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'Person of trust' faces sex charges

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A Gages Lake man accused of having sex with an underage girl could spend the next three decades in prison.

Michael H. Moore, 18733 W. Gages Lake Road, was charged Wednesday with one count of predatory criminal sexual assault, a Class X felony.

Investigators were informed about the incident March 7 after the girl talked to relatives about Moore, said Lake County Sheriff Mark Curran.

An investigation revealed the incidents took place in 2005 when the girl was 10 or 11 years old.

Authorities believe Moore, described by police as a family friend, assaulted the girl between six and 10 times during that timeframe.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office is expected to work with the Lake County State's Attorney's Office in an attempt to indict Moore on additional charges.

"I admire the courage displayed by the young victim in this case," Curran said. "It takes a tremendous amount of strength to admit you have been victimized by who many in your family believe to be a person of trust."

Moore is currently being held in the Lake County Jail in lieu of \$250,000 bond. If convicted on the single count charge, Moore faces between six to 30 years in prison.

He is scheduled to appear in Lake County Circuit Court on April 2.