

News

AUGUST 24, 2011

 Search
or search by reporter/columnist name

26 Comments

Print

Ex-reserve officer pleads guilty to rape



Richard Carr, a 46-year-old former reserve officer for the Columbus Police Department, center, is taken into custody by a Lowndes County Circuit Court bailiff Monday after he pleaded guilty to the statutory rape of his girlfriend's underage daughter.

RYAN POE (contact)
AUGUST 24, 2010 9:47:00 AM

A 14-year reserve Columbus police officer pleaded guilty Monday evening in Lowndes County Circuit Court to statutorily raping his girlfriend's underage daughter multiple times.

"It's something I did," said 46-year-old Richard Carr, who had sex with the 15-year-old girl when she was 13 and 14.

Carr had sex with the victim "various times" at her house in Columbus while he was baby-sitting her and her siblings, according to the indictment.

The defendant was arrested in Oktibbeha County in 2009 after the victim confessed to her mother, who had been at work when the incidents occurred.

The Dispatch does not identify victims of sexual assault.

Sixteenth Circuit Judge Jim Kitchens postponed sentencing until Aug. 31, saying he needed a week to think about proper punishment for the "pretty reprehensible" crime.

"I don't know what I want to do," he told the courtroom Monday. "I need to think about it."

The defendant could receive anywhere from 20 years to life in prison for the first count of statutory rape and up to 30 years for the second, according to 16th District Attorney Forrest Allgood's office. Since this is Carr's first offense, the judge can suspend any sentence.

Carr, who was taken into custody after the court recessed, will be kept in a separate cell in the Lowndes County jail, per Kitchens' orders.

Carr is represented by Columbus attorney Steven Wallace.

Prosecuting attorney Lindsay Clemons said the victim's relatives had been at the courthouse earlier in the week, but could not stay for the trial.

"(The victim's grandfather) feels these incidents have ruined her life," she told Kitchens.

Clemons argued for a stiffer punishment, adding that Carr "should be held to a higher standard" because of his status as an auxiliary police officer.

[back to top](#)

Sign up for our free newsletter to receive links to our most popular stories in your Inbox.

RELATED CONTENT

Related Dispatch Content (3)

READER COMMENTS

26 reader comments

[post a comment](#)

sort by: [popularity](#) [newest first](#) [oldest first](#)

avatar comments:

8/24/2010 11:04:00 AM

"Clemons argued for a stiffer punishment, adding that Carr "should be held to a higher standard" because of his status as an auxiliary police officer"

MOST VIEWED NEWS STORIES

1. Run-off results for Lowndes, Oktibbeha and Clay
2. Pit-bull owner cited for child attack
3. DuPree wins Democratic nomination for Miss. gov
4. Author's letter is focal point in 'The Help' suit
5. New fire station in New Hope could mean faster response time

[more popular content](#) | [the big page](#)

\$500
POOL MEMBERSHIPS

Call 662-328-4837
for more information

The Commercial Dispatch

Like

3,489 people like The Commercial Dispatch.

Devin	Leonard	Dana	Bo-Teena
Susan	Julie	Richard	Nick

[The Dispatch](#) on Facebook