

Documents: Accused Elwood officer terminated

(KAIR)--The Elwood Police Officer, arrested last month on sex-related charges, was fired the same day he was taken into custody, just over four-months after he was hired by the Doniphan County community.

Those details are revealed in personnel records obtained by MSC News through a Freedom of Information Act request.

According to the documents, Aaron Newberry was hired March 8 of this year following approval by the Elwood City Council during the March 5 council meeting.

His employment was terminated July 21, the day he was arrested by the Elwood Police Department on charges of aggravated sexual battery and mistreatment of a confined person.

According to the criminal complaint, the female victim was allegedly “detained or confined” by Newberry at the time of the crime.

Originally held on a \$50,000 bond, a Doniphan County judge August 9 granted a reduction in Newberry's bond to a \$25,000 own recognizance bond, and he was released from custody following the modification.

The former officer is scheduled to make his next appearance in a Doniphan County courtroom on the morning of September 20 for a pre-trial conference.

MSC News emailed the Freedom of Information Act request to the City of Elwood July 27, seeking public information pertaining to Newberry's employment. Having not responded to the request by August 10, MSC News filed an open records violation complaint with the Kansas Attorney General's Office that same day.

Kansas law requires a response to such requests within three business days.

A letter from Elwood City Attorney Joel Euler, dated August 17, has been received by MSC News. It contained the personnel information that had been requested.

The probable cause affidavit pertaining to Newberry's arrest was released to MSC News following a formal request to the Doniphan County District Court.

However, the document is so heavily redacted, it shines no new light on the

crimes Newberry is accused of committing.

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