

Beaverton Police Department fires officer facing charges of food stamp fraud, child rape, agency says

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warren-christopher.jpg

A Beaverton police officer, facing criminal charges of food stamp fraud and child rape, was fired from his position with the agency last month, according to the department.

Christopher R. Warren, 33, was terminated on Aug. 9, after Beaverton police completed an internal investigation related to charges the officer faced in Washington County, said Officer Mike Rowe, a Beaverton police spokesman. Warren was placed on paid administrative leave in April after he was arrested on accusations of unlawfully obtaining public assistance, unlawfully obtaining food stamps, theft and unsworn falsification. He pleaded not guilty to the charges April 30 in Washington County Circuit

Court.

The termination is the second time Warren has been fired from Beaverton police, according to the agency. He was first fired in 2011 but was reinstated later that year, the department said.

Beaverton police did not release information about Warren's termination because it is a personnel matter, Rowe said. He declined further comment.

The Oregonian requested records related to internal investigations into Warren, but the city denied the request. The Oregonian has appealed the denial to the Washington County District Attorney's Office.

While he was on administrative leave in May, Warren, who lives in Vancouver, was arrested on accusations of sexually abusing a 5-year-old girl. Warren in June pleaded not guilty to first-degree rape of a child in Clark County Superior Court, court staff said.

Warren joined the Beaverton Police Department in 2004 after spending two years as a reserve officer. He was placed on paid leave in September 2009 when Multnomah County authorities investigated claims that he inappropriately touched a girl when he was 17, officials said. The case was dropped in April 2010.

While Warren was on leave, Multnomah and Washington County investigators looked into allegations that he failed to report suspected child abuse involving one of his childhood friends, according to a memo from Multnomah County prosecutors detailing the investigation. The friend was later convicted of sexually abusing three girls.

Warren was fired from the Beaverton Police Department in January 2011 following an internal investigation and then reinstated nine months later, police said. The city reinstated Warren, Rowe

said, after the parties reached an agreement. He was assigned as a desk officer, an assignment he worked until he was placed on leave in April, police said.

As part of his assignment, police said, Warren spent a couple hours a week at the Beaverton Police Activities League, which runs youth programs aimed at reducing crime and improving relationships between kids and law enforcement.

Warren allegedly applied for food stamps in Oregon after he was fired even though he was living in Vancouver. He is accused of also continuing to collect food stamps three months after he rejoined the police department.

He is scheduled to go to trial in Washington County on Sept. 17.

Emily E. Smith of The Oregonian staff contributed to this report.

-- Rebecca Woolington