

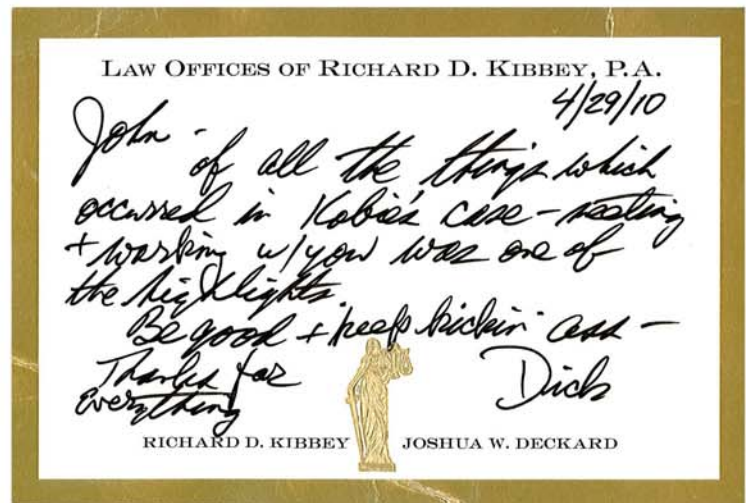
Score One For The Defense!

Recently, Mr. Colette, assisted in successfully representing Kobie Gary, son of nationally renowned trial lawyer, Willie E. Gary, in a large drug conspiracy case in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Following a series of questionable events, Kobie's charges, which initially started in state court, were "assumed" by federal authorities. After exhaustive review of the discovery in the case and negotiations with federal prosecutors, Kobie eventually pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture and distribute 100 or more marijuana plants. The charge carried a "mandatory" minimum five-year prison term, and a maximum of forty years.

After filing numerous pleadings, meeting with federal prosecutors and conducting several hours worth of research, Kobie's defense team, led by famed criminal defense lawyer Jeffrey Weiner from Miami, Florida, went into Kobie's sentencing hearings before U.S. District Judge K. Michael Moore with cautious optimism that not only would Kobie receive a sentence much lower than the forty year max, but that Kobie would receive a sentence lower than the five year "mandatory minimum"!

The sentencing hearing spanned three days and included a tense moment when, after tough cross-examination by Mr. Weiner, the government's lead agent fainted on the stand. During the tenuous sentencing hearing, Mr. Colette, along with other members of the defense team, successfully argued in front of Judge Moore that a "gun enhancement" should not apply. After winning that argument, Kobie was then eligible for the "safety valve" provision of the federal sentencing guidelines which enabled the judge to go below the "mandatory minimum" five year prison term. Accordingly, and in the face of a potential forty year prison sentence, Kobie was sentenced to only 2 1/2 years!



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