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PRESS RELEASE FROM MITCHELL J. ANSELL, ESQ. OF ANSELL GRIMM & AARON, PC

July 10, 2019 – Superior Court Judge James Troiano has become the subject of immense scrutiny with reference to a decision he rendered last year in connection with my client, G.M.C.'s matter in Monmouth County Superior Court.

The only issue that Judge Troiano was asked to rule upon on July 30, 2018 was whether the State satisfied its burden pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 2A:4A-26.1 to waive my client to Adult Court. This decision had absolutely nothing to do with my client's guilt or innocence. The Judge was required to decide whether the Prosecutor's Motion for Waiver was arbitrary and unreasonable.

As part of that decision-making process, Judge Troiano listened to testimony from three (3) different Police Officers and considered eleven (11) enumerated factors set forth in the Waiver Statute. Several of these factors addressed the issue of whether there is potential for the rehabilitation of the juvenile, the age and maturity of the juvenile and the nature and extent of any prior history of delinquency of the juvenile. The comments made by Judge Troiano in his decision were in the context of addressing those factors and assessing the evidence that he heard.

The issue of my client's guilt or innocence has yet to be addressed in a Court of law. That day will come. However, at this time, my client is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

We would respectfully request that any judgment, in this case, be withheld until all of the evidence is presented in a Court of law.