



## Doc Who Locked Woman in His Office After Failed Abortion Apprehended After 11-Year Search

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STEVEN ERTELT FEB 11, 2014 | 4:22PM VALDOSTA, GA



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Abortion practitioner Charles Rossmann has been on the lam for over a decade after he disappeared following criminal abortion charges. Rossmann is being charged in three cases where women were mistreated. He is accused of inducing labor on a woman 31-weeks pregnant and abandoning her in his locked office.

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As the Valdota police report:

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[content/uploads/2014/02/charlesrossman.jpg](https://lifeneews-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/charlesrossman.jpg)) Rossmann was arrested last year in Germany and has been extradited to Valdosta, Georgia to face multiple counts of criminal abortion, drug charges and a FBI warrant for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution.

Rossmann fled the area shortly after being investigated for performing illegal abortions at his medical practice in Valdosta. Valdosta Police Department personnel became involved in the case in 2003 surrounding the allegation of criminal abortion.

Detectives from the Valdosta Police Department along with an Investigator from the State of Georgia Medical Composite Board investigated the case and discovered many more issues which led to multiple criminal charges against Rossmann. The FBI greatly assisted in this case as it appeared that Rossmann had possibly fled the United States shortly after the investigation was opened.

The Southern Judicial Circuit Office of the District Attorney was extremely instrumental in the investigation of Rossmann and his return to the United States. Also, the FBI along with INTERPOL

and the Department of Justice-Office of International Affairs, continued to work this case throughout the years and continued to investigate information collected internationally which subsequently led to the arrest of Rossmann. INTERPOL, is an intergovernmental organization facilitating international police cooperation.

The United States Marshal Service returned Rossmann to the United States on January 10, 2014, and he is currently being held at the Lowndes County Jail pending judicial proceedings.

According to police reports, on May 9 paramedics and police were called to Rossmann's office that night to find a 23-year-old local woman had given birth to a boy.

Rossmann, however, was not present when paramedics arrived.

Heaton said the responders had to force their way into the building to help the woman and that the baby was taken to Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Florida. He died 12 days later. The mother was treated at South Georgia Medical Center.

Heaton said the woman told investigators that she requested Rossmann perform an abortion and that she paid him in cash.

The woman was 31-weeks pregnant at the time, Heaton said, and investigators believe the woman may have requested the abortion because she feared the child had Down syndrome.

After starting a procedure — presumably to induce labor — Rossmann allegedly provided the woman with contact information and left her alone in his office, Heaton said. The doors to the building were locked, though Heaton said the woman could have left the building if she wanted and was able. There is no indication that she was held against her will, he said.

The woman unsuccessfully attempted to contact Rossmann, couldn't reach him, and was forced to call 911.

Rossmann was subsequently charged with two more counts of criminal abortion after two more alleged victims came forward. He is also charged with four counts of having prescription medications out of their original container. Rossmann's office is also not licensed by the state for child births.

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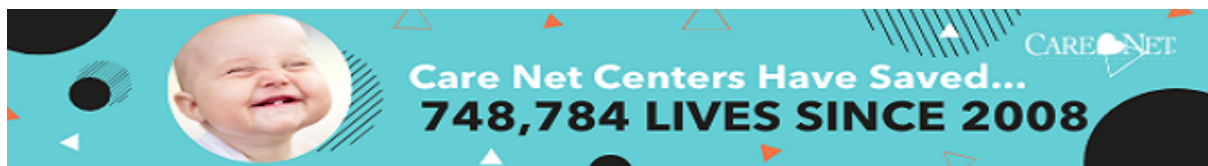
Two members of Rossmann's staff were charged as well. They were charged with reckless conduct and false imprisonment.

"This tragedy in Valdosta is not an isolated case," Caryl Swift, of Georgia Right to Life, told LifeNews.com in 2003. "Other women have reportedly come forward with similar information."

"Regrettably most post-abortive women usually desire privacy and do not report botched abortions. Obviously, we need stronger regulation of doctors who commit abortions and the facilities where babies are aborted," Swift explained.

The Georgia Medical Board suspended his license for allegedly attempting an illegal abortion.

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