

# **Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office deputy arrested on child porn, domestic violence charges**

A Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office deputy has been arrested on suspicion of domestic violence and possession of child porn. (Annie Blanks/ablanks@pnj.com)

A Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office deputy has been arrested on suspicion of domestic violence and possession of child porn after a citizen complaint led to a Florida Department of Law Enforcement investigation.

Jeffery Perkins, a sergeant with the Sheriff's Office who worked in Navarre, was arrested Friday on charges of reckless display of a firearm and aggravated assault – domestic violence. A search warrant was obtained for his cellphone that day, and he was subsequently charged with eight counts of possession of child pornography, according to Chris Williams, assistant special agent in charge with the FDLE.

Perkins was taken into custody in Escambia County and will be transferred to Santa Rosa County on Wednesday.



**From left to right: State Attorney Bill Eddins, Santa Rosa County Sheriff Bob Johnson and Assistant Special Agent in Charge for FDLE Chris Williams speak at a press conference on Tuesday, Dec. 18, announcing the arrest of SRSO Deputy Jeffery Perkins. (Photo: Annie Blanks/ablanks@pnj.com)**

At a press conference Tuesday announcing the arrest, Santa Rosa County Sheriff Bob Johnson said Perkins had been a sworn law enforcement officer since 2009 and had no disciplinary history prior to Friday's arrest. He is currently being terminated by the sheriff's office due to his arrest.

"We have around 330 sworn officers at this agency who put their lives on the line for the citizens of Santa Rosa County," Johnson said. "Every once in a while, we have something like this, and I felt it was important as soon as it came to a close to ... tell the citizens of Santa Rosa County that law enforcement is going to go on, as usual."

Williams and Johnson declined to go into detail about the charges, including the incident that led to the arrest, citing an ongoing investigation. Williams said a citizen complaint was filed against Perkins on Wednesday that launched the investigation, but wouldn't elaborate on what that complaint involved.

State Attorney Bill Eddins said his office plans to "aggressively prosecute" Perkins, particularly on the child porn charges.

"We will be seeking prison time," Eddins said.



Perkins' mugshot is exempt from public records under Florida law, but he made his first court appearance Tuesday via video with Circuit Judge Joyce Williams.

He's being held without bond on the child porn charges.

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**Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office deputy Jeffery Perkins, top left, makes his first appearance before Judge Joyce Williams in video court at the Escambia County Courthouse in Pensacola on Tuesday, December 18, 2018. (Photo: Gregg Pachkowski/[gregg@pnj.com](mailto:gregg@pnj.com))**