

Cape Coral police officer arrested for sex with 16-year-old

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The Cape Coral Police Department has arrested one of their own officers for having sex with a minor. Casey M. Ortiz, 34, is accused of having a sexual relationship with a 16-year-old girl. Her parents reported in February that the girl was having sex with an unknown Cape Coral police officer. Investigators interviewed the teen and immediately identified Ortiz as the officer involved. He was relieved of duty at that point. Ortiz and the teen met when he responded to a call at the girl's home. Police say since then, Ortiz picked her up from the home three times in his police car. Police got a warrant and searched the officer's home a week later. They also got a warrant to search Ortiz - which they served on him while he was at the police station. Officers say information found on Ortiz's cell phone backed up details the teenager provided. At this time it is unclear if the sex was consensual. However, police say there are no signs of Ortiz having forced the teen. The department gave the results of their investigation to the State Attorney's Office on April 20th and received the arrest warrant on Wednesday, April 30th. Ortiz was taken into custody and transported to the Lee County Jail on two counts of sexual assault with a victim 16 or 17 years of age. A judge set his bond at \$50,000 at a hearing Thursday morning. He is also to have no contact with the teenager. State law prevents Ortiz's mugshot from being released to the media. **OFFICER'S PAST** We obtained his personnel file. In it, Ortiz had a lot of recognition that is now smeared after Wednesday's arrest. He has been with the Cape Coral Police Department since 2006. Recently, he was in the patrol division. Records show he resigned from the SWAT team in 2011. Ortiz was among a group of officers in Cape Coral who received raises but didn't get the required educational credits warranting those increases. In that case, he had to pay back the money, took a pay cut and was demoted.