

## Watervliet cop accused of sex crime at school where he worked - WRGB CBS6 - News - Top Stories

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2015 Cop Pedophile Joshua Spratt



Updated: Monday, July 27 2015,  
07:05 PM EDT

WATERVLIET -- The Watervliet Police Chief said Monday that a school resource officer, assigned to the high school, is on paid administrative leave.

Albany County District Attorney David Soares said Officer Joshua Spratt is charged with criminal sexual act in the third

degree for allegedly having sexual contact with a 16 year old student. Spratt is also charged with endangering the welfare of a child and official misconduct.

"There's three victims, only one that legally we can pursue on the criminal sex act and that's the individual who is under the age of 17," said DA Soares.

The DA said Spratt also is accused of having sexual contact with a 17 year old student but because of her age, he's not charged. Soares said another 17 year old student was a witness.

New York State Police are investigating this case. The Watervliet Police Chief said he turned the investigation over to them.

"I didn't feel it would be appropriate for us to investigate this so we've been cooperating with State Police since we learned of the allegations," said Watervliet Police Chief Ron Boisvert.

Spratt pled not guilty in court Monday. Outside court, Spratt's defense attorney told reporters he heard the charges for the first time as the indictment was unsealed and that it's too soon to talk about his clients defense. He said his focus Monday was to get his client out of jail.

"He is a 10 year veteran of the Watervliet Police, a 12 year veteran of the Army Reserve. Two deployments. I wanted to get him home to his family. Now we can work on his defense," said Andrew Safranko, Spratt's attorney.

"I need to reestablish and reassure my students that this is a safe place, the adults are here for them and to support them," said Watervliet Superintendent Dr. Lori Caplan.

Caplan said Spratt was assigned to the Watervliet High School as a resource officer for two years. She said he is employed by the police department, not the school.

"We welcomed somebody into our school whose role was to keep our students safe and if indeed these allegations are true he played upon that role," said Caplan.

Captain said she will open the school to students Wednesday afternoon at one so they can come speak with trusted teachers and counselors.

The District Attorney said anyone who has any information should call State Police at 518-783-3211.

UPDATE: A Watervliet police officer who served as a school resource committee has been charged with criminal sex act in the third degree, endangering the welfare of a child and official misconduct.

Joshua Spratt pleaded not guilty to the charges on Monday. Bail was set at \$50,000 and orders of protection were issued for two alleged victims and one witness who were not named.

Spratt will be back in court next month on the charges.

ALBANY - A law enforcement officer has been arrested and is currently in the Albany County Jail.

The Albany County Sheriff's Office confirm that Joshua Spratt, 34, an officer with the Watervliet Police Department is currently in the Albany County jail. Sheriff Craig Apple tells CBS6 that Spratt's indictment is sealed and that his arraignment is scheduled for Monday.

However ,two law enforcement sources with knowledge of the case tell CBS6 that Spratt is facing 2 counts of Official Misconduct, and Criminal Sex Act in the third degree.

The Watervliet School District's says Spratt worked as a school resource officer.