

Corrections officer accused of sexually assaulting a child

nwfdailynews.com

2014

MILTON — A Florida Department of Corrections officer will be in court next month after his arrest on 10 counts of sexual assault on a child under 12 years of age.

Billy Chad Gibson, 37, was arrested Feb. 13 following an investigation by the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office. Gibson is accused of sexually assaulting a minor between 2012 and 2013.

Gibson has worked for the Department of Corrections since 2005. He was released from his duties Feb. 14 following his arrest.

"Any time an employee has an arrest or any issue with the law our department evaluates it and recommends a course of action," said Misty Cash, deputy communications director with the Florida Department of Corrections.

The victim reported the assaults to the Department of Children and Families. The alleged acts include putting lotion on Gibson as well as looking at "dirty stuff" on the computer.

"The victim told the interviewers (the victim) would see girls and boys naked and kissing," Gibson's arrest report states.

The minor attempted the same search while at school and got in trouble, which was verified by the school resource officer, the report says.

The victim told investigators the abuse occurred multiple times throughout the two years and Gibson assaulted the victim "a hundred times" during the last encounter in July 2013, the report states.

Gibson spoke with investigators Feb. 12 to discuss the allegations. He was arrested the following day and taken into custody on a \$1.5 million bond and a no contact order with the minor.

Gibson is scheduled to appear in court in Milton on March 6 for arraignment.

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