

Youth pastor in Enterprise arrested on rape charge

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An Enterprise youth pastor was arrested Tuesday by Enterprise Police on a charge of second-degree rape.

According to Enterprise Police reports, Timothy M. Thomas, 25, of Creeke Lane, Enterprise, was arrested and charged after police received information that a possible sex crime had occurred involving the youth pastor from St. Luke United Methodist Church. Enterprise PD Public Information Officer Billy Haglund, in a press release Wednesday, stated the Criminal Investigation Division initiated an investigation at that time and discovered Thomas allegedly had sexual intercourse with a juvenile under the age of consent. Allegedly the victim was 14 years old.

According to the release, the crime took place between Feb. 28 and March 18.

St. Luke Church officials are fully cooperating with law enforcement during this investigation, Haglund stated. The official investigation revealed that no crime was committed at the church.

Thomas was taken into custody around 7 p.m. Tuesday and transported to the Coffee County Jail on the charge.

Police state the investigation is currently ongoing and additional charges may be pending. Bond has been set at \$30,000. Conditions of the bond include that Thomas can not have contact with the victim or any member of her family, he cannot leave the state of Alabama without permission of the court, he must have no new offense while out on bond, he cannot have contact with any female under the age of 18, and he must be equipped with a GPS monitor at his expense.

Thomas has hired an attorney, Warren Rowe.

In other Coffee County Jail reports, Enterprise Police arrested Michael Keith Mathis, 27, of Don Circle in Enterprise on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Also arrested were Christopher Lewis Mathis, 34, of Crestview and charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Both were placed on a total bond of \$10,000 each.