

It's probation for Quincy developer William O'Connell

Rape charges dismissed

By Jack Encarnacao

[The Patriot Ledger](#)

Posted Mar 15, 2013 @ 03:00 PM

Last update Mar 15, 2013 @ 03:09 PM

Related Stories

[William O'Connell to plead guilty to drug charge; jail unlikely](#)

[Lawyers: It will be difficult to prove O'Connell rape charge](#)

[Alleged victim in O'Connell case 'haunted' to the end](#)

[Ruling in William O'Connell rape case may prompt changes in impoundment practices](#)

[Document: Girl says she told rape suspect O'Connell her age](#)

QUINCY — A superior court judge sentenced Quincy developer William O'Connell to three years of probation and ordered him to undergo random drug testing after O'Connell pleaded guilty Friday to a misdemeanor cocaine possession charge.

The sentence ends a two year case against O'Connell that included charges of having sexual relations with a 14-year-old girl. The girl was killed in a car crash three months ago.

The statutory rape charges were dropped because of the girl's death, which occurred Dec. 18 at about 3:30 a.m. in Malden while she was driving a car police say did not belong to her. Investigators have ruled out foul play in the death.

The girl's death meant statements she made to investigators about her relationship with O'Connell could not be admitted as trial evidence.

As part of his probation, O'Connell must get permission from the probation department to travel within the U.S. on business.

The rape case against O'Connell was initially set to go to trial in October.

The prosecution charged that the girl and O'Connell, 73, had a sexual relationship over several months in 2009, when she was 14.

The girl, who was 17 when she died, told investigators O'Connell gave her cash and a credit card to buy clothes and gifts, and a cell phone to keep in touch with her.

Jack Encarnacao may be reached at jencarnacao@ledger.com.

[Comment or view comments »](#)

Business News

[Real Assets Have Been in Real Trouble. Does This End the 'Commodity Supercycle'?](#)

[Credit Card Debt Continues Its Steady Decline](#)

[Your Smartphone is Easy to Hack, and Your Money Is In It](#)

Suggested Stories

[Whitman woman charged with child rape](#)

[Quincy man dies in Rockland car crash](#)

[Official's daughter not given Hingham court job...](#)

From the Web

[The most dangerous states in America USA TODAY](#)

[Impala Has the Last Laugh with Top-Rated New Sedan Fox Business](#)

[The Golf Club That Hosted Caddyshack's Raucous... The A.V. Club](#)

[Sponsored content](#) [What's this?](#)

Comments (34)
mrbbb
7 months ago