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TheNewsDesk**Former police captain indicted**

BY KEITH EPPS

A former Fredericksburg police captain who resigned in January after being arrested in Stafford County was indicted Monday on two felony charges.

Brent Mitchell Taylor, 46, is charged with using a computer to solicit a minor and crimes against nature.

The direct indictments handed down by a Stafford grand jury Monday followed a quietly conducted investigation that began after Taylor's initial arrest on Jan. 7.

Taylor was charged in January with contributing to the delinquency of a minor, a misdemeanor.

Stafford authorities said they questioned a 17-year-old Fairfax boy a deputy saw walking on U.S. 17 early that morning.

The boy told police he had accidentally locked himself out of a room at the Motel 6 on Warrenton Road, but said the man who had rented the room would be returning later.

Taylor was arrested when he returned to the room later that morning and was released on a summons. A trial on the misdemeanor charge had already been set for April 20 in Stafford Juvenile and Domestic Court.

Taylor was the head of the city's detective division at the time of his arrest.

He was immediately placed on administrative leave with pay, where he remained until resigning from the department on Jan. 20.

Taylor had been with city police for 24 years and was promoted to captain in October 2006. He lives in southern Stafford.

The new felony charges involve the same teen as before. Police said previously that the two had met on the Internet and agreed to get together, and Taylor picked the boy up in Fairfax without the permission of the boy's parents.

The solicitation charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison, and the crimes against nature charge carries a potential five-year sentence.

However, convicted first-time offenders rarely get anything close to the maximum penalty.

The latter charge indicates that police believe Taylor had sexual contact with the boy. The indictments list Jan. 6 or 7 as the offense dates of all the charges.

City police spokeswoman Natatia Bledsoe said Sheriff Charles Jett called police chief David Nye to inform him of Taylor's arrest the morning that it happened and city police immediately began its own internal investigation.

That investigation is complete, Bledsoe said, but the results are not being made public.

Court records indicate that Taylor will receive a \$2,500

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personal recognizance bond once he is arrested.

Mark Gardner and Ted Butler are listed as his defense attorneys, and Jim Peterson is prosecuting the case.

Keith Epps: 540/374-5404  
kepps@freelancestar.com

By Newsroom Staff on March 5th, 2012 4:22 pm

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