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Modesto Police Officer Robert Hodges Arrested for Sexual Molestation

by [Chris Smith](#) on October 23, 2012

Modesto, CA- This evening, Modesto Police detectives arrested a Modesto Police officer on several felony sexual molestation charges. The investigation has now been forwarded to the Stanislaus County District Attorney's office for prosecution.

On Monday, October 22nd, Modesto Police were made aware of allegations of several prior sexual molestation incidents committed by an employee of the Police Department. A criminal investigation was immediately launched and investigators spent the day following-up on the reported allegations. This evening investigators were able to find corroborating evidence and obtained an arrest warrant for 40-year-old Robert Hodges, a 15-year veteran police officer the Department. Hodges recently served as a police sergeant assigned to patrol.

It is alleged Hodges sexually molested a female victim, who was under 18-years-old at the time the incidents took place. Investigators determined the allegations occurred between 2009 and 2010. The victim in this case is a family member of Hodges. None of the incidents occurred while Hodges was on-duty under the authority as a police officer.

The identity of the victim and specific information regarding the allegations will not be released, in order to protect the confidentiality of the victim and maintain the integrity of the investigation.

Late this evening Hodges was arrested at a residence in Oakdale. Modesto Police requested the assistance of deputies from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's office to make the arrest. Hodges was taken into custody

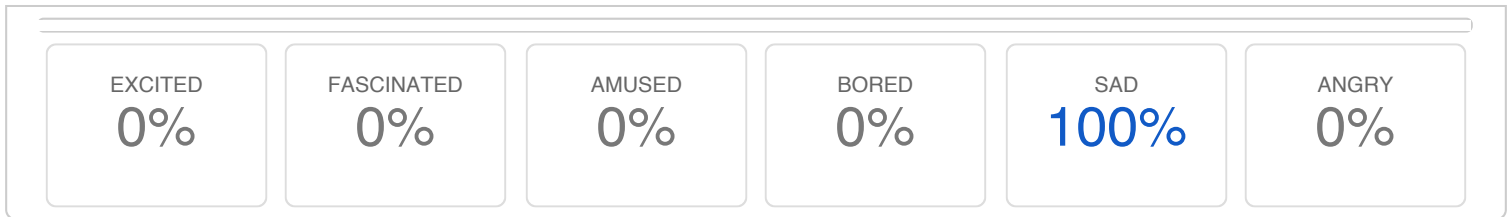
without incident and booked into the Stanislaus County Jail on multiple felony sexual molestation charges.

“I was shocked to learn of the allegations. No person is above the law and we will professionally investigate criminal complaints, no matter what the occupation of the suspect is,” said Interim Police Chief Gene Balentine. “We have a high expectation of our employees and will hold them accountable for their actions, whether they are on-duty or off-duty.”

Hodges was placed on paid administrative leave until the conclusion of this administrative investigation.

This case is now in the hands of the Stanislaus County District Attorney’s office and all questions regarding this case will be referred to the District Attorney’s office.

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Chris Smith worked in the newspaper industry since he was a boy. As a teenager, he had a regular newspaper route, delivering the day's news to the people of Houston, TX. He graduated from the University of Houston in 2009 with an Economics degree. In his spare time, he enjoys playing the guitar and drinking tea. Connect with him on Google+ at [+Chris Smith](#)

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