

Female officer: Alleged victim fit rape category

By Darlene McCormick

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WATERBURY — A female officer trained in rape crisis took the stand Wednesday in the ongoing civil suit accusing police of turning on a 44-year-old Waterbury woman who claimed she was raped.

Retired Waterbury police Capt. Kathleen Wilson said she was dispatched to a reported rape in the early morning hours of Sept. 11, 1993, because she was the only female officer on duty. Wilson was also a training officer in rape crisis at the department, Wilson said.

Wilson, who was subpoenaed by the woman's attorneys, said the woman seemed to be acting strangely at times, but that was not uncommon in rape cases. Wilson said when she arrived at the scene, the woman wasn't distraught but

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SUIT: Witness says woman fit sex assault victim category

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appeared to be wandering around like a "lost soul."

Wilson said she introduced herself and told the woman she needed to go to the hospital. Wilson said the woman said the unknown man didn't actually rape her so there was no need to go to the hospital; and the woman walked away from Wilson in a flippant manner.

Wilson said she later approached the woman again about going to the hospital after checking on the woman's children; the woman said the man was having trouble getting an erection and had only rubbed his penis on her back, and the woman reiterated she wasn't raped. Wilson told the woman it was important to get a rape exam so any fluids could be taken into evidence, Wilson said.

Wilson said the woman then got her purse and headed to the bathroom and she had to remind the woman to wait until after her exam.

The woman said she did not believe the man penetrated her. However, a lab report showed semen in the vagina and on her back, according to the

The woman said she was sleeping when an unknown assailant crept into her room while her husband was at a wedding in Colorado. The woman said her attacker tied her up with panty hose, blindfolded her and sexually assaulted her. The woman said he terrorized her with a gun while her two young children slept in their rooms. The woman said the man asked for cash and went through her jewelry.

The woman said police turned on her when they couldn't solve the case right away, according to her lawsuit. The woman said Douglas Moran, a

lieutenant at the time, threatened her with arrest and accused her of making up the story to cover for an affair. She said she has remained faithful to her husband throughout their marriage; she said she told the police the truth and even offered to take a lie detector test.

The suit names Moran, now a captain; his brother, retired Capt. Robert Moran; Lt. Philip Post, and the city of Waterbury in the suit. In a pretrial memorandum, the woman asked for half a million dollars in damages; so far no amount has been specified during the trial.

City Attorney Cheryl Hricko maintains that police did a thorough investigation that revealed some oddities and inconsistencies in the case. Hricko said police did not find any forced entry into the home. Hricko said there were inconsistencies in lab reports, and an examination of the scene didn't support the woman's allegations. Hricko said an outside source interviewed by police also gave them information about what may have really happened that night.

On Wednesday, Wilson agreed during questioning by Robert Kolesnik, an attorney for the woman, that she would include the woman in the category of sexual assault victims.

Wilson said in the class she taught, she cautioned responding patrol officers not to get into confrontational interviews with rape victims. She said she told officers she was available to confront victims with hard questions if needed. She said Douglas Moran took at least one class from her.

Wilson said during cross examination by Hricko, however, that her instructions did not pertain to a lieutenant who was investigating a case. Wilson said she remembers the bed and bedroom appeared neat.

Breakfast will remember Martin Luther King