

Adams Police Officer charged with using false identity to fill prescription

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WESTFIELD -- An Adams police officer was charged in Westfield District Court on Wednesday with allegedly using a false identity to fill a prescription drug used to treat ADHD.

MassLive.com reports Thomas Cook, a patrolman with the Adams Police Department on a full-time basis for at least four years, was arrested Monday after he allegedly purchased a prescription of the stimulant methylphenidate -- known by the brand names of Ritalin and Concerta -- under a false name. It is also alleged he used a driver's license that he could have stolen from a suspect during an arrest.

Cook, 35, of Cheshire, was arraigned on charges of uttering a false prescription, identity fraud, police or witness intimidation, receiving stolen property and attempting to commit a crime. He was released on personal recognizance by Judge Philip Contant.

According to MassLive.com, a police report filed with the court states that on Aug. 18, Cook dropped off a prescription at a Westfield CVS under the name of Todd Syrett. Cook allegedly showed Syrett's driver's license to the pharmacist.

Under state law, individuals dropping off and picking up prescriptions for methylphenidate -- a controlled substance -- must provide proof of identification, which pharmacies must record.

The police report goes on to state the pharmacist contacted the Westfield Police Department after the real Todd Syrett, also of Cheshire, denied filling the prescription when alerted it was ready for pick up.

Cook was arrested by Westfield Police officers when he tried to pick up the prescription. Syrett told police his license may have been stolen by Cook during a 2012 arrest, the police report states.