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Alameda County Sheriff's Deputy Charged With Child Molestation

MARTINEZ, **Calif.** — A veteran Alameda County Sheriff's deputy was charged Tuesday in Contra Costa County with 10 counts of child molestation, prosecutor Paul Graves said Wednesday. Michael Bareno, a 43-year-old San Ramon resident, allegedly molested three children between 2005 and 2009 in San Ramon.

He was arrested Friday by San Ramon police and charged Tuesday with four counts of oral copulation or digital penetration of a child under 10 years old and six counts of lewd acts on a child under 14, Graves said.

He was arraigned Tuesday but did not enter a plea and is currently being held at county jail in Martinez on \$4.6 million bail.

Alameda County Sheriff's Sgt. J.D. Nelson confirmed that Bareno had worked as a deputy at the Santa Rita Jail and had been with the sheriff's office for at least 10 years.

As soon as he was arrested, he was placed on paid administrative leave while the sheriff's office conducts its own investigation into the case, Nelson said.

Bareno is scheduled to return to court Nov. 18 to enter a plea, Graves said.

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