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KEITH WOOD FILES MOTION TO DISMISS ALL CHARGES IN JURY PAMPHLET CASE

JUDGE JAKLEVIC, PROSECUTOR THIEDE, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY ENGAGED IN UNLAWFUL CONDUCT AND OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE IN HAVING MR. WOOD ARRESTED AND PROSECUTED FOR MERELY EXERCISING HIS RIGHT TO FREE SPEECH.

Big Rapids, Michigan – Keith Wood has filed a Motion to Dismiss all criminal charges against him. Mr. Wood was arrested for simply handing out informational pamphlets on a public sidewalk about the power of jurors to vote their conscience in any case, as permitted by Michigan’s Criminal Jury Instructions. The Motion sets out four reasons why all charges should be dismissed:

- 1. It is impossible to tamper with a jury that does not exist.**
- 2. Jury tampering cannot be charged as felony obstruction of justice.**
- 3. The prosecution of Mr. Wood violates his 1st Amendment right to free speech.**
- 4. The prosecution of Mr. Wood is the result of arguable unlawful government conduct.**

Mr. Wood argues in his brief:

- Democracy is a messy business; and we, as a people, have freely chosen free speech over the relative tidiness of tyranny (page 9 of brief).
- Prosecutor Thiede’s fear-mongering is very troubling. He is trying to scare everyone into believing that if we allow freedom of speech or, more specifically, allow jurors to vote their conscience, we will live in a lawless nation. Yet, we have lived in just such a nation for over two hundred years, with no anarchy traceable to this fundamental principle thus far. Our jury system is predicated upon responsible citizens voting their conscience on a jury (p. 15).
- At the last court hearing, Prosecutor Thiede implied that the informational pamphlet was a veritable Jedi mind trick, containing a message so powerful, so compelling, and so convincing, that no citizen who reads it will be capable of ever rendering a guilty verdict again. But Mr. Wood does not share Prosecutor Thiede’s low opinion of our laws and of the citizens of Mecosta County. Mr. Wood believes instead that freedom of speech leads to more justice and more freedom, not less, and that citizens are competent to shape their own opinions without the “protection” of government officials (p. 16).
- These officials arrest, charge, and imprison those who dare exercise their First Amendment free speech rights to inform citizens of their lawful power. Mr. Wood respectfully requests this Honorable Court end this oppression and affirm his First Amendment rights (p. 20).

The Prosecutor has until January 8, 2016, to file his brief in response. Mecosta County Circuit Judge Kimberly L. Booher, will then decide if oral arguments will be scheduled or whether she will decide the motion solely on the filed briefs.

If you would like more information about this case, including the complete motion and brief filed by Mr. Wood, please visit: <http://www.kallmanlegal.com/keithwood>