
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 3/23/2018 2:55 pm

NATURE OF STORY: Sheriff's Deputy Placed on Unpaid Administrative Leave Pending Criminal Investigation

ARRESTED: Matthew Hitson, 40 years old, Eugene

CHARGES: Rape in the First Degree
Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor
Delivery of Marijuana to a Minor

DETAILS:

On the evening hours of March 21st, the Lane County Sheriff's Office was contacted by the Springfield Police Department regarding an investigation they were conducting. The Sheriff's Office assisted the Springfield Police Department in identifying their suspect as 40 year old Matthew Hitson, a 3 year deputy with the Lane County Sheriff's Office in the Corrections Division. The victim is an 18 year old female.

On March 23, 2018, Hitson was arrested by the Springfield Police Department and lodged at the Lane County Jail on the following charges: Rape in the First Degree, Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor (under 21), and Delivery of Marijuana to a Minor (under 21).

All issued Sheriff's Office property has been confiscated, including Hitson's uniforms, badge, identification, and weapon.

The Sheriff's Office is saddened a member of the organization may have been involved in actions that lead to the above charges, and the impact it has on our community. The conduct reported is not acceptable, and fails to meet the standards expected of members of the Sheriff's Office. Hitson has been placed on un-paid administrative leave pending the resolution of the criminal charges. We appreciate the Springfield Police Department's prompt attention to this matter and we will continue to cooperate with their investigation.

Lane County Sheriff Byron Trapp will be available today, March 23, 2018 at 3:30 pm at the Lane County Sheriff's Office for comment.

The criminal case is being referred to the Lane County District Attorney's Office.

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Sent by: Sergeant Carrie Carver 541-682-4179

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