

**TEXARKANA, Texas — A woman pleaded not guilty Wednesday in Bowie County to sexual assault charges involving a teen she met while his caseworker at a juvenile facility.**

**Jessica Marie Pratt, 26, appeared for arraignment Wednesday on three counts of sexual assault of a child with Texarkana lawyer Jeff Harrelson at a hearing before 202nd District Judge John Tidwell. Harrelson entered pleas of not guilty to all charges and Tidwell scheduled the case for a pretrial hearing in August.**

**Pratt was indicted by a Bowie County grand jury in March. Like other defendants free on bond, Pratt's case has been rescheduled for arraignment several times because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Pratt was arrested July 13, 2019, and released on a \$100,000 bond July 22, 2019.**

**Pratt came to the attention of the Hooks, Texas, Police Department when a member of the Pittsburg, Texas, Police Department made contact June 28, 2019, regarding a woman who was having sex with a teen, according to a probable cause affidavit.**

**Pittsburg police were contacted by a Camp/Titus County, Texas, juvenile probation officer who said a teen on her caseload claimed Pratt sexually abused him.**

**The boy allegedly reported that Pratt was his caseworker when he was incarcerated at Rockdale Academy in Rockdale, Texas.**

**Pratt allegedly picked the boy up from a convenience store in Pittsburg and drove him to a house in Hooks, Texas, where she lives with a parent.**

**Pratt allegedly assaulted the boy sexually at the Hooks residence on several different dates last year.**

**The boy allegedly told his probation officer that he quit responding to text messages from Pratt because he knew "it was wrong." Pratt allegedly confessed to a member of law enforcement that she had sex with the boy three times at the house on Wilder Street in Hooks.**

**If convicted, Pratt faces two to 20 years in prison on each of the three counts of child sexual assault pending against her. Pratt could also be required to register as a sex offender.**