Acquitted officer wants badge back

Tuesday, 10/03/06

A Metro officer who was acquitted of stealing money from a grocery store should be given his gun and badge back, his lawyer said.

A General Sessions Judge acquitted Officer Fred Teague of theft, and now police should give him his police powers back, said David Raybin, the officer's attorney.

Teague was accused of stealing \$420 from the Kroger store at 2610 Franklin Pike, where he worked off-duty.

"He testified that the only thing he took from this thing was the money wrappers, not the money," Raybin said. "Kroger's couldn't even prove how much was taken."

Teague was acquitted two weeks ago but remains without his police powers.

Police said that investigators with the office of professional accountability were not able to interview him until the case went through the court system and had been unable to complete the investigation.