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Cop charged with assaulting girl, 14, posts bail

May 05, 2012 | By Joseph A. Gambardello, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

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A Philadelphia police officer charged with sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl in a Bucks County motel was released from custody Friday after posting $50,000 bail.

Anthony Dattilo, 36, a seven-year veteran of the force, also was suspended for 30 days with the intent to dismiss by Police Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey.

Police investigating the possible abduction of a 14-year-old girl found Dattilo with the teenager and a 21-year-old woman in a room at the Lincoln Motel on Lincoln Highway in Bensalem Township about 12:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Story continues below.

Police have alleged the woman called Dattilo to arrange a get together and that she brought the girl, who is her cousin, after Dattilo offered the pair $100 each to have with sex with him.

He had sex with the woman in front of the girl in the motel room and was naked and fondling the girl when police knocked on the door, according to the criminal complaint.

The two officers, members of the Special Victims Unit, heard the girl crying, the complaint said. After dressing and washing his hands, Dattilo opened the door and told the investigators he was an officer assigned to Philadelphia's Second District in Northeast Philadelphia.

Police said the woman and the girl met Dattilo in North Philadelphia and he drove them to Bensalem.

During the ride, the girl texted family members saying she being held against her will, police said. They alerted authorities to her location.

Dattilo, of the 7200 block of Gillespie Street in the Tacony section, was charged with a dozen offenses, including aggravated sexual assault, promoting prostitution, unlawful contact with a minor and corruption of minors.

His bail was set at $500,000 Thursday and, after spending a night in jail, he was released Friday after posting the required 10 percent.

Staff Writer Bill Reed contributed to this article.

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