

Police officer may face more sex charges

Man accused of receiving nude photos from teenage girls

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A Columbus police officer accused of sexual activity with two teenage girls may have had other victims, according to court documents.

Todd Smith, 49, pleaded not guilty to three charges in federal court yesterday. But his attorney withdrew a bond motion after Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas W. Squires opposed Smith's release.

"There is an ongoing investigation to (determine) the identity of other potential victims," Squires wrote in a motion. "There is evidence indicating there is at least one additional potential victim."

Squires would not give more information.

Last week, a federal grand jury indicted Smith on two charges of attempted production of sexual photos or videos of minors and one charge of coercing a minor to have sex with him.

He was arrested on July 26 and has been in custody since then.

His attorney, Sam Shamansky, said he eventually may ask the judge to release Smith on bond.

"We're regrouping and keeping all avenues open," he said.

Smith was a resource officer at Centennial High School last year when, the FBI says, he began exchanging sexually explicit text messages via cellphone with at least two 15-year-old girls who were students there.

One girl has told the FBI that Smith tried to have sex with her in his office. She also said she sent Smith topless or nude photos of herself.

Squires' motion opposing Smith's release on bond cites evidence that Smith has a sex addiction and a history of alcohol abuse.

"Smith abused his position of trust, which was to guard safety and security of children at school," Squires wrote. He said Smith encouraged one of his female victims to "film sex acts with another adult."

At least six members of Smith's family attended the 10-minute hearing in U.S. District Court but refused to speak to reporters. Dressed in an orange prison jumpsuit and shackles, Smith nodded and smiled at them as he was taken away by deputy U.S. marshals after the hearing.

Judge Algenon L. Marbley ordered Smith to remain in jail and set his trial for Oct. 22.

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