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NOPD officer pleads guilty to raping his girlfriend's 13-year-old daughter

Published: Wednesday, May 11, 2011, 11:58 AM Updated: Wednesday, May 11, 2011, 12:43 PM

By John Simerman, The Times-Picayune

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Just as his alleged victim, the 13-year-old daughter of his ex-girlfriend, was sworn in to testify, former New Orleans police officer Christopher Buckley pleaded guilty this morning to raping the girl.



Christopher Buckley

Buckley, 39, **was arrested in October 2008** after the girl told her story to her mother, also an officer with the NOPD. The Times-Picayune is not naming the woman because of her relationship with the victim.

The victim, now 15, had been sworn in and was preparing to take the witness stand when Buckley decided to take a plea. In all, he pleaded guilty to seven counts of forcible rape.

After his arrest, police revealed that Buckley had been **the subject of two earlier, internal investigations** stemming from complaints of inappropriate behavior with girls, neither of which led to charges.

Buckley, a 10-year veteran of the department, resigned immediately after his arrest.

The girl's mother testified Tuesday that she found her daughter on the floor of a bedroom closet, in fear.

"I asked him a question ... Did he rape my daughter? 'Did you touch my daughter?' " testified the woman, whom The Times-Picayune is not naming because of her relationship with the alleged victim.

"He just was, 'I didn't do it.' ... He said, 'What I'm supposed to do? Do I need to get a lawyer?' I told him, 'For what? You're telling me you didn't do anything.'"

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A grand jury indicted Buckley in December 2008 for both the alleged rape of the girl and that of a woman in 2003. One of the charges to which Buckley pleaded this morning involved the second case.

Buckley's attorney, Robert Jenkins, suggested Tuesday that the girl, who he said was sexually active, conjured a rape story to save face.

But a hospital nurse who conducted a rape exam at Children's Hospital testified that the girl suffered "acute" tearing that suggested sexual assault, as well as scratches to her right hip.

Also, prosecution witnesses said Tuesday that the victim had told them Buckley that insisted she take "a test" to show whether she was sexually active. That test, according to prosecutor Payal Patel, turned out to be rape.

"We're taught that they're there to protect and serve. We respect them. Well, ladies and gentlemen, that's exactly what Christopher Buckley was banking on," Patel said. "She trusted Christopher Buckley, looked at him like a father."

Patel said Tuesday the state would present DNA evidence linking Buckley to the crime today, through a towel that has tested positive for Buckley's semen and other evidence. She said fingernail scrapings tested positive for a mix of the girl's DNA and Buckley's.

"She tried to resist him," Patel said.

Buckley could face life in prison. He remains jailed in lieu of \$2.8 million bond, jail records show.

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NOPD, who would have thought.

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If he plead guilty, the girl is no longer his alleged victim.

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Thank you. When will they ever get this right?

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Absolutely disgusting. Make 'em tread water in the river.

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A cop and a child rapist. Yeah, he's gonna have a lot of fun in Angola!

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Yeah, he's gonna get a taste of his own medicine...

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May 11, 2011 at 12:43PM

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I remember when police officer's had to be hired from WITHIN Orleans Parish and we couldn't find enough QUALIFIED applicants. So we hired garbage as police officers when qualified applicants lived within a short distance but outside of parish lines. Garbage in is garbage out.

Residency Rules.....hire the most qualified person regardless of race, age, etc.

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painman May 11, 2011 at 12:55PM
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Since Katrina, the residency rules are not strictly enforced, and NOPD is still in that "handbasket," waiting for delivery to HELL!

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newilson1 May 11, 2011 at 1:27PM
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Yeah it would interesting to see a breakdown of officers arrested and where they were truly from. I do kind of like the idea of city money and resources staying in the city. I think the city should have made it more attractive to stay in the city with tax breaks, help with housing, and a some sort of bonus for living within city limits. There are many great neighborhoods all around this city for anyone taste. From lower Algiers to the far far east there are many styles of homes.

Also our police cars which the gas and maintance we pay for should stay in Orleans.

70114

70114

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sapperpest19 May 11, 2011 at 6:32PM
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"Also our police cars which the gas and maintance we pay for should stay in Orleans."
NOPD does not allow take home cars anymore.

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newilson1 July 15, 2011 at 2:47AM
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I see many police cars parked all times of the days near my house. I doubt thats the case. It's 12 a week for an officer to bring home their cars.

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