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Troubles dogging Wayne County prosecutor's assistants

2 Worthy aides face charges; another is on leave of absence

Doug Guthrie, Charlie LeDuff and Leonard N. Fleming / The Detroit News

Detroit --Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, lauded for her dogged pursuit of criminal charges that brought down former Mayor [Kwame Kilpatrick](#), finds her own house in disorder.

Three assistants, including the lead prosecutor on the Kilpatrick case, have gotten into recent trouble. Add to that the felony criminal charges being faced by former chief drug prosecutor Karen Plants and lobbyist Mary Waters.

Assistant Prosecutor Robert Moran, who made impassioned public objections to Kilpatrick's sexual appetites and flaunting of the law during his lengthy prosecution last year, is on leave for unspecified reasons.

Two other assistant prosecutors are up on misdemeanor criminal charges. Mary Rubio and Teresa Smith continue to prosecute individuals while they face charges of their own.

"Their cases are being handled by city attorneys in their respective jurisdictions," Assistant Prosecutor Maria Miller, who acts as Worthy's spokeswoman, said of Rubio and Smith.

"The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has no involvement in these cases and expect they will be treated the same as any other individual."

Miller declined to reveal the charges faced by the women or the reason for Moran's temporary exile from the office.

"Robert Moran is currently on a leave. I have no further comment on this," Miller said.

Plants faces felony perjury charges that carry up to a life sentence for allegedly allowing cops to lie on the witness stand. Waters, a former state representative resigned her job as a lobbyist and community organizer in Worthy's office shortly before being charged in July by federal authorities with conspiracy and bribery.

Worthy has complained that recent cutbacks have left her staff woefully undermanned at about 170 lawyers.

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