

News

Charge: Trenton cop had booze-fueled sex with 14-year-old girl

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TRENTON — City cop Lisandro Otero-Ortiz has been busted on charges he had sex with a 14-year-old girl after boozing her up.

The 25-year-old cop was arrested and charged on Saturday with second-degree sexual assault and endangering the welfare of a child on allegations he had sexual intercourse with the minor in June after they both imbibed in alcohol, according to the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.

The alleged incident was reported to the Trenton Police Department on Friday. Cops arrested their comrade Saturday night and locked him up on \$50,000 bail, authorities said. The city also suspended Otero-Ortiz from his job without pay, according to Detective Sgt. Pedro Medina, the Trenton police spokesman.

"This type of behavior is not going to be tolerated by the police department," Medina said, adding that Otero-Ortiz is "innocent until proven guilty."

Otero-Ortiz, who has been on the force since September 2006, was ordered to have no contact with the alleged victim. The cop was also stripped of his right to possess a gun, according to the prosecutor's office.

A patrolman in rank, police said Otero-Ortiz was assigned to the West District, which comprises the city's **rugged areas off Stuyvesant Avenue** in the West Ward as well as portions of **Mill Hill** and **parts of the North Ward near Calhoun Street**.

Police Tuesday afternoon confirmed they've released Otero-Ortiz from custody after he posted bail. The busted officer lives in the city, but *The Trentonian's* attempt to contact him has been unsuccessful, and it's unknown if Otero-Ortiz has a lawyer.

Otero-Ortiz had the honor of being recognized by *The Trentonian* two years ago after he arrested Trenton robbery suspect Regginalde Simmons on the 4th of July in 2008. Now the cop has the dishonor of being featured in the newspaper on allegations he broke the law he's supposed to enforce.

With his arrest, Otero-Ortiz joined the ranks of fellows such as **Nicholas Fratticcioli**, **Joseph D'Ambrosio**, **Christopher Kerins**, **Erwin L. DeLeon** and **Tara Stefano** — all of whom had the distinction of being busted Trenton cops.

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