

Student's rape report results in no charges

by [Jaime Adame](#) / December 18, 2015 at 5:55 a.m.

FAYETTEVILLE -- A Washington County prosecutor has declined to file any criminal charges after a University of Arkansas student told police in February that she was raped at a campus dorm by another student.

After reviewing the case, "there is insufficient evidence to file a criminal charge," Brian Lamb, a deputy prosecuting attorney, wrote in an email Thursday to the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. "Barring new evidence, the case is closed."

On Feb. 3, a 19-year-old woman told police that she had been raped in the morning of Feb. 1 at Yocum Hall, a campus residence hall. Police described the incident as an acquaintance rape, with a 19-year-old man accused of rape.

Earlier this month, Lamb wrote in an email to the *Democrat-Gazette* that he planned to conduct interviews before making a decision on the case, stating he had also reviewed a police report and materials from a university judicial board hearing.

At UA and other universities, reports of sexual violence may result in a separate and independent disciplinary review, apart from any action taken by criminal prosecutors.

The Yocum Hall incident was one of three alleged acquaintance rapes taking place within six weeks of one another at UA campus dormitories in January and February. In September, police told the *Democrat-Gazette* that no criminal charges had been filed in the other two cases.

After a reported rape at Pomfret Hall, the criminal case was closed at the request of the alleged victim, university police said.

After a rape report at Gladson-Ripley Hall, police referred the case to prosecutors despite the alleged victim declining to pursue criminal charges. But no charges were filed at the request of the alleged victim, police said.

The number of rape cases reported in January and February was unusual for the campus. UA's annual security report tallied three reported rapes in all of 2014, not including two other reports that year that police said were unfounded.

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