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Former officer pleads no contest to molesting teen

Jurors couldn't reach a decision during Ricardo Rodriguez's trial last year.

By Craig Kapitan

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Charges have been pending against <u>Ricardo Rodriguez</u>, 42, since March 2006, after a 16-year-old accused him of molesting her over a two-year period. The teen told authorities the abuse started when she was on medication, according to previous reports.

Rodriguez had been with the department for six years when he was placed on unpaid leave following the allegation.

In exchange for the no contest plea, prosecutors agreed to ask for no more than 5 years in prison and not oppose his application for deferred adjudication probation. He will be sentenced in January before state District Judge Lori Valenzuela.

The plea agreement also requires Rodriguez to permanently surrender his law enforcement license.



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