



Lesser charges recommended amid Trooper investigation

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LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - Misdemeanor charges.

That's what one prosecutor is recommending be brought against a former state trooper. Donald Crawford suddenly resigned from Kentucky State Police in August, after sex abuse allegations surfaced from a traffic stop involving a minor in Livingston County

KSP conducted their own investigation recommending charges of official misconduct and sex abuse first degree and Commonwealth Attorney GL Ovey sees something else.

30 days later, Commonwealth Attorney, GL Ovey says his investigation is complete, finalizing his decision.

Ovey reviewed the investigation documenting accusations of misconduct and sexual abuse in a Livingston County parking lot, "This officer made a serious mistake, a serious lapse in judgment."

But the case will go now to the Livingston County Attorney's office, "As soon as we conclude today, I will forward this entire case file with all investigative interviews to Mr. Riley's office," says Ovey.

Ovey is handing over all materials. He says he's recommending lesser charges, "These charges in my opinion misdemeanors are warranted and they should be pursued."

Recognizing though some people make mistakes, he say public servants are different, "I've always believed a police officer, elected official should be held to a higher standard."

I spoke with Trooper Crawford's lawyer, Del Pruitt over the phone. He says although he hasn't received all the evidence, he didn't believe any felony charges would be recommended, and wasn't sure if Crawford would be guilty of any misdemeanors.

I also got in touch with the Livingston County Attorney, Brian Riley. He told me he hasn't received the evidence either, but he would most likely recuse or remove himself from the case because of past professional interactions with Crawford.

Because the case hasn't been closed and involves a juvenile, the details to the case are sealed right now.

The initial investigation was completed by Kentucky State Post 2 because Crawford worked at Post One.