

[Top charges dropped in rape case](#)

Woman refuses to testify at preliminary hearing against Pringle's Dean Michael Carpin.

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WILKES-BARRE – A Pringle man faced a maximum sentence of up to 20 years in state prison if convicted of raping a woman twice earlier this month.

But, prosecutors were forced to cut a deal with Dean Michael Carpin on Wednesday when the woman refused to testify against him.

Two first-degree felony counts of rape and a first-degree felony charge of aggravated assault were dismissed against Carpin, 43, during a preliminary hearing before District Judge Paul Hadzick in Central Court.

A first-degree felony conviction carries a sentence of up to 20 years in prison and a fine of \$25,000.

It's likely Carpin will avoid any jail time and serve probation or house arrest when he is expected to plead guilty to three second-degree misdemeanor charges, his lawyer Mark Mack said.

Mack negotiated a plea deal with Luzerne County Assistant District Attorney Jenny Roberts after the alleged victim refused to testify.

Carpin waived two counts of indecent assault and a single count of simple assault to Luzerne County Court, where he is expected to plead guilty to the charges on July 19.

Roberts said the woman refused to testify when she showed up at the preliminary hearing. Roberts contemplated filing charges against her for giving false information to authorities about the alleged rape. The woman was read her Miranda rights, but Roberts decided not to pursue charges against her at this time.

Mack said the woman told him that she was coerced into saying that Carpin raped her.

According to the criminal complaint filed by state police at Wyoming:

The woman told police Carpin raped her twice between May 5 and May 6 at his home. She was taken to Wilkes-Barre General Hospital for injuries to her body, head and a broken tailbone in her lower back. Carpin told police the woman was drunk, and fell into the back of his truck, causing her head to bleed. He denied he assaulted her and said the sex was consensual, the criminal complaint says.

Carpin and the woman were ordered not to have any contact with one another.

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