



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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PRESS RELEASE

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Chico Police Officer Charged with Using a Minor to Provide Marijuana

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey today announced a Chico police officer has been charged in a criminal complaint with a felony for furnishing marijuana and a misdemeanor for contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Nicholas Lee Rush, 49, of the Chico Police Department is alleged to have provided marijuana and marijuana products to a 17-year-old family member. Additionally, it is alleged the child was encouraged by Rush to provide some of the marijuana to the officer's adult girlfriend.

The allegations stem from an investigation into the officer's cultivation of marijuana in his backyard, an activity that started in the summer of 2022.

Ramsey said Rush is not a currently active officer with the Chico Police.

Ramsey said the Butte County Superior Court has issued Rush a notice to appear on August 3, 2023, at 8:30 for his arraignment.

Rush faces up to a maximum of 5 years in state prison.