

Cook saw dragging at boot camp

By Mary Ann Cavazos

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Flowers, 47, is accused in the dragging incident.



Bassitt, 21, is on trial for aggravated assault.

A witness testified on Friday that she saw two Christian boot camp officials abuse a 15-year-old girl last summer at a Banquete ranch, including dragging her behind a van.

Charles Flowers, 47, and Stephanie Bassitt, 21, of Love Demonstrated Ministries boot camp, are on trial for aggravated assault. They are accused of using a rope to tie trainee Siobahn McClintock to a van on June 12 and then dragging her behind it.

Barbara "Bobby" Greer said she was working as a cook on the ranch during a portion of the boot camp held on the property. After witnessing the dragging she wanted to call 911 but felt like she was under the control of the ranch owners.

"Every time she would fall they would drag her through the gravel," Greer said.

The day before, Greer said she saw a man pin Siobahn down with his boot on her neck while he sprayed water in her face.

The Floresville teen, who now is 16, has said she was pinned to the ground several times by Bassitt and Flowers at the camp when she could no longer exercise.

Defense attorneys proposed that she never was forced to run and had plotted to injure herself to be taken out of the camp. Flowers' lead attorney, Jimmy Parks, said to avoid exercise the teen often would urinate on herself or drop to the ground, which she denied.

Parks also challenged the teen's account that a blood vessel in her eye burst after Flowers once pinned her

to the ground.

Parks said the injury happened after she raised a stake to stab a boot camp instructor and was stopped. The year before the boot camp, the teen told doctors she was suicidal, had homicidal thoughts and would purposely cut her arms and pull out her hair, Parks said.

Bassitt's attorney, Brent De La Paz, cited school records that showed the teen also once wrote a paper about wanting to kill her mother and grandparents.

Her mother, Frances McClintock, who filed a civil suit against the boot camp, has said her daughter never would act on the threats.

Testimony in the trial will continue Monday in 347th District Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos' court.

Contact Mary Ann Cavazos at 886-3623 or cavazosm@caller.com



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