

Woman, 23, accused of filing false rape report

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A Crystal River woman was arrested Wednesday and accused of filing a false rape report. In separate sworn statements, Lois I. Martin, 23, told a city police officer and a Citrus sheriff's detective that she was raped Saturday, according to an arrest report. She told her mother about the attack and then went to Seven Rivers Regional Medical Center, where she repeated the charge, police said. A city officer went to the hospital, and Martin told him the attack happened outside the Denny's on U.S. 19, when an unknown man grabbed her from behind when she was smoking a cigarette, the report said. But her companions told police they never went to Denny's. Martin later said the attack happened at Fort Island Gulf Beach just west of Crystal River, the report said. She eventually said she consented to have sex with a man at the beach, the report said. Martin was booked into the Citrus County jail on two counts of filing a false police report. Bail was set at \$1,000. Police Chief Steven Burch said his agency decided to lodge a charge against Martin in large part because she had ample opportunity to tell the truth and prevent law officers from expending resources, but instead kept telling a false story.

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