

I sing the student body electric



For Rutgers-Camden graduation ceremonies on Wednesday, the statue of Walt Whitman in front of the student center was put into the right mood with a scarlet gown. TOM GRALISH / Staff Photographer

Ellis

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sources said. In a brief interview, Chardo said he could not comment, including on why he decided to place the matter before a grand jury.

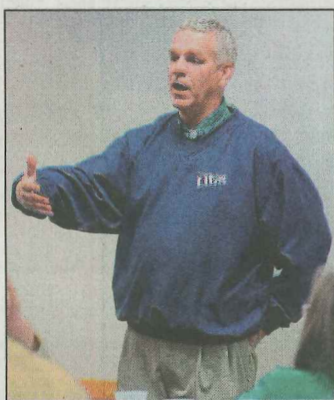
Ellis, 50, a Butler County Republican, has denied the allegations. He did not return calls seeking comment. His lawyers could not be reached.

Ellis resigned his elected office earlier this year, after The Inquirer and The Caucus reported that the woman, a state employee, had filed a complaint against him with the House's lawyers and the chamber's Ethics Committee.

In the complaint, the woman said that before the alleged assault in October 2015, she had repeatedly rebuffed sexual advances from Ellis.

The woman said that the night of the alleged incident she was out with a friend in downtown Harrisburg at a restaurant/bar, where she had fewer than two drinks.

"I have scant memories of



Brian Ellis, a former state House member, has denied a sexual-assault allegation, a matter now under investigation. File Photograph

the next 10 hours, and was in a state of blackout," she wrote in the complaint, a copy of which was reviewed by the newspapers. "I woke up in pain, injured and naked, the next morning in the bed of Rep. Brian Ellis."

When she confronted Ellis, she contends he told her: "We had sex."

She said she did not file a report then out of confusion and shame. However, she did go to the hospital the next day, she said, and at some point was diagnosed with post-trau-

matic stress disorder.

The woman in her complaint asked the House to "hold Ellis accountable for his heinous actions."

Ellis is the second Republican House member to be investigated by Chardo's office on assault allegations.

Last year, two women filed a complaint with House Republicans, alleging they were physically or sexually abused by then-State Rep. Nick Miccarelli (R., Delaware).

House Republican lawyers investigated the allegations and found the women credible. They called on Miccarelli to resign, but he denied the accusations and served out his term, which ended last year.

Late last year, Chardo ended his investigation into the case and announced that no charges would be filed against Miccarelli, in part because one of the accusers chose not to go forward. She said her decision was based on emotional trauma and "the prospect of a long and drawn-out criminal proceeding."

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Korzon

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plaint," Williams said Wednesday outside the courthouse in Jamison. "He did not admit guilt today; he only made a tactical decision."

Williams said Korzon's case is unusual for the dearth of information available to him about the investigation being built by prosecutors. As a condition of the waiver, Williams requested that the District Attorney's Office expedite turning over its evidence to him by Thursday, including transcripts from the investigative grand jury that helped charge Korzon.

Those transcripts, which would provide extensive context to the charges filed by the District Attorney's Office, may be made public in coming days.

"The more information we have, the better decision we can make for Mr. Korzon in the future," Williams said.

The case was reopened in 2018, when detectives from Warrington brought the evidence they had been compiling for nearly 40 years to District Attorney Matthew Weintraub.

Korzon was taken into custody last month at his home in Central Pennsylvania. As he was led into his arraignment, he insisted to reporters that Gloria Korzon had moved to

Florida in the 1980s and that he had done nothing to harm her.

But investigators, in court filings, paint a much darker picture.

Gloria Korzon was declared legally dead by a Bucks County judge in 1997. She was 38 when she left the home she shared with her husband for the last time, according to the affidavit of probable cause for his arrest. Her body was never recovered.

In interviews with prosecutors this year, William Korzon admitted to "having battered Gloria" throughout their 13-year marriage, during which he was the subject of multiple domestic violence investigations and a short-lived protection from abuse order, the arrest affidavit said.

He also admitted to forging her signature on two checks, and to filing their joint income tax return after her disappearance, the affidavit said. Korzon did this, he told prosecutors, to access her money.

During testimony in front of the grand jury, Korzon asked a prosecutor whether investigators had "found the body." It proved to be a fateful question, helping to form the foundation of the charges he faces.

Korzon is tentatively scheduled to be arraigned in Doylestown on June 21.

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Judge

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and three other prosecutors, said that "a reasonable person would question [Brinkley's] impartiality," adding: "The public perception of unfairness and bias is exactly what [Brinkley's] behavior has engendered here."

In particular, the prosecutors cited Brinkley's decision to surreptitiously visit a homeless shelter where she had ordered Mill to serve food. They said she had "personally assumed the role of investigator," then improperly referenced her observations during a subsequent court hearing in which she sentenced Mill to two to four years in prison for probation violations.

Brinkley is barred from responding directly to the allegations due to judicial conduct rules. But her attorney, A. Charles Peruto Jr., said Wednesday that Brinkley "absolutely" denies being biased against Mill. "She has treated him the same way she has treated her other probationers," Peruto said.



Meek Mill. DA Larry Krasner has said he deserves a new trial. MICHAEL BRYANT / Staff Photographer

The brief is unlikely to result in any major new development for Mill, at least in the short term. Brinkley last year denied his bid for a new trial, saying she did not believe Mill or the District Attorney's Office had done enough investigating to prove that the evidence used to convict him was faulty.

The matter is pending in Superior Court. Mill is free on bail as his appeal efforts continue.

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