

Dan K. Webb
Special Prosecutor for Cook County
In the Matter of the Death of David Koschman

December 3, 2012

Information Release

Dan K. Webb, special prosecutor for Cook County, today announced Richard J. Vanecko has been charged by a Cook County Special Grand Jury with involuntary manslaughter for the death of David Koschman.

On April 25, 2004, on a sidewalk near Division and Dearborn Streets in Chicago, Vanecko, according to the indictment, "through the use of physical force, and without lawful justification, recklessly performed acts which were likely to cause death or great bodily harm to another, and such acts caused the death of David Koschman." Mr. Koschman was knocked to the ground by Mr. Vanecko, hitting his head on the pavement. Eleven days later, Mr. Koschman died from the resulting injuries. At the time of the incident, Mr. Vanecko was 29 years old, 6'3" and 230 lbs., and Mr. Koschman was 21 years old, 5'5" and 125 lbs.

The indictment results from an inquiry which started on April 23, 2012, when Cook County Circuit Court Judge Michael Toomin appointed Mr. Webb as a special prosecutor. The Court directed Mr. Webb to investigate, "whether criminal charges should be brought against any person in connection with the homicide of David Koschman in the spring of 2004, and whether, from 2004 to the present, employees of the Chicago Police Department and the Cook County State's Attorney's Office acted intentionally to suppress and conceal evidence, furnish false evidence, and generally impede the investigation into Mr. Koschman's death." To date, in connection with both matters, thousands of documents have been reviewed and more than fifty witnesses have been interviewed.

While the Grand Jury investigation into the circumstances of Mr. Koschman's death has concluded, the Grand Jury inquiry of how the authorities handled their investigation into Mr. Koschman's death continues at a vigorous pace.

Mr. Webb is the Chairman of the international law firm of Winston & Strawn LLP. "The firm's lawyers and staff, and City of Chicago Inspector General

Joseph Ferguson and his staff, have provided invaluable and continuing assistance in the investigation of this matter, " said Mr. Webb.

The arraignment of Mr. Vanecko, who presently resides in California, has been scheduled to occur on December 10, 2012, 9:30 a.m. at Cook County Circuit Court, 2600 S. California Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Arrangements have been made with Mr. Vanecko's counsel for his client to voluntarily appear on that date, at which time a trial judge will be assigned to the case. Bond has been set at \$100,000 (secured by a \$10,000 cash deposit).

The public is reminded that an indictment is only a charge and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until he is proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Because the grand jury investigation is continuing, and in consideration of the defendant's right to a fair trial, the Office of the Special Prosecutor will not comment further about the indictment.

Attachment
Indictment,

People of the State of Illinois v. Richard J. Vanecko