

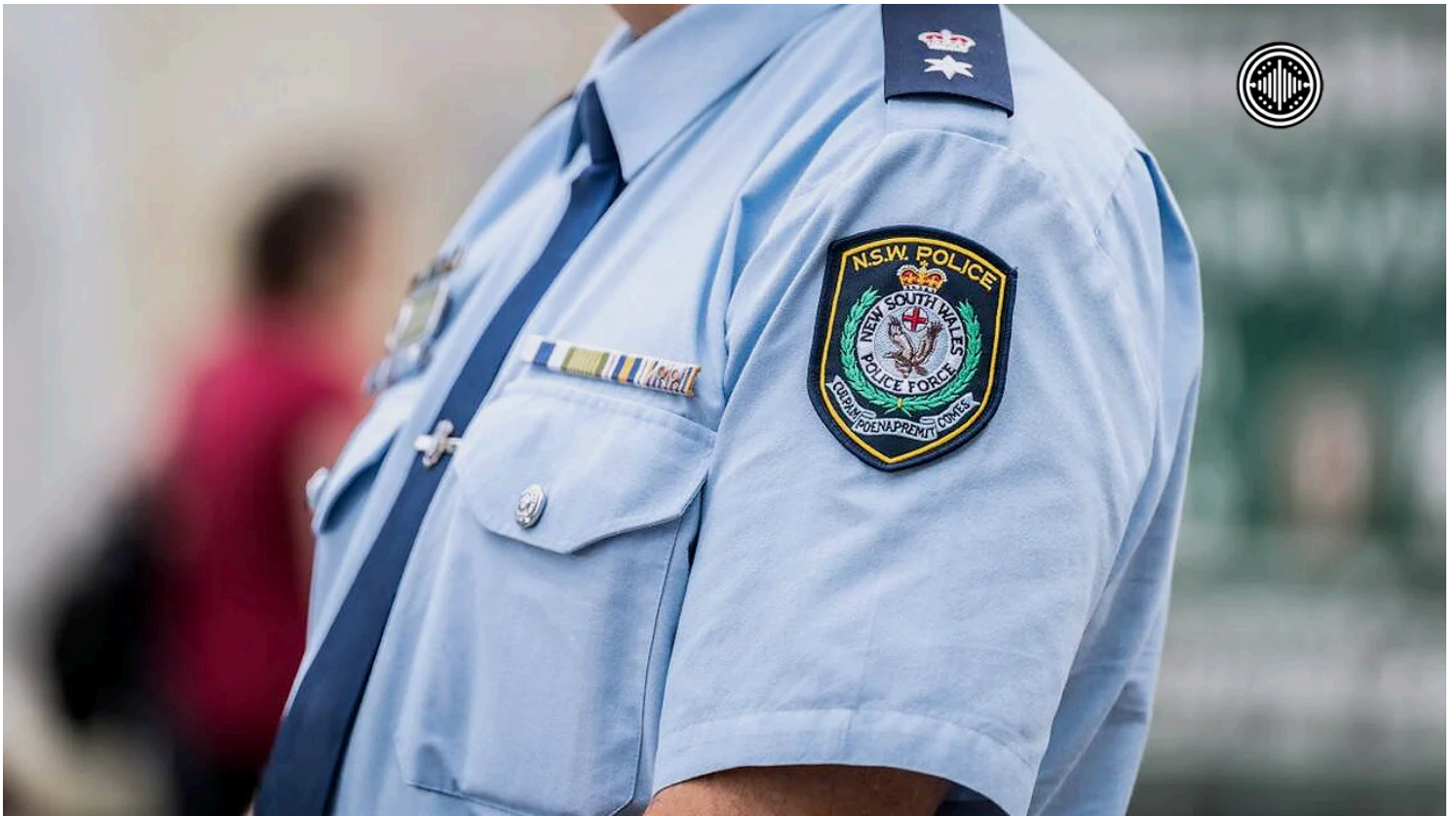
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## Sydney Police Officer Charged Over Shoplifting Allegation

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– Categories: Crime



A police officer in Sydney's west has been charged over an alleged shoplifting offence while off duty, following a police investigation.

Authorities said the incident occurred around 3:50pm on Wednesday, 11 June 2025, when the 23-year-old constable attached to a specialist command visited a chemist on Patrick Street in Blacktown.

According to police, the officer left the premises shortly after arriving, allegedly taking an item without paying for it. The matter was reported to the Blacktown Police Area Command, which initiated an investigation into the incident.

Detectives conducted inquiries, including reviewing available evidence and speaking with relevant parties, before determining there was sufficient basis to lay a charge. On Friday, 8 August 2025, the officer was served with a Future Court Attendance Notice for one count of shoplifting.

Police confirmed that the officer is scheduled to appear before Blacktown Local Court on Thursday, 18 September 2025, where the charge will be formally heard.

The New South Wales Police Force stated that the officer has been suspended from duty with pay pending the outcome of the court proceedings. His ongoing employment status will be reviewed in light of the judicial process and any internal disciplinary findings.

A spokesperson for NSW Police emphasised that all allegations involving members of the force are taken seriously and are subject to thorough investigation. “Police officers are expected to uphold the highest standards of conduct, both on and off duty. When allegations are made, they are investigated in the same manner as any other member of the public,” the spokesperson said.

Shoplifting, which involves taking goods from a retail store without paying, can result in various penalties under New South Wales law. Consequences may include fines, community service orders, or imprisonment, depending on the value of the items and the circumstances of the offence.

The incident has drawn public attention due to the involvement of a serving police officer, raising discussions about trust and accountability in law enforcement. However, authorities have stressed that the charge is an allegation at this stage, and the officer is entitled to the presumption of innocence until proven guilty in court.

No further details about the alleged item taken or its value have been released. NSW Police said they would not comment further while the matter remains before the court.

The case is expected to proceed through the local court system in the coming weeks, with the initial hearing scheduled for September.