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Ex-Anaheim police officer gets jail for sex

August 10, 2007 | By RACHANEE SRISAVASDI

A former Anaheim police officer who returned to the United States after becoming a fugitive for more than three years was sentenced to a year in jail Friday for engaging in sexual acts with an underage girl and for evading criminal charges.

Jason David Rosewarne, 36, pleaded guilty to two felonies: oral copulation with a person under 18 and failure to appear on a felony charge.

He headed the police Explorer program in August 2002, when prosecutors say he sent sexual text messages and engaged in sexual conversations with a 17-year-old girl in the youth program. They kissed, fondled and engaged in other sexual contact.

Prosecutor Kal Kaliban wanted Rosewarne to serve prison time and be required to register as a sex offender.

But instead, Orange County Superior Court Commissioner Maria Hernandez opted at Friday's hearing to give Rosewarne the one-year deal, and not have him register as a sex offender. He is now out on bail, and will start serving his jail sentence Sept. 20.

Rosewarne, who was listed on the Orange County district attorney's 10 most wanted list in 2005, came back to the United States and voluntarily surrendered in July 2006.

He had been arrested after police noted he was using his work phone to call the teen, Kaliban said. But he was able to bail out and fled to London, where he has family. He could not be extradited because the crime is not considered illegal in that country - the age of consent in England is 16.

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Contact the writer: (714) 834-3773 or rsrisavasdi@ocregister.com



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