

Allegations of Sexual Abuse in NZ

False Allegations - Index

Cases - 2005

The Dominion Post November 18 2005

Diversion granted over false rape claim

A woman who made a false complaint to police that she had been raped by a taxi driver in Johnsonville then made to pay a \$30 has escaped without conviction.

The 23-year-old was given diversion and the charge against her withdrawn in Wellington District Court yesterday. She was granted permanent name suppression.

Wellington CIB detectives began a rape investigation after the woman said a taxi driver had sexually assaulted her in the back seat after driving her home from a night out on August 6. The attack was alleged to have happened about 8.30am in Arthur Carman St.

The woman later admitted making a false complaint.

Taxi Federation executive director Tim Reddish said the incident highlighted the vulnerability of cabbies, most of whom acted professionally.

"Every time there is an incident, whether we're right or wrong, there's always some adverse publicity as far as the taxi industry is concerned."

False rape complaints against cabbies had increased since the drinking age was lowered to 18, he said.