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Grand jury expected to hear case of officers accused of relationships with teen

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LOUISVILLE, Ky. (WDRB) -- Six months after WDRB broke the story of four officers accused of an inappropriate relationship with a 15-year-old girl, the case is headed to a special grand jury.

March 17: that's the day a special grand jury in Meade County, Ky. is expected to hear the case of a sex scandal involving a 15-year-old girl.

Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorney Thomas Wine says two of his prosecutors -- Sara Farmer and Bill Burt -- will be presenting the case to the grand jury on that day. He says they have experience in these types of cases.

People have claimed that a grand jury would have heard the case sooner, had officers not been accused. Wine says he doesn't believe that's true.

He will not comment on why it has taken so long, but says his office officially accepted the case on Oct. 22 and had its first interview with Kentucky State Police investigators on Nov. 19.

Kentucky Attorney General Jack Conway said on Sept. 27, "I do know that law enforcement officers ought not be having sexual relations with 15-year-olds, so that's very disappointing, and hopefully justice will be done."

Wine confirms the grand jury case involves four people, but would only name two former KSP troopers: Jerry Clanton and Stratford Young. He will not discuss which witnesses will be called, nor the charges they're pursuing.

As WDRB News has been reporting, a father says his 15-year-old daughter is the victim of inappropriate relationships with a Brandenburg officer, two Kentucky State Police troopers, and a Breckinridge County Sheriff's deputy.

Breckinridge Deputy Christopher Woosley resigned in September and Brandenburg Officer Todd Matti resigned in October. Wine says he will not confirm the other officers' names in case they are not indicted.

On Jan. 3, Captain Matt Feltner, the KSP Commander of Legal Services said, "You can't put a 15-year-old girl in a car, drive her up in the middle of nowhere and have sex with her. I mean, that doesn't have to be written out somewhere to know it's completely wrong and outside the lines."

In a 175-page transcript that WDRB obtained from the hearing where Clanton tried to get his job back, Clanton says he and Young thought the girl was 18 years old.

"I made a moral mistake," Clanton, who is married, said. "And, I've gotten right with my family."

Clanton says with Young, they would watch UFC fights on TV last summer while Clanton was on duty.

He outlines four encounters that include sexual relations while he was in uniform on the trunk of the police cruiser, off the side of a road.

Investigators say Young also a sexual relationship with the same girl.

Meade Circuit Court Clerk Debbi Medley says 12 of the regular grand jurors who just started their three-month term last month will be asked to serve on this special grand jury on March 17.

Medley says if they can't make it, they'll look for alternates from the circuit court grand jury pool.

If there are indictments, Wine says the same prosecutors will try the cases in Meade County. The former officers have all denied our requests for an interview.

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