

## More sex charges against ex-Minneapolis cop

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Former Minneapolis police officer Bradley Schnickel, already facing allegations that he had sex with a 14-year-old girl he met online, has been charged with six additional felony counts after seven more girls said he tried to coerce them into sexual encounters.

The latest charges say Schnickel, 32, sent explicit messages and pictures of his genitalia via Facebook and Skype to seven girls in Anoka County, two of whom he subsequently met in person. Court records allege that he grabbed the breasts of a 16-year-old and allowed her to perform oral sex on him, supplied alcohol to two girls and in online chats told a 13-year-old she was “[expletive] sexy” and persuaded a 12-year-old to send him photos of her breasts.

A total of 13 girls from Anoka and Hennepin counties, ages 11 to 16, have claimed that Schnickel approached them on Facebook, saying he was “Brady Schmidt” and portraying himself as a far younger man, telling at least one alleged victim he was 17.

Schnickel was initially arrested in February in Anoka County and accused of having had sex with the 14-year-old and having a sexual encounter or chats via Facebook and Skype with three girls ages 13 and 14. Charges of Internet solicitation involving two Brooklyn Center girls were brought in April.

The latest court documents accuse Schnickel of making sexual overtures via the Internet with seven girls in Anoka County last year. In several cases, he asked the girl with whom he was conversing to send him naked photos of herself, according to the documents. Schnickel allegedly sent four of the girls photographs of his naked body.

Schnickel assured a 12-year-old that she was not “too young” and asked her for oral sex, the charges say. A 14-year-old claimed that Schnickel asked her for oral sex about “five times a day.” A 13-year-old told authorities that Schnickel asked her if they could “hook up” and have sex.

Another 14-year-old said she was offered alcohol in exchange for sex, according to the charges. A 13-year-old said Schnickel wanted to include a second male in their suggested sexual encounter.

The investigation is ongoing and more possible victims may surface, according to the Anoka County attorney’s office, which has reviewed more than 9,000 printed Facebook pages.

Schnickel is scheduled to appear in Anoka County District Court on Thursday. His attorney, Fred Bruno, has petitioned to have the charges in Anoka and Hennepin counties consolidated. To avoid conflicts of interest within Hennepin County, Minnesota Supreme Court Chief Justice Lorie Gildea has assigned an Anoka County judge to the case.

Minneapolis Police Chief Janeé Harteau called the charges “horrific” after Schnickel’s arrest in February. His last day on the force was Feb. 8, according to a department spokesman.