

**Pretrial motions for Roach to be heard Oct. 20, 21**

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By MARILYN POWERS

Pampa News Staff Writer

The second-floor county courtroom at Gray County Courthouse has been reserved for Oct. 20 and 21 to hear pretrial motions in the state's cases against former 31st District Attorney Rick Roach.

Roach was indicted June 21 by a Gray County grand jury on charges of aggravated perjury in connection with an affidavit of financial status and request for court-appointed counsel which had been filed June 10 by Roach's attorney, Bill Kelly of Canyon.

On July 8, Kelly filed motions to have Emmert and David T. Scott, a Perryton attorney appointed as district attorney pro tem in Roach's state cases, removed from the cases. Scott filed a response on July 11 and Aug. 18 to the motions.

An order for a writ of habeas corpus ad prosequendum, filed Sept. 22, directs the sheriff of Gray County to have Roach appear at 9 a.m. Oct. 20 and answer to the charges in the state drug cases against him.

Two other documents filed by Scott on Sept. 28 and Oct. 3 notifies Kelly of a list of oral and video recordings of Roach. The list includes cassette and VHS tapes and compact discs.

William D. Smith, 84th District Judge, was assigned to Roach's cases after 31st District Judge Steven Emmert recused himself from hearing the cases. Roach was indicted May 17 by a Gray County grand jury on two state charges of possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

One indictment concerns methamphetamine, and the other specifies cocaine.

Both indictments state that a handgun was present at the time of the incident, that the amount of the substance was four or more but less than 200 grams, that the incidents occurred Jan. 11, and that they occurred within 1,000 feet of a drug-free zone.

Community Christian School, 220 N. Ballard, is within 1,000 feet of Gray County Courthouse, where Roach was arrested Jan. 11 by agents of the FBI's Amarillo office on a federal charge of possession of methamphetamine. Further federal charges involving methamphetamine, cocaine and firearms were added to the federal indictment on Jan. 12.

Roach pled guilty to the firearms charge in a plea bargain agreement on Feb. 8, the same day that he resigned as 31st District Attorney. In a June 1 hearing in federal court in Amarillo, he was sentenced to five years in federal prison followed by three years' supervised release.

Roach is currently incarcerated at Federal Medical Center of Fort Worth.