

## Ex-Hayward cop charged with molestation sued

Henry K. Lee, San Francisco Chronicle

Updated 7:20 am, Wednesday, July 9, 2014

sfgate.com

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**(07-08) 19:51 PDT SAN FRANCISCO** -- A former Hayward police officer charged with molesting girls when he worked as a teacher at an after-school program in Livermore was sued Tuesday by one of the accusers.

Richard Scott McLeod, 39, of Livermore sexually abused the plaintiff, a 26-year-old woman identified only as Jane Doe, beginning when she was 13 years old and ending when she was 18 or 19, said the suit filed in Alameda County Superior Court.

The molestations occurred when McLeod gave her rides home and at a sleepover camping trip on property belonging to the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, the suit said.

"Throughout the sexual abuse, McLeod often told plaintiff that there was nothing wrong or harmful about his and plaintiff's sexual relationship," the suit said. "Plaintiff was led to believe she was a willing participant in a consensual sexual relationship."

The suit names McLeod and the district as defendants and seeks unspecified damages. The defendants have not responded to the suit in court.

Livermore police have previously said that between 1998 to 2007, McLeod sexually abused girls he met through Kids Zone, a program for middle school students run by the district. Police have said he victimized some of the girls after they moved on to high school.

McLeod worked as the lead coordinator and teacher at Kids Zone from 1992 to 2007, when he became a Hayward police officer. There is no evidence he has victimized anyone as a police officer, authorities said.

McLeod was placed on paid leave from the Hayward force after his arrest in September. He later resigned from the department, said Chief Diane Urban.

He is awaiting trial on numerous counts of child molestation and is being held at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin in lieu of \$3.58 million bail.

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