

Former Monroe County Employee Charged With Sexual Assault

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A Sparta man who was the coordinator of the Monroe County Community Service Work Program made an appearance in a Monroe County courtroom this morning after being charged with sexually assaulting two inmates. 28 year old Adam Helgerson was charged with with felony misconduct in office, false imprisonment, third-degree sexual assault and six counts of fourth-degree sexual assault.

Two inmates said Helgerson assaulted them in 2010 and 2011 while they were working for the program. One of the women said Helgerson first assaulted her in December 2010 when he forced her to perform oral sex. He did the same thing later that month while she was hanging Christmas lights at a Sparta park. She said Helgerson assaulted her four more times before the end of February. The second inmate said Helgerson harassed and groped her between July and December. Helgerson admitted to investigators that he assaulted the first inmate three times and might have assaulted the second.

He is the third county worker to be charged with assaulting inmates since 2008. The new case comes just one month after prosecutors charged former Monroe County jailer Jerry Friedl with sexually assaulting an inmate twice in 2011. His next court appearance is set for Friday. Another former jailer, Lt. David Schaldach, was sentenced in 2008 to 18 months in prison for having sexual contact with a mentally ill female inmate in 2002.