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Brothers charged in rape of girl, 11

By John Hogan
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One of two brothers charged Friday with raping an 11-year-old girl and forcing her to wear woman's clothing planned to undergo a sex-change operation, police said.

Inside the suspect's Southeast Side apartment, police found documents detailing the operation, as well as sex aids, children's toys and women's undergarments, according to investigators and court documents.

The suspect, 35-year-old Daniel Arthur Turner, allegedly grabbed the girl outside his apartment building, northwest of 44th Street and Kalamazoo Avenue SE, and raped her in an apartment he shared with his brother.

Police were called Wednesday when the victim's father tried to attack the suspects with a crowbar after learning of the assault.

Daniel Turner was arraigned Friday for child enticement and first-degree criminal sexual conduct, felonies punishable by up to life in prison. He has burglary convictions in 1987 and 1979 in the Milwaukee area, which authorities say they believe involved stealing women's clothing.

The suspect's brother, 30-year-old Stephen Dennis Turner, is alleged to have held the victim and fondled her during the attack. He was arraigned Friday on two counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct.

Suspect reportedly planned a sex-change operation.

Both men asked for court-appointed attorneys for their preliminary examinations, scheduled for July 20.

Grand Rapids District Judge Michael Christensen ordered them held without bond in the Kent County Jail, calling the brothers "extreme dangers to members of our society."

Meanwhile, Grand Rapids police plan to contact Wisconsin authorities to see if Daniel Turner is being investigated for crimes there, authorities said.

Police searched the Turners' apartment Thursday and recovered several photos of children, a bag of children's toys and clothes, and a box of lingerie, court records show.

Police also recovered a card from the "Milwaukee Transgender program," a book entitled "ideologies of cross-dressers" and a poem entitled: "All you straight queers," court documents show.

According to court records, the girl was in her yard Wednesday afternoon when a man wearing lipstick grabbed her and took her into his apartment.

Daniel Turner allegedly removed the victim's clothes and sexually assaulted her, court records show. She was shown a videotape of adult strip poker, and also was forced to wear adult female undergarments, she told investigators.

After the assault, Daniel Turner told her: "Get out of here and if you tell anyone, I will kill you," police records show.

The girl told her mother, and the woman confronted the men while her husband searched for a crowbar, court records show.

"When she asked him why he raped her daughter, Daniel put his hands up and stated: 'I don't know why,'" according to a search warrant affidavit in Grand Rapids District Court. The girl's father then arrived with a crowbar, at which point the suspect "shut his door and locked them out," court records show. The father started hitting the door with the crowbar, and a neighbor called police.