



Lifestyle Weird But True Health Sex & Relationships Viral Trends Human Interest Astr

LIFESTYLE

75

Fired Wendy's employee with Down syndrome gets to be a cop for a day

By [Jeanette Settembre](#)

October 16, 2022 1:57pm Updated

More Videos

Close

00:01 / 01:06

MORE ON:
WENDY'S

Wendy's worker with Down syndrome reinstated in wake of outrage over his dismissal after 20 years

Wendy's fires longtime employee with Down Syndrome who planned to retire

CDC fails to identify source of Wendy's E. coli outbreak

NEW YORK POST[Lifestyle](#) [Weird But True](#) [Health](#) [Sex & Relationships](#) [Viral Trends](#) [Human Interest](#) [Astr](#)

A long-time Wendy's **employee with Down syndrome** who was fired for allegedly not being able to do his job like a "normal" person has a new job on the force.

North Carolina-based **Dennis Peek**, 51, will get to live his dream of becoming a police officer, thanks to the force in the nearby town of Mount Holly who saw Peek's viral story of devoting two decades of his life to the fast food chain, **TMZ reported**.

The Mount Holly Police Department decided to enlist Peek as an officer for the day, swearing him in on Thursday with a uniform and hat, the news outlet reported. Peek will also get to ride in a police car and report for duty, checking in on local businesses, according to TMZ.

Peek previously worked at a Wendy's in Stanley, N.C., outside of Charlotte. However, he was abruptly let go from the chain, his sister, Cona Young Turner wrote **on Facebook** last week, alleging her brother was fired on the basis of his **disability**.

"I am heartbroken to say they fired him," Young Turner posted on Facebook on Oct. 5. "They told me was unable to perform the duties of a normal persons job."

NEW YORK POST

Lifestyle

Weird But True

Health

Sex & Relationships

Viral Trends

Human Interest

Astr



North Carolina-based Dennis Peek, 51, will get to live his dream of becoming a police officer, thanks to the officers in the nearby town of Mount Holly.

Cona Young Turner/Facebook

NEW YORK POST[Lifestyle](#)[Weird But True](#)[Health](#)[Sex & Relationships](#)[Viral Trends](#)[Human Interest](#)[Astronomy](#)

"I am heartbroken to say they fired him," Young Turner posted on Facebook on Oct. 5. "They told me was unable to perform the duties of a normal persons job."

Getty Images

"His dream was to retire from there some day and he was looking forward to a huge retirement party, we may just give him that party and tell him he has retired because he does not understand being fired," she wrote.

"They have no idea how they hurt my brother!" she wrote in the Post.

Young Turner and her family didn't have the heart to tell Peek he was fired; instead, they told him he was retiring, according to TMZ.

After Young Turner posted about her brother's termination on Facebook, **she got a call from Carolina Restaurant Group**, which owns the Wendy's Peek worked at, saying that he could be reinstated.



The Mount Holly Police Department decided to enlist Peek as an officer for the day.

Mount Holly Police Department/Fa

“We are committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for our employees and our customers. This was an unfortunate mistake and lapse in protocol; we are in touch with the employee’s family, and we are looking forward to welcoming him back to work in the restaurant,” Carolina Restaurant Group said in a statement, according to **WSOC**.

But it appears that Peek will be getting a retirement party from his hometown, Stanley, on Nov. 5, according to a **Facebook post**. Peek will also be given a key to the city and a plaque, TMZ reported.

75 What do you think? Post a comment.

Wendy’s did not immediately return a request for comment.

FILED UNDER CAREERS DISABILITIES DISCRIMINATION DOWN SYNDROME FAST FOOD FIRING
HIRINGS AND FIRINGS NORTH CAROLINA WENDY’S
10/16/22