

# Appalachia police officer accused of sexually abusing child

WISE, Va. —

A Southwest Virginia police officer was arrested Wednesday night after authorities said he sexually abused a child.

Benjamin Roger Lawson, 46, was charged with three counts of indecent liberties with a child. According to the arrest warrant obtained by News 5, Lawson inappropriately touched a girl multiple times between December 2018 and May 2019.

The arrest warrant said the victim told authorities she told Lawson to stop on multiple occasions but he continued. Lawson is being held in jail without bond. News 5 has confirmed he is a police officer with the Appalachia Police Department.