

Man charged in Dale County rape may be murder suspect

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OZARK — A man charged with the rape of a child less than the age of 12 might be a suspect in the 2001 murder of a Prattville girl, according to testimony during a bond reconsideration hearing on Monday.

Dale County Circuit Judge P.B. McLaughlin said new testimony contributed to his decision to revoke bond and set it at \$250,000 cash for Morris Michael Glasscock, 45, after a \$150,000 property or commercial surety bond was posted last month.

Dale County Chief Sheriff's Investigator Harvey Mathis testified during Monday's hearing that Glasscock may have raped or sexually assaulted at least one other girl besides the victim.

Mathis said a recorded Dale County Jail phone conversation revealed Glasscock

also told someone he "was tired" of being in jail and would say he killed 11-year old Prattville resident Shannon Paulk.

Mathis said Shannon's body was found tied in a garbage bag in a wildlife refuge in an area in which someone said Glasscock was known to hunt.

While Prattville Police Department officials would not disclose whether Glasscock was a suspect in the case, Mathis said Prattville officials had taken DNA samples in relation to the murder.

Dale County District Attorney Kirke Adams said he was not aware of last month's hearing prior to Glasscock's release.

"Everywhere this man has moved, he's left a trail of victims behind, and finally we have a brave girl to come forward. ... All of the victims in the past have been around (this victim's) age," he said.

"... I'm very concerned about the community. I'm very concerned about the victims he left before."

Defense attorney Aaron Gartlan said the prosecution had representation at last month's hearing. Gartlan made at least three motions to object to the reconsideration hearing on Monday on grounds there was no violation of the terms and conditions of Glasscock's bond and no new offenses.

Each motion was denied.

"You set conditions on the bond. (Glasscock) has not violated any of those conditions (set) ... to protect the community. The state hasn't presented any new evidence that didn't exist (in May) when you had this hearing," Gartlan said.

"... But the next step is to get ready for trial."

In addition to rape in the first degree, Glasscock is charged with sexual abuse.