

## Former Minneapolis police officer pleads guilty to sex charges

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Bradley Schnickel, a former Minneapolis police officer accused of using social media to try to lure girls into sexual encounters, pleaded guilty Monday to five counts of criminal sexual conduct, criminal sexual contact or solicitation of minors.

Schnickel entered the plea in Anoka County court, where he had been scheduled to go on trial starting Monday. He could face nearly 12 years in prison under the plea agreement.

Last summer, Schnickel was sentenced to one year in the Hennepin County workhouse and six years' probation after pleading guilty to sending nude photographs of himself to two teenage girls in that county.

Schnickel was initially arrested last February and accused of sending explicit online messages to four girls in Anoka County and having sex with one, a 14-year-old. Further charges involving 14 other Anoka County girls were filed in May.

The Hennepin County charges were filed last April.

Schnickel was fired from the Minneapolis police force last February.

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