

Seaside murder trial slated for April 2016

Judge denies defense request to bar cameras

By Kyle Spurr
EO Media Group

A trial date has been scheduled for the mother and her live-in boyfriend accused of murdering the woman's 2-year-old daughter at their Seaside home Dec. 20.

Dorothy Ann Wing, 24, and Randy Lee Roden, 26, are tentatively scheduled for trial beginning April 5, 2016. The couple will be tried together as co-defendants at the trial.

The couple appeared Feb. 12 in Clatsop County Circuit Court, which was heavily secured with a metal detector outside the courtroom and half a dozen security officers on guard.

Roden allegedly made threats prior to the hearing regarding media cameras in the courtroom.

Roden's defense lawyer Conor Huseby filed an objection before the hearing to deny both still and video cameras in the courtroom.

Judge Paula Brownhill denied Huseby's objection, stating there has to be a substantial reason to bar cameras. At this point in the case, Brownhill felt there was no such reason.



Randy Roden, right, walks out following a hearing in Clatsop County Circuit Court.

"What I'm asking for is not crazy," Huseby said. "It happens in federal courtrooms every single day across the country."

'Huge undertaking'

Most of the Feb. 12 hearing was spent on finding a trial date. Both the prosecution and defense said they have other capital murder cases in the next year, so scheduling would be limited.

The prosecution specifically cited their preparation for the June 2016 trial of Jessica Smith, the mother accused of drugging and murdering her 2-year-old daughter and attempting to

kill her 13-year-old daughter in a Cannon Beach hotel last summer.

The lawyers on both sides initially wanted a trial in fall 2016, but Brownhill refused to wait that long, citing the defendants' right to a speedy trial.

Huseby felt an earlier trial date would end up being pushed back anyway, and both parties would not be properly prepared. He said it traditionally takes at least 18 months to prepare.

Brownhill allowed the possibility of postponing the trial date if requested at a later hearing.

"The enormity of the job we have to do is massive,"



Defense lawyer John Gutbezah, left, and Dorothy Wing, right, look on as people leave the courtroom.

JOSHUA BESSEX PHOTO

Huseby said. "It's a huge undertaking."

Wing, who is being represented by defense lawyer John Gutbezah, of Lake Oswego, is charged with murder by abuse from neglect and maltreatment, first-degree manslaughter and six counts of criminal mistreatment.

Other children injured

An autopsy found Wing's daughter, Evangelina Wing, was the victim of homicide and apparently died from blunt force trauma. She would have turned 3 on Jan. 22.

Wing's two sons, ages 5 and 2, were found injured the same day Evangelina Wing was found dead. The boys were hospitalized and have been placed in state protective custody.

Wing's criminal mistreatment charges stem from her leaving the three children with Roden and withholding medical attention.

Deputy District Attorney Ron Brown said the grand jury has been extended in Wing's case to allow further investigation into the time before she met Roden. The result of the extended grand jury could mean more charges against Wing, Brown said.

So far, Wing's charges do not rise to the level of the death penalty. However, Roden is facing a slew of aggravated murder charges that qualify for the possibility of the death penalty.

Roden is charged with four counts of aggravated murder, two counts of murder by abuse, felony murder, first-degree unlawful sexual penetration,

first degree sex abuse, three counts of first-degree assault and three counts of criminal mistreatment. The sex abuse charges relate to Roden allegedly subjecting Evangelina Wing to sexual contact by touching.

The charges against Roden accuse him of "intentional maiming or torture" of the toddler and having a "pattern and practice of assault" since Oct. 31.

Previous jail time

Court records show Roden, a former Georgia resident, was released from prison in January 2014 after being sentenced to 18 months for coercion related to a domestic violence case against another woman. He faced 52 counts of domestic violence and sex abuse in that case, which were dropped as part of his plea deal.

Wing and Roden each pleaded not guilty at a hearing Jan. 2. They are being held in Clatsop County Jail without the possibility of bail.

They are due back in court at 9 a.m. May 13 for a bail hearing, where the court will decide if they should continue without bail.

That hearing is the last one scheduled before the April 2016 trial.

Seaside Police Log

Jan. 31

12:43 p.m., 800 block of South Roosevelt Drive: Police responded to a motor vehicle accident.

2:05 p.m., Turnaround: Caller reporting person with snake charging money to hold it. Officer responded and advised person just taking donations not charging to hold snake.

Feb. 1

2 p.m., 400 block of South Roosevelt Drive: Officer responded to formally trespass subject from premise.

Feb. 2

11:04 a.m., U.S. Highway 26 westbound: 911 caller reported person tailgating him and not passing in two lanes. Officer didn't observe subject driving but pulled over vehicle and advised of complaint. Driver parked vehicle in safe location due to not having current insurance.

5:43 p.m., 300 block of Columbia Drive: Police responded to report of assault.

Feb. 3

5:33 a.m., 800 block of Second Avenue: 911 caller reported someone attempting to gain entry into her house via the back door. Officers responded and searched the area but were unable to locate anyone. No damage was found, and the suspect had been unable to gain entry through the locked door.

8:28 p.m., 1600 block of Spruce Drive: Caller reported neighbor yelling and screaming and breaking things. Officers responded.

Feb. 4

3:02 p.m., North Prom: Caller reported an assault. Officers responded.

9:19 p.m., 200 block of Broadway: Caller reported intoxicated female. Officers responded. Subject was trespassed.

Feb. 5

11:07 a.m., Riverwalk: Transient sleeping on the riverwalk across from Bridgetender Tavern. Of-

ficer made contact and subject moving on.

3:40 p.m., 800 block of South Roosevelt Drive: Caller reported possible domestic violence. Officers responded and subjects had fled. Officers located them, and they were fine.

Feb. 6

10:22, 2100 block of Lewis and Clark Road: Classic Towing called advising they towed this vehicle from the Retreat parking lot at the request of another tenant.

Feb. 7

2 a.m., Necanicum Estuary: Subject(s) warned for unlawful lodging.

Feb. 8

1:39 a.m., Tillamook Head parking lot: Subject(s) warned for unlawful lodging.

9:10 p.m., Avenue M: Caller reporting suspicious male in the area. Officer located subject, who was intoxicated, and located a sober responsible to take care of him for the evening. Officer gave courtesy ride to sober responsible.

Feb. 9

4:29 p.m., 1000 block of Sixth Avenue: Caller reporting person collecting cans on private property. Officer located subject and advised him to not go

on private property for can collecting.

11:46 p.m., 111 Broadway: Officer located a subject sleeping in front of a business. He was warned for unlawful lodging.

Feb. 10

3:07 a.m., 200 block of Avenue A: Subject(s) warned for unlawful lodging.

1:51 p.m., U.S. Highway 101 and Avenue P: Officers assisted with motor vehicle accident.

9:06 p.m., Sixth Avenue and North Downing Street: Officer contacted vehicle stopped in the middle of the road. Driver advised not to leave his car in the road.

Feb. 11

6:48 p.m., 12th Avenue and Prom: Caller reported possible drunk driver. Officers responded and located vehicle.

8:54 p.m., 2400 block of U.S. Highway 101: Police responded to 911 caller reporting assault.

Feb. 13

9:49 a.m., 400 block of South Roosevelt Drive: Found drug paraphernalia. Officer responded, retrieved item.

11:03 p.m., 800 Avenue M: Subject(s) warned for unlawful lodging.

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