

D.C. chief district judge resigns after sex abuse lawsuit is filed



Richard W. Roberts, the chief U.S. district judge for Washington D.C., suddenly resigned Wednesday as news surfaced of a sex-abuse lawsuit filed against him by a Utah woman. (Associated Press) more >

By Victor Morton - *The Washington Times* - Wednesday, March 16, 2016

The chief U.S. district judge for Washington D.C. suddenly resigned Wednesday as news surfaced of a sex-abuse lawsuit filed against him by a Utah woman.

The lawsuit filed in Salt Lake City by Terry Mitchell accuses Judge Richard W. Roberts of repeatedly raping her when she was a witness in a 1981 federal trial and he was a federal prosecutor handling civil-rights cases.

She was 16 at the time, the lawsuit says, though this was old enough to consent under Utah's statutory-rape laws at the time.

TOP STORIES

Coronavirus hype biggest political hoax in history



Celebrate our anniversary.
Only one week left!
Subscribe now for \$3.17.

**ACT NOW +
SAVE**

Already a subscriber?
Log in

Judge Roberts, who was appointed to the federal bench in 1998 by President Bill Clinton, was 27 at the time of the trial.

His lawyers said in a statement cited by the National Law Journal that a consensual “intimate relationship” took place but claims of sexual assault are “categorically false.”



According to the Washington Post, he resigned Wednesday evening for “unspecified health reasons.” He also maintained that the relationship took place after the trial.

Ms. Mitchell was an eyewitness in the trial of Joseph Paul Franklin, a white supremacist serial killer who was executed in 2013 in another case. Ms. Mitchell, who is white, was one of two women jogging with two black men whom Franklin killed.

“According to the suit, Mitchell was already the victim of sexual assault by several other men, including her step-grandfather, and in his role as a prosecutor, Roberts had access to her mental counseling records,” NBC News reported.

In a statement Wednesday, Rep. Jason Chaffetz, Utah Republican and chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said his panel had recently learned of the charges from the Utah state attorney general’s office.

“We will work with the House and Senate Judiciary Committees to determine next best steps to ensure justice is served,” Mr. Chaffetz said.

SIGN UP FOR DAILY NEWSLETTERS



Celebrate our anniversary.

Only one week left!

Subscribe now for \$3.17.

**ACT NOW +
SAVE**

Already a subscriber?
Log in

Copyright © 2020 The Washington Times, LLC. Click here for reprint permission.

Please read our comment policy before commenting.

Popular in the Community



NANCY PELOSI REJECTS SHORT-TERM...	JOE BIDEN LEADS TRUMP IN N.C.: POLL	TRUMP FINALIZES RULE DEFINING GENDER AS A...	TRUMP USES RUI OBAMA-ERA POL
Spec Ops Lawyer 3d	Trump 2020 5h	Tommy Jay 13 Jun	Jshiesty 22h
I think Pelosi and Schumer must be th...	The same poll said Hillary was ahead an...	Doctors do not remove a persons...	We had better FEMA about th



Conversation 14 Comments

When logging in with Disqus, please only use the "Email" option with the same details you already provided or use the "Forgot your password" option



Your Username

Log In



Sort by Best ▾



Anscotman3
18 March, 2016



Assaulting young girls....appointed by Bill Clinton. Coincidence?

Reply



Griefner
17 March, 2016



Appointed by Bill Clinton.....
Birds of a feather comes to mind.

Reply

Show More Comments

Powered by Disqus


Terms | Privacy | Feedback

Celebrate our anniversary.
Only one week left!
Subscribe now for \$3.17.

ACT NOW +
SAVE

Already a subscriber?
Log in





THRIVE® Vet - We Are Open

THRIVE Affordable Vet Care

