



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Press Release

Grand Jury finds no probable cause to Indict in brother-in-law fight

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John McDonough of Cohasset will no longer face any criminal charges in connecting with the altercation that preceded the death of his brother in law, David Hoelzer, at a party at McDonough's home in May.

In a document filed in Quincy District Court last week withdrawing the district court charges from prosecution, District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey's Office wrote that the case was being dropped after a Grand Jury had the opportunity to review all of the evidence – including the autopsy report and other information developed subsequent to McDonough's arrest on the manslaughter charge in May – and declined to issue an indictment.

"This was an extensive and thorough process, and we thank the grand jurors for their diligence here," District Attorney Morrissey said. "They had much more information available to them as they weighed these charges than was at the disposal of authorities proximate to the incident. Having reviewed the evidence personally, I understand and accept their refusal to indict."

"I spoke with Cohasset Police Deputy Chief Bill Quigley earlier today and I thanked him for the professional investigation and cooperation we received from his department," Morrissey said.

All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.