

Attempt to change guilty plea rejected

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A man accused of molesting a younger male family member in Round Lake Beach in 1995 and 1996 unsuccessfully tried to withdraw his guilty plea at a hearing Monday.

Charles Pashegoba, 45, of Chicago had pleaded guilty Aug. 21 to one count of aggravated criminal sexual assault. The victim, now 21, came forward with the accusations in late 2008. Round Lake Beach police arrested Pashegoba a short time later.

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Pashegoba

Pashegoba has been in custody since January. A psychiatrist at Lake County Jail diagnosed Pashegoba with bipolar disorder in February, according to testimony given in court Monday.

Pashegoba contended in his testimony that the drugs he was prescribed, lithium, Thorazine and trazodone, affected his decision to enter the guilty plea.

Testimony from the director of the medical department at the Lake County Jail, Scott Fitch, said his medical records contested Pashegoba's statement, showing the defendant refused his meds once in February.

Judge Daniel Shanes ruled against the motion, saying the defendant gave coherent, competent responses during his plea.

Pashegoba is scheduled to appear in court for sentencing Jan. 7, 2010. He was charged with a Class X felony, which is punishable up to 30 years in prison.