

Counselor charged with lewd conduct

VERO BEACH — An adolescent-psychiatric counselor was being held on \$25,000 bond in the Indian River County Jail Monday night charged with lewd and lascivious conduct on a child under the age of 15.

According to an arrest affidavit filed by Indian River County Sheriff's Detective Phil Williams, William Francis "Drew" Perry III gave wine to a 15-year-old boy on Sunday, then performed oral sex

on the youth.

The boy told his mother who called the Sheriff's Department, Williams said. Williams said the youth allowed him to secretly monitor a telephone conversation between the teen-ager and Perry, during which "the defendant made incriminating statements about the incident," according to the affidavit.

Williams said Perry met the

youth while the teen-ager was undergoing psychiatric counseling at Rivendell, a 54-bed inpatient psychiatric center in Vero Beach. Fred Sauer, Rivendell's community services supervisor, said Monday that Perry had been an employee since May.

Sauer and Williams said Perry had resigned unexpectedly Friday morning and the alleged act took place Sunday afternoon.

Perry moved here from the

Orlando area, Williams and Sauer said, and he told co-workers he was leaving for a new job in the Charlotte, N.C., area.

Perry, 43, of Apartment 9, Building 14, Pines of Vero, also does counseling work at two Treasure Coast churches, Williams said. Williams said he will be checking with those churches and Rivendell to look further into Perry's background.