

Buzz Monkey faces sex charges

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BRIDGEPORT -- The Buzz Monkeys are in the market for a new keyboard player.

That's because a member of the popular cover band, Trumbull Police Officer William Ruscoe, may be facing a hefty prison term if he is convicted of sexually assaulting a teenage girl he met through the Police Department's cadet program.

On Wednesday, Ruscoe, a 19-year-member of the department, is being arraigned in Superior Court here, the same court where he has sent countless other accused felons, on charges of second, third and fourth-degree sexual assault and tampering with a witness.

If convicted, he could face 20 years in prison.

The 44-year-old Ruscoe is known by his nickname "Fancy Pants," with the Trumbull-based band.

Asked on the band's website: "If you woke up one morning to find you were someone else, who would that be?" He answered, porn star "John Holmes."

State Police allege that Ruscoe, drill instructor for the annual Police Cadet Academy, began texting the teenage girl that he wanted to have a sexual relationship with her and then texted her naked photographs of himself and his wife and described having sex with his wife to the teen.

State police said Ruscoe later drove the girl to his former Trumbull home where he handcuffed and sexually assaulted her.

The girl told police that at one point Ruscoe told her to call him "Jack," as in the character played by Leonardo DiCaprio in the 1997 movie "Titanic," according to police reports.

State police said the girl told them that Ruscoe would visit her many times at Trumbull High School. Trumbull school officials did not return calls for comment.

Ruscoe is currently suspended from the Trumbull Police Department with pay pending an internal investigation.

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