Justice Denied's Mobile De- Four Somalis Acquitted vice Homepage Is Online!

Justice Denied's <u>mobile device homepage</u> is now online. The mobile friendly homepage has the narrow width recommended for smartphones and other mobile devices.

Justice Denied's homepage detects when it is accessed by a mobile device, and the user is automatically redirected to the mobile homepage. There is also a link to the mobile homepage in the upper right-hand corner of Justice Denied's homepage.

The mobile friendly homepage was created because half of all visitors to Justice Denied's website now use a hand-held device. The following shows the growth of handdevices used to access iusticedenied.org.

Year	Desktop	Mobile	Tab	let
2008	100%			
2009	99.7%	0.3%		
2010	97%	3%		
2011	92%	8%		
2012	82%	13%	5%	
2013	72%	19%	9%	
2014	61%	28%	11%	
2015	51%	37%	12%	
2016	50%	39%	11%	(Jan June)

Justice Denied's mobile device homepage is www.m.justicedenied.org.

By Finnish Appeals Court Of Supporting Terrorism

The Helsinki Court of Appeals has ac-**___ quitted** four people convicted in Finland of supporting terrorism.

Four Somali immigrants to Finland, three men and one woman, were tried in 2014 in Helsinki of financing terrorism by raising 3,200 euros (\$3,900) for the al-Shabab group in Somalia between 2008-2011. Al-Shabab is an al-Qaida allied group, and they were charged based on the prosecution's contention the money was to be used for committing terror crimes.

Their defense was they raised and sent the money to Somalia for charitible purposes.

One of the male defendants was also prosecuted for supporting terrorism by recruiting his brother to join al-Shabab.

The prosecution of the four was major news in Finland, because it was the country's first terror-related case

After their convictions of all charges, the four appealed their convictions.

On March 23, 2016 the Helsinki Court of Appeals reversed the convictions of the four defendants, and ordered their acquittal based on insufficient evidence they had criminal intent. The Court ruled the four



have known for certain the money they raised would be used for committing terror crimes, and their that claim was credible that they helieved the

defendants

not

could

money was to be used for charitable causes. The Court also acquitted the defendant who was also convicted of recruiting his brother for al-Shabab, ruling that there was no clear evidence he had done so.

Sources:

Finnish court acquits 4 defendants of terror-linked crimes, Richmond Times-Dispatch, March 23, 2016



Visit the Innocents Database

Includes details about more than 6,600 wrongly convicted people from the U.S. and other countries.

www.forejustice.org/search idb.htm

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lawsuit on March 28, 2013 in the U.S. District Court in Camden, New Jersey that asserted claims related to his 2004 conviction. Named as defendants were: the Atlantic City Police Department and several officials; the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office; Assistant Prosecutor Janet Gravitz; and Lopez-Siguenza's criminal lawyer Mark E. Roddy. Lopez-Siguenza accused Roddy of legal malpractice, breach of fiduciary duty, and breach of contract.

After the Atlantic City PD and officials were dismissed as defendants, on March 31, 2014 U.S. District Judge Jerome Simandle dismissed Lopez-Siguenza's claims against the Atlantic City Prosecutors Office and Asst. Prosecutor Gravitz on the basis they were entitled to immunity from civil liability. On September 30, 2014 the judge dismissed Lopez-Siguenza's breach of fiduciary duty and breach of contract claims against Roddy. However, the judge allowed Lopez-Siguenza to amend his legal malpractice claim.

On May 27, 2016 Judge Simandle allowed Lopez-Siguenza's lawsuit to go forward, by denying Roddy's motion for summary judgment and to seal documents he filed that identified Cruz as Lopez-Siguenza's accuser. The judge's order noted that Roddy does not speak Spanish, and, "He never attempted to interview persons familiar with Ms. Cruz's age, nor did he ask an investigator to do so, nor did he take any steps to question the foreign document. The suspicious signs included the facts that the name Cruz is nowhere mentioned, no second surname is listed for the father (contrary to Hispanic naming conventions), and the information is handwritten rather than typed. (Parentheses in original)." Judge Simandle refused to seal Roddy's supporting exhibits to prevent disclosure of Cruz's identity, finding that she was not under the age of 18 when she had sex with Lopez-Siguenza.

Roddy can either attempt to settle the lawsuit or he can proceed to trial and try to convince a jury that he didn't commit malpractice by failing to investigate what was Cruz' fake birth certificate, and relying on it to recommend that Lopez-Siguenza pled guilty to a crime that never happened.

Lopez-Siguenza is now married and living in Utah.

Sources:

<u>Lopez-Siguenza v. Roddy, Esquire et al.</u>, Civil No. 13-2005 (JBS/JS) (USDC NJ) (Order of 5-27-2016 denying summary judgment for defendant Roddy on the legal malpractice claim.)

Wrongly Convicted Man Has Malpractice Claim, Courthouse News Service, May 31, 2016

Wrongly Convicted Man May Sue His Lawyer Yet, Courthouse News Service, Oct. 3, 2014

Man cleared when child-sex 'victim' proved to be 18 wins right to sue lawyer, NJ.com, October 07, 2014

<u>USA v. Lopez-Siguenza</u>, No. 2:11-cr-00956 (USDC UT) (Information filed 11-23-2011) (Docket through 1-23-12)

