

Second suspect denied bail in Australia sex case

SYDNEY, Australia: A second suspect accused of sexually assaulting a woman who believed he could cure her of a black magic curse was denied bail Sunday by an Australian magistrate.

Tony Golossian, 61, was charged Friday with 151 offenses but was taken to a hospital with chest pains and did not appear before the court until Sunday, when details of the case were outlined in a 50-page police document at Parramatta Bail Court.

"I must say that if this is proven it would be one of the most bizarre and evil cases I have come across in more than 40 years," Magistrate Graham Johnson said.

He denied bail out of concern that the suspect might try to contact the woman.

Another man, Arthur Tsihogius, was charged with Golossian on Friday. He faces 79 charges and was also denied bail Friday.

The men are highly regarded members of Sydney's Greek Orthodox and Coptic Orthodox communities, New South Wales state police said.



The woman, aged 23 in 2001 when the alleged assaults began, was told by the men that someone in the Greek community had put a curse on her using black magic.

The police papers said the two men told her that her mother would contract kidney cancer, her father lung cancer, and her 15-year-old sister would die

before 2004.

"These alleged curses terrified the complainant and placed her under immense duress," the police document said.

Between January 2001 and June 2005 the woman allegedly paid the men between 70,000 Australian dollars (US\$56,200) and A\$100,000 (US\$81,680) for a number of prayer sessions during which she was raped and coerced into performing oral sex on the men, it said.

Golossian told the woman he was an angel sent to help her, and that if she told anyone about their meetings the curse would not be lifted, the police document said.

The two men were earlier arrested in June — along with Tsihogius's wife — over allegations of sexual assault on another woman, and charged with similar offenses, including sexual assault and extortion, police said. They were released on bail.

Police said they were investigating the possibility that other women were also assaulted.

Greeks among EU's hard workers

Long hours on the job causing health problems; lack of flexibility harms balance between private-work lives

Greeks have longer working weeks than many of their European peers, with one in four working more than 10 hours per day, according to a study made public yesterday.

The study, put together by researchers Eurofound, found that Greeks work an average of 45.4 hours per week versus a European Union average of 38.4 hours. Based on trends in the labor market, working hours in the 27-nation bloc have been decreasing in the last 15 years — but not in Greece.

Nearly 26 percent of Greeks work at least 10 hours per day more than five times a month, the study shows, versus 16.9 percent of people in the EU as a whole. According to national law, employees work a 40-hour workweek.

Low pay scales and a growing amount of part-time work are forcing many people to seek more than one form of employment to make ends meet in a development that has upped total work hours.

The increase in part-time employment, however, has also helped reduce the country's jobless figures in recent years.

Unemployment was at 7.3 percent in June, down from 11.2 percent in 2004.

The change in the length of the workweek has started to take its toll on the health of workers.

About 68 percent of Greeks believe their work has harmed their health, versus 25 percent in the EU.

Among the most common health problems linked to adverse work conditions are back problems and stress.



Ancient sarcophagi found at a subway site in northern Greece

Ancient Greek graves found under subway

Archaeologists have uncovered over 1,400 ancient graves while digging at the site of a subway in the northern Greek city of Salonika.

The graves and tombs date back to an 800-year period, starting in the Hellenistic times (fourth century BC) and running through to the Roman era (fourth century AD).

Persian coins, gold jewelry, clay vessels, and glass perfume holders are among the artifacts found at many of the burial sites, which unearthed during the excavations.

This is not the first time that the metro project, which is expected to be complete by 2012 has led to an archaeological find.

In June, archaeologists found four gold wreaths and a pair of gold earrings in the grave of a woman that was over 2,000 years old.

The Maestro's Farewell

George Zack's home has cabinets overflowing with albums, tapes, and mementoes of his career, but it doesn't seem possible to the white-haired conductor of the Lexington Philharmonic that he's been delighting audiences here for nearly 37 years.

Zack says, "No, not at all. Time does fly when you're having fun. I've spent more than half of my life in this job with this orchestra, but each year is different. When I look back, I look at almost continuous variation. So you keep reinventing yourself for the audience of that day."

Born in Arkansas, to Greek parents, George seemed an unlikely fit in Lexington.

He says, "My wife was very much afraid of her reaction to the South, being from Massachusetts, and I was as well. I had spent a lot of time teaching away from Arkansas. I told her we were going to Lexington for three years, and she said that anybody can do anything for three years. Now you can't drag her out of here. She has fallen in love with the city, the way I have."

Generations of musicians have fallen in love with him. Zack has devoted countless hours to working with young musicians.

He says, "That's the future of everything, because parent involvement is very big in the primary grades. Then the kids start going to junior high, and you think they're really set, but they're not."

The unflappable conductor got very emotional recounting some of the letters of thanks he's received from former youth orchestra members, so just how emotional will his farewell performance get Friday night? Zack takes a long, deep breath before answering that question.

"I still have a very physical approach to conducting, as an art form, but I'm pretty controlled. However, this concert is unique. My children, my friends, my in-laws, my brother and sister will be here. I know it's going to



be different."

A teardrop might just hit the floor of the stage when the maestro makes his final bow. George Zack says that's something he really doesn't want to think about.

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA MEDIA RELEASE

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia wishes to clarify that the person identified as 'Greek Orthodox' in today's media reports concerning multiple sexual assaults is a private individual and is not, as quoted, a prominent member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The person in question is unknown to the Archdiocese and occupies no position within the Greek Orthodox Church, not only in Sydney, but also throughout Australia.

The guise of removing evil spirits for the ulterior purpose of sexual misconduct is utterly contemptible and it is to be hoped that such criminal conduct, if found to have taken place in the reported cases, will end with the perpetrator(s) being brought to justice.

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese condemns all forms of black magic that purport to cure spiritual illness, and is always prepared to help and support victims of such conduct whenever and wherever they arise.

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From the Sydney Office of the Archdiocese