

Norwalk: Officer jailed for allegedly having sex with teen

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A 41-year-old police officer assigned to Metropolitan State Hospital in Norwalk was behind bars today for allegedly having a sexual relationship with a 14-year-old girl.

Mario Estrada befriended the girl early this year, "and this resulted in an inappropriate relationship and illegal physical contact between the suspect and victim," Capt. Darren Arakawa of the South Gate Police Department alleged.

Estrada, who works for the California Department of State Hospitals, met the teen through "family and friends," and she was not connected with his place of employment, Arakawa said.

Estrada, was taken into custody Tuesday and is due in a downtown Los Angeles courtroom on Thursday morning.

The officer was being held in lieu of \$15 million bail.

Investigators said it is possible there are other alleged underage victims and asked anyone with information about the case to contact Detective Scott Guerrero at smguerrero@sogate.org or at 323-563-5464.



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