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2015 TSA agent pedophile

A Transportation Security Administration officer at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport was arrested last week on a child sex abuse charge.

Samuel Bryant, 40, was charged with sexual abuse of a minor, second-degree assault and a fourth-degree sex offense.

Bryant is accused of inappropriately touching a 14-year-old girl on three occasions at his Brooklyn Park home on Jan. 5. The girl told a sibling about the alleged abuse on Feb. 4, and the sibling told their mother, according to charging documents.

Anne Arundel County police charged Bryant on Feb. 5. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for March 4.

Attorney Peter O'Neill, who is representing Bryant, said his client "vehemently denies having any improper relationship or improper touching with this young lady."

A TSA spokeswoman said early Wednesday afternoon the agency was terminating Bryant's employment. Bryant later updated his social media page to say he is unemployed.

"These alleged crimes are egregious and intolerable," said TSA spokeswoman Lisa Farbstein.

O'Neill called the termination "wholly inappropriate."

"That's essentially convicting him before he has a chance to defend himself."

Bryant was a lead transportation security officer for the TSA, according to his LinkedIn professional networking page. People in that position screen passengers, manage and train employees, and oversee the operations of TSA checkpoints, according to the TSA website.

Bryant had worked for the TSA since March 2004, according to his networking page.

Before that, he worked for eight years as security manager for Simon Property Group. Prior to that, he was an electronics technician for four years, according to the networking page.