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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2011

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Local News

Home News Local News Man charged with child luring found dead

Man charged with child luring found dead

By SARAH DEETH, Examiner Police Writer Updated 25 days ago

The Examiner has learned a former city police officer arrested earlier this week on charges of child luring and invitation to sexual touching was found dead in his home Friday.

Mr. Bronson, 51, was charged Wednesday following a six-month investigation launched by City of Kawartha Lakes OPP after investigators received a complaint in January that a man engaged in inappropriate, online conversations with a young person.

The Examiner has learned that Mr. Bronson committed suicide.

City police Sgt. Deb Gillis said police could not confirm Mr. Bronson's death.

She did say officers attended a Reid St. home Friday to assist the coroner with a sudden death investigation.

The death isn't considered criminal or suspicious, she said.

Mr. Bronson resigned from city police in 1998.

OPP Det. Sgt. Paul Thompson, with the OPP's child exploitation section, said he hadn't had any confirmation on the incident.

Should that be the case, he said, the OPP would continue to check items seized during the investigation.

Investigators aren't expecting to find more victims, he said, but the checks would be considered a matter of due diligence.

Mr. Bronson was arrested after a sting in which an undercover police detective posed online as a girl and arranged to meet Mr. Bronson in Durham Region, police said.

sdeeth@peterboroughexaminer.com

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Retired Peterborough police officer Douglas Ralph Bronson, 51, who was charged earlier this week with luring a child via computer and invitation to sexual touching under 16, was found dead at his home Friday.

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