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## Man, 20, charged with raping 101-year-old woman in her home

By [Bruce Vielmetti](#) of the Journal Sentinel  
Nov. 18, 2014

A Milwaukee man has been charged with sexually assaulting a 101-year-old woman in her home in September.

Antoine Devon Pettis, 20, faces charges of burglary, aggravated battery and second degree sexual assault, which carries a penalty of up to 25 years in prison.

According to the criminal complaint and Milwaukee police:

The victim was asleep at her home on the city's north side, where she lived alone, when she heard a noise and realized someone was in her bedroom. She asked who was there and why, but was only told "shut up" and slapped several times in the face.

The attacker then grabbed the victim's wrists, flipped her on her stomach, sexually assaulted her and left. The woman waited on her bed until she thought the intruder was gone, then went to her door and began yelling for help.

Police arrived to find the woman bleeding from her face and with blood stains on her legs and buttocks.

She was taken to a hospital and treated.

Pettis left behind DNA evidence at the scene. Detectives with the Milwaukee Police Department's Sensitive Crimes Division identified Pettis as a suspect on Thursday after his DNA revealed familial traits with those of a male relative, who was already in a DNA database. Investigators eventually matched DNA recovered from the woman's body and nightgown to Pettis' DNA.

When confronted by police on Friday, Pettis admitted entering the victim's house to steal property, but that he decided to assault the woman when he saw her on the bed.

"The defendant said he did not plan the sexual assault or he would have worn a condom,"

the complaint states.

Pettis was charged in 2013 with obstructing an officer and possession of THC. He has been wanted on a bench warrant since failing to appear for a hearing in that case in August, according to court records.

He is being held in the Milwaukee County Jail.

Milwaukee police say it is [second time in state history](#) that DNA from a relative has led to the identification and arrest of a suspect wanted for a sexual assault. Earlier this year, a Milwaukee man [was charged in a series of increasingly violent random sexual assaults](#) through familial DNA evidence. The Wisconsin State Crime Lab completed the familial DNA testing in both cases.

*Journal Sentinel reporter Ashley Luthern contributed to this report*