14

[Sentenced](#), [Sexual Assault/Violence](#) [no comments](#)



Lance Montgomery Mosher

A former Salinas police officer made a plea deal last week, nearly 10 months after he was arrested after being accused of molesting a 12-year-old girl, according to Monterey County Superior Court records.

Lance Montgomery Mosher, 45, pleaded no contest Wednesday to one count of lewd or lascivious acts with a child under the age of 14 on the condition that he receives felony probation. The maximum penalty for this crime is one year in county jail.

Prior to entering his plea, Mosher, who was arrested Sept. 14, was facing charges of three counts of lewd or lascivious acts with a child under the age of 14, with a special allegation of substantial sexual conduct. Mosher, who was placed on paid administration leave when the allegations first surfaced in April 2010, resigned from the department on March 24.

[During his preliminary hearing in October](#), investigators testified that Mosher's brother had reported the allegations to police of sexually inappropriate conduct between the then-12-year-old girl and the Salinas police officer which occurred in 2007.

Juliet Peck, his defense lawyer, had said during the hearing that the girl's motivation in accusing her client was because of unhappiness with Mosher's relationship with her mother. Peck had also said that the girl was mentally ill and had borderline personality disorder.

According to court records, Mosher was told right before he changed his plea Wednesday that the maximum penalty if he violates probation is eight years in state prison and three years of parole supervision.

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