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Former Minneapolis officer pleads guilty to lesser sex crime charges

2:00 AM, Mar 9, 2012

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MINNEAPOLIS - A former Minneapolis park police officer who was charged with molesting a young boy avoided trial Thursday by reaching a plea deal.

William Jacobs was charged with first degree criminal sexual conduct for allegedly molesting a 15-year-old boy over a three-year period. Prosecutors also charged him with possessing child pornography.

Under the plea deal, Jacobs will plead guilty to three counts of second degree criminal sexual conduct and three counts of possession of child pornography.



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Prosecutors say Jacobs inappropriately touched children as far back as the early 1960s.



Jacobs was a once a Minneapolis park police officer as well as a camp counselor and teacher.

The victim in the current case, now 17, did not want to speak after the plea hearing but did say through Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman that his long nightmare is over.

The attorneys on both sides agreed that

Jacobs should serve between 12 and 18 years in prison. He will be sentenced sometime next month.

Jacobs' trial was set to begin Thursday.

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