

Sunday, August 28, 2011

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## County attorney reviewing sexual abuse case involving off-duty Glendale officer and students



Chris Balmaceda  
Photographer: Courtesy: Glendale Police Department  
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Posted: 08/17/2011

By: ABC15.com staff

GLENDAL, AZ - The Maricopa County Attorney's Office is considering whether to file charges against a former Glendale police officer accused of touching a student in a sexual way and sending inappropriate text messages to four students while he was working at the school last year.

According to the Glendale Police Department, a parent contacted police in January 2011 regarding texts that had been sent between their child and an off-duty Glendale police officer working security at Mountain Ridge High School in Glendale.

An internal police investigation determined that 25-year-old Chris Balmaceda had sent texts to four students.

Balmaceda was taken off the streets and reassigned to an administrative position while the investigation was conducted, authorities said. In addition, his police authority was removed while the investigation continued.

During the investigation it was learned Balmaceda's conduct went beyond text messaging and involved sexual contact with one of the students. Glendale police say that student was 17 years old.

Glendale police say Balmaceda voluntarily resigned April 15, prior to the investigations being completed.

The texting and touching incidents carry criminal charges and police said four counts of luring a minor for sexual exploitation and one count of sexual abuse were submitted to the county attorney's office.

Balmaceda had worked as an officer for three and a half years.

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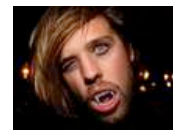
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