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## Former Mesa cop given life sentences in molestations

by **Stephanie Russo** - Jun. 29, 2010 11:41 AM  
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Former Mesa police officer Justin Bowman was sentenced to multiple life prison terms Monday.

- [Found guilty of 32 counts](#)

A Pinal County Superior judge sentenced Bowman, 31, after a jury found him guilty June 1 on 32 counts of child molestation, sexual conduct with a minor, sexual exploitation of a minor and furnishing obscene materials to a minor, Pinal County Attorney spokesman Kostas Kalaitzidis said.

Bowman was arrested in 2008 on suspicion of having child pornography on his computer hard drive and committing crimes against two children, a 10-year-old boy and a 9-year-old girl.

Prosecutors said Bowman victimized the two children between March 1 and Oct. 29, 2008.

Court records indicate the molestation stopped when Bowman's wife called police to report that he was suicidal. While at the couple's Maricopa residence, investigators said they learned Bowman was molesting children inside his home. Maricopa police said they found child pornography on Bowman's computer hard drive.

Mesa police records show Bowman was on the verge of being fired when he resigned from the department on Sept. 18, 2008. Bowman offered no reason for his departure in his resignation letter.

The Maricopa Police Department investigated the case with the Department of Public Safety, the Pinal County Sheriff's Office, Child Help, and the Family Advocacy Center of the Pinal County Attorney's Office.