

People v Restifo

2022 NY Slip Op 34971(U)

December 14, 2022

Supreme Court, Westchester County

Docket Number: Ind. No. 22-72077-01

Judge: Robert A. Neary

Cases posted with a "30000" identifier, i.e., 2013 NY Slip Op 30001(U), are republished from various New York State and local government sources, including the New York State Unified Court System's eCourts Service.

This opinion is uncorrected and not selected for official publication.

**FILED
AND
ENTERED
ON 12-14-2022
WESTCHESTER
COUNTY CLERK**

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

-----X
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

- against -

**AMENDED
DECISION AND ORDER**

PACO RESTIFO,

Ind. No. 22-72077-01

Defendant.
-----X

NEARY, J.

The defendant, Paco Restifo, has been charged with the crimes of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Third Degree. The defendant has made an omnibus motion which consists of a Notice of Motion and an Affirmation and Memorandum of Law in Support thereof. In response, the People have filed an Affirmation in Opposition together with a Memorandum of Law. Having read all of the submitted papers and reviewed the court file, this Court makes the following determination.

FILED
DEC 14 2022
CITY C. IDONI
COUNTY CLERK
WESTCHESTER

MOTION TO INSPECT AND DISMISS PURSUANT TO CPL ARTICLE 210

The defendant's motion to inspect the Grand Jury minutes is granted. Upon an *in camera* inspection of the Grand Jury minutes by Court, the motion to dismiss the indictment or reduce a charged offense in the indictment is denied.

The Court has reviewed the minutes of the proceeding before the Grand Jury. The Grand Jury was properly instructed (see *People v. Calbud*, 49 NY2d 389, 426 NYS2d 389, 402 NE2d 1140 and *People v. Valles*, 62 NY2d 36, 476 NYS2d 50, 464 NE2d 418) and the evidence presented, if accepted as true would be legally sufficient to establish every element of the offenses charged. [See CPL §210.30(2)]. In addition, the minutes reveal that a quorum of the grand jurors was present during the presentation of evidence and at the time the district attorney instructed the Grand Jury on the law, and that it was instructed that only those grand jurors who had heard all the evidence could participate in voting on the matter.

The Court does not find that the release of the Grand Jury minutes or certain portions thereof to the parties was necessary to assist the Court in making this determination.

MOTION FOR DISCOVERY AND INSEPCTION PURSUANT TO CPL ARTICLE 240

The defendant's motion for discovery is granted to the extent provided for in Criminal Procedure Law Article 245. If any items set forth in CPL Article 245 have not been provided to the defendant pursuant to the Consent Discovery Order in the instant matter, said items are to be provided forthwith.

The People recognize their continuing duty to disclose exculpatory material at the earliest possible date. [See *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 US 83, 83 S Ct. 1194, 10 LE2d 215 and *Giglio v. United States*, 405 US 150, 92 S Ct. 763, 31 LE2d 104]. If the People are or become aware of any material which is arguably exculpatory, but they are not willing to consent to its disclosure, they are directed to disclose such material to the Court for its *in camera* inspection and determination as to whether such will be disclosed to the defendant.

To any further extent, the application is denied as seeking material or information beyond the scope of discovery. [See *People v. Colavito*, 87 NY2d 423, 639 NYS2d 996, 663 NE2d 308; *Matter of Brown v. Grosso*, 285 AD2d 642, 729 NYS2d 492, *lv. denied* 97 NY2d 605, 737 NYS2d 52, 762 NE2d 930; *Matter of Brown v. Appelman*, 241 AD2d 279, 672 NYS2d 373; *Matter of Catterson v. Jones*, 229 AD2d 435, 644 NYS2d 573; *Matter of Catterson v. Rohl*, 202 AD2d 420, 608 NYS2d 696, *lv. denied* 83 NY2d 755, 613 NYS2d 127, 241 NE2d 279].

MOTION TO SUPPRESS STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO CPL ARTICLE 200

This branch of the defendant's motion is granted to the extent that a *Huntley* hearing shall be held prior to trial to determine whether any statements allegedly made by the defendant, which have been noticed by the People pursuant to CPL §710.30 (1)(a), were involuntarily made by the defendant within the meaning of CPL §60.45 (see CPL §710.20(3), CPL §710.60[3][b]; *People v. Weaver*, 49 NY2d 1012, 429 NYS2d 399, 406 NE2d 1335), obtained in violation of defendant's Sixth Amendment right to counsel, and/or obtained in

violation of the defendant's Fourth Amendment rights (see *Dunaway v. New York*, 442 US 200, 99 S. Ct. 2248, 60 LE2d 824).

MOTION TO SUPPRESS TANGIBLE EVIDENCE PURSUANT TO CPL ARTICLE 200

This branch of the defendant's motion is granted solely to the extent of conducting a *Mapp* hearing prior to trial to determine the propriety of any search resulting in the seizure of property (see *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 US 643, 81 S Ct. 1684, 6 LE2d 1081) and whether any evidence was obtained in violation of the defendant's Sixth Amendment right to counsel and/or obtained in violation of the defendant's Fourth Amendment rights. [See *Dunaway v. New York*, 42 US 200, 99 S Ct. 2248, 60LE2d 824]. **Prior to the suppression hearing, the Court will conduct a *Darden* hearing. The defense counsel should submit any proposed questions for the hearing witness within fourteen (14) days of this decision to the Court.**

MOTION FOR SANDOVAL AND VENTIMIGLIA HEARING

Immediately prior to commencement of jury selection, the prosecutor shall, upon request of the defendant, notify the defendant of any prior criminal act which the People seek to use in the cross-examination of the defendant as well as all specific instances of the defendant's prior uncharged criminal, vicious or immoral conduct of which the prosecutor has knowledge and which the prosecutor intends to use at trial for the purposes of impeaching the credibility of the defendant. Thereafter, upon the defendant's request, the trial court shall conduct a *Sandoval* and/or *Ventimiglia* hearing prior to the commencement of trial. [See *People v. Sandoval*, 34

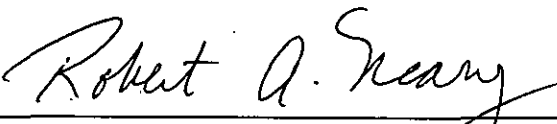
NY2d 371 (1974); *People v. Ventimiglia*, 52 NY2d 350 (1981); *People v. Molineux*, 168 NY 264 (1901)].

MOTION FOR BILL OF PARTICULARS

The defendant's motion for a court-ordered Bill of Particulars is denied. In light of the timing of the application and the extensive information that has been provided through discovery and motion practice, the Court finds a Bill of Particulars is unnecessary as the defendant has been adequately apprised of the nature of the charges against him.

This constitutes the opinion, decision and order of this Court.

Dated: White Plains, New York
December 14, 2022


ROBERT A. NEARY
SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

Celia Curtis
Assistant District Attorney
Westchester County
Office of the District Attorney
Richard J. Daronco Courthouse
111 Martin Luther King Blvd.
White Plains, New York 10601
ccurtis@westchesterda.net

Randall Richards, Esq.
Attorney for Defendant
1428 Midland Avenue, Shite #6
Bronxville, New York 10708
randallrichards@gmail.com