

Former D.C. police detective charged with sexually assaulting girl

[Keith L. Alexander](#)

A retired D.C. police homicide detective is in jail in Northern Virginia on charges that he sexually assaulted a child over a period of two years.

Prince William County police arrested John Pleasant Johnson Jr., 55, late Wednesday. Police say he repeatedly sexually assaulted a girl who was between 12 and 14 when the offenses are alleged to have occurred, between May 2018 and April 2020.

Authorities charged Johnson with 11 counts, including aggravated sexual battery, indecent liberties, forcible sodomy and object sexual penetration.

Authorities alleged that the offenses occurred at a "residence" in Woodbridge but did not give further details. Public records show that Johnson has lived in Woodbridge since 2016. Police said Johnson and the girl were acquainted.

At a bond hearing Thursday, a judge denied Johnson bail and ordered that he remain in jail until his next hearing, on June 15.

Efforts to identify Johnson's attorney were unsuccessful. A call to Johnson's family members was not returned.

[*Former D.C. police officer sentenced to 7 years for prostituting teen girls*](#)

According to a D.C. police representative, Johnson started working as an officer in 1987 and retired in 2018. A month after he retired, Johnson returned to work as a senior sergeant until he left again in 2019.

In a statement, D.C. Police Chief Peter Newsham said it was “disheartening to think that a former member of this Department could be involved in such deplorable conduct. Our thoughts are with the survivor and her family.”

Johnson had spent years as a detective and worked his way up to sergeant before he retired.

Several other officers on the D.C. police force also have been charged with sexual crimes involving youths. Among them is Linwood Barnhill Jr., a longtime D.C. police officer who was charged in 2013 with prostituting two teenage girls and possessing child pornography. In 2014, Barnhill pleaded guilty and was sentenced to seven years in prison.

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