

Man accused of 4th student rape at Stockton University

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The 18-year-old who alleges she was raped took photos of injuries to her neck after the Oct. 20, 2017 incident, according to the lawsuit. (Provided)

By **Rebecca Everett**

reverett@njadvancemedia.com.

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For the second time in just over a week, a student at Stockton University has sued, claiming she was raped by an alumnus who found his alleged victims at the parties of an unauthorized, off-campus fraternity.

Both young women, who have chosen to remain anonymous, are accusing the same man, who is now 25. They are suing the alumnus, but also Stockton University and Pi Kappa Phi, arguing that the institutions failed to protect the women from the alleged sexual assaults.

The most recent suit, filed in federal court in Camden Friday, claims Zachary Madle, a 2015 graduate, violently raped an 18-year-old freshman twice in October and November in the Egg Harbor City house that once housed the unauthorized fraternity.

The attorney who filed both suits, Robert Fuggi of Toms River, said the plaintiff in the latest suit came forward after reading a news article about the July 6 lawsuit accusing the same man.

"It gave her the courage and comfort to come forward," he said. He said she reported the incident recently to the university and police, and no charges have been filed.

The previous lawsuit, filed by a young woman from Brick, claimed Madle [raped her twice in her dorm](#) when she was incapacitated, possibly due to her drink being spiked, in February of 2017. In that case, authorities charged Madle with recording a sex act without consent -- because he allegedly posted videos of the incident on SnapChat -- but they did not charge him with sexual assault.

The Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office said it could not comment on the charges because of the open investigation, and Stockton University did not address the way its police force handled the February 2017 investigation. Attempts to reach Madle by phone and on Facebook were unsuccessful.

Fuggi said Stockton's campus is a hotbed of underage drinking and sexual activity, and the school does nothing to ensure the safety of inexperienced young women who are at risk.

"We're hoping Stockton is going to take this seriously," he said.

Stockton said in a statement last week that it was letting the Attorney General's Office handle the investigation.

The latest lawsuit alleges the 18-year-old met Madle at the frat house on Oct. 20, 2017. Fuggi wrote in the suit that the frat regularly held parties, referred to as "p---y parties," where they invited only females and provided a strong drink called "jungle juice."

Pi Kappa Phi says its Stockton chapter was shut down years ago and students were ordered to stop using the fraternity's name, but Fuggi said the frat continues to operate in the same way it always did.

The teen was feeling very intoxicated when she and Madle began having sex in a bedroom of the house, the suit said. She eventually told him to stop because he became violent, hitting, biting and choking her without her consent, Fuggi wrote.

The teen "blacked out" but when she got home to her dormitory, she took photographs of injuries to her neck from the choking, the suit said.

About three weeks later, she returned to the frat house for a party, but avoided Madle and did not respond to him when he tried to engage her, the suit said. However, when the man led her intoxicated friend into the same bedroom where she had allegedly been assaulted, she intervened, Fuggi wrote.

She yelled at Madle, "She's drunk, leave her alone," the lawsuit said, but he pushed the plaintiff against the wall and started kissing and groping her.

The teenager claims he took the girls' phones, threw them at the wall and wouldn't let them leave.

Madle allegedly said, "If I can't have her, I'll have you" and dragged the plaintiff into the bathroom while her friend cried outside in the bedroom, according to the suit. He raped her in the bathroom while she cried and begged him to stop and he slammed her head repeatedly into the mirror, she claimed in the lawsuit.

Fuggi wrote that the teen told her friends what happened immediately, but didn't report it to authorities at that time.

Even though the incidents allegedly happened off campus, Fuggi said Stockton is still responsible for keeping students safe in the community. The suit claims the university discourages students from reporting sexual violence to authorities.

Fuggi said the university knows the fraternity continues to operate and does not order it to stop or discipline its members. "They're Stockton students," he said, and could be threatened with expulsion. "Stockton should have taken action years ago."

The lawsuit seeks compensatory damages, claiming the young woman suffered physical and emotional pain, has anxiety and depression as a result, and must pay for therapy. The suit also demands the university take steps to protect students from sexual harassment and better investigate their complaints.

Rebecca Everett may be reached at reverett@njadvancemedia.com. Follow her on Twitter [@rebeccaeverett](https://twitter.com/rebeccaeverett). Find NJ.com on Facebook.