

Former Truancy Officer Sentenced

(KAIR)--A former Atchison based truancy officer convicted on two counts of unlawful sexual relations with a student, will spend over two and a half years in prison.

29-year-old Heather Robinson appeared in Atchison County District Court Monday afternoon to learn her fate.

Before the sentence was handed down, two different witnesses were called to testify. The first was Robinson's father, Brent Duncan, who informed the court that she has the full support of her entire family and has made a positive difference since starting counseling.

Dr. Robert Barnett, a clinical psychologist who worked with Robinson, testified that it is his opinion that she cannot hurt other people and will not be a danger to anyone else. He added that the therapy she would get outside of prison would be better than the therapy provided by the Department of Corrections. County Attorney Jerry Kuckleman questioned him regarding the extent of the sexual evaluation given to Robinson.

The burden was on Robinson's attorney to prove that there was a viable treatment plan available to address the issue in order for her to avoid prison and instead be sentenced to probation.

Judge Martin Asher did not think the proposed treatment plan was enough, and sentenced Robinson to 32 months in prison on each count, with each sentence running concurrently. Following her release from prison, she will be placed on two years of post release supervision and will have to register as a sex offender.

Various supporters of Robinson in attendance started to weep along with her as the sentence was read.

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