Reporters Ask Judge To Dump Conspiracy Charges Hearing May be Postponed as ACLU Files Brief

Journalists Alex Darocy and Bradley Stuart Allen will be filing motions to dismiss all charges against them soon. Though the hearing was originally slated for 9 AM Tuesday May 8th in Dept. 6, the Northern California's ACLU has filed an unusual amicus brief supporting the two, denouncing the "vicarious guilt" theory of D.A. Rebekah Young. The full text of the Motions to Dismiss, Against Selective Prosecution, and to halt Chilling of the First Amendment can be found at http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2012/05/04/18712911.php. Young, carrying on a lone Conspiracy Crusade against 11 lawyers, has asked for time to consider the ACLU's important brief. Chief D.A. Bob Lee's reason for pressing on here is unclear.

Judge **Stephen Sillman** earlier dismissed "felony vandalism" and "felony conspiracy to vandalize" charges against the two reporters, leaving one "conspiracy to trespass" and two "trespass" charges. Young admitting there was **no evidence tying them (or any of the 11) with any vandalism,** but relied instead on a tortured "aiding and abetting" theory. This theory alleges that the **mere presence** of any of the **Santa Cruz Eleven** in the building **is proof** of vandalism, conspiracy, and trespass.

Ignoring Sillman's ruling dismissing the felony vandalism and conspiracy to vandalize charges, Young refiled them against Allen and Darocy anyway—the subject of the upcoming Dismissal hearing, originally slated for 5-8.

At the moment, the two have a trial date of **Monday May 21**st in **Dept. 6** before Sillman. His decision to forward the far-fetched conspiracy and trespass charges contrasted sharply with **Judge Paul Burdick's decision on April 25**th to dismiss all **charges** against four other defendants.

Young announced on May 4th that she would **not be refiling charges against** two of those defendants (**Ed Rector** and **Grant Wilson**). Their charges were dismissed April 25th by Judge **Paul Burdick**. At that hearing, Burdick dismissed charges against all four defendants appearing, but Young insisted she'd refile against **Franklin (Angel) Alcantara** and **Cameron Laurendau,** in spite of the judge's ruling of "inadequate evidence" in all four cases.

Young's "evidence" against Darcy and Stuart was even less than that against the four Burdick acquitted: taking pictures in the building and covering progressive events "as part of the media arm of the Conspiracy." Many are concerned that Sillman is trial judge— for the Darocy and Stuart trials and for the remaining five defendants at their Preliminary Hearing on 9 AM May 29th in Dept. 6. Based on his ruling in the Darocy-Allen Preliminary Hearing, Sillman has bought Young's conspiracy theories.

Drop the Charges: End the Witchhunt! Sign the petition at www.santacruzeleven.org Stop Selective Enforcement Against Santa Cruz Activists

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