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Special agent charged with rape

NM Department of Public Safety investigates

Updated: Sunday, 04 Mar 2012, 12:24 PM MST
Published : Sunday, 04 Mar 2012, 12:24 PM MST

Celina Westervelt

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (KRQE) - A state law enforcement officer is accused of picking up prostitutes and having sex with them in his police vehicle while on duty.

Friday night Albuquerque Police VICE agents arrested Timothy Carlson, 40. Carlson is an agent with the State Department of Public Safety's Special Investigation Division.

APD investigators believe Carlson was using his badge to hunt for hookers and forcing prostitutes to have sex with him.

According to a criminal complaint, the investigation started last Spring when two APD gang officers made a traffic stop on Central Ave. They found a man and a believed prostitute inside the vehicle. Investigators say the man was wearing a badge and carrying a gun.

Now they believe that man was agent Carlson.

Investigators followed Carlson and in one incident they say the agent allegedly hi-jacked another man's date with a prostitute.

The prostitute turned out to be a confidential informant for APD. She told police Carlson pulled her and the John over last month, wearing his badge and displaying his gun. She says Carlson told the John to leave and offered her a ride home.

She says Carlson threatened to arrest her if she didn't sleep with him.

Carlson picked up the same prostitute Friday night, and that's when he was arrested.

He's now on paid administrative leave pending an internal investigation by the Department of Public Safety.

He faces extortion, bribery, public corruption and rape charges.

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