

Spying on Defense Lawyers Preparing for Trial? You Can't Do That, Court Tells Prosecutors

A New Jersey appeals court took the unusual step of booting county prosecutors off a drug case after the office spied on a defense attorney preparing for trial, finding that when Middlesex County detectives put a wire on a key witness, they may as well have been “hiding in the closet,” **reports** NJ.com.

The appellate court gave the state attorney general's office 45 days to assign it to “untainted attorneys” in another jurisdiction and ordered a hearing over whether the prosecutors' key witness will be allowed to testify, according to NJ.com's **S.P. Sullivan**.

Detectives at the county prosecutor's office paid an informant \$180 to secretly record a meeting with defense lawyer Joseph Mazraani.

Read the NJ.com article.