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Preliminary Hearing Set In Atchison Child Sex Case

(KAIR)--A preliminary hearing date has been set in the case of an Atchison man accused of sex crimes against a child.

33-year-old Steven Piper appeared in Atchison County District Court Friday morning, where a preliminary hearing was scheduled for September 17th.

Piper's attorney also requested a bond reduction from \$200,000 to \$40,000. County Attorney Jerry Kuckelman opposed the request, citing the seriousness of the charges and the potential threat to public safety. The judge agreed, and denied the request.

Piper turned himself in to police earlier this month after an investigation showed that he had allegedly engaged in unlawful sexual acts with a child under the age of 14 between 2003 and 2008. He is facing one count of aggravated indecent liberties with a child, three counts of aggravated criminal sodomy, and two counts of aggravated indecent solicitation of a child.

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