

Woman gets prison for lying to police about rape by pair

■ Ana Negron — who falsely accused two men of raping her in January — also is warned this may be her last chance to get drug treatment.

By Dan Kelly

Eagle/Times

A convicted prostitute who admitted lying to police about being raped by two men in Laureldale was sentenced Wednesday to six to 12 months in Berks County Prison.

Ana Negron, 22, of the first block of Neversink Street also was scolded by Berks County Judge Linda K.M. Ludgate, who said she probably was receiving her last chance to get treatment for drug addiction.

Negron told police and testified before a district justice that Joel A. Gibilisco, 38, Riverview Park, and James P. Born, 35, of the 3300 block of Raymond Street, Laureldale, drugged, shackled and raped her in Born's home Jan. 3.

rejected the deal, arguing the sentence was insufficient for Negron's crimes.

After Keller rejected the deal, Negron's attorney, Assistant Public Defender John Elder, took back the guilty pleas and asked Keller to withdraw from the case.

Keller agreed and transferred the case to Ludgate's court.

Ludgate sentenced Negron to three to 12 months in the county prison on the perjury charge, to be followed by two years of probation, according to a plea agreement worked out with the district attorney's office.

However, the judge imposed the harsher six- to 12-month sentence on the guilty plea to drug possession.

"I am aware of how many times there has been probation

In February, while being questioned by an investigator with the district attorney's office, Negron admitted lying about the rape.

Negron was charged with two counts of making false reports and one count of perjury.

When police arrested her on those charges, they found a small quantity of heroin, and Negron subsequently was charged with drug possession.

Negron has been in jail for almost five months since her arrest. The arrest constituted a violation of her probation on two prior prostitution convictions, court records show.

Prosecutors had offered Negron a sentence of one to 23 months in Berks County Prison and five years of probation in exchange for guilty pleas on the false reports, perjury and drug charges.

But Judge Scott D. Keller

times were the best program and drug treatment offered to you," Ludgate told Negron. "I am also aware that you were kicked out of a drug treatment program, and I'm telling you this may be the last time you walk out of a treatment program because funds for these kinds of programs are drying up.

"I certainly hope you make it work this time."

Investigators said Negron went to Born's home voluntarily to have sex with the men, and later passed out.

When she awakened the next day, the two men removed handcuffs on Negron but could not locate the key to shackles on her ankles, police said. She then became angry and created a scene, bringing police to the house, according to investigators.

Police said they later found weapons and chemicals used to manufacture drugs in Born's home, but no charges have been filed.