

Suspect in abduction try might face more charges

Waterbury police
offer no details on
film found at house

BY BEN CONERY
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WATERBURY — Inside John Regan's van Monday night, police in New York state found rope tied like a noose and a camera. On Wednesday, police found film in his home in Waterbury.

Regan is being held without bond in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., after being arrested Monday and charged with trying to abduct a teenage girl.

It was the third time since last summer that he was arrested and charged with committing a violent act against a woman.

Police Superintendent Neil O'Leary said police anticipate trying to file more charges against Regan as early as today.

Regan, who turns 49 today, was arrested in upstate New York after police said he tried to drag a 17-year-old girl into his van. Police said the girl had just finished practice with the Saratoga Springs High School cross-country team when Regan grabbed her around the waist.

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REGAN: Waterbury man to face more counts

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The girl furiously fought to break free of Regan, who was arrested near the school, police said.

A year ago, Regan was charged in Waterbury in connection with a notorious 1993 rape that rocked the police department. Regan was linked to that crime after submitting to a DNA test following an August 2004 arrest for allegedly trying to force himself on a 21-year-old woman, police said.

O'Leary said police obtained a search warrant for Regan's home at 117 Euclid Ave. based on the investigation in Saratoga Springs and a previous investigation in Waterbury. He would not comment on the nature of the current investigation, but said it is connected to all three of Regan's arrests.

Waterbury police are conducting the investigation with Cheshire police, O'Leary said.

On Wednesday, the Waterbury Police Department's forensic team analyzed the film taken from Regan's home, O'Leary said.

After analyzing the evidence and meeting with Waterbury State's Attorney John Connelly,

O'Leary said he anticipates trying to apply for an arrest warrant. He would not say for what charge.

The married father of three children, Regan faces attempted kidnapping charges in New York state that carry a maximum prison term of 15 years.

He was out on bonds totaling \$375,000 in the two Waterbury cases when he was arrested in New York.

The 1993 case changed the way the Waterbury police department handled sex assault cases. The victim sued the department for accusing her of lying

about the rape to mask an affair. She won \$190,000 in damages after winning the lawsuit.

Regan was not charged with sexual assault in the 1993 case because the statute of limitations had run out six years before his arrest. He faces kidnapping charges because police allege he bound the victim before raping her. He faces up to 60 years if convicted.

Regan, a member of a prominent Waterbury family, was charged with unlawful restraint in August 2004. In that case, police said, Regan got on top of the victim, but she managed to escape.



**John Regan
of Waterbury**