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## News

### Smoke Shop Acquitted Of Selling Drug Paraphernalia

by [danny danko](#)

Thu, Feb 10, 2005 1:18 pm [more: drug policy news, headline news](#)

source: [The Champlain Channel](#)

#### Prosecutor Claims Partial Victory

DOVER, N.H. -- A judge has found a downtown smoke shop not guilty of selling drug paraphernalia to an undercover agent, but the prosecutor still claims victory.

Superior Court Judge Bruce Mohl acquitted Smoke Signals on five charges of selling drug paraphernalia, ruling that most of the items seized by police during a raid last year had been returned, as legal, by prosecutors from a previous case.

The defense argued, and Mohl agreed, that the state based its case on items seized by police from their first raid on Oct. 19, 2001, which lead to similar charges. That case ended in a plea deal on Jan. 26, 2004, where prosecutors and defense attorneys worked out an agreement on what items would be prohibited from being sold at the store.

That same day, the items not prohibited by the agreement were returned to the store.

Less than two months later, police raided the store a second time after an informant bought a glass pipe and a chillum, a small pipe.

The second raid netted 177 pipes and chillums.

"The owners of Smoke Signals are happy and thankful to the court for a making a thoughtful and reasoned judgment," said defense attorney Jonathan Cohen. "But at the same time, we are disappointed, and have been disappointed, by the police conduct from the beginning of this matter."

Tom Velardi, the prosecutor, said he never agreed with the interpretation that the seized items were returned to the store two months earlier, but he said the authorities will have to live with the courts finding.

What pleases Velardi is the judge pointing out that "some, if not most, of the items seized" were drug paraphernalia.

"This is a decision to help us clarify what is drug paraphernalia for this county and the state," Velardi said.

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ryan  
Jun 12 2005, 6:34 pm

i live right near dover, and i go to this store all the time, there's never ANYTHING but tobacco pipes and hookahs... rediculous

VancouverCANAbisAD South Florida

Apr 15 2005, 7:11 pm

That is just not right. You are selling harmless objects made of glass made to provide pleasure and they are threatened by your enterprise. Why don't they go after the stores selling guns??

antibarby

Apr 2 2005, 10:59 pm

ya, us in south fla too...  
they asked about glass stems and we said they were "rectal ventilators"

South Florida

Feb 27 2005, 9:48 pm

I have a smoke shop in S Florida and was just visited by Homeland Security on Friday and was told to remove all my paraphernalia or else they would be taken. Earlier in the day, apprx 5 miles down the road they visited my competiton and took apprx \$100K and then hit others in Palm Beach as well. As the officer said "It was my lucky day as their trucks were full"

Mr police man

Feb 23 2005, 6:46 pm

Just kidding people Peace.

Mr. Police man

Feb 22 2005, 3:19 pm

Don't you get it we the police are the protectors of big business. We will crush people who do not spend there money towards big business. We enjoy the power. I like destroying families and taking your children away from you and throwing your freedom in the trash. We like it when sick people are sufering and it makes our day if we can take away your only medicine that works for you must take the pills that do you more harm to you just to make more money. Money making is all we care of no matter who it hirts.  
Ha Ha Ha Ha ha ha ha

Mos Dankidelix

Feb 21 2005, 5:31 pm

Exactly Sky, crimes such as. THIEFT, ASSAULT, GRAND LARCENY, ATTEMPTED MURDER AND PROMOTING TERRORISM.( when the pigs do it it's called "Collecting Evidence")

Psychedelic Sky

Feb 18 2005, 9:19 pm

I agree with Mos Dankidelix on this one. It's not considered drug paraphanelia unless the water-pipes or glass pieces are resinated. Which they worent so FUCK THE COPS. WORRY ABOUT REAL CRIMES.

texastoker

Feb 13 2005, 2:06 pm

I'm surprised they don't try to seal up people's lips and plug up peole's noses for being a potential avenue for the intro duction of illeagal drugs into the human body. Can the big retail stores sell pipes and papers in Dover? If so why don't the cops raid them, they have doughnuts there. mmmmmmm doughnuts.

bagoglass

Feb 12 2005, 5:44 pm

did they take me

To Dover N.H.

Feb 12 2005, 4:35 am

Seems to me that the Dover Police Chief and the Prosecuting Attorney needs to get real jobs and stop stealing peoples property and ruining peoples lives.

Mos Dankidelix

Feb 11 2005, 7:35 pm

The "Tobacco Pipe" or "Water pipe" isn't considered paraphenalia until you smoke out of it. The reason the pigs gave up so easily is because the chemical compounds of said pieces were Pyrex Glass and dichrilic coloring, no T.H.C was detected in any pieces.

watchout

Feb 11 2005, 1:06 pm

theirs a bus

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