

## Former Buckeye officer convicted of sex crimes

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### 2011 arrested 2014 convicted

A former Buckeye police officer will likely spend the rest of his life in prison after a jury recently convicted him of sex crimes against an underage girl.

Casey Leon Shook, 42, was arrested in 2011 after a teenage girl told police that he had been having sexual contact with her for years, police said. He was fired from the Buckeye police department in 2010. Police took Shook into custody while he trained in Florida to travel overseas as a K-9 handler.

On Friday, a jury found Shook guilty of seven counts of sexual conduct with a minor, three counts of voyeurism, two counts of kidnapping, one count of sexual abuse, and one count of threatening and intimidating a person.

Two additional counts of sexual conduct with a minor, one count of indecent exposure, one count of voyeurism and one count of kidnapping were dismissed during the trial.

Shook's attorney, Robert J. Campos, said he will file an appeal.

Shook faces a minimum of 111 years in prison, Jerry Cobb, spokesman for the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, said.

Campos said Arizona law made Shook's defense more difficult because it kept him from interviewing the victim and her mother prior to trial.

"It's gotten to the point in these kinds of cases, you're bushwhacked because you enter into trial knowing nothing about the accuser and having no ability under Arizona law to investigate the allegations ahead of time," he said.

*The Arizona Republic* does not identify sex crime victims.

Shook, a former Army Ranger and special forces member, started working for the Buckeye Police Department in September 2007, police records show. He had previously worked as a police officer in Washington state.

A Buckeye Police Department spokesman declined to comment until after sentencing.

Police records show Buckeye fired Shook in September 2010 after he admitted during an internal investigation that he plagiarized other officers by cutting and pasting from three investigative reports. The internal investigation also found that Shook improperly impounded evidence and improperly investigated and closed cases.

Sentencing in front of Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Sam Myers is scheduled for Aug. 14.