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Karp

Jury gets Middleton sex case

By Jack Gallagher

A jury of eight men and four women began deliberating Wednesday in the trial of Dr. James Middleton, the former Des Plaines physician who is accused of sexually assaulting two women patients.

Prosecution and defense attorneys made their closing statements Tuesday in the two-week-old trial.

Edward M. Genson, Middleton's defense attorney, argued Tuesday that the state had failed to produce any witnesses to support the charges.

"NOT ONE witness supports the facts set forth in the indictment," Genson said. "Instead, we have innuendo. We have a parade of women talking about things that supposedly occurred way back in 1965 and 1967."

Genson said that a 24-year-old former model who has accused Middleton of sexual assaults "claims she knew she had been violated but yet she returned repeatedly to Dr. Middleton."

He drew the jury's attention to the fact that many months went by before the woman brought complaints against Middleton.

Middleton, 44, of 2800 N. Lake Shore Dr., was arrested Dec. 1, 1970, in his office at 969 Elmhurst, Des Plaines. He was accused of drugging and sexually assaulting two women in the office.