

Smathers, Alexandra

From: Smathers, Alexandra
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 4:53 PM
To: deanna.grundl@aah.org
Subject: Rebecca Rodriguez

Good afternoon,

Since I transferred to Kenosha County, I have learned of some issues our office has had working with Ms. Rodriguez. I should note that I have not personally worked with her, but this is information I have learned from our head victim witness coordinator Heather Beasy, my victim witness coordinator Rhonda Mrnak, and attorneys who have worked with her in the past, including ADAs James Kraus and Thomas Binger.

First, it is my understanding she was not a registered nurse when she began her career as a SANE Nurse and was not a registered nurse for some time. This obviously caused credibility concerns at trial.

Second, she has a tendency to testify as an expert in areas about which our office does not believe she is qualified. For example, she lost us a sexual assault case when, on cross examination, she testified extensively about a condition in which the blood capillaries are very near the surface of the vagina and therefore causes bleeding easily. Therefore, despite the allegation of very forcible rape with tears and scars in the victim's vagina, and no indication she had this condition, there was a not guilty verdict.

Third, just last week, she was cross examined at trial about a public Facebook post she made while on jury duty, indicating that she did not think she would be chosen for the Kyle Rittenhouse case because she is friends with many people in the DA's Office. During her cross examination, she clarified that she meant Facebook friends, not friends in real life, and said that she is Facebook friends with the ADA (although she was not).

Fourth, in the middle of an adult (but developmentally delayed) sexual assault trial, she instructed her SANE Nurse to inform our office that the victim in our case had been in for a SANE exam previously. Our office had no knowledge of this, which caused a mistrial, Shiffra/Green issue, and then the victim died before the case could be retried. This seems like a huge HIIPA violation on the victim's part.

Finally, there has been ongoing concerns about her appearance in court. She apparently dresses inappropriately for trial, including tight fitting, low cut clothing, and lots of makeup.

I hope this information helps. If you need more details, I can get more information for you from ADAs Binger or Kraus, or you can reach out to them directly. I did let Heather Beasy and Rhonda Mrnak know that I was providing this information. Please let me know if there is anything else I can to help.

Thank you,

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