Deputy accused of trying to solicit sex with minor

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• CINCINNATI —A Hamilton County sheriff's deputy was arrested early Wednesday in Northern Kentucky.

Deputy John Kamphaus, 40, is charged with one count of prohibited use of electronic communication system to procure a minor/peace officer/sex offense.

Kenton County police said Kamphaus was chatting online with what he thought was a 15-year-old girl in Independence, but was actually a Internet Crimes Against Children officer.

Kamphaus was arrested when he went to meet the girl at Mills Road Park around 1:30 a.m., police said.

Police said officers have been chatting with Kamphaus for a couple of years, but that there had never been an attempted meeting until this one.

Officers didn't know Kamphaus was a deputy until his arrest, police said.

Kamphaus works as a corrections officer for the sheriff's office. A spokesman said he's been with the sheriff's office since 1996.

Kenton County Police Chief Brian Capps expressed his disappointment.

"As another law enforcement officer I just describe it as very disappointing. Kind of a let down that someone in our profession would be involved in this kind of thing," Capps said.

Kamphaus has been placed on unpaid administrative leave at the sheriff's office, the spokesman said.

Kamphaus is out on \$2,500 bond.

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