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Former BR Police Officer's Arrest May Affect Pending Cases

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WAFB 9News has learned the arrest of Baton Rouge police officer, Jim Rogers, may have an effect on at least a dozen pending cases in the 19th Judicial District Court.

Rogers is accused of raping two separate women last week while in his patrol car and uniform. Baton Rouge police chief Jeff LeDuff has called it a sad day for the city.

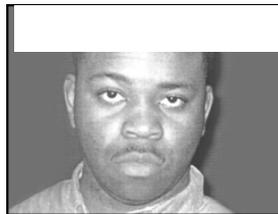
East Baton Rouge Parish Clerk of Court's Office cross-referenced the cases involving former officer, Jim Rogers. About a dozen popped up, including armed robbery, illegal use of weapons and a number of drug charges hang in the balance.

Rogers was in uniform when he allegedly raped two females last week. He was jailed Tuesday night and still sits in East Baton Rouge Parish prison on a \$500,000 bond. The disposition of the cases involving Rogers will, in all likelihood, be handled much the same way other cases are when an officer is killed. In other words, the district attorney's office will examine each case on an individual basis to determine the extent of Rogers' involvement and how the absence of his testimony will affect the case.

Officer Rogers was scheduled to be in court Wednesday as a witness on a burglary case. He was involved in a case against Bobby Hardnett. Attorneys involved in the case say Rogers' absence did not affect this issue because there was an independent witness and in another charge, there was a plea. Each case will have to be looked over by the district attorney's office to see what Rogers' absence will have on it.

One other note...during the video call-out Wednesday morning when Rogers was questioned, we understand that he was very calm and very polite when questioned by the judicial commissioner. We tried to talk to Rogers' attorney, Jamie Rothkam, but his office said he was in court.

Reporter: Jim Shannon, WAFB 9News



Jim Rogers

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