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Steven Tubbs receives 100 month prison sentence following guilty verdict in rape case

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced 62-year-old Steven Tubbs received a 100 month prison sentence after he was convicted at trial as part of the Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Elimination Project.

The defendant's trial began August 13th and concluded August 16th, 2018. Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge David F. Rees presided over the case and announced his [verdict](#) on August 17th. Tubbs was found guilty of two counts of rape in the first degree and two counts of sexual abuse in the first degree. He was acquitted of two counts of sodomy in the first degree.

After sentencing, the victim in this case released a separate statement from the one she read in court.

"From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank the victim advocates who have stood next to me this entire time. Words cannot express my gratitude to the SAKI workgroups across the country who are fighting daily for survivors of sexual assault. We are here today because of the dedicated work of the Portland Police Bureau's Rose Project, Portland Police Detective Jason Christensen, and Multnomah County Senior Deputy District Attorney Amity Girt. I must also thank Judge Rees for listening to my story and returning this just verdict. I know now that I am not alone, and no victim should ever feel alone."

The statement continued: "Every sexual assault survivor should know, there are people who care about you. It's not right to let your attacker silence you. Perpetrators should be scared. They should face, and fear, the consequences of their actions. Talk with someone you trust - a victim advocate, a close family member, or a friend and know that it's okay to ask for help. It's okay to be strong. Your truth deserves to be heard, and it will be heard."

During trial, Multnomah County Senior Deputy District Attorney Amity Girt said, "this [case is] about a woman having every right to give or not give [consent] in a situation regardless of what they have done to make themselves more vulnerable."

This investigation began on December 2, 2010 when the victim, who was 25 years old at the time, reported she had been sexually assaulted by Tubbs while attending a party at his residence in the Jantzen Beach area of Multnomah County. At the time of the offenses, Tubbs was 55 years old. At trial, the State presented evidence that showed multiple intoxicants were present at Tubbs' residence and that the victim consumed several of those intoxicants to a point where she was no longer able to legally consent to sexual activity.

Oregon law targets individuals who take advantage of people who cannot consent because of impairment or because they are physically helpless.

"We all have the right to live our lives as we choose," said Kendra Bonetti, the [Victim Advocate](#) on this case. "The law in Oregon protects us and our right to consent to sexual activity. Nothing can take that right away. No one should ever be subjected to unwanted physical or sexual contact. We are incredibly proud of the victim in this case. She showed great courage and strength when she took the witness stand during trial and relived this horrific event in her life."

"The Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Workgroup continues to pursue justice for the victims of sexual assault. We applaud this verdict because of its importance pertaining to incapacitated victims and consent," said PPB Sgt. Molly Daul, supervisor of the [Sex Crimes Unit](#).

Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Elimination Project

In 2015, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill, along with the Portland Police Bureau, Gresham Police Department, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office and the Oregon State Police Forensic Laboratory collaboratively initiated a project to process thousands of untested Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence (SAFE) kits in Multnomah, Marion and Lane counties.

District Attorney Underhill and others quickly identified funding from the [New York County District Attorney's Office \(DANY\)](#) and worked collectively with the Portland Police Bureau's Sex Crimes Unit after the City of Portland received a grant from [U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance's \(BJA\) Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Grant Program](#).

[DANY awarded](#) the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office a total of \$1,995,453 in September 2015. Using those funds, a coordinated effort involving local law enforcement and the Oregon State Police was launched to send SAFE kits, dated 2014 or older from Multnomah, Lane and Marion counties, to a private lab in Utah for testing.

In early 2018, an additional 302 SAFE kits from 13 other Oregon counties were sent to the lab using funds from the DANY grant. In total, nearly 3,000 SAFE kits from Oregon were sent to be tested.

In Oregon, Senate Bill 1571, known as "Melissa's Law," was the Oregon Legislature's response to ensuring all sexual assault kits, except for anonymous kits, are sent to the Oregon State Crime Laboratory for timely testing.

The Portland Police Bureau implemented a full submission policy in February 2015 that mandates every SAFE kit, with the exception of anonymous kits, be sent to the OSP Forensic laboratory.

Results from the kits continue to be investigated and survivors of sexual assaults are being notified through the [Rose Project](#). The PPB Sex Crimes Unit, a victim-centered and trauma-informed detail, encourages those who have had a SAFE kit collected prior to 2015 to contact the roseproject@portlandoregon.gov or 503-823-0125.

Current Multnomah County SAFE kit criminal cases (as of August 22, 2018)

State of Oregon vs Jihad Eldeen Moore - 18CR13996 - Pending Trial

State of Oregon vs Chanh Van Tran - 18CR25167 - Pending Trial

State of Oregon vs Curtis Clint Williams - 17CR37474 - Convicted in June 2018

State of Oregon vs Steven Guy Tubbs - 17CR08640 - Convicted in August 2018

State of Oregon vs Jose Oscar Rosales - 17CR29317 - Sentenced to 210 days in jail, 60 months of PPS

#MCDA#

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