

# Arizona court rejects appeal by former abortion doctor

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PHOENIX - An Arizona court has rejected an appeal by a former abortion doctor serving a decades-long prison sentence for sexually abusing patients during examinations.

The Court of Appeals on Thursday denied the petition filed by Brian Finkel, saying he couldn't now raise issues that he hadn't raised earlier in the appeals process.

Finkel was convicted in 2004 of 22 counts of sexual abuse and acquitted of 34 other abuse charges.

During his trial, more than 30 women testified that Finkel groped them and inappropriately touched their breasts and genitals during exams.

Finkel performed numerous abortions in his Metro Phoenix Women's Clinic. He was known in Arizona as an outspoken advocate for abortion rights who wore a gun to protect himself from violent abortion opponent.

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