



Fayette County Sheriff's Office

Barry H. Babb, Sheriff

March 6, 2019

Press Information

sheriff@fayettecountyga.gov

On February 4, 2019, an inmate revealed to a detention officer information of an alleged sexual encounter of a female inmate and a male deputy sometime during 2017 in the Fayette County Jail. This accusation immediately triggered an internal investigation to verify the alleged details. The suspected deputy was placed on administrative leave. The internal investigation was completed on February 8, 2019. Policy violations were discovered to have been committed by the suspected deputy. On February 11, 2019, the Sheriff was briefed on the results of the internal investigation by investigators. The deputy was terminated for these violations on February 12, 2019, by order of the Sheriff and the Sheriff requested the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to begin an independent criminal investigation into the suspected deputy's conduct as the allegations pointed to criminal behavior.

The GBI briefed District Attorney Ben Coker and Sheriff Babb during the investigation. On March 4, 2019, the GBI notified the Sheriff that warrants were pending for the arrest of the deputy. On March 6, 2019, at 10:00 am, the deputy turned himself in and was booked into the Fayette County Jail and posted a bond of \$25,000.

Sheriff Babb wants to assure the community that we do not tolerate any misconduct of our employees especially criminal and we responded swiftly to the accusations and are thankful of the responsiveness of the GBI and District Attorney Ben Coker in this case. Sheriff Babb's desire has always been openness on the activity at the sheriff's office, however, we cannot comment on the criminal investigation as it is a GBI investigation and we are briefed only as a professional courtesy. All questions regarding the criminal investigation should be directed to Director Nelly Miles of the Office of Public Affairs GBI or the Office of the District Attorney Ben Coker of the Griffin Judicial Circuit.

The suspected deputy is Roderick D. Hale of Peachtree City, a 53 year old male with a start date with the sheriff's office of January 4, 2016. Roderick D. Hale was assigned to the Jail Division and has the following charges:

- OCGA 16-6-5.1 Sexual Assault by Persons with Supervisory or Disciplinary Authority (Felony) 2 Counts
- OCGA 16-10-1 Violation of Oath by Public Officer (Felony)

Mugshots are available upon completion of the state required form (attached). Completed forms can be submitted by email at ashamlin@fayettecountyga.gov or by facsimile at (770) 716-4726. After 5:00 pm call (770) 716-4724 and a jail supervisor will be available to assist.

Sheriff Barry H. Babb