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PM EDT

UPDATE: Sequatchie County Constable Indicted On Child Rape

A Sequatchie County constable is in jail tonight charged with a very serious crime.

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation accuses 61-year-old David Broome of raping an 8-year-old girl. A Sequatchie County grand jury indicted Broome yesterday and he was arrested shortly after.

Privately, people who know Broome, said they are stunned by this development.

The TBI claims the sexual contact happened at Broome's Signal Mountain home in Sequatchie County.

He lives in an upscale home behind a tall, black gate.

NewsChannel 9 knocked on the front door for comment, but no one answered. The TBI alleges the sexual contact happened between December of 2012 and this January.

Broome remains in the Sequatchie County jail without bond.

But the Sequatchie Sheriff's Department had nothing to do with this case -- it was all TBI. NewsChannel 9 spoke with Sheriff Ronnie Hitchcock about the role of a constable -- he used to be one for 20 years.

Sheriff Hitchcock said, "The constable has the same authorities that we have. They can patrol, they can answer calls, they can serve papers."

Broome came into office in March of 2010.

He was appointed to fill the term of Clyde Harvey, who passed away.

In August of that same year he won the election for constable of District 8.

Sheriff Hitchcock elaborated on the position, "Constable is an elected position. He's elected by the people, I do not have any control over the constables. They're just an elected official."

And the Sequatchie County Commission has limited control over the position in general. It fields citizen complaints.

In this case, Commission Chairman Tommy Johnson said Broome's indictment and arrest came up in a meeting last night. Johnson said the commission must wait while the court proceedings progress.

On a personal note, Johnson said, "I'm very regretful and very sorry for what has happened. The greatest thing I can do is pray for him, the Broome family and the victim's family."

Broome is scheduled to be in court on Friday.

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A Sequatchie County constable faces child rape charges.

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation arrested 61-year-old David Broome Monday night.

A Sequatchie County grand jury indicted him on allegations he had sexual contact with an 8-year-old girl at his Signal Mountain home.


The alleged incident happened between December 2012 and January 2013.

Broome was booked into the Sequatchie County Jail without bond. He is scheduled to appear in court this Friday.

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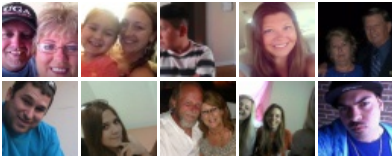
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