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Ex-cop to stand trial

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BY ROBERT L. BAKER

Wyoming County Press Examiner

A former Nicholson police chief who was accused of sexually assaulting an 11-year-old girl in March, has been scheduled for trial in February.

John Clement Nauroth, 71, who still resides on Novitch Road, in Nicholson, appeared before President Judge Russell Shurtleff last Wednesday for pre-trial motions in the case involving felony charges of aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault of a person less than 13, and corruption of minors.

District attorney Jeff Mitchell argued that he was ready to go to trial next month, but Nauroth's attorney Paul Ackourey said he still needed to gather an audiology evaluation of his client.

The alleged victim in the case is expected to testify, and Ackourey said he was unaware of any other eyewitnesses other than the defendant.

According to court documents, on the afternoon of Mar. 10, the alleged victim was invited by Nauroth to go for a ride on his all-terrain vehicle.

The activity included feeding deer, raccoons and birds, looking at railroad tracks, and then going into a cabin owned by Nauroth in Nicholson Township.

Once inside, Nauroth, according to court records, allegedly asked her to sit on his lap and pulled on the front of her top to tug her onto his lap, facing him. He then kissed her, licked her ear, rubbed her back, and put his hand down her pants.

At that point, the girl asked Nauroth to take her back to his house, she said.

She then asked to leave, and later informed a relative of what had occurred.

Following an interview by state police with the girl's family, Nauroth was then interviewed, and according to a police complaint, acknowledged the ATV ride and said he wanted to show the alleged victim his cabin.

He also said the youth sat on his lap and hugged him.

Nauroth said he kissed the girl on the top of her head and then they went back to his residence.

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

The *Wyoming County Press Examiner* does not identify victims of alleged sexual assault.

Nauroth remains free on \$50,000 secured bail.

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