



Press Release

Substitute Teacher Arrested for Sexual Assault

December 3, 2019

A 27 year old Greenville man has been arrested by the Menasha Police Department for sexual assault of a child. The man had been working as a substitute teacher in the Menasha Joint School District, as well as other area school districts, over the past year. This arrest comes after an extensive investigation over the past few weeks.

Once the allegations of possible abuse were reported police and school officials worked with the Wisconsin Department of Instruction to suspend the suspect's ability to have contact with a child in any school in Wisconsin to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students and staff.

The police department is continuing to investigate this matter and will be working with law enforcement agencies in other jurisdictions as there may be other victims not only in Menasha, but other locations in the Fox Valley.

Specific charges of First Degree Sexual Assault are being reviewed by the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office, therefore no additional information is planned to be released at this time.

If you have information about this investigation please feel free to contact the Police Department at (920) 967-3500.

We have attached a resource to assist on what you can do if you suspect a child is being harmed.

Community Liaison Officer Nick Oleszak (920) 967-3559.

Authority: Chief Tim Styka



Resources for Parents

Signs of child sexual abuse can be physical and/or emotional, with physical signs being less common. Emotional signs can range from “too perfect” behavior to withdrawal, depression, or unexplained anger. It’s important to remember that some children may show no signs at all. If you suspect your child has been harmed please contact Child Protective Services 920-236-4615 or the City of Menasha Police Department 920-967-3500.

Talk to Your Child

If you are concerned about abuse, talk to the child. Keep in mind a few guidelines to create a non-threatening environment where the child may be more likely to open up to you.

- **Pick your time and place carefully.** Choose a space where the child is comfortable.
- **Be aware of your tone.** Try to make the conversation more casual and non-threatening.
- **Talk to the child directly.** Ask questions that use the child’s own vocabulary, but that are a little vague. For example, “Has someone been touching you?”
- **Listen and follow up.** Allow the child to talk freely. Wait for them to pause, and then follow up on points that made you feel concerned.
- **Reassure the child.** Make sure that the child knows that they are not in trouble and you are concerned about them.
- **Be patient.** Remember that this conversation may be very frightening for the child. Many perpetrators make threats about what will happen if someone finds out about the abuse.

Identifying Signs of Harm

You might notice behavioral or physical changes that could signal a child is being abused.

Some of these warning signs include:

- **Behavioral signs:** Shrinking away from or seeming threatened by physical contact, regressive behaviors like thumb sucking, changing hygiene routines such as refusing to bathe or bathing excessively, age-inappropriate sexual behaviors, sleep disturbances, or nightmares.
- **Physical signs:** Bruising or swelling near the genital area, blood on sheets or undergarments, or broken bones.
- **Verbal cues:** Using words or phrases that are “too adult” for their age, unexplained silence, or suddenly being less talkative

Get Help...Report

Reporting a crime like sexual abuse may not be easy, and it can be emotionally draining. Keep in mind that reporting abuse gives you the chance to protect someone who can’t protect themselves. If you suspect your child has been harmed please contact Child Protective Services 920-236-4615 or the City of Menasha Police Department 920-967-3500.

Information gathered from <https://www.rainn.org/articles/if-you-suspect-child-being-harmed> and <https://www.d2l.org/get-help/identifying-abuse/>