

Ex-cop's sex case halted when teen too 'distressed' - macombdaily.com

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A Warren teenager testified Tuesday she was too upset to answer whether her relationship with a retired police officer who worked at her school, turned romantic.

The 16-year-old girl, who attends Warren Woods-Tower High School, sat silently for several seconds when asked repeatedly in court about a change in her relationship with former Warren police officer Dale Wayne Malesh, 62.

"I'm too emotionally distressed to answer," said the teen, whose name is not being published by The Macomb Daily.

Malesh, of Roseville, faces two counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct, a felony punishable by up to 15 years in prison. He retired from the Warren Police Department in January 2011, having spent the last 11 years of his law enforcement career as a school resource officer in Warren Woods Public Schools, where he had the nickname "OD" for "Officer Dale."

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After Malesh left the police force, school district officials hired him as a school security contractor.

According to court records, Warren police and prosecutors allege that sexual penetration occurred in February and March. The teen turned age 16 last August. The age of consent in Michigan is 16.

However, county prosecutors allege Malesh violated a section of Michigan's criminal sexual conduct law that prohibits anyone from using their status to gain access to, or establish a sexual relationship with, a student between 16 and 18 years of age.

