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Alleged Brittany Higgins attacker denies the allegations

A 26-year-old Queensland man accused of sexually assaulting Brittany Higgins has released a statement through his lawyer.

Samantha Maiden



 @samanthamaiden  2 min read August 6, 2021 - 11:32PM



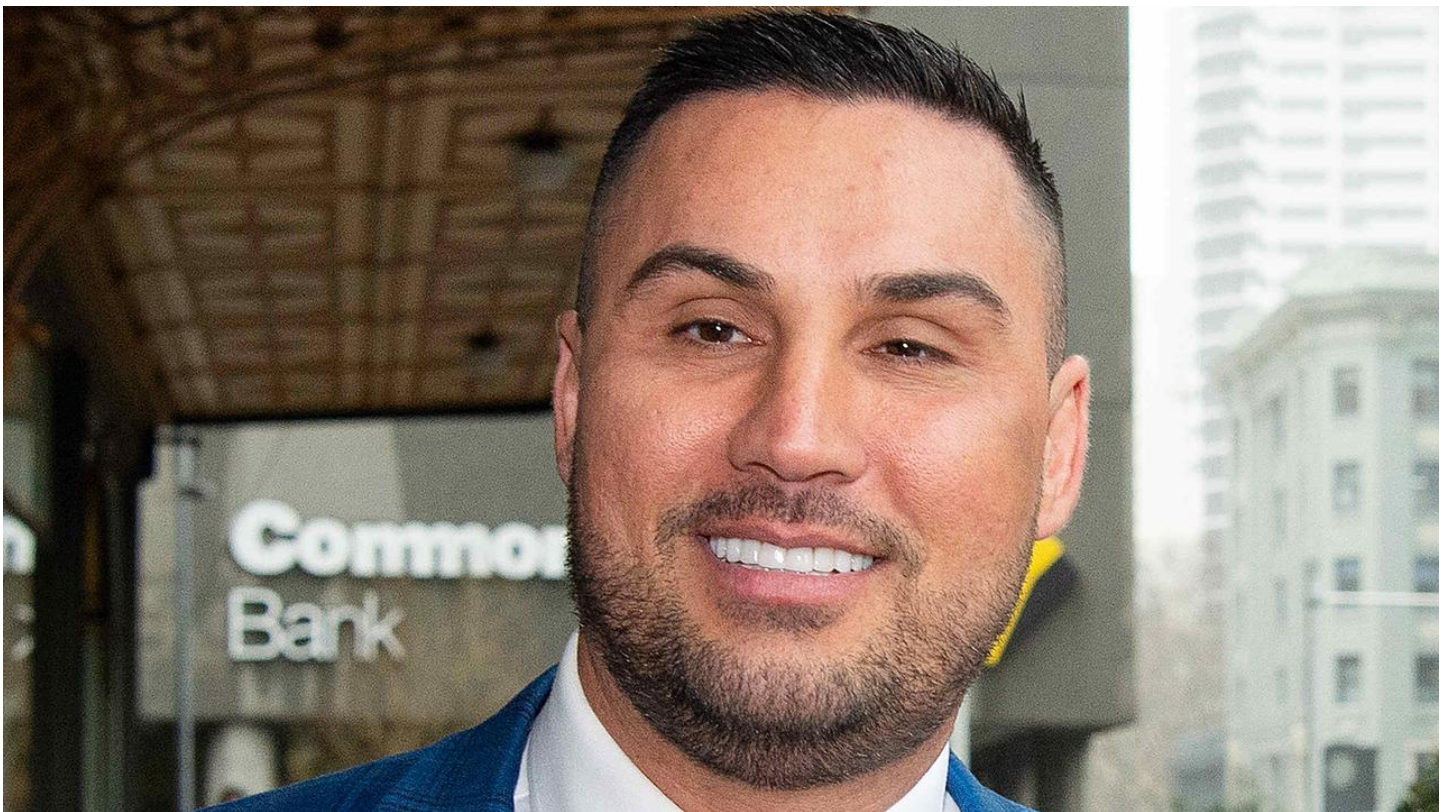
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The former Liberal staffer accused of sexually assaulting Brittany Higgins has declared he is an innocent man and will fight the charge.

Lawyers acting for the Queensland man have told news.com.au that he has told police that he never had sex with Ms Higgins after they both returned to the office after midnight in March, 2019.

In a statement, the man's lawyer John Korn said that he would unequivocally reject the allegation that there had been sexual intercourse.

"My client absolutely and unequivocally denies that any form of sexual activity took place at all," Mr Korn said.

"He will defend the charge."

Police have confirmed they intend to charge the man with sexual intercourse without consent after a six-month investigation into former Liberal staffer Brittany Higgins' allegations.

The Australian Federal Police served a summons on the man at 2pm today.

The maximum penalty for the offence under ACT law is 12 years jail. He will face court in the ACT next month.

"Police will allege the man had sexual intercourse with a woman without consent at Parliament House on Saturday, 23 March 2019," a statement from the Australian Federal Police said.

"Officers today served the man's legal representative with a summons to appear before the ACT Magistrates Court on September 16, 2021.

“The man will face one charge of sexual intercourse without consent. The maximum penalty for this offence is 12 years imprisonment.”



Brittany Higgins pictured with Heidi Yates, the Victims of Crime Commissioner for the ACT, before a meeting with Prime Minister Scott Morrison. Picture: NCA NewsWire / Damian Shaw

News.com.au broke the story on February 15, 2021 that Brittany Higgins alleged she had attended Parliament House with the man in 2019.

She was later found by security guards in Defence Industry Minister Linda Reynolds' ministerial office at 4am in the morning.

Ms Higgins has given news.com.au legal consent to identify her as the alleged victim in the matter.

Police will allege incident occurred in the early hours of March 23, 2019, after Friday night drinks in Canberra. It was just weeks before Prime Minister Scott Morrison called the election on April 10, 2019.

In her interview with news.com.au, Ms Higgins made explosive allegations concerning the Morrison government's handling of the incident.





She subsequently agreed to a financial settlement that Ms Higgins donated to a Canberra based sexual assault counselling service.



Brittany Higgins pictured with Prime Minister Scott Morrison during her time working for the Liberal Party.

In June, the Australian Federal Police received advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions on whether or not there was a reasonable prospect of conviction.

ACT DPP Shane Drumgold SC confirmed last month he had examined the partial brief of evidence and finalised his advice to the AFP.

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