## Chicopee police officer appeals termination following accusations of sexual relationship with teen

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A preliminary hearing for former Chicopee police officer Michael Gendron was held in Springfield on Wednesday.

Gendron was fired last month by Mayor Richard Kos Sept. 22 following a disciplinary hearing that was held on Sept. 18. Gendron is now appealing to get his job back.

On Wednesday, lawyers looked over evidence and continued the case until Jan.14. Gendron was initially suspended without pay before Kos made the decision to fire him.

Gendron was accused of having a sexual relationship with a 17-year-old girl, which technically is not illegal. In Massachusetts, the legal age of consent is 16 years old.

The attorney representing the victim's parents, Daniel Kelly, said the mother caught the 43-yearold police officer naked on the floor with her daughter when she came home early one day.

Gendron had previously been given a year-long restraining order and told to end all communications with the 17-year-old victim. The restraining order also bans him from possessing a firearm.

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