

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

OF THE
COUNTY OF NEW YORK
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CYRUS R. VANCE, JR.
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

May 25, 2011

William W. Taylor, III, Esq.
Zuckerman Spaeder LLP
1540 Broadway, Suite 1604

Benjamin Brafman, Esq.
Brafman & Associates, P.C.
767 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Taylor and Mr. Brafman:

This letter is in response to your letter of May 25, 2011 addressed to the District Attorney.

The leak issue you raise in your letter is as important to our handling of the case as it is to yours. We share in your concern that the case be judged on the merits of the evidence presented in a courtroom, and not on media reports or speculation, and we will continue to adhere to that principle here as we do in every case.

You make reference in your letter to instances of information said to have been provided to the press from unnamed and, in one instance, named law enforcement sources. We do not endorse the accuracy of public statements made by parties other than representatives of this Office, and cannot in this case. We completely agree that to maintain the orderly and fair management of this case, it is in the interest of both the victim and the defendant – to discourage, to the greatest degree possible, “leaks” of otherwise non-public information to third parties.

Indeed, because of that concern, and before receiving your May 25 letter, we communicated our position in that regard to members of law enforcement outside of this Office. We will continue to urge that position to all those involved in the case and urge them to take aggressive action to prevent any damage to the legal process.

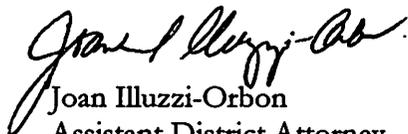
Your other requests for relief will be addressed in writing following receipt of your written demand for discovery pursuant to the normal discovery process. It is premature to do otherwise at this time.

Finally, in light of your concerns about “permanently prejudicing potential jurors,” we were troubled that you chose to inject into the public record your claim that you possess informa-

tion that might negatively impact the case and “gravely” undermine the credibility of the victim. We are aware of no such information. To reiterate what we have told you orally, if there is anything you would like us to investigate regarding any aspect of this case, please bring it to our attention and we will gladly do so. If you really do possess the kind of information you suggest that you do, we trust you will forward it immediately to the District Attorney’s Office.

Future correspondence on this case may be addressed to me, and do not hesitate to contact me at the number below.

Very truly yours,



Joan Illuzzi-Orbon
Assistant District Attorney
(212) 335-4156

cc: The Honorable Michael J. Obus