



Former Dauphin County deputy sheriff sentenced

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By **PETE SHELLEM, The Patriot-News**

A former Dauphin County sheriff's deputy charged with sexually assaulting five girls was sentenced Monday to 5 to 10 years in state prison.

Judge Todd A. Hoover imposed the term on Steve A. Lincoln, 51, plus a consecutive 10 years of probation under the terms of a plea agreement reached with prosecutors.

Lincoln pleaded no contest in February to four counts of rape and corruption of minors and one count each of involuntary deviate sexual intercourse and indecent assault. A no-contest plea is an admission that the prosecution could prove its case and carries the same consequences as a guilty plea.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Sean M. McCormack started a grand jury investigation after two rape allegations, dating to 2000 and 2004, were made by Harrisburg police. The girls were 8 and 7 at the time of the incidents.

After the first set of charges were made public, more victims came forward, McCormack said. Authorities said none of the attacks was connected to Lincoln's job as a deputy sheriff.

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