

Former officer faces charges for explicit texts with 13-year-old abc27.com

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A former Adams County police officer is facing charges for allegedly sending sexually explicit text messages to a 13-year-old girl.

Dan Lanious, 49, was a patrolman with the Carroll Valley Police Department until he resigned in the summer of 2013, right around the time state police began their investigation.

According to state police, the victim's mother told authorities that her daughter had met Lanious while volunteering at South Middleton Township Fire Company #35 in Boiling Springs in July 2013.

Near the end of July, the victim said that she received a text message from Lanious out of nowhere. She believed he got her phone number from her Facebook page.

The victim told police that the text messages quickly became very flirtatious and sexual. When asked about the content of the messages, the victim said that Lanious often mentioned wanting to have sex with her.

The victim said the text messages stopped on August 13, 2013. When asked why they stopped, the victim's mother said that she caught the last text, which read, "...I wish you were home...I wish you were on birth control...I have a condom."

The victim's mother, who didn't know who Lanious was at the time, replied to the message and said she hoped the sender wasn't over 18 because her daughter was only 13.

A day or two later, the victim's mother said she was visited by Lanious's son, who told her, "My dad never let me use his car, but he let me use it tonight so I could come over and talk you out of doing anything."

The victim's mother said it was clear that Lanious sent his son over to find out if she would be going to police.

On September 26, 2013, state police interviewed Lanious at his home. When asked about the incident, Lanious admitted to sending sexual text messages to the victim. He denied ever having sexual contact with her or talking to her sexually in person; he said it was all done through text messages.

Police said Lanious also admitted to sending his son over to the victim's house to talk to her mother. According to officials, Lanious apologized repeatedly for his actions and said what he did was very stupid.

Lanious was charged with corruption of minors. A preliminary hearing date has not been

scheduled.