



Hanover man accused of raping 3-year-old girl

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HANOVER — A retired Quincy police officer was arraigned in Brockton Superior Court last week on child rape charges stemming from a pair of alleged sexual assaults on a 3-year-old girl last year.

Anthony F. Courage, 73, of 153 PineTree Drive, Hanover, pleaded innocent to two counts each of rape of a child with force and rape and abuse of a child aggravated by age difference. Courage was freed after posting \$5,000 bail Friday and was ordered to stay away from his alleged victim and her family, as well as anyone younger than 16, without supervision.

Courage could face life in prison if convicted on any of the four counts. He is due back in court Sept. 26.

Hanover police said Courage turned himself in last May after detectives and Plymouth County prosecutors launched an investigation into the alleged assaults. The victim told investigators that Courage had molested her at least twice, once when she was 3 years old, police said.

The second alleged assault took place in late December 2010 and was witnessed by a woman who walked in on Courage and the girl, police said. The alleged victim was 4 at the time.

Courage was a patrol officer with the Quincy Police Department from 1975 until his retirement in 2003, Capt. John Dougan said.

He was initially charged in Hingham District Court in May, but the case was moved to Brockton Superior Court following his indictment.

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