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Prosecutor, cops face charges

False testimony allowed at Wayne County drug trial

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The Michigan Attorney General's Office is expected to take the extraordinary step of seeking felony charges against the former top drug prosecutor in Wayne County and two Inkster cops who falsely testified in a 2005 cocaine trial.

The potential charges -- expected as soon as today -- may also ensnare the judge who knew of the false testimony, but allowed it anyway.

The filing of perjury and conspiracy charges against one-time drug prosecutor Karen Plants would prove a major embarrassment for the office of Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, which aggressively prosecuted former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick on perjury charges last year.

The contemplated charges, following a nine-month investigation, were confirmed Monday by lawyers familiar with the probe and in court records obtained by the Free Press.

In addition to Plants, the attorney general is expected to seek charges against Inkster Sgt. Scott Rehtzigel and Officer Robert McArthur.

Wayne County Circuit Judge Mary Waterstone presided over the 2005 case. She could not be reached Monday.

Plants' lawyer said she's innocent. Lawyers for the cops declined to comment.

Plants allowed the cops and a key prosecution witness to testify falsely that the witness had no prior contact with police. The witness was actually a paid police informant.