

Woman accused of watching daughter's assault now in jail

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A 36-year-old Fredonia woman accused of watching while her husband sexually assaulted her 12-year-old daughter during an encounter she helped arrange was arrested last week and is being held in the Ozaukee County jail on \$50,000 bail.

The woman, who was charged June 24 with felony counts of failure to protect a child and first-degree sexual assault of a child as a party to the crime, had been under treatment at a medical facility, sources said.

During the woman's initial court appearance July 2, Assistant District Attorney Jeffrey Sisley requested bail be set at \$150,000. Judge Sandy Williams set the amount at \$50,000 and ordered the woman not to have contact with the victim or her 16-year-old sister, who is also the woman's daughter, if she is released from custody.

She is scheduled to appear next in court on Thursday, July 11, to set a date for a preliminary hearing.

The woman's 44-year-old husband, who is being held in jail on \$100,000 bail, is charged with felony counts of first-degree sexual assault of a child, incest with a child by a stepparent and child enticement. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Ozaukee Press is not naming the couple to protect the identify of the victim.

According to the criminal complaint, the girl told an officer that her stepfather had sexual intercourse with her at their home on April 1.

On June 19, the same day her husband was charged with the crime, the woman told sheriff's department detectives that he had expressed interest in having sex with both her daughters for the last three years.

The woman said that on the day of the assault, her husband repeatedly asked her to allow him to have sex with her 12-year-old daughter.

The woman said she brought her daughter into her and her husband's bedroom, where the man was in bed under the covers, and she remained on the bed while her husband assaulted the girl, the complaint states.

Afterward, the woman said, she followed her daughter into the bathroom, where the girl was going to take a shower, according to the complaint.

Lt. Christy Knowles said the sheriff's department was informed about the alleged assault after the victim confided in her older sister and the sister told their biological father, who reported the crime.

