



Eugene Police Officer Roger Magaña  
Convicted Rapist

Roger Magana and Portland Oregon Cops- Out of Control

## Whitewash

Victims' attorneys blast city report on officer sex scandal

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BY ALAN PITTMAN

When Roger Magaña worked at the Eugene Police Department (EPD), **women complained over and over that he was using his badge to force sex, but Eugene police did nothing.** After Magaña was finally caught after six years and sent to prison for abusing a dozen women, substantial evidence emerged that other police officers had failed in the investigation, supervision and hiring of the criminal. But the police again did nothing.

What the police and city did do is select a former cop who wrote a report that agreed with their inaction. That consultant, former McMinnville Police Chief Rod Brown, released a report last week that city officials claimed should restore lost citizen confidence in the EPD.

City Manager Dennis Taylor praised the "incredibly objective" report, which largely concurred with the city position that no other officers should be investigated, disciplined or reprimanded for their handling of the Magaña complaints. The city paid \$5 million to settle lawsuits by the victims of Magaña and Juan Lara, another officer convicted of a lesser sex crime spree. "I just hope this will close the chapter," Taylor said of the Brown report.

But Michelle Burrows, the Portland attorney for one of Magaña's most frequent victims, called the Brown report a "whitewash." Burrows emailed that the retired police chief's report **"itself manifests why society should not let the police review their own conduct."** She continued:

*The analysis by the report writer just repeats all the justifications and excuses proffered by the Eugene Police Department as to how the abuse was allowed to spread to 35 women over six years. It isn't just the benefit of hindsight that allows us to see this. The law enforcement community who worked with Magaña and Lara are trained to detect criminal activity, especially sexual misconduct. The officers who knew parts of the entire puzzle are as important a part of how the extensive abuse continued as Magaña or Lara, and in some respects their willful disregard of what was obvious is just as bad as what Lara and Magaña did. We trusted them to do the right thing and even now with this inane report, they still refuse to take responsibility for their own actions.*

Elden Rosenthal, a prominent Portland civil rights attorney, represented two of Magaña's other victims. "I disagree strongly with the conclusions of the report," he said.

**"This is the reason that you don't have the police investigate the police," Rosenthal said. "This is the reason you need to have independent review."**

"The people of the city of Eugene should not countenance police not reporting the misconduct of their fellow officers," Rosenthal said. "Unless the culture of the Eugene Police Department changes, there will be other incidents of misconduct in the future."

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**Trial Begins For Perverted Eugene Cop Roger Magana: Media is Shut Out**

*Cop rapist Roger Magana continued*

Police even get special treatment after they have been charged with sex crimes.  
Eugene -

Jurors are settling in for a long trial in the case against former Eugene Police Officer Roger Magana. Prosecutor Bob Lane started this morning by displaying a blown up image of a Eugene police officer badge.

He told jurors "The power that comes with that badge is what this case is all about."

He then outlined some of the testimony jurors can expect to hear from alleged victims in the weeks to come. Defense attorney Russell Barnett kept his opening statement short, focusing on the Eugene Police Departments's high-tech ability to keep tabs on it's officers.

"He's either the slickest guy working with the dumbest people or perhaps the accusations don't add up."

The six man, six woman jury and four alternates began hearing testimony from alleged victims this afternoon. They will hear from as many as 80 defense witnesses throughout the trial including from people with authority who had heard before about Magana's alleged abuse but took no action.

Prosecutor Lane describes several of the alleged victims as having drug and mental health problems and others who are very different. He says they all were carefully chosen as easy targets for intimidation and abuse.

Magana faces 52 charges ranging from official misconduct to rape. The trial continues Tuesday.

**The prosecution started by outlining the allegations against former officer Roger Magana from ten different women. Deputy D.A. Bob Lane grouped the alleged victims into two categories. One, women known to police, through prior arrests or calls, for things like drug or alcohol offenses, prostitution or domestic abuse. The other women, according to Lane, fall into the category of being in "the wrong place at the wrong time." This includes a sub-category for a teenager who went on several ride alongs with the former officer.**

**The prosecution's key evidence includes Magana's business cards, which Lane says were given to many of the women after the alleged attacks. Also, Magana's cell phone bills, which were sent to a P.O. Box, and paid for in cash. Lane says, this was done to hide from Magana's wife, the quote "thousands of calls" going to other women. Lane also points to Magana's police notebook, which contains some of the alleged victims names and phone numbers. And, a woman's sweat pants, stained with semen, that the prosecution claims, can be linked to Magana.**

The defense attacked the credibility of the alleged victims. Attorney Russell Barnett says, the women have a "MOB" mentality. He says, they have a "Motive": money (many are suing the city). They have an "Opportunity": an accused officer. And he claims, they have a "Bias": many had run-ins with the law before, and don't like the police department.

Barnett also argued, how could Magana hide these acts from the department, **he was even promoted to training officer during this time. Barnett said, "He's either the slickest guy working with the dumbest people, or perhaps the allegations don't add up."**

The prosecution also called its first witness this afternoon. Testimony will continue next week. It could take as long as six weeks before the defense has a chance to present its witnesses.

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**Convicted of rape, kidnapping and other crimes, Magaña was sentenced in 2004 to a prison term of 94 years.**

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