

Bronx cop accused of sleeping with 15-year-old prostitute acquitted of sex abuse charges; convicted of tampering with a witness

[Thomas Tracy](#)

New York Daily News |

Oct 02, 2019 | 1:06 PM



Raul Olmeda (right, next to his lawyer) is pictured during his 2017 arraignment in a Bronx courtroom.(Andrew Savulich/New York Daily News)

A former Bronx NYPD cop accused of having sex with a 15-year-old prostitute and recording their trysts was acquitted of felony rape and sex abuse charges at trial, but convicted of official misconduct and witness tampering, officials said Wednesday.

At the close of a nearly month-long trial, a jury found ex-Police Officer Raul Olmeda not guilty of having sex with the minor, but did find him guilty of encouraging her not to testify at his trial. He was also accused of accessing NYPD computers to see what kind of evidence the Internal Affairs Bureau had against him.

He was ultimately convicted of official misconduct and tampering with a witness — misdemeanor crimes that are a far cry from the felony rape, sex abuse, child endangerment and using a child in a sexual performance charges he was facing, officials said.

Olmeda was remanded to custody until his sentencing on Oct. 17. He is facing up to one year in jail.

"From the start, Mr. Olmeda was willing to take responsibility for his actions, but he was not willing to plead guilty to charges where he was the victim of a shakedown," said Peter Brill, Olmeda's lawyer. "We thank the jury for being able to tell the difference."

Olmeda, 41, had been a cop for about four years when Police Commissioner James O'Neill ordered his termination from the NYPD in March 2018 following a department trial.

At the time of Olmeda's arrest, O'Neill called the "nature and scope" of the charges against the officer "egregious."

"The fact that the defendant is an NYPD officer evidences an

unconscionable violation of his oath to uphold the law and protect the public," the city's top cop said.

Olmeda was accused of recording his sexual encounters with the 15-year-old girl on at least five occasions. He met the teen through her older sister, whom the cop had dated. He paid the teen between \$140 and \$200 a tryst, investigators alleged.

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The teen told police of her relationship with Olmeda after she was arrested for prostitution.

But when Olmeda was confronted with the recordings of him having sex with the teen, he refused to admit that he knew his victim, according to testimony brought out at his department trial.

He also denied being the man having sex with the teen in raunchy photos — which were found on his computer and cellphone. Nor would he identify his bedroom and living room furniture, which were in the photos.

Besides the salacious videos and photos, cops searching his computer found a creepy PowerPoint presentation of other women with whom he had sex — a compilation he called "The List."

He was also recorded having a conversation with the 15-year-old girl, advising her to "lay low" as Internal Affairs investigated him.

“Technically you are a minor,” Olmeda told the teen, according to court records.

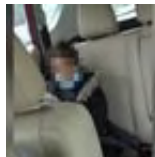
Born and bred in Brooklyn, crime reporter Thomas Tracy has been covering the NYPD for more than a decade. He joined the Daily News in January 2013.

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