

Ex-cop gets probation in assault

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A former Nicholson police chief was sentenced Wednesday morning (Feb. 12) to 120 days house arrest followed by 18 months probation in the sexual assault of an 11-year-old girl in 2012.

John Clement Nauroth, 72, preferred to let his attorney do the talking when he appeared before Wyoming County President Judge Russell Shurtleff.

Attorney Paul Ackourey said his client, who was Nicholson's police chief in the 1970s, had been a good husband and led an exemplary life in the community for decades.

"He led a good life up to that terrible day when something terribly wrong happened," Ackourey said.

He noted that Nauroth admitted responsibility for indecently touch the young girl.

Court papers say that Nauroth met the girl on March 10, 2012, at his residence and took her to a cabin on his all-terrain vehicle where he asked her to sit on his lap. It is then that he allegedly kissed the youth and assaulted her.

Ackourey said that his client rapidly declined after the incident and suffered serious physical ailments.

"I think the physical toll on her has had collateral impairment on him, but in light of his otherwise good character I would ask you to consider a standard intermediate punishment of probation," he told the judge.

But, district attorney Jeff Mitchell pleaded with the judge to give Nauroth jail time despite a plea arrangement that only held him accountable for one misdemeanor count of indecent assault when he originally also faced five felony counts of aggravated indecent assault, and corruption of Please see Sent, Page 9minors.

"The victim was 11 years old and showed incredible strength and courage to get free of the then 70-year-old defendant," Mitchell said. "She has developed emotional problems and her mother is here in the courtroom today. I am asking for some period of incarceration on behalf of the victim and what she went through."

In handing down the sentence, Judge Shurtleff also told Nauroth that in addition to the house arrest, probation, and a \$2,500 fine, under the Adam Walsh Act he would have to register as a sexual offender for the next 15 years.