

## Trenton police officer indicted on sexual assault charges

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By **Lisa Coryell/For The Times**

**TRENTON** — A city police officer accused of having sex with a 14-year-old girl last summer has been indicted, the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office announced yesterday.

Lisandro Otero-Ortiz, 26, has been indicted on one count of second-degree sexual assault and one count of third-degree endangering the welfare of a child, spokeswoman Casey DeBlasio said.

Otero-Ortiz, a four-year department veteran, was arrested last fall by prosecutor's detectives.

He was off duty at a Trenton residence in June when he allegedly drank alcohol with his victim before sexually assaulting her. The sex does not appear to have been forcible, prosecutors said.

If convicted, Otero-Ortiz faces up to 10 years in prison for the sexual assault charge and up to five years in prison for the endangering charge.

Otero-Ortiz is free on \$50,000 bail. He has been suspended without pay from his job with the Trenton police, according to department officials.

As a condition of his bail, Otero-Ortiz was ordered not to have any contact with the victim and not to possess any firearms or weapons.

Otero-Ortiz is a patrol officer in the West District, police said. His salary in 2009 was \$50,480.

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