

Criminal Court Held in Macon County

Written by Debbie Gregory
Tuesday, January 29, 2013



Judge John Wootten's term of Criminal and Civil Court, in Macon County, began on Monday morning, January 28. Although no criminal trials were held, action was taken on the following three cases.

Former Macon County Sheriffs Office Department Corrections Officer 32-year-old Adam Nash, had been indicted on five counts of official misconduct and one count of sexual contact with an inmate by the Macon County Grand Jury on Monday, April 2, 2012 and was booked into the Macon County Jail.

After female inmates at the jail reported that Nash had engaged in some inappropriate conduct, Sheriff Gammons interviewed them and found their stories were consistent. Gammons contacted District Attorney General Tommy Thompson and informed him off the situation, and requested that an investigation be conducted by the DA's Office and the TBI. The two-month investigation produced sufficient evidence and Nash was charged.

On Monday morning Adam Nash pled to one count of official misconduct and received a two year suspended sentence. The sexual contact with an inmate charge was nolle.

Johnny Ray Swack, who allegedly killed his former wife, 36-year-old Reinalda Ann Dupont

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England on Meador Drive in the fall of 2011, was released from the Middle Tennessee Mental Health Center and returned to the Macon County Jail last month. It was determined that Mr. Swack was able to participate in his defense, according to District Attorney General Tommy Thompson. His court date was scheduled for Monday, but was continued until Thursday.

Thirty-year-old Christopher Blankenship, who was allegedly responsible for the death of 17-year-old Britni Hyso, on Friday night, March 23, 2012, was charged with vehicular homicide (two counts) and aggravated vehicular homicide on April 5.

Hyso was riding on a Yamaha motorcycle with Blankenship, when he lost control on Shiloh Road, ran off the road and struck some trees. The teenager sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene by Medical Investigator Randall Kirby.

It was later reported that Blankenship was drinking at the time of the deadly crash, which was investigated by THP Sergeant Ashley Mercer and Trooper Tracy Donoho. His trial date is set for July 30th, 31st and August 1st.