

MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY **Sheriff-Coroner**

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Jim Hart Sheriff-Coroner

Media Release: September 5, 2020 **Correctional Officer Arrested**

At around 6:00pm September 4, 2020 31-year-old Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Correctional Officer Jessica Smith was arrested and booked into the Main Jail. She was booked on charges including 289.6PC (sexual activity with an inmate),149PC(assault by a public officer) and 502(a)PC (unauthorized computer access).

The investigation began in July 2020 when detectives received information that Smith was having an inappropriate relationship with an incarcerated person. The incarcerated person was serving their sentence through our Supervised Release as part of the Custody Alternative Program.

Smith has been employed with the Sheriff's Office since 2015. She is now on administrative leave pending the completion of our administrative investigation.

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