

## New Ulm police chief could face domestic assault charges Friday

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*Myron Wieland, 54, was booked into the Brown County Jail and immediately transferred to the Faribault County Jail in Blue Earth.*

NEW ULM, Minn. -- New Ulm Police Chief Myron Wieland will remain in jail, without the option to post bail for his release, until he makes a court appearance for domestic assault charges Friday morning.

Wieland was arrested Wednesday for an incident that reportedly took place at his home in New Ulm at about 5:30 p.m. Monday.

To avoid a conflict of interest, the incident, described as a domestic assault in a Brown County sheriff's office news release, was investigated by the Washington County sheriff's office in Stillwater.

The lead investigator there, Cmdr. Cheri Dexter, said the Washington County reports will be forwarded to Watonwan County Attorney Stephen Lindee to decide what charges are filed.

The circumstances that led to Wieland's arrest have not been released, so it is not clear what level of charge he would be facing. If he is convicted of a felony-level domestic assault charge, Wieland will automatically lose his law enforcement license, said Sheryl Waddick, standards coordinator for the Minnesota Police Officers Standards and Training Board. If Wieland is convicted of a gross misdemeanor or certain types of misdemeanors, he will be required to go before the POST Complaint Committee for a license review, she said.

No charges had been filed as of 1 p.m. Thursday. Lindee said Thursday afternoon that he had not yet received any reports from Washington County.

An employee at the Faribault County District Court administrator's office said Wieland was scheduled to appear in the Blue Earth courtroom before District Judge Douglas Richards at 11 a.m. Friday.

Wieland, 54, was arrested at the Brown County Courthouse without incident. He was initially booked into the Brown County Jail, then transferred to the Faribault County Jail about an hour later. A jailer there said bail has not been set for Wieland and he will be required to appear in court before he is released.

Wieland has been with the New Ulm Police Department for 28 years, serving as a patrol officer, sergeant and commander before becoming chief on Feb. 1, 2009. He replaced former chief Erv Weinkauff.