

PRESS RELEASE

Date: October 3, 2022

Contact: Paul DerOhannesian II

paul@derolaw.com | (518) 465-6420

JUDGE DISMISSES RAPE INDICTMENT IN ONLINE DATING CASE

Saratoga County Court Judge James A. Murphy III dismissed a seven count indictment against Christopher Bradt upon motion of the Saratoga County District Attorney's Office to dismiss the indictment in the interest of justice based on the accuser's credibility. The seven count indictment alleged rape and sexual abuse by physical force and physical helplessness as a result of strangulation and criminal obstruction of an airway.

Bradt's trial was scheduled to commence September 29, 2022. On September 14, 2022 Saratoga County Assistant District Attorney, Michele Schettino, moved to dismiss the indictment based on the information learned during the People's investigation relating to the complainant's credibility and prior unsubstantiated sexual assault allegations against others. Bradt's attorney, Paul DerOhannesian II of Albany, joined the motion and noted the defense had developed information that the accuser had a history and pattern of making false statements to acquire attention.

DerOhannesian noted that despite the presumption of innocence, after Mr. Bradt's December 29, 2021 arrest he was subjected to multiple media reports, including a Facebook posting of his arrest before the investigation of information which would eventually lead the prosecutor to dismiss the charges. After his arrest, Bradt's attorney, DerOhannesian told the *Albany Times-Union*, "We're confident upon a full and fair presentation of the facts and background of this relationship, Christopher Bradt will be cleared of any criminal conduct."

DEROHANNESIAN & DEROHANNESIAN

Unfortunately Mr. Bradt was subjected to arrest and widespread publicity and suspension from work for approximately nine months before any investigation of the exculpatory information. Bradt faced 25 years in prison if convicted of any of the Class B violent felony rape charges. Bradt expressed gratitude for the support of friends and family. Bradt hopes no one else will have to endure the painful consequences of a false rape accusation. Mr. Bradt had never been arrested prior to this arrest.

About DerOhannesian & DerOhannesian: *In more than 65 years of practice, the law firm of DerOhannesian and DerOhannesian has earned a reputation for vigorous representation of clients in civil and criminal litigation including as local counsel to Fortune 500 companies. Paul DerOhannesian is recognized as a Martindale-Hubbell AV lawyer, Super Lawyer and City & State's 2022 Law Power 100. For more information, visit www.derolaw.com.*