

Blow Job

Ex-EPD cop on trial for allegedly raping/abusing a dozen women.

Roger Magaña allegedly used the power of his Eugene Police badge to rape, sodomize, kidnap, sexually abuse and/or harass a dozen women.

Prosecutor Robert Lane said in his opening statement last week that Magaña had "tarnished" the police badge for all officers in the city. By convicting the recently fired officer, Lane told the jury, "you're going to restore some of the luster of that badge."

But defense attorney Russell Barnett said in his opening that it was hard to believe that a competent police department would have let Magaña's alleged crimes continue for so long against so many victims without detection. "He's either the slickest guy working with the dumbest people, or perhaps the accusations don't add up."

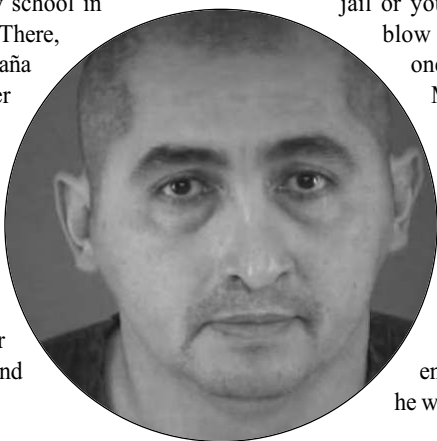
A 31-year-old single mother of three was the first alleged victim to testify in the trial, which is expected to continue until mid July. The mother said Magaña followed her and a girlfriend in his patrol car late one night in October 2001 after she walked out of Rockin' Rodeo, a former nightclub located across from the Hult Center.

The woman said Magaña ordered her out of her parked car for a sobriety test and laughed at her when she couldn't walk a straight line. The woman alleged Magaña gave her a choice: Get arrested for drunken driving or meet him later. She wasn't attracted to Magaña, but "I didn't want a DUI," the woman said. "I didn't have a choice."

The woman said Magaña told her to drive her friend home to Springfield, despite the fact she was drunk, and then meet him at Papa's Pizza on Coburg Road. The woman did what she was told and ended up following Magaña's

patrol car to a dark parking lot behind Meadowlark elementary school in North Eugene at 3 am. There, the woman alleged Magaña kissed her, fondled her breasts and put his hands up her skirt, "with his fingers in my vagina."

The woman said she didn't report the crime or call for help. "I was scared," she said. "He was a police officer in uniform with a gun and handcuffs."



Magaña threatened the woman with arrest, took her to a remote area by the railroad tracks, grabbed her head and forced her to give him a blow job, prosecutor Robert Lane alleged.

At one point Magaña saw the woman had a small bag of marijuana, but he threw the illegal drug to the ground and didn't pursue the matter, the woman alleged.

On cross examination, defense attorney Barnett asked why the woman called Magaña months later if she had been sexually assaulted.

The woman admitted that she had a drinking problem and said she called Magaña while intoxicated and regretted it afterward. She said thinking about the sexual assault still "makes me sick inside."

In his two-hour opening statement, prosecutor Lane laid out his plans for testimony from a dozen more women Magaña allegedly

sexually abused or raped. Often the abuse involved "blow jobs," Lane said, apologizing to jurors for the language, "you're going to hear it a thousand times."

• With one woman, one of several drug or alcohol abusers Magaña allegedly targeted, Magaña "would always say you're going to jail or you're going to give me a blow job," Lane alleged. On one occasion, Lane alleged Magaña forced the woman to kneel on the sticky "utterly disgusting" floor of the Monroe Street Park restroom and give him a blow job. When she once threatened to tell, Magaña allegedly threatened her with a gun and said he would kill her if she did.

vors such as not arresting her or for allowing her to look at her secret police records, Lane alleged. At one point, the "paranoid" woman feared Magaña and other cops would kill her. After performing oral sex on officer Magaña, she spat out his semen on some sweatpants which she kept as evidence, Lane alleged. The semen's DNA matches Magaña, according to Lane.

• Magaña allegedly stopped a heroin addict and fondled her on the pretense of conducting a drug search. Magaña threatened the woman with arrest, took her to a remote area by the railroad tracks, grabbed her head and forced her to give him a blow job, Lane alleged.

• Magaña allegedly tried to force yet another blow job with another young woman with drug problems. But the woman escaped the patrol car and ran.

• Magaña responded to a 911 call for help from a domestic violence victim. But instead of helping, Magaña allegedly threatened the woman with arrest to get another blow job.

• Responding to another domestic abuse call, Magaña allegedly forced another woman to give him a blow job by threatening to take away the woman's children.

• Magaña met one 20-year-old at an underage drinking party the police broke up. He invited her to ride in his police car. Interested in police work, the woman rode with Magaña 20 to 30 times before the officer allegedly came to her apartment, pushed her down, orally sodomized her and raped her. "He really didn't get much of an erection," Lane said, but his penis "penetrated her vagina."

• Magaña's final alleged victim called 911 after the officer allegedly entered her apartment uninvited, grabbed her breasts and said he wanted to "bend me over and do me."

Lane said the women's testimony will be supported with records of thousands of personal cell phone calls Magaña made and with police dispatch records and records of patrol car computer use.

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