

TRACY KELLY SHRIVER
State's Attorney

DAVID W. GARTENSTEIN
STEVEN M. BROWN
DANA NEVINS
JOHNS H. CONGDON
GABRIELLE REGNEY
Deputy State's Attorneys



CAROL SCOTT
KATI SELL-KNAPP
CHRISTOPHER A. LUKASIK
Victim Advocates

ANGELA L. SANBORN
GIANNA ROBINSON
Administrative Assistants

**OFFICE OF THE
WINDHAM COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY**

100 MAIN STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 785
BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT 05302
TEL (802) 257-2860
FAX (802) 257-2864

*****PRESS RELEASE*****

When charges are filed by my office, it is the prosecutor's obligation to ensure that each one is supported by evidence that was obtained consistent with the requirements of the United States' Constitution, the Vermont Constitution, and all Vermont laws. If we conclude that any evidence supporting any charge is gathered in contravention of those requirements, then we have a further obligation to protect the rights of every citizen of Windham County and not proceed with any charges that may violate those individual rights.

In the matter before the court for a jury trial this week, we discovered information which led me to conclude that proceeding with the scheduled trial was inconsistent with these obligations. As a result, I decided that the charges against this individual required dismissal in the interests of justice.

Prosecutors in my office take their obligations to the criminal justice system very seriously. When we take our oath of office as prosecutors, we swear to do equal right and justice to all persons. We constantly strive to ensure that individual rights are protected, that police are properly trained and adhering to the law, and that cases prosecuted in Windham County are supported by both admissible evidence and sworn, accurate testimony.

Members of my office are very anxious to resume trials by jury as that process is the keystone of our criminal justice system. However, my office will not ever sacrifice the rights of one individual to the system.