

Anoka County: More sex charges for ex-Minneapolis cop

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The latest round of criminal charges filed against a former Minneapolis police officer accused of soliciting young girls online include allegations that he repeatedly had sex with a 16-year-old he lured to his car during the summer of 2010.

Eight additional charges were filed Friday against Bradley Schnickel in Anoka County District Court, bringing the total criminal counts now facing the 32-year-old father to 21 and the number of his alleged victims to 20.

Still more charges might be coming, said Paul Young, the prosecutor on the case for Anoka County.

"I am still considering this a fluid, open investigation," Young said.

While authorities are finally through the roughly 8,000 pages of electronic data reportedly documenting



Schnickel's online conversations with various girls, Young said further review of the material could lead investigators down new paths to additional victims.

Schnickel's attorney, Fred Bruno, did not return a call for comment. Bruno said in court recently that Schnickel had entered a sex-offender treatment program.

Schnickel is accused of seeking out young girls on the Internet -- largely through Facebook -- to engage in sexual conduct both electronically and in person, though court records indicate most of the girls appear to have communicated with Schnickel online.

The youngest alleged victim was 11. Several others were 12 to 14.

Schnickel's employment with Minneapolis police was terminated after the first round of charges was filed against him in February.

Young has previously said there is evidence to suggest Schnickel may have used police equipment to track down his victims.

The complaint filed Friday details his alleged relationship with a 15-year-old he met in Coon Rapids during the summer of 2010.

The young girl was reportedly in-line skating when she noticed a man in a car trying to get her attention. Inside was Schnickel, who told the girl that he was a 23-year-old bartender and that he found her "sexy,"

the complaint said.

The two allegedly became Facebook friends and stayed in touch electronically over the next year.

They had sex multiple times the following summer at a Coon Rapids park and at the girl's home when her parents were gone, the complaint said.

By then, she was 16.

With other girls, Schnickel is accused of repeatedly stating his desire for sex, often sending the juveniles pictures of his genitals and occasionally offering to provide them alcohol if they agreed to meet him in person.

Eighteen of the alleged victims live in Anoka County; two live in Hennepin County.

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