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ABI charges Montgomery police officer with sexual abuse and enticing minor



Submitted by Tom Ensey (/profile/46218/tom-ensey). Web news producer

Topics: <u>Crime (/category/story-categories/crime)</u>, <u>News (/category/story-categories/news)</u>





MONTGOMERY, AL (WSFA) - Alabama Bureau of Investigation authorities have arrested 34-year old Montgomery Police Officer Will Owens Jr., Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange confirmed.

Owens, who worked in the patrol division since Oct. 3, 2008, is charged with second degree sexual abuse and enticing a child to enter a vehicle/house for immoral purposes.

The first charge is a misdemeanor, the second a Class C felony.

The city turned the investigation over to the ABI for independent investigation after it received complaints. Owens was arrested Wednesday night and released on bond at 12:36 Thursday morning. The Montgomery Police Department accepted his resignation Wednesday night.

The Montgomery Department of Public Safety released this statement:

"The Montgomery Police Department initiated a disciplinary action against a police officer who is the subject of an Alabama Department of Public Safety Investigation requested by the MPD, and then Wednesday night received the officer's resignation.

The Alabama Bureau of Investigation charged the former police officer, Will Owens Jr., 34, or Montgomery with second-degree sexual abuse, a Class A misdemeanor, and enticing a child to enter a vehicle, house, etc., for immoral purposes, a Class C felony. Owens was jailed at the Montgomery County Detention Facility.

After receiving allegations against Owens in early February, MPD sought an independent investigation of the matter and asked that the ABI investigate, according to Montgomery Public Safety Director J. Christopher Murphy. Murphy expressed the city's appreciation to the ABI and

state Public Safety Department for their ready and capable response.

'There is a clear message here for all of Montgomery; wherever there is wrongdoing -- and especially within our own ranks -- we will vigorously investigate and take appropriate action,' said Murphy.

Police officers have great authority, and with that authority comes great responsibility. In such a position of public trust, there are clear consequences when the high standards the city of Montgomery sets are not met,' he said. 'At the Montgomery Police Department and throughout the Department of Public Safety, we are accountable to the people we serve.'

Owens was employed with the MPD Oct. 3, 2008, and was assigned to the Patrol Division.

Note: A criminal charge is an accusation. The defendant is assumed innocent unless and until proven guilty."

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littlemissperfect (http://pulse.yahoo.com/ JVXDMNS66TG2XHCK5N72UDNIC4)

I find it funny that everyone is so quick to jump the gun about race when it has absolutely nothing to to with this matter. First and foremost, A background check will reveal any information regarding any sexual offenses that the party may have. Was there any proof that he has a prior history of such a crime?---no. Secondly, if there was without a doubt factual evidence wouldn't he be in prison? is he?---once again no. Is there any proof that he his guilty of this crime?---no. I think some of you on here aren't aware of what the law of OUR land states. Scum of the earth, SOB, call him what you may but no one knows the truth but the parties involved and GOD. To speak on race is by far a low blow because this happens in every community. Being a minority with authority and getting mixed up in corruption is by far a stepping stone but it is more appealing to media when the party(ies) involved are African American. I agree that MPD needs to be tamed but that doesn't

mean that good people are not in the wrong places at the wrong time.

I hold my head up high and will continue to bless my campus and community with myappearance. I love my family and there is nothing that will ever change about that. Searching to see who has white friends or black friends is quite childish and for that matter should be looked into itself. Bad cop or Good cop proper investigation should have been performed if anyone on the force thought that he was corrupt and maybe then the alleged offense wouldn't be in the media today. My most humble heart goes to the alleged victim and her family and as always never judge before you know the truth. *BLESSINGS*

5 months ago (#comment-160693879)

Like (#) Reply (#)



Chavon German (http://www.facebook.com/people/Chavon-German/100000735632485)

As for the pending charges, you are innocent until proven guilty. All this negativity is unneccessary. Yes there are victims here! However, at this point we don't know who is the victim. Whether it is Will Owens Jr or the child. Either way, my thoughts and prayers are with the families involved in this. God is the lawyer, the doctor, even the judge in the court room. With that being said, people need to stop judging and pointing fingers.

5 months ago (#comment-160449525)

Like (#) Reply (#)



montgometyfinest

this shit happen everyday and we don't here about it. but since its a police. its a big deal, if he was just a everyday blue collar guy the girl would be just another victim

5 months ago (#comment-160168963) 1 Like (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



Guest

Comment removed.

5 months ago (#comment-160160047)

<u>Like (#)</u>



 $\underline{\textbf{Lecaris Skut Owens}} \ (\texttt{http://www.facebook.com/people/Lecaris-Skut-Owens/100000606067965}) \\$

dude you're so funny...you're the one who asked was he black...what did it matter what his race was...remember people wouldn't know how ignorant you are if you wouldn't say anything...& just because I don't have a lot white friend on facebook deosn't mean I don't have any because I play baseball, drink, hunt, and fish with my white friends all the time...don't judge until you know the whole story

5 months ago (#comment-160190985) in reply to Guest (#comment-160160047)

Like (#) Reply (#)



Lecaris Skut Owens (http://www.facebook.com/people/Lecaris-Skut-Owens/100000606067965)

Its a shame that only negative news gets this much of notice. Not ever have i seen this many comments on anything positive. All of the negative commenters should be ashamed! ESPECIALLY GEOFF50. ASSWHOLE! GO DO US ALL A FAVOR DIG A HOLE AND PUT YOUR HEAD IN IT LOOSER!

5 months ago (#comment-160158342)

Like (#) Reply (#)



DennisCLatham

color has much to do with all of the comments

I see no one has commented on the article about Thomas Wagner - probably because he's white.

when ever there is a black in trouble on wsfa web site? you people blow up the comments section with hatred. on white crimes? a peep is hardly heard from you people. and when I say you people? I mean you nasty acting hypocrites.

As far as all the hatefulness I see in these comments?

You all need to back hell out of your life and learn to listen and understand what is going on.

For those so called christians? this has nothing to do with flesh - this is all evil - GEEEZ and for the non christians ... this has everything to do with hatred.

5 months ago (#comment-160079074) 8 Likes (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



Louie Gravino (http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100000822255605)

all of you bashing geoff50, i find his remark as not being racist, like many said this is not about race its about the kids, the family members of the kid or kids, the officers family. yes i find it to be a lack of supervision, screening before they go through training and the fact that officers are human and make mistakes, but to do this to a child just kills me. when i was a kid a police officer was my hero. i live in miami and it goes on down here black, white, purple, green, miami pd is out of control like many in the usa. i keep up with pd all over this country and you guys dont have it that bad. believe you me this guys supervisor will be asked some questions. lets all pray for this country, i can remember the days of leaving your doors unlocked. its a shame we have prisons filled to the max and then some. i dont know the answer but its not getting any better.

5 months ago (#comment-160046955) 1 Like (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



skotslady

wow...one person mentions the word "black" and every cause-fighting, oh-no-he-didn't, chip wearing person comes out of the closet. He WAS black. Who gives a crap. He's not doing the black community a service by furthering the stereotype they themselves already complain about being tattooed with. What he did was wrong, no matter what his color, and if he's convicted, it's not the fault of the entire MPD. They did their job and caught the SOB. Everyone here should be a lot more concerned with the innocent child that was subjected to such sick behavior than whether or not their are somehow treading on his civil rights by pointing out his color...just sayin:)

5 months ago (#comment-159974071)

<u>Like (#) Reply (#)</u>



goodimes

He'll be taken good care of in Jail!! LOL

5 months ago (#comment-159958393)

Like (#) Reply (#)



DennisCLatham

that's all you care about? Is that he is taken care of in jail?

Nothing to say about the lives he has possibly ruined or destroyed? Nothing to say about fixing the problem?

Just that he will be taken care of in jail and a laugh \dots there's nothing funny about any of this \dots

Just goes to show - what type of people are walking around FREE.

5 months ago (#comment-160386808) in reply to goodimes (#comment-159958393) Like (#) Reply (#)



 $\underline{Yvette\ Barnett\ (\text{http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100000120593746})}$

So there is a bad cop in the bunch. Have anyone ever taken the time to think how many more are in the bunch? Where was the parents of the children involved? I am not saying what this man did was right by no means. All I am saying is we have to watch everyone these days. There is no one to trust especially when it come to our children. Priests, police officers, teachers, family members and who ever else who think they can get away with it will try it. Parents, watch your children. No one is exempt from causing pain, hurt and harm these days.

5 months ago (#comment-160122676) in reply to goodimes (#comment-150958393) Like (#) Reply (#) 5 Likes (#)



goodimes

He'll be taken care of in Jail! LOL

5 months ago (#comment-159957895) 5 Likes (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



tommy2

I have a lot of respect for the MPD and have had nothing but professional and good relations with the members of the force. It is the true sign of a professional department when they take action against the corrupt or criminals in their mist and that is what the MPD has done. It is hard to take seriously those denigrating the MPD without thinking they may have a grudge or fear their effectiveness. Judging by the tone and language used . . . it is probably their own activities and the resulting fear of getting caught by the MPD. Perfection is seldom found, but the pursuit thereof is evident in the MPD of today.

5 months ago (#comment-159939566) 4 Likes (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



1COOLBREEZE

This just awful. I personally know this guy and I am in total aww. Never in a million years would I have expected this from him. Just waiting for the full story to come out. I just pray for the (possible victim), as well as Will hoping that due justice will be served. To everyone leaving comments, I feel that you all are disqusted by what has taken place, but don't let a negative situation further seperate us as a community. This is a time when we should come together and brainstorm on how we can possibly put an end to these unfortunate, disgraceful events. Wishing you all a great day!

5 months ago (#comment-159910658) 16 Likes (#)

<u>Like (#)</u> Reply (#)



sam_iam

Where is the DUE PROCESS that you citizens demand. It was OMG poor Dee and San the evil cops then,,, so cops are damn if they do or damn if they don't... Give him his opportunity to defend himself prior to the woodshed please. Why are all police thought to be bad because of a few bad one... Should all family members of drug dealers be put in jail or condemned for one members actions.,, OF COURSE NOT... Each person no matter what is INNOCENT until PROVEN guilty. My thoughts and prayers go to the good police officers that are left to continue their jobs in the face of such turmoil and undue ridicule for all. Thank you to the officers that do what you have sworn to do....

5 months ago (#comment-159897149) 10 Likes (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



A56S

I appreciate your comment. My fiance is an MPD officer and he never understood why this guy was hired on in the first place. He has been saying Owens was bad news since he joined. There are good cops and bad cops just as there are good people and bad people.

5 months ago (#comment-159933293) in reply to sam iam (#comment-159897149) Like (#) Reply (#)

9 Like (#)

Lecaris Skut Owens (http://www.facebook.com/people/Lecaris-Skut-Owens/100000606067965)



(iif he/thought-he.was.such a bad cop.why didn't he let his superiors know...you don't even know the whole story...the girl(s) might have being lying about their age...& don't hide behind the computer put your name on here

5 months ago (#comment-160137132)

Like (#) Reply (#)

in reply to A56S (#comment-159933293) 2 Likes (#)



sam_iam

As always GUILTY until proven innocent by you idiots that demand your constitutional rights of due process. I hate that this has occurred again in our city. I thoughts and prayers with the good officers that are here protecting.. Just like any other city, job or family member each has the bad apples but no need to damn the rest due to the actions of the few...

5 months ago (#comment-159895151) 3 Likes (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



STG22

What officer is going to be next?

5 months ago (#comment-159875613) 1 Like (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



STG22

What Officer is going to be next on the news next week?

5 months ago (#comment-159873539) 4 Likes (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



STG22

WOW wonder what Officer is going to be on the news next week?

5 months ago (#comment-159873323) 1 Like (#)

Like (#) Reply (#)



$\underline{Yvette\ Barnett}\ (\texttt{http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100000120593746})$

Officer? Its possible for another officer but lets not limit it to their field. Lets see now, priest, teachers, family members, or maybe doctors or lawyers. My point is everyone should be watched when it comes to our children.

 $\underline{5 \text{ months ago (\#comment-160125154)}} \quad \underline{\text{in reply to STG22 (\#comment-150873323)}} \qquad \underline{\text{Like (\#)}} \quad \underline{\text{Reply (\#)}}$



STG22

Yvette your right, but I was refering to for the past three weeks there has been an MPD Officer on the news for wrong doing.

5 months ago (#comment-160501564) in reply to Yvette Barnett (#comment-160125154) Like (#) Reply (#)



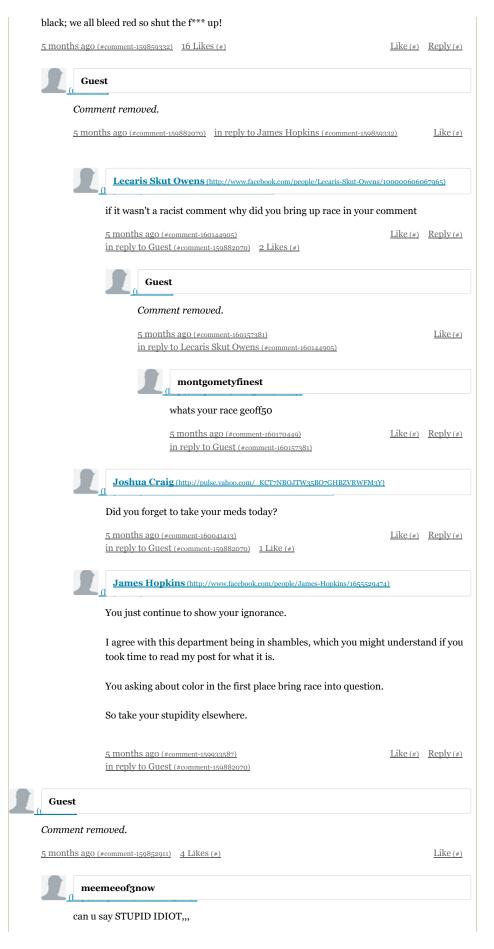
James Hopkins (http://www.facebook.com/people/James-Hopkins/1655529474)

What the hell is wrong with that department.

A full scaled inquiry needs to be held on the entire MPD. We keep getting stories like this every other week. We have abuse, breaking into the wrong home, identity theft, and now sexual abuse of a minor.

There is something fundamentally wrong with Montgomery's Police.

To Geoff: Black or white doesn't matter. Keep your ignorance to yourself. Color is color; white and





FLYCHICK

It shouldn't matter what color he is especially when it comes to abusing a child. I wonder what's your race.



Guest

Comment removed.

<u>5 months ago (#comment-159879462)</u> <u>in reply to FLYCHICK (#comment-159859478)</u> <u>Like (#</u> 1 Like (#)



Lecaris Skut Owens (http://www.facebook.com/people/Lecaris-Skut-Owens/1000006060...

you don't even know if the charges brought against him are true but I guess it's guilty until proven innocent...and if the city is that bad then leave...& if you feel like that don't hide behind a screen name

<u>5 months ago (#comment-160156429)</u> in reply to Guest (#comment-159879462) Like (#) Reply (#)



parent95

i agree that most people do not know the whole story but do not judge the minor. She was a victim of a crime committed think about her feelings and what she is going through. Also, you do not know who she is so you can not say if she was lying. Put yourself in her shoes or if you have a daughter think about if it was her.

5 months ago (#comment-160272561) in reply to Lecaris Skut Owens (#comment-160156429) <u>Like (#)</u> Reply (#)

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