

Case dismissed in rape trial

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

By Anna Rochelle, Staff Writer

The trial of Thomas E. Squibb, Jr. is over and he's free to go.

The case was dismissed early Wednesday after the credibility of his accuser was called into question.

Jury selection began Tuesday morning in Greene Circuit Court for the trial of Squibb, a former Bloomfield man who was accused of rape, a class B felony.

An incident involving Squibb and a female victim allegedly occurred on Nov. 13, 2011 at a residence on Ore Branch Road in rural Bloomfield. Squibb was accused of raping the female victim following an evening of drinking alcoholic beverages at the home where Squibb resided.

After the incident, the victim left the home then later went to IU Health Bloomington Hospital for an examination and evidence collection.

Indiana State Police Trooper Eric Nash was called to investigate, interviewed the alleged victim, then obtained a search warrant to gather DNA evidence from Squibb, who was 43 years old at the time of the incident.

Evidence was sent to the ISP Lab for comparison and Nash reported in an affidavit that the results showed a match between Squibb and the evidence collected from the victim during the forensic sexual assault examination at the hospital.

"In the absence of an identical twin, Thomas Squibb, Jr. is the source of the DNA to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty. The evidence indicates that Thomas Squibb had unprotected sexual intercourse with the victim," Nash wrote in the affidavit.

A warrant was issued for Squibb's arrest and he was taken into custody in March 2012. Squibb was released on bond to await trial.

After the alleged assault took place, Squibb moved from Greene County to Bloomington. Currently, court records indicate Squibb lives in Evansville.

During the court proceedings, Squibb was represented by Attorney James Riester serving as a public defender, the case for the state was being argued by Greene County Deputy Prosecutor Keven McIntosh, and the trial was expected to last at least two days.

But on Wednesday morning, the state filed a motion to dismiss the case.

McIntosh wrote in the motion, "On the night of Tuesday, April 9, 2013, following jury selection, the State learned that the complaining witness for the State had been untruthful with regards to an issue that was involved in the present trial. This dishonesty, while it did not go to the ultimate issue involved in the trial, was nevertheless so damaging to the credibility of said witness that it has left the State of Indiana without sufficient evidence to move forward with its prosecution."

COMMENTS

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- Glad they found out her dishonestly before the trial and possible sentencing, good grief this guy could have gone to prison and had his life ruined. Now, I don't know either parties but I wonder how often this really happens and how many are in prison today because of false allegations, just glad the prosecutor had the case dismissed in time, smart guy.

-- Posted by **sassy12** on Wed, Apr 10, 2013, at 1:59 PM 

- I simply do not understand why the said witness hasn't been identified in the local newspaper just as the accused was. This isn't fair!

-- Posted by **lillymae** on Wed, Apr 10, 2013, at 3:11 PM 

- It makes me wonder how many innocent people are in jail..thank god they found out she was dishonest before it was too late..

-- Posted by **greatgurl123** on Wed, Apr 10, 2013, at 3:42 PM 

- When she was a victim I understood why her identity was being protected..now as far as I am concerned they should "out" her so other men know not to put themselves in the position of being her next victim.

-- Posted by **lintonite** on Wed, Apr 10, 2013, at 8:48 PM 

- I agree set her out!

-- Posted by **eagle26** on Thu, Apr 11, 2013, at 6:55 AM 

- ivfaambell@gmail.com..... What do you have to say now????????? It's people like you that make the justice system fail!!!! You should be ashamed of yourself!!! I just felt like there was something wrong with this case and I do not know either party involved, just did not sound right... She called her boyfriend instead of calling the police for help...????? That alone set an alarm off to me, that indicated to me that she was more worried about what her boyfriend was going to say or think rather than getting the help she may have needed. The attacker (If there was

one) could have very easily been coming after here to hurt her further, it was obvious to me that she was not even concerned about anything except her boyfriend...hmmmm!!! Just saying!!!

-- Posted by **Zinkos** on Sat, Apr 13, 2013, at 12:45 PM 

<http://www.gcdailyworld.com/story/1958092.html>