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Rape and Molestation Cases Make News in Rockland

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Two Girls Raped by Four Chestnut Ridge Boys

Four 12- and 13-year old boys are accused of sexually attacking two girls, ages 12 and 14. The boys, students at Chestnut Ridge Middle School, are charged with first-degree rape and first-degree criminal sex acts.

Reportedly, they attacked the 14-year-old girl in her home by sneaking in through a window and locking her in her bedroom, pinning her down. She did manage to escape eventually by kicking one of the boys in the groin.

The boys returned the following day and attacked her and the 12-year-old girl. After three days, the older girl finally told her parents. The parents called the police and the boys were arrested. "I was scared my parents might yell at me or do something against the boys," said the 14-year-old. "Finally, my friend told me that if I didn't tell my parents, she would come over and tell them herself."

Rockland Family Court Judge Sherri Eisenpress ordered the boys to be sent to a secure juvenile facility in Westchester County pending a ruling.

"What these perpetrators did was vile," said Ramapo police Detective Lt. Mark Emma. "These were violent, heinous offenses that no person, let alone a child, should have to suffer... There's going to be emotional issues for them for years to come."

Both the victims and suspects identities are being protected due to their age.

Monsey Man Pleads Guilty to Child Sex Abuse, Gets No Jail Time



Shmuel Dym, 31, formerly of 4 Hadassah Lane, Monsey has pled guilty to two counts of course of sexual conduct against a child in the second degree, class "D" Felonies and two counts of endangering the welfare of a child, a class "A" misdemeanor. He will now join his brother on the sex offender registry and is expected to serve approximately 10 years probation, but no jail time. The official sentence will not be handed down until August.

Dym admitted to improperly touching two young brothers, ages seven and eight, multiple times during a three-month period. The defendant pleaded guilty as a jury prepared to hear evidence in the child molestation case. The charges against him did not include oral sex or "intercourse."

District Attorney Thomas Zugibe acknowledged to the Journal News daily newspaper that community pressure was a factor in the settlement, as many leaders in the Orthodox community were pressuring the victim's family to drop the case. Zugibe also acknowledged that many others in the religious community were supportive of Dym's victims.

Zugibe said, "This guilty plea will spare the victims from the emotional trauma of testifying at trial. It also is a guarantee that the defendant will live with the knowledge of what he has done and the pain he has caused the victims and their entire family."

A probe into Dym's inappropriate behavior was launched by Ramapo Police in August of 2011 following a complaint of sexual abuse from a member of the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community.

17 Year Sentence in Clarkstown Child Sex Case

Rockland County District Attorney Thomas P. Zugibe announced that Jovo Claudio Lopez, 52, formerly of 29 Kings Highway, Valley Cottage, New York was sentenced to 17 years in state prison on his guilty plea to one count of course of sexual conduct against a child in the first degree, a class "B" Felony. On numerous occasions between 2009 and 2011, Lopez admitted to sexually abusing a young girl in his care. The victim, now seven-years-old, was molested in her Valley Cottage home as the defendant was babysitting. Lopez was a friend of the victim's family. The charge insinuates that Lopez either engaged in oral sex or "intercourse" with the child.

District Attorney Zugibe said, "In this case, the defendant was in a position of trust and authority over the victim and chose to violate that responsibility. He was charged with protecting the victim, not stealing her childhood. Today's lengthy sentence is more than justified and will make certain a dangerous predator remains off the streets for many years."

The court also imposed 10 years post-release supervision. Upon his release from prison, Lopez is required to register as a sex offender under Meghan's Law/Sex Offender Registry Act. Lopez pled guilty in March during jury selection for his impending trial before the Honorable Judge William K. Nelson. The case was prosecuted by Special Victims Unit Senior Assistant District Attorney Patricia Gunning.

Charged with Second Degree Rape



On June 14, 2012 the Clarkstown Police Department arrested Isreal Moreno, 23, from New City, NY after an investigation was conducted by the Juvenile Division of the Detective Bureau. The investigation revealed that Moreno had engaged in sex with a female (known to him) who was less than 16 years of age. The alleged incident took place sometime during the month of June. Moreno was charged with second degree rape, a felony, sexual misconduct and endangering the welfare of a child, misdemeanors. Moreno was arraigned in Clarkstown Justice Court before Judge Ugell and remanded to the Rockland County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$75,000 bail. Moreno was back in court on June 18.



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