

Representative Probono Cases:

State v. A.W., Superior Court of Dekalb County

The defendant was indicted on December 2011 and re-indicted on November 1, 2012 with three criminal counts: (1) Burglary, (2) Terroristic threats, and (3) Criminal trespassing. The defendant had been released on bond but missed a court appearance, at which time the judge revoked his bond and issued a bench warrant. Defendant subsequently surrendered himself and was held in the Dekalb County jail. A public defender had been appointed to represent Defendant and had previously worked a deal with the Assistant District Attorney for Defendant to serve five years in prison, which the Defendant rejected. I was retained on November 5, 2012 to represent Defendant and went to work immediately. My investigation uncovered weaknesses in the State's case and produced evidence that would substantially undermine the credibility of the State's witnesses if the case were to go to trial. After showing the Assistant District Attorney my findings, the Assistant District Attorney agreed to drop all the charges against the Defendant. I resolved the case in less than three weeks of being retained.

State v. H.N., Municipal Court of Atlanta

The police officer pulled the defendant over for speeding on Peachtree Street as the Defendant left a nightclub. The police officer was unruly to the Defendant and asked Defendant to take a field sobriety test, which the Defendant refused to take. Defendant also had an open container of alcohol in his vehicle. The officer then arrested Defendant and charged him with six offenses: (1) DUI, (2) Reckless Driving, (3) Failure to Maintain Lane; (4) open container violation, (5) Speeding, and (6) Failure to Yield to an Emergency Vehicle. The officer also suspended the Defendant's license, and I represented the Defendant in the administrative hearing and in the criminal case. During discovery, I watched the video of the incident and noticed inconsistencies in the officer's account and what actually happened. I informed the prosecuting attorney of my findings and she decided to dismiss five of the charges, including the DUI charge, in exchange for a guilty plea to the lesser charge of reckless driving. Subsequent to the DUI dismissal, I successfully got the administrative judge to reverse the police officer's decision to suspend the Defendant's license. The client got his license back and was pleased with the outcome.

State v. R.G.

Defendant is a sexual offender who resided in Georgia and moved back to New York in 2011. Defendant, however, failed to notify the sheriff's department within

seventy two hours of moving back to New York. The sheriff's department realized that Defendant no longer lived at his last known residence during a random inspection of Defendant's residence. As a result, Defendant was indicted for failing to register as a sex offender and an arrest warrant issued thereafter. Defendant did not turn himself in and was on the run for two years. Recently, Defendant wanted to move back to Georgia and become engaged to a girl he met, and he wanted to get a job and turn his life around. I was able to contact the District Attorney's office and get a court date for Defendant without the Defendant turning himself in. After a later meeting with the Assistant District Attorney, we agreed on a non-negotiated plea where the Assistant District Attorney would recommend no prison time. The Defendant pled guilty and received ten years (seven of those years were suspended) and three years probation. Defendant was pleased with the result since he did not have to serve any time in jail and was able to move on with his life.

Hammond v. Nai Auto Repair

The Defendant, Nai Auto Repair, was sued by the Plaintiff for negligence. Plaintiff alleged that Defendant was negligent in repairing Plaintiff's car, and that the negligence caused Plaintiff's car to breakdown on the expressway, resulting in damage to the transmission of Plaintiff's car. Plaintiff asked for over six thousand dollars in damages. After Plaintiff rested his case, I moved for a directed verdict against the Plaintiff, which the judge granted. The Defendant was happy with the result.