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## Ex-Officer Pleads No Contest in Molestation Case

June 17, 1986

A former Los Angeles police officer pleaded no contest Monday to five counts of lewd conduct for sexually molesting a 15-year-old girl.

Michael Casados, 40, who resigned after his arrest in April, entered his no-contest pleas--the legal equivalent of guilty--on the day that his preliminary hearing was set to begin in Municipal Court.

He was allowed to remain free without bail and is scheduled to be sentenced in Superior Court on July 15.

Under terms of a plea bargain with the district attorney's office, Casados will receive no state prison or county jail time and eight other lewd conduct charges will be dismissed against him at that time.

Police spokesman Cmdr. William Booth said an investigation was launched after police received complaints from the victim, who had been molested over a five-year period.

In 1976, Casados was suspended for six months by a police tribunal, which found him guilty of engaging in sexual acts with a 17-year-old female Hollywood Explorer Scout.

Casados was a 16-year police veteran assigned to the Northeast Division.