

## Former Fresno Co deputy faces child sex crime charges

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### 2015 Cop Pedophile Rex Garcia



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A former Fresno County Sheriff's deputy is facing charges of committing sex crimes while he was a part of the force.

Rex Garcia served for several years as a deputy bailiff in the Fresno County courthouse.

But Thursday, he'll be a defendant there and police say the victim helped get them evidence that'll be hard to refute.

Garcia lived a life in law enforcement, retiring in 2013 at the age of 69.

As a sheriff's deputy in the courtroom, he kept control for Judge R.L. Putnam. But two years after his retirement, Garcia's background was a concern to Fresno police investigating him. "The original information we had received was that he was prior law enforcement and that he always carried guns and it was absolutely true," said Lt. Joe Gomez, a spokesman for the Fresno Police Department.

Police say Garcia didn't put up a fight when they arrested him this month. The charges involve sex crimes against a young girl -- crimes prosecutors say dragged out from 2009 to 2015, which includes four years Garcia was still a sheriff's deputy, but out of the courtroom on a medical leave of absence.

Investigators say the victim and her father thought Garcia's background would protect him against the accusations, so they set up a video camera and caught him in the act while the girl was sleeping.

They think Garcia may have even realized he was being watched. "He was observed going through a pile of clothes in the room, pulling out some clothing and putting it over the camera," said Lt. Gomez.

Action News talked to Garcia's attorney Wednesday afternoon. He says Garcia denies the allegations, and he brought up an interesting complication: He said it might be hard to find a judge to handle the case here since Garcia worked with many of them during his time as a deputy.

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