

Bancroft man charged with sexual assault

A Bancroft man has been charged with sexually assaulting an underage victim in 2002.

On Jan. 4, Bancroft OPP announced that 57-year-old Julian Steven O'Conner was charged regarding a historic sexual assault investigation.

The OPP said the event leading to the charges happened in 2002 but was reported to police Nov. 23, 2016. The investigation started as a call for service from a complainant.

O'Conner is charged with sexual assault with threat of harm to a third person, sexual interference with a person under 16, and inviting sexual touching with a person under 16. The age of the victim was not released to protect his or her identity.

He is charged with overcoming resistance by attempting to choke, suffocate or strangle another person, uttering threats, sexual assault, sexual assault causing bodily harm and possession of schedule one and two substances.

O'Conner is being held for a bail hearing at Belleville court Jan. 12.

Police are asking anyone who has information that may assist in the investigation to contact Bancroft OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or report to the OPP online at <http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=132>, by cellphone (*677 (*OPP)) or, if you wish to remain anonymous, through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) at <https://www.tipsubmit.com/start.htm>.

The investigation is ongoing.