
2014 Cop pedophile

A former state trooper indicted on sex charges involving a then-15-year-old girl will face a jury in the fall of 2015.

The trial for Stratford Young, indicted on charges of third-degree rape and third-degree sodomy, was set for 9 a.m. Oct. 26 during a court appearance Thursday in Meade Circuit Court.

During the appearance, Young's attorney, Kenton Smith, told Judge Bruce T. Butler he thought at least a week was needed to conduct the trial.

"With all the media, I feel there will be jury issues," he said. "I hope we can do it in a week. It's not a case where the defense would not present a vigorous defense."

Butler said his primary concern was to allow for the seating of a new jury panel from another former police officer's sex case trial involving the same girl.

The trial for Todd Matti, who is indicted on two counts of third-degree sodomy, is set for 9 a.m. June 22. Matti is a former Brandenburg police officer.

A new jury panel is drawn in early September and the October date was the first available week for the trial.

A pretrial conference date also was set for 9 a.m. Sept. 3.

Diane Arnold of the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorney office is special prosecutor for the cases.

According to Young's indictment, offenses with the underage girl occurred "on or about May 22, 2013, through July 31, 2013." The case originally was brought to law enforcement July 31, 2013, and Young was indicted in March, along with Matti.

During the investigation, Young and former state police trooper Jerry Clanton were fired and Matti and former Breckinridge County Sheriff's Deputy Chris Woosley resigned.

Although not indicted by the Commonwealth, Clanton and Woosley were named in a list of evidence from the investigation provided by the Commonwealth in Young's and Matti's cases. Clanton also admitted to sex acts with the girl in a hearing with the KSP Trial Board in an effort to get back his job.

An indictment is a legal allegation and not proof of guilt. Young and Matti are innocent until proven guilty.