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# Former Nicholson cop ordered to stand trial for sex assault charges

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Former Nicholson chief due trial for sex assault

FACTORYVILLE - A former Nicholson police chief from the 1970s was ordered to stand trial on charges he sexually assaulted an 11-year-old girl in March.

John Clement Nauroth, 71, appeared before Magisterial District Judge David Plummer and faces charges of aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault of a person less than 13 and corruption of minors.

On Tuesday, the victim, now 12, took the stand and told how she was brought to Mr. Nauroth's

home on the afternoon of March 10, and then went for a ride on his ATV.

The Times-Tribune does not identify victims of sexual assault.

They fed deer, raccoons and birds, looked at railroad tracks, and then went into Mr. Nauroth's cabin in Nicholson Twp., she testified.

While climbing down some steps near the railroad tracks, she said, Mr. Nauroth slipped his hands into her pants and underwear. Once inside his cabin, the girl said, Mr. Nauroth pulled her to sit on his lap then kissed her, licked her ear, rubbed her back, and put his hand down her pants.

At this point, the girl said she wanted to leave and later informed a relative of what had occurred, according to her testimony.

During an interview with state police, Mr. Nauroth acknowledged the ATV ride and said the girl sat on his lap and hugged him, according to the complaint. He told investigators that he kissed the girl on the top of her head.

When an investigator told Mr. Nauroth that a sexual assault kit had been collected from the girl, he modified his version of what happened, according to the complaint.

Mr. Nauroth's attorney Paul Ackourey noted Tuesday that he did not see anywhere in the police affidavit a description of the initial alleged contact taking place on the steps near the train tracks. Mr. Ackourey also said that he will be challenging several of the charges in the police criminal complaint that rely on forcible compulsion.

Arraignment will be held in county court July 6 at 8:30 a.m.

Contact the writer: pfarnelli@wcexaminer.com

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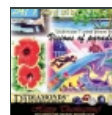
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