

LOGAN COUNTY CASE

Ex-deputy given probation

By **Holly Zachariah***The Columbus Dispatch* Friday May 30, 2008 7:56 AM

Comments: 0

Recommend 0

Tweet 0

BELLEFONTAINE, Ohio -- Stacy Moody's life shattered when her 18-year-old brother killed their family, shot her twice in the neck and then killed himself three years ago.



Jon Stout will find out at a later hearing whether he can return to a law-enforcement career.

In the aftermath of the slaughter that left six people dead -- her brother, Scott; their mother; two grandparents; and two of Scott's friends -- at a Logan County farm on Memorial Day weekend in 2005, Stacy turned to sheriff's detective Jon Stout for help. But he betrayed her, she says.

Stout was fired from the sheriff's office in November 2005 after Stacy's father and stepmother told authorities that they thought Stout and Stacy were having an inappropriate relationship.

A grand jury indicted Stout in January 2006 on two counts of felony sexual battery and on misdemeanor charges of public indecency, endangering children, interference with custody and contributing to the unruliness of a minor.

The sexual battery charges were dismissed by two judges and twice by an appeals court as the case lingered.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the killings. Stacy sat in Logan County Common Pleas Court and watched as a judge suspended a 90-day jail sentence and placed Stout, 39, on supervised probation for one year.

Stout admitted this month that he once attempted to speed when he had Stacy in his county-issued car and, as a result, he pleaded guilty to attempted child endangering, a second-degree misdemeanor.

Scott Longo of the Ohio attorney general's office prosecuted the case. He agreed to dismiss the other charges in exchange for Stout's guilty plea.

At sentencing yesterday, defense attorney Gregg Lewis said Stout is a good father and a good citizen who has been unfairly targeted. "Not since the Duke (University) lacrosse case have I seen one person so overzealously and aggressively pursued by a prosecutor," Lewis said.

Victim advocate Cindy Kuhr, however, read a statement from Stacy that paints a different picture.

Stacy, now 18, wrote that she was afraid after the shootings and she

trusted Stout.

"Jon S. took advantage of me at a time in my life when I didn't know what could happen next. My family was dead, gone forever," she wrote. "He told me that he cared about me. That I was very nice looking. Everything I wanted to hear."

She said she wants to finally put all of this behind her. "I want you to be ready to look God in the face on the final judgment day, but mostly I want you to be held accountable for what you did to me."

Stout always has maintained that he befriended Stacy only because he thought she knew more than she let on about the shootings. He said nothing in court yesterday.

He has appealed his firing from the sheriff's office and has said he intends to return to a career in law enforcement.

Yesterday, however, Longo asked the judge to permanently revoke Stout's peace officer's license. Lewis was furious with what he called an eleventh-hour request.

Faulkner said he didn't know whether he had that authority, so he sentenced Stout and then said he would schedule another hearing for a later date.

hzachariah@dispatch.com

Add to Favorites

Print Story

Email

Ads by Yahoo!

Dispatch Jobs (Hiring)

Dispatch Positions Open. Hiring Now - Apply Today!
(Dispatch.Jobs2Careers.com)

(3) People Unfriended You

Free Facebook tool that shows you who unfriends you!
(www.FriendsCheckerApp.com)

Web 2.0 Apps In Minutes

Generate database & reporting apps straight from your database! Try it
(www.ironspeed.com)

Transportation Software

Transportation and Logistics software including accounting
(omni-info.com)