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Grants Pass Department of Public Safety

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MEDIA RELEASE



Department

Nature: Custodial Sexual Misconduct

Incident: 14-16930

Location: KAIROS Three Bridges: 711 SW Ramsey Ave., Grants Pass OR

Date/Time of Arrest: 4-30-15/1039 hrs.

Completed by: Det. Sgt. Evans

Approved by: Chief Landis

ARRESTEE:

Morton, Jessica A.M. 30 year old female

CHARGES:

Josephine County Circuit Court Warrant charging:
Count 1: Custodial Sexual Misconduct in the Second Degree
Count 2: Sexual Abuse in the Third Degree
Count 3: Custodial Sexual Misconduct in the Second Degree
Count 4: Sexual Abuse in the Third Degree
Count 5: Custodial Sexual Misconduct in the First Degree
Count 6: Custodial Sexual Misconduct in the Second Degree

Morton was lodged at the Josephine County Jail on all of the above charges

VICTIM:

Male resident of KAIROS Three Bridges when he was 17 and 18 years old.

DETAILS:

On 5-10-14, the Grants Pass Department of Public Safety received a report that an 18 year old resident of KAIROS Three Bridges located at 711 SW Ramsey Ave disclosed he had been having sexual relations with Jessica Morton, a skills coach supervisor at the facility. An investigation into the allegations was immediately initiated. A patrol officer received the initial complaint and referred the investigation to Detectives.

The investigation revealed that Jessica Morton had sexual contact with a male who was conditionally placed at the treatment facility through the Oregon Youth Authority. The sexual conduct was determined to have taken place between April 1st and April 14th, 2014. The sexual contact began while the male was 17 years old and continued after he turned 18. Because the male was considered to have been confined to the facility as ordered by the state and the fact that Morton was employed by KAIROS to supervise him, she was determined to have also committed the crime of Custodial Misconduct in the First and Second Degree.

The investigation was lengthy and involved numerous interviews and scientific analysis of collected evidence. The case was then referred to the District Attorney's office, who scheduled the case to be presented to a Grand Jury on 4-28-15. The Grand Jury delivered a secret indictment on the listed charges.

Grants Pass Department of Public Safety ~ 101 NW "A" Street, Grants Pass Oregon 97526 ~ Phone 541-450-6260
www.grantspassoregon.gov

On 4-30-15 at 1039 hrs., Detectives with the Grants Pass Department of Public Safety located and arrested Jessica Morton in the 1300 block of SW 'G' St. in Grants Pass. She was transported and lodged at the Josephine County Jail on the listed charges.

Anyone with information regarding this case is requested to contact the GPDPS Detective Division at 541-450-6260.