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Officer denies a deal on perjury in Karen Plants case

It had been said he would testify

*BY JOE SWICKARD
FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER*

One of the Inkster police officers involved in the perjury investigation of a former Wayne County drug prosecutor denies he has cut a deal with the Michigan attorney general to testify against the prosecutor.

His denial, in an interview, contradicted assertions of attorney Steven Bullock, who told the Free Press in an article Sunday that he represents both Inkster cops who testified in a 2005 cocaine case. Bullock said the officers received immunity from prosecutors to testify that they acted at the direction of Karen Plants, former head of the drug unit in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, when they testified in the cocaine case.

In an e-mail Wednesday, Bullock conceded he was mistaken in speaking for Inkster Officer Robert McArthur.

"I misunderstood the position of Officer McArthur with reference to my representation of him," he wrote.

Bullock said he does represent a second Inkster cop in the perjury probe, Sgt. Scott Reichtzigel, and has produced a copy of an immunity agreement he said Reichtzigel reached with the attorney general.

McArthur acknowledged he has spoken with Bullock, but said he is represented by a police union attorney, Douglas Gutscher.

Gutscher, an attorney with the Police Officers Association of Michigan, said Tuesday that Bullock's statements about his client reaching an immunity deal are not true.

Gutscher would not say whether McArthur had reached any other type of deal or understanding, saying that "any dealing with the attorney general is confidential."

Attorney General Mike Cox's office declined to comment.

State legal watchdogs have accused Plants, the one-time top drug prosecutor for Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, of allowing the cops and a key witness to testify falsely in the cocaine case to hide the witness' role as a paid informant. She has since retired.

Cox's office has been investigating possible criminal charges since last summer, and a decision is expected in a month.

Plants' lawyers have said she did nothing wrong.

Bullock said he also represents three other Inkster cops in a probe of \$60,000 worth of missing property seized in the drug case.

Contact **JOE SWICKARD** at 313-222-8769 or jswickard@freepress.com.
