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Prince William County, VA

Prince William County Commonwealth's Attorney Amy Ashworth announces the sentencing of Billy Riggs, 40, related to the sexual assault of four minors which occurred in Prince William County, VA between July 2011 and December 2013. Mr. Riggs pled guilty to one count of rape and four counts of aggravated sexual battery on July 25, 2022. On July 14, 2023, Mr. Riggs was sentenced to serve 90 years in prison.

On April 2, 2019, Prince William County Police began an investigation into a sexual assault that was reported to have occurred in Triangle between July 2011 and December 2013. The investigation revealed that one victim, who was between 4 and 6 years old at the time, was sexually assaulted by an acquaintance on more than one occasion. Those offenses were reported to a staff member at the victim's school, who later contacted police. Another victim was identified throughout the course of the investigation, who was 9 years old at the time of the offenses. Mr. Riggs was arrested by authorities in Union County, North Carolina and eventually extradited back to Prince William County to stand trial for charges in connection with both incidents. As this case was pending in Virginia, Mr. Riggs was convicted of another sexual offense in North Carolina. As a result, two more victims came forward with their disclosures in Prince William County.

Ms. Ashworth offered the following comment about this case:

"We are pleased with the sentence in this case. This individual committed offenses on multiple children and as a result, these children will forever be impacted by his actions. While we cannot undo the harm that has been done, we can certainly ensure that Billy Riggs does not harm any other children for the rest of his life."

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Stephanie Buck. The Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney would like to recognize Tamara Thomas, Director of the Commonwealth's Attorney's Victim/Witness Program, for the invaluable assistance she provided the victims and their families. We also want to recognize the hard work of Detective Stevens and Detective Clark with the Prince William County Police Department, Special Victims Unit, and the support provided by Ms. Clyte Portis with the Prince William County Child Advocacy Center.

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Amy Ashworth is the elected Commonwealth's Attorney for Prince William County and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. She was elected in November 2019. The Commonwealth Attorney's Office can be reached from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. every day by phone at 703-792-6050 or email at cwoffice@pwcgov.org.

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