

VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

Woman tries for restraining order against police officer

Type of action: Criminal

Injuries alleged: Inappropriate relationship

Name of case: Sullivan v. Watkins

Court/case #: Appeals Court, No. 05-P-1552

Tried before judge or jury: Judge

Name of judge: Mark Sullivan

Amount of verdict: \$0 (defense verdict)

Date: Nov. 15, 2006

Demand: No demand made

Highest offer: No offer made

Attorney: Brian E. Simoneau, Framingham (for the defendant)

Informant fails to prove she, officer had substantive dating relationship

Defense verdict

The plaintiff, a confidential informant who attempted to obtain a restraining order against the defendant police officer, failed to meet her burden of proving, as required by G.L. c. 209A, that she and the police officer had a substantive dating relationship.

Although the plaintiff claimed that she and the defendant dated for approximately one year, “went out here and there” and had “[g]one out to eat plenty of times,” when asked directly where they had gone, she was unable to recall a single restaurant or occasion.

The defendant police officer testified that he “never had a cup of coffee, dinner, shared a movie, hotel, absolutely no sexual intercourse, absolutely never in my life” with the plaintiff.