



CITY OF PULLMAN WASHINGTON

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Psychologist Arrested for Sexually Assaulting Patient

PULLMAN – A Pullman therapist and psychologist was arrested Friday, February 16, on suspicion of sexually assaulting a female patient last month.

A female Pullman resident in her 40's reported to Pullman Police that her therapist, psychologist Dean Funabiki, PhD, sexually assaulted her. The assault allegedly occurred during a therapy session in January 2018 in Dr. Funabiki's office, 1205 SE Professional Mall Blvd. Swabs were collected from the victim during a sexual assault examination. A search warrant was obtained to collect DNA samples from Dr. Funabiki. The evidence was sent to the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab for analysis. The Crime Lab positively matched Funabiki's DNA to victim swabs collected from private areas of the victim's body consistent with the reported sexual assault.

At the request of investigators, and accompanied by his attorney, Dr. Funabiki surrendered himself at the Pullman Police Department at about 10:30 pm. He was arrested and booked on a charge of Rape in the 2nd Degree and will later be transported to the Whitman County Jail. Rape in the 2nd Degree includes rape when the perpetrator is a health care provider and the alleged victim is a client or patient, and the sexual intercourse occurs during a treatment session. Rape 2nd Degree is a Class A felony, punishable by life imprisonment and/or \$50,000 fine.

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