

RE: TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF TONI MARIE ANGELI ON
CHARGES STEMMING FROM AN INCIDENT AT ZONA
PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORIES ON NOVEMBER 2, 1995,
BETWEEN ZONA EMPLOYEES, TONI MARIE ANGELI AND THE
CAMBRIDGE POLICE.

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 1996

CONTACT: JOHN G. SWOMLEY, ESQ.
SWOMLEY & DOHERTY
83 ATLANTIC AVENUE
BOSTON MA 02110
617/227-9443
FAX: 617/523-7554

On November 2, 1995, Toni Marie Angeli was arrested at the Zona Photographic Labs on Rodgers Street in Cambridge, after Zona management arranged to have the police come to Zona and confront and question Ms. Angeli as a suspected manufacturer of child pornography. An altercation ensued. Ms. Angeli was handcuffed and taken into a back room by Cambridge police where she was beaten and choked. She was charged with disorderly conduct; assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, to wit: a lamp; and malicious destruction of property under \$250.

Ms. Angeli's trial began on January 24, 1996. On January 30, 1996, a jury of six acquitted Ms. Angeli of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. They convicted her of disorderly conduct and malicious destruction of property under \$250. At sentencing, the District Attorney Marilee Denelle recommended that the court order Ms. Angeli to write a letter of apology to Zona, to pay Zona triple the "actual" damages to their property, and she offered the court a letter from Zona owners Rowena Otremba and Mary Osgood which recommended the court require Ms. Angeli to undergo counseling and therapy. After a brief recess which the court granted to enable the Commonwealth to secure the presence of the Zona owners, should they wish to personally address the court, sentencing continued. Ms. Angeli's attorney was given the opportunity to make a recommendation. He recommended that Ms. Angeli not be punished further. He was ruled out of order by the court when he argued that his client had been punished enough by the police abuse she suffered. He was ordered to cease argument and sit down and informed by the court that he had lost the right to continue argument because he would not abandon that subject matter. After the court pronounced sentence, Ms. Angeli was left to inform the court herself that she could not pay Zona Photographic Labs the \$228.95 the court had just ordered her to pay, and she would not sign a contract with probation.

agreeing to do so. Ms. Angeli was jailed summarily by Judge Sragow. Judge Sragow continued sentencing until after the lunch recess to give Ms. Angeli time to reconsider. After two hours in a women's holding cell, Ms. Angeli was returned to the court and asked whether she would sign the probation agreement. She responded that because she was innocent she could not accept a punishment which required her to perform affirmative acts consistent with guilt.

Ms. Angeli was sentenced to 30 days in MCI Framingham.

The basic figure of \$228.95 is what Zona says it will cost them to replace a hollow core door and repair a door knob hole in a sheetrock wall.

On January 31, 1996, Judge Sragow denied Ms. Angeli's motion to stay execution of the sentence pending appeal. An appeal to a single justice of the Appeals Court is being prepared.

~~A benefit for Toni Marie Angeli will be held on February 11 at 8:00 p.m. downstairs at the Middle East Cafe in Cambridge located on Massachusetts Avenue.~~

Cambridge, February 8, 1996

To the Honorable, the City Council of the
City of Cambridge:

The undersigned respectfully pray

that this Council unanimously agree to ask that TONI MARIE ANGEL
be RELEASED from her wrongful imprisonment - pending APPEAL of
her case —
And herrendous

that this Council express its sympathy and solidarity to Toni Marie
and her family regarding this OUTRAGE! which has befallen
her and her family —

and that this Council order an investigation of the police conduct
in this affair — from start to finish — in as much as
many serious questions have been raised about their handling
of this unfortunate matter —

(please include attached statement —)

James Williamson
17 Perry Street
Cambridge (02139)

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CAMBRIDGE MA.

S-44

PETITION

Communication from James Williamson
of request that Toni Marie Angeli
be released from her imprisonment
for
pending appeal of her case.
No.

19

In City Council, February 12, 1996

Referred to the Committee on

Attest:

City Clerk.

Placed on File