IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE State of Alaska Third District State of Alaska. Plaintiff, PR 2 7 2017 CASE NO: <u>3AN-14-00853CR</u> VS. Clerk of the Trial Courts JUDGMENT OF ACQUITTAL Daniel M Carey, on CTN(s) 001 Deputy Defendant. DOB: 08/14/1981 APSIN: 6900591 ATN: 114388488 DL/ST: 6900591_AK Defendant was charged with: Offense Date: Statute Violated / Offense: 001 08/01/2013 AS11.41.436(a)(6): Sex Abuse Minor 2-Auth Fig 18 yrs+ Defendant came before the court for a court trial on 4/27/2017, with counsel, Craig Howard, Assistant Public Advocate and Saritha Anjilvel, Assistant District Attorney present. After the State presented its evidence, the defendant moved for a judgment of acquittal and the motion was granted. ☐ The jury has returned a verdict of NOT GUILTY. The court has entered a finding of NOT GUILTY. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the defendant is acquitted and discharged and that any appearance or performance bond executed on behalf of the defendant is exonerated, and any cash or other security posted as bail be refunded or released to depositors. a copy of this judgment was sent to: Γ⊠ Def Atty R & I. DPS - Anchorage)ail DOC Off. Loc. Data

Clerk:

I certify that on

a copy of the above was mailed/ hand delivered to each of the attorneys and / or individuals at

their address of record.

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2	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
3	THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE
4 5 6 7	STATE OF ALASKA, Plaintiff, Plaintiff, Date 42017 Th
8	DANIEL MAURICE CAREY,)
9	Defendant.) Case No. 3AN-14-00853CR
10 11 12	WRITTEN SUMMARY OF DEFENDANT'S ORAL SUMMATION IN SUPPORT OF ACQUITTAL: THE DEFENDANT WAS NOT IN A POSITION OF AUTHORITY VIS-À-VIS T.A.
13 14	I certify that this document and its attachments do not contain (1) the name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2) a residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address used to identify the place of the crime or it is an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court.
15 16	A. Preface
17	AS 11.41.425(5) provides that an offender commits the crime of sexual assault in the
18	third degree, a class C felony, if:
19	"While employed as a juvenile probation officer or as a juvenile
20	facility staff, engages in sexual penetration with a person of 18 or 19 years of age with reckless disregard that the person is
21	committed to the custody or probationary supervision of the Department of Health and Social Services."
23	Juvenile facility staff is defined as: "a person employed in a juvenile detention center or
24	treatment facility". AS 11.41.425(b)(1). A juvenile probation officer "means a person
25	assigned to supervise another person 18 or 19 years of age who is committed to the
26	probationary supervision of the Department of Health and Social Services." AS
27	11.41.425(b)(2).
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At the time of this alleged offense, Daniel Maurice Carey clearly fit into the definition of "juvenile facility staff." Position of authority is not an element of this crime. The State, however, is barred from prosecuting Mr. Carey under this provision because T.A. was approximately six months shy of her 18th birthday at the time of this offense.

Common sense would lead one to believe that the same conduct, sexual penetration of a 16 or 17 year-old committed to the care and supervision of the Department of Health and Social Services by a juvenile facility staff member would be criminal. However, that is not the case. There is no corollary statute in the sexual abuse of a minor provisions. Hence, a juvenile staff facility member can have sexual relations with a 16 or 17 year-old without criminal exposure, but once the complaining witness turns 18, it is felonious conduct. This really does not make sense since one would expect that the younger age group would be less mature and more in need of protection from undue influence. Obviously, this is a flaw in the current statutory scheme since persons who are juvenile facility staff (but not in a position of authority) are free to have sexual relations with 16 and 17 years-olds.

Since Mr. Carey could not be prosecuted under AS 11.41.425(5), the government elected to prosecute him under the only other conceivable statute available to it. This appears to be a prosecution of first impression. The legal reasoning justifying this prosecution is novel at best.

Mr. Carey was indicted for sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree under AS 11.41.436(6). In order to be convicted of this offense, the defendant must have been in a **position of authority** over T.A at the time of their sexual relations. Here, the gravamen of the offense turns on not whether Mr. Carey is a juvenile facility staff member, but whether he

occupied a position of authority over T.A. If Mr. Carey is not in a position of authority, no crime has been committed. Both factually and legally, it is manifestly apparent that this element of the offense does not exist in the case at bar.

The legislature has defined "position of authority" in AS. 11.41.470(5) as meaning:

"An employer, youth leader, scout leader, coach, teacher, counselor, school administrator, religious leader, doctor, nurse, psychologist, guardian ad litem, babysitter, or a substantially similar position, and a police officer or probation officer other than when the officer is exercising custodial control over a minor."

AS 11.41.470(5) was enacted into law in 1990. It apparently has not been amended since that time.

B. Juvenile Justice Officer Does Not Fall Within the Ambit of the Definition of "Position of Authority"

Mr. Carey was hired, trained and worked as a juvenile justice officer. The Division of Juvenile Justice (hereinafter, "DJJ") has extensive job descriptions and requirements for a juvenile justice officer. See defense Exhibits L and M. The term juvenile justice officer is not defined in either the Alaska Statutes or the Administrative Code.

There is a separate job known as a juvenile probation officer. See defense Exhibit A. A juvenile probation officer is defined in AS 11.41.425(b)(2). Mr. Carey was not a juvenile probation officer as classified by the Division of Personnel and Labor Relations.

Mr. Carey could be considered part of "juvenile facility staff" as defined in AS 11.41.425(b)(1). However, the term "juvenile facility staff" is not included in the definition of "position of authority." When the legislature adopted the term "juvenile facility staff" in 2013,

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it elected to not include that term in the "position of authority" statute. More importantly, the legislature never amended AS 11.41.470(5) to include the term juvenile justice officer.

At the time of his hire, the position of youth counselor had been eliminated by the Division of Personnel. Mr. Carey was never given notice that a juvenile justice officer was the same as a youth counselor. That is because they are not the same, nor are they even similar positions. Furthermore, Mr. Carey could not be included as a probation officer since he was not one.

C. A 2004 Revamping of the Division of Juvenile Justice Abrogated the Position of Youth Counselor and Created a New Position of Juvenile Justice Officer.

DJJ was created in 1999 to administer the juvenile justice system. Prior to that date, child protection and youth corrections were combined in the Division of Family and Youth Services (now the Office of Children's Services). The position of youth counselor was originally established in 1970. The advent and creation of DJJ involved a massive reorganization. This revamping was required because it was deemed the old structure had become out-dated. DJJ positions were expanded in their scope and duties, and minimum and educational requirements were instituted.

DJJ petitioned the Department of Administration and the Division of Personnel and Labor Relations for a reclassification of numerous positions that would be reflective of the new and expanded goals and tasks confronting DJJ. The reclassification of youth counselors to juvenile justice officers was delegated to the Division of Personnel and Labor Relations under

Title 39 of the Alaska statutes. Hence, the State originated the plan to create juvenile justice officers. This request was made and accomplished prior to Mr. Carey's hire in 2007.

A reclassification under the Division's rules is:

"A formal change in a position's classification, based on changes to the assigned duties and responsibilities, to either a different level within the current class series or to a *completely different job class series*." (Emphasis added.) See Addendum A (p. 12).

The reclassification sought by the State in 2004 created a completely different job class series known as a juvenile justice officer. The job classification of youth counselor ceased to exist.

The problem is that AS 47.12.270 which utilizes the term youth counselor was never amended to track the creation of the new job of juvenile justice officer. That is, if DJJ wanted the new position of juvenile justice officer to replace the term youth counselor in this statute, it was incumbent upon it to have the statute modified. The State never sought this amendment. It is Mr. Carey's position that the reclassification abrogated AS 47.12.270 insofar as the applicability of the term youth counselor to Mr. Carey. The position was eradicated and replaced with a completely different job class series. To apply the old job classification to Mr. Carey is obviously violative of his due process rights. Similarly, the term "counselor" as it appears in AS 11.41.470(5) does not encompass the term juvenile justice officer for the reasons set forth hereinabove.

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D. The Now Defunct Term "Youth Counselor" Has Been Judicially Determined to Actually Mean a Correctional Officer Not a Counselor. Correctional Officers Are Not a Class Recognized by the Legislature for Purposes of the "Position of Authority" Found in AS 11.41.470(5).

Mr. Carey's position that he is not a counselor for purposes of AS 11.41.470(b)(5) is heavily bolstered by the case of *Wilson v. State*, 967 P.2d 98 (Alaska App. 1998). Wilson was a juvenile under detention at McLaughlin Youth Center (hereinafter, "MYC"). He assaulted a youth counselor in 1995. The State insisted on prosecuting him as an adult. Upon conviction for a felony assault, the State further sought to enhance his sentence into a presumptive one by arguing that a "youth counselor" is actually a "correctional officer". The government contended that under former AS 12.55.125(d)(3), Wilson's actions were directed at a correctional officer and not a counselor.²

Wilson defended that a "youth counselor" was a counselor and not a correctional officer. Accordingly, he could not be aggravated for directing his actions at a correctional officer. The State argued strenuously that a so-called youth counselor was actually a correctional officer and not a counselor as the term is utilized in common usage. The Alaska Court of Appeals agreed with the State that the legislature, although using the name "youth counselor", intended the term to actually mean correctional officer. The court found MYC to be a correctional facility pursuant to AS 11.81.900(b)(36). Since MYC is a "correctional facility", the people who supervise the detainees are also "correctional officers". Citing AS

¹ Wilson was decided several years before the massive revamping of DJJ discussed in Section C. Assuming arguendo, the State's argument is that a juvenile justice officer is identical to a youth counselor, Wilson's holding and logic are still applicable.

² This statute was repealed and reenacted as AS.12.55.125(c)(2). It is noteworthy to observe that correctional officer was broadened to "correctional employee". The term counselor or youth counselor was not included by the legislature. Similarly, AS 12.55.155(a)(13) provides for an independent statutory aggravating factor if action is directed toward a correctional officer. Again, counselor or youth counselor is not utilized.

 47.12.270 and 7AAC 52.170³, the court agreed with the State that the legislature's intent was to have "youth counselors" actually be correctional officers.

The prosecution cannot have its cake and eat it too. In order to convict Mr. Carey, the government must now make the same argument that Wilson made unsuccessfully. That is, Mr. Carey is not a correctional officer but is a "youth counselor". Wilson, supra bars such an argument.

For all Title 11 purposes, "youth counselor" means correctional officer. The position of authority statute, AS 11.41.470, is in Title 11. It utilizes the term "counselor", not "youth counselor". The legislature has had ample opportunity in light of the issuance of *Wilson* in 1998 to overturn the holding in *Wilson* by amending the statute to state that "counselor" and "youth counselor" are one and the same. However, that has never occurred. The legislature's intent was not to include "youth counselor" in AS 11.41.470. Correctional officers (both adult and juvenile) are specifically omitted from that statute. That is because correctional officers having sexual activity with inmates, detainees or probationers is prohibited in other statutes.

Mr. Carey, for Title 11 purposes, is a correctional officer according to the Court of Appeals and the Legislature. That term is not included in AS 11.41.470. The State is barred from prosecuting him under the theory that he is in a position of authority. Its logic is incredibly tortured. He is a juvenile justice officer which used to be a "youth counselor", and "youth counselor" has the term "counselor" in it. So *ergo* the term "counselor" that is in AS 11.41.470 applies to him. Mr. Carey is a correctional officer under Alaska law. The superintendent conceded as much under cross-examination that juvenile justice officers are the

³ This regulation was repealed and now appears as 7AAC.52.135

same as prison guards/correctional officers. Accordingly, Mr. Carey does not fall within the purview of AS 11.41.470.

E. Mr. Carey's Position as a Juvenile Justice Officer Does Not Fit into the Category of "Substantially Similar" in AS 11.41.470.

At the grand jury, the government took the position that Mr. Carey's position of a juvenile justice officer may not have fit into one of the many delineated positions within the ambit of the "position of authority" statute as set forth in AS. 11.41.470(5). Instead, the government appears to have taken the position that Mr. Carey's position of a juvenile justice officer was so "substantially similar" to the enumerated categories so as to cause liability to attach to his actions. See "Addendum B" (GJ at 45). As has been discussed in the foregoing sections, Mr. Carey does not fall into any of these categories. Furthermore, his position as a juvenile justice officer is not even close to the categories that have been enumerated by the legislature. Testimony at trial as well as the arguments in this pleading clearly establishes that the category he is most "substantially similar" to is a correctional officer.

The legislature specifically chose not to include the term "correctional officer" in the "position of authority" statute. This is because the issue of correctional officers having sexual relations with persons they supervise are covered in other statutes. Mr. Carey's position as a juvenile justice officer has been on the books since 2004. The legislature has had numerous opportunities to include this position in AS 11.41.470(5) but has chosen not to do so. Accordingly, the government's theory that Mr. Carey's job was substantially similar to any of those in the governing statute must fail.

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F. The State's Theory that AS 47.12.470 Extends Liability to Mr. Carey is Misplaced. The Abrogation of the Term "Youth Counselor" Rendered the Statute a Nullity. The Legislature Recognized the Problem and is in the Process of Correcting the Deficiencies that Currently Exist in the Statute.

Near the end of the grand jury proceeding, the government apparently came up with an alternative theory of criminal liability. It read AS 47.12.270 (Youth Counselors) to the grand jury. See "Addendum C" (GJ at 50-51). That statute states:

> "The department may employ youth counselors. Youth counselors shall exercise the duties of probation officers and shall prepare preliminary investigations for the court. They shall also carry out other duties in the care and treatment of minors that are consistent with the intent of this chapter. Youth counselors have the powers of a peace officer with respect to the service of process, the making of arrests of minors who violate state or municipal law, and the execution of orders of the court relating to juveniles, and shall assist and advise the courts in the furtherance of the welfare and control of minor's under the court's jurisdiction."

The grand jury was instructed that this statute defines the duties of a youth counselor which it does not. This statute was enacted in 1996. Accordingly, it was never amended to reflect the decision in Wilson, supra and the State's abrogation of the position of "youth counselor".

The State's theory is that AS 47.12.470 makes a youth counselor a de facto probation officer and peace officer. Since these latter two terms are in the position of authority statute, a youth counselor also is within the purview of AS 11.41.270(5). There are several problems with this supposition. First, under Wilson, supra, a youth counselor is a correctional officer. not a probation officer or a peace officer. Additionally, youth counselors were taken off the books at the request of the State. This action rendered the statute null as to Mr. Carey. There is no notice to anyone hired as a juvenile justice officer that s/he may be governed by this statute.

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The government has recognized these serious deficiencies. Legislation introduced in the State Senate on March 3, 2017 (SB 74) corrects the problem that exists. See Addendum D (pp. 2, 13-14). At the outset, this legislation adds the term "adult and juvenile probation officers" to the position of authority statute, AS 11.41.470(5). The Legislature specifically omitted the terms juvenile justice officers and juvenile facility staff. This is indicative that Mr. Carey's position was never intended to be in this classification. The State could easily have

More importantly, AS 47.12.270 is completely repealed. The Legislature is doing this so that it can enact a new provision that comports with the changes to laws and regulations governing "youth counselors". As is readily apparent, the newly proposed AS 47.12.270 only applies to juvenile probation officers. Juvenile justice officers or any type of juvenile facility staff are purposely omitted from the statute. Any successor to the previous youth counselor classification is deleted. Furthermore, the powers delineated to the juvenile probation officers vis-à-vis peace officer duties are more circumscribed than the language in the current version.

Although this legislation is not legally binding on this Court in the case at bar, there is no bar from the Court utilizing the logic in its analysis of whether the current AS 47.12.270 can be applied to his case legally. As a matter of law, Mr. Carey is not a youth counselor. Accordingly, any attempt by the State to extend this statute to his case is legally not permissible. Otherwise, his due process rights will be severely contravened.

requested that addition to the position of authority statute.

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