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(Neb.)-Former Hemingford Police Chief Sentenced To Prison



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 08/28/2013 12:34 PM

(Hemingford)-Former Hemingford Police Chief Mark Lindburg has been sentenced to 20-to-24 years in prison for a sexual relationship with a teenage girl while he was chief. Box Butte County District Judge Travis O'Gorman handed down the sentence during a late Wednesday morning hearing according to KNEB in Scottsbluff.

The 52-year old Lindburg had pleaded no contest in early July to an amended charge of Attempted 1st Degree Sexual Assault of a Minor.

Lindburg, who served as Police Chief for five years until resigning in November 2011, will also have to register as a sex offender after his release from prison.

The case began shortly before Lindburg's resignation when the parents of a Hemingford girl found a text message on her cell phone from someone asking to have sex with her that night. The parents called the number and Lindburg answered, identifying himself.

The parents contacted authorities and a Nebraska State Patrol investigation was begun. It revealed that the girl would sneak out of her house at night and Lindburg would pick her up in a police car while on duty.

The girl's father at one point confronted Lindburg about the relationship, and the girl also admitted to it. The girl's diary indicated she began seeing Lindburg in 2009, and first had sexual intercourse with him in June of 2010, when she was 15.

(Story courtesy KNEB)