

7 more face rape charges : They're subject of police hunt. Twelve now face allegations of assaulting Hmong girls.

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DETROIT -- Wayne County prosecutors have charged seven additional suspects Saturday with 16 counts of criminal sexual conduct in the rapes of four Hmong teen-age girls.

A total of six men and six juveniles now are accused of holding captive and abusing the Asian-American girls, who traveled last month from their homes in Sheboygan, Wis., to Detroit for a Laotian New Year party.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled today for five defendants charged earlier. They are accused of holding the girls hostage at an abandoned house on the 17300 block of Waltham on Detroit's east side and raping them repeatedly between Sept. 18 and Oct. 5.

Four teen-age boys and a 20-year-old man are being held on \$1 million bonds for that hearing in 36th District Court.

Ladsamee Lee, 20, and Vang Yee Leng Chang, 17 -- both of Warren -- are each charged with 21 counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of using a firearm in a felony.

Three others -- Jinabson Hang, 16, Yeng Chang, 15, and Sa Lee, 14, all students at Osborn High School in Detroit -- are each charged with six counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one felony firearm count.

Detroit Police this weekend began looking for the new suspects -- five men and two juveniles.

The FBI is investigating whether any federal crimes have been committed, said assistant county prosecutor Robert Donaldson.

Special Agent David Lee filed a 20-page FBI report based on interviews with the four girls. "This is the most detailed report yet. It lays out in graphic detail the allegations," said Anthony Jacobs, an attorney for Chang, one of the defendants.

The victims and suspects are Laotian-Americans and members of the Hmong ethnic group. The defendants were part of a Hmong gang in Detroit, said Donaldson.

Three of the girls are being held as material witnesses at a Wayne County youth home. The fourth girl, aged 17, is at a shelter.

A hearing will be held later to decide if the girls have to stay in Detroit before the trials, expected to begin next spring.

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