

## Former Orlando TSA officer gets probation in sex-slave case

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A former Orlando TSA security officer arrested for allegedly molesting a minor pleaded no contest to one charge today and was sentenced to 10 years' sex-offender probation.

A victim told deputies Bennett asked her to be his sex slave and fondled her against her will.

When Charles Henry Bennett was arrested last year, he was employed by the Transportation Security Administration. Now he is unemployed, his attorney said in court.

He was charged with a charge of lewd and lascivious molestation of a minor and another count of lewd and lascivious conduct.

He pleaded no contest to the molestation charge, while prosecutors dropped the second count as part of the plea deal.

Bennett, 58, could have received a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison for the felony.

"Are you satisfied with your attorney?" Orange Circuit Judge Marc Lubet asked Bennett during the sentencing.

"Yes," Bennett replied.

"You certainly should be," Lubet said.

According to his arrest affidavit, the victim said Bennett touched her inappropriately, kissed her and solicited her to be his sex partner. These acts occurred more than three years ago. Bennett told detectives he groped the child and asked her to be his sex slave.

As part of his sentence, Bennett will have to move outside Orange County, where the victim lives, and find a new residence. He will be subject to all sex offender probation requirements for 10 years. He will have to wear an electronic monitoring device during that period.

Assistant State Attorney Ryan Williams said the victim in this case did not want to see Bennett go to prison. Williams also said Bennett wanted to take "responsibility for his actions."

Bennett's attorney Elizabeth Bourdon said Bennett previously worked for the TSA. But during court, she told Lubet that Bennett "has been out of work for some time." She could not say whether he lost his job due to his criminal case.

Bennett said he had no comment for reporters as he was escorted from the courtroom by attorneys.

Check back for updates.