

Woman who lied about rape seeks to clear record Probation before judgment sought

September 05, 1993 | By Darren M. Allen | Darren M. Allen, Staff Writer

A former Western Maryland College athlete and honor student convicted in July of lying to police about being raped last year is asking a judge to wipe the conviction from her criminal record.

In a sentence modification request filed Friday afternoon, Amye Lynne Walker, 23, of Calvert County, asked Carroll Circuit Judge Luke K. Burns Jr. to give her probation before judgment, which would erase the misdemeanor false-statement conviction from her record after she serves three years of probation.

On July 15, Ms. Walker, a former all-star soccer player for the Green Terrors, pleaded not guilty to the charge but agreed to allow prosecutors to read a statement of facts with enough evidence to convict her. Judge Burns suspended a six-month sentence in the county jail and placed her on probation. He also ordered her to repay \$3,000 to the Rape Crisis Intervention Service of Carroll County.

While she agreed to the plea deal, Ms. Walker never admitted in court that her reports of being raped in November 1991 and harassed by mail through July 1992 were false. She still maintains that she was raped.

"The past two years have exacted a tremendous psychological and emotional toll [on Ms. Walker]," her sentence modification petition, filed by Assistant Public Defender Judson K. Larrimore, said. "Ever since her rape in November 1991, she has been under a doctor's care for depression, loss of sleep, inability to concentrate and other features of her adjustment disorder.

"She has simultaneously borne the twin burdens of her emotional trauma from the rape and the fear of incarceration via the criminal prosecution for false statement in this case."

According to court documents, Ms. Walker told Westminster police in February 1992 that she had been raped at knifepoint by an unknown man in her apartment on the Western Maryland campus. Shortly after the alleged attack, Ms. Walker told police that threatening letters had been sent to her at her campus address. Police initially thought the letters were from her attacker.

The FBI became involved when Ms. Walker said she continued to receive letters through her post office box in Calvert County after she graduated from Western Maryland College last year.

A handwriting analysis of the letters showed they were written by a young female, court records say. When confronted with that analysis by FBI investigators, Ms. Walker admitted writing some of the letters but maintained that she had been raped.

Ms. Walker eventually signed a statement in which she told Westminster police that she had fabricated the rape story and written the letters herself.

In the motion filed Friday, Ms. Walker said that the ordeal has been punishment enough.

Ms. Walker "is a talented, bright young woman well on her way to making a meaningful contribution to society," the motion says, "who has paid a tremendous personal cost for her error in zTC judgment in submitting fictitious letters to support her report of rape to the police."

Mr. Larrimore declined to comment on the sentence modification Friday. Assistant State's Attorney Barton F. Walker III, the prosecutor in the case, could not be reached.

A hearing date to consider the sentence modification request has not been scheduled.

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Woman to lose criminal record over false report

January 20, 1994 | By Darren M. Allen | Darren M. Allen, Staff Writer

A former Western Maryland College athlete and honor student, convicted last year of lying to police about being raped, will have the conviction wiped off her criminal record, a Carroll Circuit Court judge ruled yesterday.

Judge Luke K. Burns Jr. granted Amye Lynne Walker's request for probation before judgment because she "should not have a criminal record," the judge said.

The judge also agreed to allow Ms. Walker, 23, of Calvert County to serve the remaining 2 1/2 years of her three-year probation unsupervised. She was given probation on the condition that she pay \$3,000 restitution to the Rape Crisis Intervention Service of Carroll County. As soon as the money is paid, her probation will end, and the misdemeanor false statement conviction will be purged from her record.

Ms. Walker, a former all-star soccer player for the Green Terrors, pleaded not guilty to the charge last July but agreed to allow prosecutors to read a statement of facts with enough evidence to convict her. In addition to the restitution, Judge Burns imposed a suspended six-month prison term on Ms. Walker.

Assistant State's Attorney Barton F. Walker III, who prosecuted the case, did not object to the probation before judgment, but he adamantly opposed a defense request to suspend the restitution.

"The defendant has shown that she is a capable, responsible person, but, you will recall, the \$3,000 payment was a main part of the plea negotiation," Mr. Walker, who is not related to the defendant, told the judge. "To reduce that would take away from the state what it bargained for in good faith. . . . I would like to see her get on with her life and be successful, but she should keep making regular payments."

Ms. Walker told Westminster police in February 1992 that she had been raped at knifepoint by an unknown man in her apartment on the Western Maryland College campus.

http://articles.baltimoresun.com/1994-01-20/news/1994020083_1_walker-probation-before-judgment-restitution