



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Westminster High School Teacher Sentenced to 7 Years for Child Sexual Assault**

Westminster High School teacher Benjamin Forbes was sentenced to seven years in prison Wednesday on two felony charges in connection with a relationship he had with a student at the school.

Forbes (DOB 09/08/86) was charged in connection with a sexual relationship he had with a 16-year-old female student at the high school from August 1 to December 1, 2016. Forbes was a math teacher and soccer coach at the school.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Amy Petri-Beard told the judge that the case was a serious one because parents place such trust in their teachers to take care of their children. She said that Forbes took advantage of one of his students.

Adams County District Judge Sharon Holbrook said that once children begin attending school, they spend more time in the care of their teachers than in the care of their parents. She said Forbes betrayed the trust that was placed in him.

Forbes pleaded guilty to one count of attempted first-degree assault and one count of attempted sexual assault on a child. Both are class 5 felonies.

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