

## Guilty plea to sex assault in 2000

August 19, 2009

Publication: News Sun, The (Waukegan, IL)

Section: LOCAL

Page: 5

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A Buffalo Grove man could spend up to eight years in prison after pleading guilty Tuesday to sexually assaulting a teenage girl nearly a decade ago.

Michael Newby, 53, of 900 block of Hilldale Lane pleaded guilty to a single count of criminal sexual assault, a Class 1 felony, following allegations that he inappropriately touched a teenage girl at his home in January 2000.

The victim, who is now 22, came forward following Newby's January 2009 arrest for possession of child pornography, said prosecutor Mary Staton. She told investigators Newby touched her on a few occasions, but stopped once she told her mother.

Newby's plea to sexual assault eliminated a handful of sex abuse and child pornography counts, the latter of which were filed after it was discovered he had been downloading pornography from an online file-sharing network.

Circuit Judge John Phillips will sentence him Sept. 23. Although a Class 1 felony usually carries a minimum sentence of four years, Newby could be sentenced to probation because the assault occurred nine years ago, and the victim is now in her 20s.

Newby must participate in a pre-sentencing investigation and a sex-offender evaluation prior to his sentencing hearing. He remains in Lake County Jail custody.