



Aspiring Baltimore Cop Sentenced in DC for Assaulting a Prostitute

Posted by **Angela Valdez** on Sep. 29, 2008 at 1:54 pm

This item only made it into the [Washington Times](#)' briefs. The short story had these details: **Colin Hatch**, a 23-year-old Capitol Heights church deacon gets sentenced to 14 years in prison for sexually assaulting a DC prostitute at gunpoint.

Pretty bad. Here's what they left out: Hatch was two weeks from taking a new job as a **Baltimore City Police Officer**. And his method of assault was particularly horrific.

According to a sentencing memorandum released by the D.C. U.S. Attorney's Office, Hatch picked up his victim one night last November, near the intersection of 10th and K Streets NW. She got in his car, they agreed on a price (\$100, for sex) and drove somewhere more private. The victim told police Hatch seemed like a nice guy at first. But when she climbed into the back seat, he turned mean. He pulled out a gun and demanded oral sex. From the memorandum:

"Once he became erect, the defendant forced [the victim] to engage in vaginal sex. During the course of the sexual assault, the defendant lost his erection and forced [the victim] to perform oral sex on him a second time so that he could regain his erection."

Amazingly, he allowed the young woman to escape once he had finished. She immediately called the cell phone of a police officer she knew, with no answer. She called another prostitute to put out a warning. Then a friend picked her up in his car and together they trailed Hatch, who continued to cruise the area for another 15 minutes at least. All the while, the victim was trying to reach police, who finally stopped Hatch an hour and a half after the assault. Asked if he had a gun, Hatch copped to a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun in his glove box. He didn't have a permit to transport the gun. He said he'd meant to go to the firing range, but went to two malls, Applebee's and a friends house to play video games instead. He said the gun had slipped his mind.

At 2 a.m. he decided to go clubbing with friends in DC. Problem was, all the clubs were closing. Then, Hatch told police, the victim flagged him down as he drove by. He didn't realize she was a prostitute. He didn't deny they had sex, or that a payment was eventually discussed. That might have been hard given the presence of DNA evidence.

Hatch wasn't worried about how his arrest might impact his life, at least not his role as a deacon at church. In a telephone conversation recorded from his jail cell, he told a friend: "It wasn't like I was playing around in the church ... this is something that happened on my own personal time that I just got in trouble for."

Hatch hadn't yet completed the background examination for his job offer from the Baltimore police. I wonder how they test for selective morality.

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