

State Police supervisor dismissed

By GARY J. REMAL
Staff Writer

AUGUSTA — A 36-year-old Kents Hill supervisor in the State Police organized crime unit was fired Friday for "alleged improprieties during drug investigations," a State Police spokesman said.

Sgt. Michael C. Pratt, fired Friday, was one of three members of the State Police Organized Crime Division placed on administrative leave with pay on Feb. 10 pending an internal police investigation.

"Michael Pratt has been dismissed, effective today, Friday, April 10, 1987, for violating rules and regulations of the Maine State Police, as determined from an internal affairs investigation," State Police Chief Andrew E. Demers Jr. said Friday in a tersely worded statement.



PRATT

State Police spokesman Richard Moore refused to say what Pratt is alleged to have done that prompted his dismissal.

Earlier published reports, however, said the three state investigators were alleged to have had sexual relations with female informants and coerced some witnesses to lie in court.

Allegations that Pratt had sex with a female informant, and that he lied under oath during a hearing on a Waldo County drug case about that relationship, surfaced during a hearing in Kennebec County Superior Court on Feb. 25.

As a result, a judge ordered a new hearing in that case.

Moore said investigations into the two other undercover agents placed on administrative leave with Pratt — Sgt. Dennis R. Hayden and Detective John V. Scheid — "are continuing, and we hope the investigation will be completed as soon as possible."

He said any criminal charges arising from the allegations would be brought by the U.S. attorney's office.

Moore also confirmed that another state policeman, Trooper Harry Dumont, 31, of Lewiston's Troop B, was fired recently.

Dumont was fired March 25, just three months after he became a state trooper, Moore said, "for violations of rules and regulations of the Maine State Police."

Moore refused to say why Dumont was fired, but police sources say his firing was also tied to alleged sexual improprieties.

Dumont was hired Aug. 21, 1986, and graduated with the 40th Maine State Police Training Troop in December, Moore said.

Kennebec Journal (Augusta) April 11, 1987