

Jury Finds Nurse Guilty of Raping Mentally Disabled Teen Boy

TROY, N.Y. (AP) _ A 49-year-old registered nurse who worked as a home health aide was convicted of raping a mentally disabled teenage boy in her care.

A Rensselaer County Court jury returned its verdict against Susan McDade of East Greenbush Tuesday evening after about five hours of deliberation. The jury found McDade guilty of second-degree rape and misdemeanor counts of sexual misconduct and endangering the welfare of an incompetent person.

She was accused of having sexual contact with a 17-year-old boy who has the mental capacity of a 3-year-old. Prosecutors said a family member returned home unexpectedly and found the partially nude nurse in bed with the boy in December 2005. Assistant District Attorney Amanda Palmer presented DNA evidence that supported the relative's account.

Defense lawyer Andrew Safranko argued that McDade had worked for the family in their home for eight years and it could be expected that her DNA would be in the home.

McDade, who remains free on \$5,000 bail, faces two to seven years in prison when she is sentenced Feb. 5.