

Local Man Suspected Of 20 Sexual Assaults Is Still Posting On Popular Hook-Up Site

By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

The former Cedarburg restaurant operator and bartender suspected of drugging as many as 20 women before sexually assaulting them has a profile and is seeking women on a popular dating and hookup app.

Jacob Banas has a profile on the app called “Bumble,” a site in which dates, hookups and friendships occur but only after the woman customer makes the first move. Banas’ profile lists his name as “JB.” It does not mention that he is free on bond on charges of administering a “dangerous or stupefying drug.” He has been linked to, but not directly charged with, multiple sexual assaults and has been convicted of blackmailing a woman he claimed to have made a sex tape with.

Ozaukee County District Attorney Adam Gerol stated in court this week Banas is suspected of drugging at least 20 women and having sex with them while unconscious or “out of it.” Banas formerly operated August Weber Haus, a bar and restaurant in Cedarburg. He has already sued a number of women who claim he raped them. He has a 2004 conviction after being charged with attempting to extort a woman over a sex tape. The current charges come after a series of alleged assaults that took place between 2008 and 2014, many in Cedarburg, where victims believe they were drugged by Banas who is accused of then having sex with them. Banas has been fighting the charges for years. He is so far only formally accused with administering the drugs but prosecutors have alleged in court that the drugs were given for the purposes of committing assaults. They are scheduled to go trial next year.

Ozaukee County Judge Paul Malloy released Banas on a mere \$25,000 signature bond and the terms of his bond do not appear to restrict his activities and his postings on the dating sites appear to be legal.

Whether the women who view his profile know what he is suspected of is another question.

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