

Former Pomona police officer charged in child molestation case

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2014 Cop Pedophile Reginald Villanueva

POMONA >> A former Pomona police officer and a onetime Explorer program volunteer for the department was in Pomona Superior Court on Thursday after being charged with molesting or annoying a teen girl in 2014, court records show.

The misdemeanor charges against Reginald Villanueva, 39, stem from an alleged incident from October 2014, according to the criminal complaint filed by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

He was arrested and charged in January of last year, according to booking records, and pleaded not guilty to the crime March 5, 2015, records show.

Villanueva resigned from the Pomona Police Department in November 2014, according to an email from Pomona Deputy Police Chief Michael Olivieri.

Olivieri confirmed Villanueva was a volunteer in 2013 with the department's Explorer Post, a program for young men and women ages 14 to 21, giving them the opportunity to work with officers. An article in the Daily Bulletin puts him with the program as far back as 2011.

"The victim was not affiliated with the Explorer program or police department," Olivieri said.

Booking records show Villanueva was initially arrested by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Special Victims Unit and was held at the San Dimas station.

The age of the victim was not immediately known.