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Neighbor gets 3 years for sex with teen girl

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News-Sun staff report

A Winthrop Harbor man will serve three years in prison after admitting to having a sexual relationship with an underage girl last summer.

Robert Padovano, 21, of 1512 7th St. pleaded guilty Thursday to aggravated criminal sexual abuse, a Class 2 offense.

Lake County prosecutors said Padovano was involved with a 15-year-old neighbor, starting in July and ending in August.

Police were called in after the girl's parents discovered text messages from Padovano on her phone. Further investigation revealed that she and Padovano were having sex.

As a part of the plea, Padovano is required to register as a sex offender.