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Long Beach man, Sheriff's deputy pleads not guilty Friday to charge of sex with 16-year-old relative

By Tracy Manzer Staff Writer

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LONG BEACH -- A Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputy pleaded not guilty Friday to a charge that he allegedly engaging in sex acts with a 16-year-old relative.

Sheriff's Deputy Orlando Denison, 34, was arraigned on the charge of two felony counts of oral copulation of a person under 18 Friday afternoon, according to Long Beach Superior Court staff.

The alleged offenses, which occurred in July of 2010, involve a female relative who was 16 at the time, said Shiara Davila-Morales, a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney's spokeswoman.

Denison was arrested by Long Beach Police at his Long Beach home Thursday without incident, authorities said.

Denison was immediately relieved from duty and placed on leave without pay, said Steve Whitmore, senior media advisor at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Whitmore said Denison was hired on April

25, 2007, and was assigned to the Pitchess Detention Center South Facility in Santa Clarita.

Whether Denison will remain employed is pending the outcome of the criminal matter and the Sheriff's Department's internal investigation, Whitmore said.

Denison was being held at the Long Beach City Jail Friday in lieu of \$100,000 bail, according to Los Angeles County Jail records.

If convicted on all counts, he faces a maximum term of three years, eight months in prison, Davila-Morales said.

Denison is scheduled to return to the Long Beach Superior Court on May 16 for a pre-preliminary conference.

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