

**TEXARKANA, Texas — A man accused of sexually assaulting a 16-year-old girl multiple times appeared Wednesday before a judge in Bowie County.**

**Lindsey Ray Sharp, 42, allegedly assaulted the girl at the home of a friend of the girl's mother and in a vehicle last year, according to a probable cause affidavit. He appeared Wednesday for a preindictment hearing with Mount Pleasant, Texas, lawyer Mark Leshner before 202nd District Judge John Tidwell.**

**Leshner asked that the case be referred to a grand jury. If a grand jury finds there is probable cause to indict Sharp the case will move forward to trial.**

**In September of last year the Bowie County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to an area high school regarding an allegation of sexual assault made to the school counselor by a female student, then 16. The student allegedly expressed fear of Sharp, who had come by the school to drop off her purse. The girl allegedly complained that Sharp had been calling her and that he'd forcibly sexually abused her at different times in 2019.**

**Court records show Sharp was arrested Jan. 9 on a charge of sexual assault of a child, a second-degree felony punishable by two to 20 years in prison. Sharp was released from custody Jan. 15 after posting a \$100,000 bond.**