

## Charges against Chandler cop reduced

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### 2014 Cop Domestic Violence Scott Allen Pennell

The Maricopa County Attorney's Office has dropped felony charges against a Chandler police officer allegedly involved in a violent fight with his live-in girlfriend.

Motor Officer Scott Allen Pennell was arrested last month and charged with felony charges of aggravated assault and kidnapping.

Pennell's live-in girlfriend said they got in a verbal fight in their kitchen because he was allegedly opening her mail, according to the police report.

His girlfriend said he pushed her, pinned her to the couch and attempted to strangle her. The victim said once she bit his hand in an effort to break free, he threatened to damage her vehicle.

According to the police report, Pennell called the victim's mother, who lives in Vermont, and told her to get her daughter out of his house and told her, "I'm going to f----- kill her. I'm going to shoot her."

The woman had injuries consistent with strangulation, according to police, including scratch marks.

A county attorney's spokesman said that after careful review by an attorney in the agency specializing in strangulation, the decision was made to drop the felony charges because the evidence did not support conviction.

Instead, the case was refiled in justice court as a misdemeanor case. Pennell now faces three counts of assault and one count of threatening and intimidating.

Pennell has been an officer with the Chandler Police Department for 15 1/2 years. He has been assigned to the traffic unit since January 2004.

Pennell remains on administrative leave.

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