

## Former Grapeland K-9 officer arrested on prescription drug charge

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2014

A former Grapeland police officer who once had a chance at playing professional baseball now finds himself facing criminal charges following an investigation into prescription fraud.

Monty Allen Clark, 37, is charged with second-degree obtaining controlled substances with a fraudulent prescription.

According to an arrest affidavit, a doctor in Henderson contacted DPS and said someone had fraudulently obtained drugs through prescription.

Through the investigation, it was learned the suspect was Clark, who was employed as a full-time officer for Grapeland police in the K-9 division.

The investigation also revealed Clark had tried to fill a prescription for Adderall on Jan. 4 at the Walmart pharmacy in Crocket, but the pharmacist told him he could not fill it due to there not being an authorizing signature. Clark then had it filled two days later at Walling's Pharmacy in Grapeland, according to the affidavit.

A photocopy of the prescription showed Clark got 30 pills and it appeared to be signed by the Henderson doctor.

On April 8, the investigator met with the doctor, who immediately said the signature was not his but a forgery.

The same day, the investigator went to Walling's and met with the pharmacist, who said he knew Clark for more than a year and said he has filled numerous prescriptions for him. He also identified the person who picked up the prescription when it was ready as Clark.

A warrant was obtained for Clark's arrest on Wednesday. He was arrested on Thursday and posted a \$10,000 bond.

According to a June 2013 KTRE story, Clark had passed up an opportunity to play baseball in the Atlanta Braves organization in order to be a police officer.

Clark graduated from the Kilgore Police Academy and served in various law enforcement offices before returning to Grapeland as a K-9 officer.

According to Grapeland Police Chief Chuck Franklin, Clark had resigned from the department about three months ago, to take a job with a trucking company. While he had a house in the Grapeland area, he was living outside Houston County.

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