

Former police officer gets three-year sentence

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A former Ashland City police officer who was arrested in February 2013 for allegedly drugging one girl and sexually abusing another girl was given a three-year sentence on Monday during a sentencing hearing.

John Clayton "J.C." Fields II, of Ashland City, was originally charged with one count of aggravated sexual battery and three counts of child abuse/neglect.

During a hearing in April, Fields entered a no contest plea to one count of aggravated assault and three counts of child abuse/neglect.

On Monday, Circuit Court judge George Sexton ruled that Fields was to serve a three-year sentence on the aggravated assault charge and 11-month, 29-day sentences on the three counts of child abuse/neglect charges, which will run concurrent with the aggravated assault charge.

Assistant district attorney Bob Wilson said Fields will file an appeal with the Court of Criminal Appeals.

Fields will not begin serving any time until the Court of Criminal Appeals hears the case.

Fields was accused of drugging a 9-year-old girl, who told authorities he gave her a controlled substance, which caused her to have slurred speech and to be unsteady on her feet.

Blood tests revealed the presence of the controlled substance in her system. The incident reportedly took place at Fields' home.

The other case involved a 15-year-old girl, who was 13 when the incident occurred.

Fields was also accused of sexually assaulting the girl, whom he was babysitting.

The girl told authorities she fell asleep on a couch at Fields' home and when she woke up she was in his bed and he was sexually abusing her.

Fields remains free on a \$100,000 bond, pending the appeal, Wilson said.

The same bond conditions remain in effect: Fields can have no contact with the victims and not be in possession of any firearms.

Fields served as an Ashland City police officer from 2001 to 2008. He left the department to work in Iraq as a contractor for the military. He was hired as a reserve officer for the department in April 2012, but was later dismissed.