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Ex-teacher accused of seeking sex from minor

By **John Guilfoil and Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE STAFF | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT NOVEMBER 08, 2011

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A retired Boston public school teacher was one of three men arrested over the weekend, accused of soliciting sex online from someone they believed was a 15-year-old girl, but was an undercover police officer.

John Caputo, 63, pleaded not guilty in Dorchester District Court yesterday to charges of soliciting sex for a fee and enticement of a child under 16.

Caputo retired in 2009 after 36 years working as a teacher, administrator, and program director, said Matthew Wilder, a school spokesman.

According to public records, Caputo made more than \$110,000 working at Madison Park High School

in Roxbury in 2009, his final year before retirement. In 2008, he was also paid \$5,000 to coach an undisclosed sports team in the school system.

Daniel Klim, 38, of Cambridge, and John Nguyen, 24, of Randolph also pleaded not guilty to the same charges yesterday. The three were ordered to stay away from children under 17, and Judge Shannon Frison set bail for each man at \$7,500.

Undercover Boston Police officers recently posed as a 15-year-old girl in online exchanges with Caputo and the two other men, police said yesterday. Acting separately, each of the three men then knowingly agreed to meet with the person they believed was an underage girl “with the intent of engaging in various sexual activities,” police said.

When the three men arrived at an arranged meeting location on Saturday afternoon, they were arrested.

Caputo has been charged with soliciting sex for a fee twice before, in 1998 and again in 2000, said Jake Wark, a spokesman for Suffolk District Attorney Daniel F. Conley. Both of Caputo’s prior cases were continued without a finding, Wark said. No further details were available on either of the old cases, the spokesman added.

Caputo worked for the School Department from September 1973 to August 2009.

Wilder said that the department could not comment on whether Caputo had ever been accused of misconduct or disciplined during his tenure, or whether the department knew about his two prior charges of soliciting sex for a fee.

“We wouldn’t be able to share information that may or may not be included in this former employee’s personnel file,” said Wilder.

“The Boston Police Human Trafficking Unit is committed to ending exploitation of young women and will continue to be proactive in doing this by continuously seeking various ways to address this issue,” police said in a statement.

Globe correspondent Derek J. Anderson contributed to this report. John M. Guilfoil can be reached at jguilfoil@globe.com. Follow him on Twitter [@globe_guilfoil](https://twitter.com/globe_guilfoil). Matt Rocheleau can be reached at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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