

Birmingham police officer charged with 4 counts of child sex abuse

By Carol Robinson | crobinson@al.com | Follow on Twitter on October 09, 2014 at 3:55 PM, updated October 09, 2014 at 4:30 PM

al.com

ALABASTER, Alabama - A Birmingham police officer was arrested in Alabaster today on child sex abuse charges.

Joshua Herbinger, 29, is charged with four counts of sexual abuse of a child less than 12 years old, said Alabaster Police Chief Curtis Rigney. The warrants were issued against Herbinger this afternoon.

Rigney said the young female victim reported the abuse to the School Resource Officer at her school. Police launched their investigation one week ago. "Detectives were notified immediately and the investigation has resulted in today's arrest," Rigney said.

The chief said the victim is not related to Herbinger. The abuse, police said, is reported to have happened over the past two to three years.

Herbinger, who has been a Birmingham police officer for about nine years, was arrested at Alabaster police headquarters this afternoon.

He will be transferred to the Shelby County Jail where he will be held on \$80,000 bond.

Rigney said the investigation is ongoing and more charges could be filed. Anyone with information about the case is asked to call Alabaster police Det. Andrew Pounds at 205-663-7401.