

DISTRICT ATTORNEY KINGS COUNTY

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KINGS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY KENNETH P. THOMPSON ANNOUNCES CHARGES TO BE DISMISSED AGAINST SAMUEL KELLNER

THOMPSON AFFIRMS THE CASE WILL NOT MOVE FORWARD

Brooklyn, NY. Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson today announced that the KCDA's Office has moved to dismiss pending charges against Samuel Kellner, a whistleblower in several sexual abuse cases. The decision follows an internal reassessment of the case, as Mr. Kellner faced several charges brought by the previous Administration.

"After a careful review of the evidence, we have concluded that the charges against Samuel Kellner must be dismissed in the interest of justice. We've reached this conclusion because we do not believe that we can prove these charges at trial," said District Attorney Thompson.

Samuel Kellner reported his son's allegations of sexual abuse to the KCDA's Office, and also was instrumental in bringing to light additional allegations of sexual abuse by Baruch Lebovits. Mr. Lebovits was later convicted on 8 of 10 counts of molestation and was sentenced to $10 \, 2/3^{\rm rd}$ -32 years in prison in 2010, but his conviction was overturned on appeal. Mr. Lebovits and his defense counsel subsequently alleged that Mr. Kellner had used bribery and extortion in the case against Mr. Lebovits.

The case against Samuel Kellner was brought to the KCDA by Baruch Lebovits' defense counsel. Based upon developments since this case was indicted, two core witnesses were found to have provided inconsistent statements that called their credibility into question, making it impossible to prove Mr. Kellner's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

A Grand Jury voted (10) counts against Mr. Kellner including conspiracy, perjury, criminal solicitation and attempted grand larceny. All of these charges will be dismissed.

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