

1201 F St NW #200, Washington, DC 20004 www.endsexualexploitation.org (202) 393 - 7245

# An Overview of Sex Buyer Loss of Employment in the United States

A Preliminary Summary Based Upon Research from the National Assessments of Prostitution and Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Efforts

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## Prepared for: The National Institute of Justice

Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice 810 Seventh Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20531

**Prepared by:** National Center on Sexual Exploitation

# An Overview of Sex Buyer Loss of Employment in the United States

Among the potential consequences of buying sex in the United States is the loss of employment. People employed in a wide range of economic sectors and job types have resigned or been fired in response to arrests or allegations of paying for sex. Examples include teachers, firefighters, doctors, police officers, coaches, elected officials, and business owners who had been arrested and charged with soliciting prostitution or the paid sexual abuse of children. In most cases, the loss of employment occurs when people are in positions of trust, and criminal offenses of any kind violate codes of conduct and may be grounds for dismissal. Often, the nature of the job makes it untenable to remain in positions after violations of prostitution of sex trafficking laws have been publicized. For example, in May, 2012, the pastor of an Upper Township, NJ<sup>1</sup> church was arrested and charged with loitered to engage a prostituted person, and announced his resignation days after parents at the church's preschool demanded he step down. In April, 2021, the mayor of Severance, CO<sup>2</sup> was arrested and faced a felony charge for allegedly patronizing a sex trafficked child, and resigned the day after the alleged offense occurred. In September, 2021, a Jersey City, NJ<sup>3</sup> police officer was arrested where he admittedly planned to meet adults who offered to arrange for him to sexually assault two girls, ages 8 and 19, for \$200. The officer was suspended from the police department immediately following his arrest, and agreed to serve eight years in prison as part of his plea agreement.

While most terminations and resignations occur after an arrest has become known to employers and often to the public, there have been instances where sex buyers have forced out of their jobs in response to allegations without an arrest. For example, in July, 2015, the Interim Assistant Superintendent of Finance of the Poughkeepsie, NY school district reached a settlement agreement and was allowed to resign after allegations surfaced that he asked a prostituted woman to "service him" on school district grounds.

Tracking the loss of employment as a consequence of - and deterrent to – buying sex is a recent development at Demand Forum. In the first week of conducting web searches, Demand Forum staff learned of more than 150 U.S. cities and counties in which an employer has either fired or accepted the resignation of an employee in response to learning that they had purchased sex. The number of communities in which sex buyers have ever lost employment as a consequence is certainly much greater. This document is an interim product, providing a very preliminary report on employment loss in response to soliciting prostitution or purchasing access to abuse sex trafficked persons. This document will be updated periodically to reflect recent findings.

To access information about specific cases and the U.S. cities and counties in which they occurred, you may go to <u>www.demand-forum.org</u>, open the "<u>Browse Locations</u>" window, and then select "employment loss" from the "Tactics" list. Similarly, the U.S. locations in which employees have lost their jobs due to buying sex may be <u>mapped</u> on Demand Forum by choosing "employment loss" from the list.

One theme that is evident from a review of the first 150 cases we have identified is the wide range of employers that have terminated or accepted the resignations of those alleged to have bought sex, and the range of job categories and roles that the sex buyers had held. The list below provides an overview of the range of employers and job types involved in terminating employment in response to violated prostitution and trafficking laws by purchasing sex.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/marmora-pastor-resigns-after-prostitution-arrest-in-millville/article\_4bbdb2b2-9870-11e1-b13c-001a4bcf887a.html</u>

https://newcountry991.com/former-severance-mayor-faces-felony-charge-allegedly-solicited-child-prostitute/
https://newjerseyglobe.com/fr/jersey-city-cop-pleads-guilty-to-seeking-sex-with-minors/

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# Types of Employment Lost Due to Arrest or Allegations of Buying Sex:

- Law Enforcement
  - Municipal Police Departments
    - Albany, NY; Aurora, CO; Beaumont, TX; Bulverde, TX; Chattanooga, TN; Cleveland, OH; Columbia, SC; Columbus, OH; Fair Haven, CT; Fort Myers, FL; Glendale, CA; Jersey City, NJ; Miami Gardens, FL; Millry, AL; North Chicago, IL; Oakland, CA; Oklahoma City, OK; Palatka, FL; Pittsburgh, PA; Robbinsdale, MN; St. Charles, MN; Washington, DC; Yukon, OK
  - o County Sheriff's Offices, Police Departments
    - Alameda County, CA; Ann Arundel County, MD; Brunswick County, NC; Craven County, NC; Horry County, SC; McLennan County, TX; Polk County, FL; Richland County, SC; Washington County, VT
  - State Police Departments
    - Albuquerque, NM
  - State Chiefs of Police Association
    - Baltimore, MD
  - District Attorney, Prosecutor Offices
    - Bartow, FL; Bradford County, PA; Gwinnett County, GA; Ingham County, MI; Johnson City, TN; Riverside County, CA
  - Corrections
    - Oneida County, WI; Washington, DC

# • Higher Education

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- University Presidents
  - Clinton, MS; Peach County, GA
  - University Vice Presidents
    - Harrisonburg, VA
- o Deans
  - Philadelphia, PA; Syracuse, NY
- Department Chairs
  - Kearney, NE
- o Faculty
  - San Angelo, TX
- $\circ$  Coaches
  - Clarksville, TN; Storrs, CT; Waco, TX
  - Community College Board of Education
    - Oregon City, OR
- Alumni Association Vice Presidents
  - Tallahassee, FL

# Primary & Secondary Education

- School Board Members
  - East Brunswick, NJ; Manchester, NH; Menomonee, WI; Rochester, PA
- School District Superintendents
  - Marcola, OR; Ripley, OK; Wetzel County, WV
- School District Tutors
- *Waco*, *TX*
- Principals
  - Clark County, NV; Fort Smith, AR; Hanover, NH; Seminole, FL
- Teachers
  - Abilene, TX; Cheyenne, WY; Harford County, MD; Lakeland, FL; Lincoln, NE; Wausau, WI

- Coaches
  - Antioch, IL; Jackson Center, OH; Jacksonville, FL; Maplewood, MN; Odessa,
  - TX; Ponte Vedra, FL; Ranger, TX; Tooele, UT; Windsor Locks, CT
- Band Directors
  - North Bay Haven, FL
- Guidance Counselors
  - Hamburg, PA
  - Program Assistants
    - Round Lake, IL

# • Elected Officials

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- State Senators
  - Oklahoma; West Virginia
  - State Representatives
    - Phoenix
- Governors
  - New York
- o Mayors
  - Batesville, IN; Front Royal, VA; Sandwich, IL; Severance, CO; Shepherdsville, KY; Webb, AL
- City Council/Town Board members
  - Burlington, IL; Dallas Center, IA; Fall River, MA; Southaven, MS

## Political Appointees and Staff

- o Aids to federal legislators
  - Acadiana, LA; Baton Rouge, LA; Nashua, NH
- Local Political Party Treasurers
  - Iron County, UT

#### • Government

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- County Commissioner
  - Clermonth County, OH
- State Fair Commission
  - Madison County MS
  - County Human Resources Director
    - San Bernardino County, CA
- o Transit Authority CEO
  - Memphis, TN
  - State Department of Commerce
    - St. Paul, MN
- City Managers
  - Daytona Beach, FL

#### • Private Sector • Busines

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- Business owners
  - Boston, MA
- Business CEOs, Presidents
  - Ontario, CA; Palm Beach Gardens, FL; Phoenix, AZ
  - Oil pipeline workers
  - Duluth, MN
- o Audio/visual contractors
  - Tarrant County, TX
- Radio DJs
  - New York, NY
- Television News Anchors
  - Tampa, FL

- Boys & Girls Clubs
  - Haverill, MA
- Philanthropy
  - $\circ$  Public health foundation
    - Brevard County, FL
  - Boys & Girls Club board of directors
    - Indian River County, FL
- Military
  - Air Force Academy
    - Colorado Springs, CO
- Clergy
  - Pastors/Ministers
    - Amarillo, TX; Cedar Rapids, IA; Lindale, TX; Medford, PA; Midlothian, TX; Montgomery County TX; Paris, TN; The Woodlands, TX
  - Private School Headmasters
    - Charleston, SC
- Community Programs; Non-Profits
  - Community Youth Athletics Programs
    - Ann Arbor, MI
- Fire Departments
  - Captains
    - Las Vegas, NV
    - Firefighters
      - Henderson, NV; Hillsborough County, FL
- Law
  - President of State Bar Association
    - Luzerne County, PA
  - Circuit Court Judge
    - Lee County, FL
  - State Judicial Marshals
    - Waterbury, CT
- Medicine
  - Doctors
    - Austin, TX; Gaylord, MI

Another theme is that the termination of employment for purchasing sex often appears to be determined on an ad hoc basis, without reference to policies or guidelines that specifically prohibit purchasing sex. Instead, the terminations appear to be based on generic codes of conduct that allow employees to be fired if they commit any crime or engage in "conduct unbecoming" for their position, or that is considered detrimental to their business, agency, or non-governmental organization (NGO). However, NCOSE staff are aware of the existence of policies and codes that specifically prohibit the purchase of sex. For example, the organization Business Ending Sex Trafficking (BEST) has created sample language for organizational policies explicitly prohibiting sex buying while employees are conducting company or organizational business, or while using company resources<sup>4</sup>:

"It is strictly against our organization's policy for any employee to engage in any sex buying activities of any kind during company time, while working on company business, or while engaged in any work-related activities (including during business travel), or using any company or work properties or resources whatsoever (including, without limitation, company credit cards, expense

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://www.bestalliance.org/adopt-policies.html</u>

accounts, buildings, parking lots, grounds, equipment, computers, storage devices, software, websites, social media channels, networks, vehicles, and phones). This prohibition applies regardless of whether the activity is legal or tolerated in a particular jurisdiction, foreign or domestic."

The Amazon corporation has included similar concepts into its policy<sup>5</sup>:

"It is against Amazon's policy for any employee or Contingent Worker to engage in any sex buying activities of any kind in Amazon's workplace or in any workrelated setting outside of the workplace, such as during business trips, business meetings or business-related social events. When Amazon suspects that an employee has used company funds or resources to engage in criminal conduct, the company will immediately investigate and take appropriate action up to and including termination. The company may also refer the matter to law enforcement."

Under the Code of Ethics (KCC 3.04)<sup>6</sup> for King County, WA, the behaviors covered under the prohibition of purchasing sex are expanded to include patronizing websites that facilitate commercial sexual exploitation:

"...employees are prohibited from sexual exploitation, and buying or selling sex during work time or while on county business. Included in this prohibition are: (a) viewing or searching online advertisements for commercial sex during work hours, (b) viewing or searching websites where adult entertainment is offered, whether or not for sale, during work hours, (c) soliciting prostitution during work hours, and (d) exchanging money, employment, goods, or services for sex or sexual acts."

NCOSE staff continue to investigate the presence and content of policies banning the purchase of sex, and will periodically provide updates in this document, on the Employment Loss web page of Demand Forum, and in the separate web pages for each city and county in which this particular form accountability and deterrence for sex buyers has occurred.

Below are examples of cases in which employees have been terminated or have resigned in response to arrests or allegations about buying sex:

# EXAMPLES

## Oklahoma City, OK

In September, 2021, an Oklahoma City police sergeant was fired after he was arrested for engaging in prostitution and assaulting staff at a local massage parlor. An Oklahoma City Police Department administrative investigation sustained 12 allegations against the officer after he was criminally charged by the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office. The allegations began when police were called to a massage parlor and the suspect allegedly requested through a text message a sex act in exchange for \$120. The women reportedly told the suspect that the request was illegal and that they called police. The man then allegedly went into the business and showed his identification card that had "Police Officer" in bright red letters. The women said the officer then became physically

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>https://www.techspot.com/news/72448-workers-microsoft-amazon-caught-buying-sex-services-trafficked.html</u>

https://www.bestalliance.org/adopt-policies.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://kingcounty.gov/audience/employees/policy-forms/hr-policies.aspx#personnel

aggressive and attempted to steal money from the cash register. In addition to allegedly requesting illegal paid sex, the officer did not provide his name or badge number when the employees asked him, and the officer also abused his power by claiming he was investigating the business and used police dispatch and records for his personal use. The officer was charged with one count of engaging in prostitution and one count of assault and battery. The police department in September, 2021, pub;icly released the termination letter the man received from the Police Chief. The termination letter stated the officer admitted to all of the allegations of misconduct.

• <u>https://www.news9.com/story/612e816b78225a0be810958b/okc-police-sergeant-fired-after-being-accused-of-engaging-in-prostitution-assault</u>

#### Gaylord, MI

In May 2018, an Otsego County surgeon was arrested in a prostitution sting operation set up by Michigan State Police narcotics officers. The suspect responded to an online advertisement and called an undercover officer posing as a prostituted woman to set up a meeting at a hotel, at an undisclosed location within Otsego County. The man was charged with solicitation of prosecution, and for using a computer to commit a crime. He was also fired from his job at Otsego Memorial Hospital, and had his identity disclosed to the media by law enforcement officials. Assistant County Prosecutor said that the local narcotics team had been given a directive to do stings targeting prostitution, specifically looking for sex buyers. The arrest was part of a statewide initiative to fight human trafficking in Michigan.

- <u>https://www.petoskeynews.com/story/news/crime/2018/05/27/gaylord-doctor-arrested-on-soliciting-prostitution-narcotic-charges/44875581/</u>
- <u>https://upnorthlive.com/news/local/surgeon-arrested-in-prostitution-sting</u>
- <u>https://www.9and10news.com/2018/06/25/former-gaylord-surgeon-receives-probation-after-having-percocet-soliciting-a-prostitute/</u>

#### Ontario, CA

In October, 2020, the Haliburton International Foods CEO faced multiple felony and misdemeanor charges for soliciting prostitution of a minor. The Newport Beach resident resigned as the company's chief executive. The sex buyer was arrested and charged the prior month and was charged by the Orange County district attorney's office with engaging in the prostitution of two teenagers. He faced six felony counts associated with unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor and two misdemeanor charges for soliciting prostitution of a minor. If convicted on all counts, the man would face a maximum sentence of eight years in state prison and almost two years in county jail.

- <u>https://ktla.com/news/local-news/haliburton-international-foods-ceo-charged-for-engaging-in-child-prostitution-ocda/</u>
- <u>https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-10-12/newport-beach-ceo-steps-down-from-company-after-being-charged-with-child-prostitution</u>

## Harford County, MD

In September, 2019 a Harford County Public Schools teacher's employment was terminated in response to his being arrested and charged with soliciting sex from one of his underage students. The man was charged with soliciting prostitution, sexual solicitation of a minor and three counts of human trafficking, according to online court records. He had worked at Edgewood Middle School when he allegedly took a photo of a student's body part at his residence and uploaded it to a "fetish social media account" that he ran, according to a news release. He later paid the student to perform a sex act on him, which the student did not do, and instead contacted the Harford County Sheriff's Office. The man had taught vocal music at the middle school. He was hired Aug. 24, 2017, and placed on paid leave on Aug. 22, 2019, and on Sept. 25, 2019, he was terminated. The man was released on \$5,000

bond from the Harford County Detention Center after an initial appearance with a district court commissioner.

• <u>https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/harford/aegis/cng-ag-teacher-solictation-charges-20200617-3j55ofr4hjfi7mnz4vsanlzc2e-story.html</u>

## Webb, AL

In November, 2014, the Mayor of Webb, Alabama resigned after being arrested in an undercover prostitution operation conducted by the Dothan Police Department's VICE division. The Webb mayor's resignation was accepted during a town hall meeting. The man was taken into custody and charged with soliciting prostitution along with twelve other suspects in Dothan. City officials declined to make any comment or statement when asked about the mayor's arrest and resignation. The council appointed a new mayor to the small community just outside of Dothan, with a population of around 1,300. The Dothan Police Department had released the names of each suspect, but said due to the nature of the case, investigators would not discuss specifics details regarding the operation.

<u>https://www.wsfa.com/story/27488374/mayor-of-webb-resigns-after-arrest-in-prostitution-sting-operation/</u> (2014)

## Peach County, GA

In October, 2018, investigators uncovered a sex ring involving top members of <u>Fort Valley State</u> <u>University</u> in Peach County, where at least three people named in the arrest warrants were employees including men charged with soliciting prostituted persons and sodomy. Before being fired in September, 2018, one of the men had served as Director of Corporate and Government Affairs at Fort Valley. His university biography said he also previously served as FVSU's Director of the Public Service Center, Chief Legal Officer and Director of Government Relations. He been employed by the University since 2011.

• <u>https://www.11alive.com/article/news/local/these-are-the-men-charged-in-the-fort-valley-university-pimping-and-prostitution-scandal/85-607302612</u> (2018)

#### Ranger, TX

In February 2016, a Ranger High School coach submitted a letter of resignation the morning after he was arrested during an online prostitution sting in McClennan County. The coach was charged with prostitution after he was allegedly operating a Ranger Independent School District (ISD) work vehicle when he attempted to meet with an undercover detective posing as a prostituted person. The Ranger ISD Superintendent was made aware of the man's arrest and confirmed the facts with the Sheriff's Department. Once the facts were confirmed, the coach was placed on administrative leave and then submitted his letter of resignation the next morning. He served as the head baseball and assistant football coach at Ranger ISD. The coach was among 46 suspects accused of prostitution and human trafficking related crimes were arrested in the sting operation. The month-long sting targeted prostituted persons, pimps, and those seeking to buy sex. Detectives made contact with the suspected sex buyers by posing as underage sex trafficking victims and adults in prostitution, according to the McClennan County Sheriff's Office.

<u>https://www.bigcountryhomepage.com/news/ranger-isd-coach-submits-letter-of-resignation-after-sex-sting-bust/</u>

#### Luzerne County, PA

In July, 2021, a Luzerne County attorney resigned his position as the president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association after he was charged with patronizing prostitutes. The man was accepted into a diversion program (ARD, or Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition) that allows first-time offenders National Center on Sexual Exploitation Loss of Employment National Assessment to enter into a treatment program as a disposition of his third-degree misdemeanor charge of patronizing prostituted persons. According to the Luzerne County District Attorney's Office, the sex buyer was required to enroll in the program for a year, during which he must complete 30 hours of community service. The charge can be expunged upon completion of the ARD program. The man had reported to Luzerne County detectives that he had had a sexual encounter with a prostituted woman, and the sex buyer accused her of recording their encounter and threatening to release the video unless he paid her. He was investigated when it was confirmed that he had paid for sex. The man resigned his position as PBA president when he was charged, and was also placed on administrative leave from his position as an assistant solicitor for Luzerne County.

- https://www.post-gazette.com/President-of-Pa-Bar-Association-resigns-after-prostitutionarrest (2020)
- <u>https://www.abajournal.com/PA-bar-president-resigns-after-charged-with-patronizing-prostitute</u>

## San Bernardino County, CA

In November, 2015 a man who served as the human resources director for San Bernardino County resigned after his arrest in a reverse sting and consent publicity. A settlement allowed the sex buyer to be on paid administrative leave for at least six months, although we would not work for the county in any capacity, and his resignation became effective when that paid time ended. The man was previously arrested and in in Orange County Superior Court entered a guilty plea to engaging in prostitution, a misdemeanor. The sex buyer served 10 days of community service in lieu of jail time and was placed on three years' probation. He was ordered to undergo AIDS testing and education and submit a DNA sample. His immediate job supervisor initially docked the man's pay and notified him that any further missteps in his personal or professional life would result in immediate termination. County supervisors later found out about the man's arrest and conviction after the news was posted on a blog. A county spokesperson said in a statement that non-work related misdemeanors do not usually result in disciplinary action, but that this sex buyer was punished because of the nature of the incident and his position as head of human resources.

- <u>https://www.pe.com/2015/11/12/san-bernardino-county-hr-director-caught-in-prostitution-sting-resigns/</u> (2015)
- <u>http://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/CAO/\_NewsClips/Content/NewsClips\_8-11-17.pdf</u> (2017)

## Lindale, TX

In January, 2016, a Lindale pastor resigned after being arrested on a prostitution charge and booked into Smith County Jail. He was later released on \$500 bond. A Tyler Police Department spokesperson said the man had been communicating with a woman on social media earlier in the week and agreed to meet her at a hotel on Loop 323 in Tyler. Police were tipped off about the meeting by an anonymous source and sent an undercover officer to meet with the pastor. The undercover officer was given enough information to have the man arrested at the scene for soliciting prostitution. The sex buyer was a senior adult pastor with First Baptist Church of Lindale. According to the church's website, he had been affiliated with the church since 1990 and served as the music pastor for 20 years.

- <u>https://tylerpaper.com/news/local/lindale-pastor-resigns-after-prostitution-arrest/article\_18fc2ea6-8316-5f04-8603-375589518c5a.html</u>
- https://www.kltv.com/story/30918457/lindale-pastor-resigns-after-prostitution-charge/

## Socorro, TX

In September, 2018, a Socorro High School teacher resigned after being arrested in a prostitution sting the prior week. The man had been was arrested during a Texas Department of Public Safety operation targeting suspects who allegedly agreed to pay for sex. A spokesman for the Socorro Independent

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Loss of Employment

School District confirmed that the man had been a social studies teacher at Socorro High School, and had been employed by the Socorro school district for 20 years. He was initially placed on paid administrative leave but then submitted his resignation days later. The teacher was one of 13 men arrested on prostitution charges during a four-day operation in August conducted by the DPS Criminal Investigations Division.

<u>https://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/crime/2018/09/05/socorro-high-school-teacher-arrested-el-paso-prostitution-sting-texas-dps-mark-robert-williams/1204808002/</u> (2018)

## Lorain, OH

In July, 2011, a man resigned from his position as director of community service with the Lorain County Community Action Agency (LCCAA; based in Lorain, OH) after he was arrested in a Wood County Sheriff's Office Internet prostitution sting in Bowling Green. The man had previously served as the Mayor of Avon Lake. He was one of five people arrested by the Wood County Sheriff's Department in a prostitution sting at a Bowling Green hotel. The LCCAA employee faced charges of solicitation after answering an ad on a website by undercover officers posing as women selling sex. Reports indicate the Lorain man agreed to pay \$100 to have sex in a motel in East Wooster Street in Bowling Green. The sex buyer pleaded no contest in Bowling Green Municipal Court and was fined \$500. Days later, he resigned from his position as director of community service with the LCCAA.

- https://www.cleveland.com/metro/2011/07/former\_avon\_lake\_mayor\_arreste.html
- <u>https://patch.com/ohio/avon-oh/former-mayor-vince-urbin-busted-in-prostitution-sting</u>
- <u>https://www.morningjournal.com/2011/07/12/urbin-resigns-from-lccaa-following-prostitution-sting-arrest/</u>

#### Atlanta, GA

In February 2015, a former NFL player was fired from his job as an analyst for the NFL Network (headquartered in Atlanta) several days after being arrested while in Phoenix to cover that year's Super Bowl. He was booked on one count of soliciting prostitution and two counts of assault, both misdemeanor offenses, according to the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. He was held on a \$1,500 bond. The NFL Network spokesman said, in a statement, "Warren Sapp's contract has been terminated and he no longer works for NFL Network." According to a statement released by the Phoenix Police Department, officers working security at a downtown Phoenix hotel were investigating a noise disturbance when they were contacted by a woman alleging she had been assaulted. The incident occurred in a guest room at the hotel where an argument ensued over money. The altercation allegedly turned physical, spilling out into the hallway. The sex buyer arrested and then transported to Phoenix Police Headquarters, where he admitted involvement in the act of prostitution, but denied assaulting either of the two involved females.

• <u>https://www.nfl.com/news/sapp-fired-from-job-at-nfl-network-following-phoenix-arrest-0ap3000000467830</u> (2015)

#### Palm Beach Gardens, FL

In March, 2019, the president of a home building business resigned after being arrested as part of an ongoing investigation into human trafficking and prostitution at day spas in Jupiter and Martin County. Earlier in the week, Martin County sheriff's deputies arrested him on charges of soliciting prostitution and use of a structure for prostitution. Covell did not stay in jail for long Monday. His bond was set at \$1,500. The CEO of the company released a statement saying that company leaders had received and accepted the resignation of the sex buyer.

• https://www.wpbf.com/article/president-of-kolter-homes-arrested/26726760#

#### Chattanooga, TN

In December, 2018, a Sergeant with the Chattanooga Police Department tendered his resignation. The CPD had opened an internal investigation after he was taken into custody for solicitation of prostitution. The arrest came during a joint enforcement operation between the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Chattanooga Police Department's Vice Unit.

<u>https://www.chattanoogan.com/2018/12/19/381793/Chattanooga-Police-Sergeant-Peter-Turk.aspx</u>

#### **Oneida County**

In January, 2021, an Oneida County corrections officer (CO) resigned his position after prosecutors charged him with soliciting prostituted women and misconduct in office. He allegedly traded information about drug investigations for sexual favors from an incarcerated woman drug dealer. He was arrested in January by the Department of Justice-Division of Criminal Investigations and Oneida County investigators. After his arrest, an Oneida County Circuit Judge set a \$1,000 cash bond for the CO during his initial court appearance. He resigned from his job later that same day, according to the Oneida County Sheriff's Office. The filed criminal complaint stated that on in January 2018 a 31-year-old inmate told a corrections sergeant that the CO agreed to give her information about the Northcentral Drug Enforcement Group in exchange for sexual favors. The group is a drug task force that includes multiple police agencies including the sheriff's office and the Rhineland Police Department. The criminal complaint showed the CO had previous sexual contact with women who had been incarcerated. The Oneida County Circuit Judge agreed to amend the solicitation charge to a misdemeanor count of lewd and lascivious behavior and dismiss the misconduct charge as part of a plea agreement. The offender was ordered to pay a \$2,000 fine and thus avoid prison time after reaching a plea deal with prosecutors.

- https://www.wausaudailyherald.com/story/news/crime/2021/01/15/oneida-county-correctionsofficer-traded-information-sex-records-say/4165242001/
- <u>https://waow.com/2021/01/12/update-oneida-co-correctional-officer-faces-solicitation-of-prostitution-misconduct-charges/</u>
- <u>https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2021/06/21/former-oneida-co-corrections-officer-convicted-of-lesser-charge-in-plea-deal/</u>
- <u>https://www.tomahawkleader.com/2021/01/14/oneida-county-corrections-officer-charged-with-solicitation-of-prostitution-misconduct-in-office/</u>

## Tampa, FL

In March, 1991, a veteran television news anchorman with station WTVT resigned after admitting his guilt on charges of "procuring prostitution" from a teenage girl, his second prostitution-related arrest. The Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office had filed charges regarding the suspect procuring a person under the age of 16 for prostitution, soliciting for prostitution, and engaging in prostitution. The charge involving the minor was a second-degree felony, punishable by up to 15 years in prison. The other two charges were second-degree misdemeanors, punishable by up to 60 days in jail for each. The charges are the result of an investigation conducted by Tampa police and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. All of the alleged crimes occurred in June 1990. The girl's age was not disclosed except to say she was "under 16." The 56-year-old anchorman surrendered to face the charges. Prior to his 1991 resignation, the man had been employed for more than 27 years at WTVT. In 1982, the same man had publicly apologized after pleading guilty to a charge of soliciting prostitution after he had propositioned an undercover vice officer.

<u>https://www.upi.com/Archives/1991/03/14/TV-anchor-admits-soliciting-teen-prostitute/1122668926800/</u>