

Deliberations continue in woman's suit against police

By Darlene McCormick

©2001 Republican-American

WATERBURY — Jury deliberations completed their second full day without a verdict Monday in the civil trial of a woman suing police for \$2.5 million for allegedly mishandling her rape claim.

The jury of two men and four women began

deliberating late Thursday. So far they have played the 911 tape where the woman reported the 1993 incident and have twice asked questions concerning whether the city and police can be considered the same entity.

On Monday, the sounds of loud debate could be heard from the jury room.

The case, which began Jan. 5, could hinge on

whether jurors believe the 44-year-old businesswoman, who now lives in Woodbury, was raped.

The woman told police she was sleeping when an unknown assailant crept into her Waterbury home. Her attacker tied her up with panty hose, blindfolded her, sexually assaulted her, and terrorized her with a gun and knife while her two young children slept in their

rooms, she said. The alleged attack took place when her husband was at a wedding in Colorado.

The woman's attorneys tried to convince the jury the woman was traumatized by her treatment from Waterbury Police Capt. Douglas

Please turn to 2B, JURY

JURY: No decision in suit where police stand accused

Continued from 1B

Moran, who questioned her story after noting oddities in the case.

Besides Douglas Moran, defendants in the suit include his brother, retired Capt. Robert Moran, Lt. Philip Post, and the city of Waterbury.

The plaintiff claims her interview with Douglas Moran was more damaging than the rape itself. The woman testified she was crushed when officers, who were supposed to help her, tried to blame her instead.

She told police she was willing to take a lie detector test and that she was never unfaithful to her husband.

But city attorneys offered their own version of events, saying Moran had every reason to question the woman given the strange set of circumstances and information from an informant.

The unnamed informant told Moran the woman made up the story after one of her children walked in on her and a lover that night. Oddities cited by the city include no sign of forced entry into the home, inconsistent lab reports and a crime scene that didn't support the woman's allegations.

If the woman's version is false, then there can be no damages, attorneys for the city argued.