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(NECN: Alysha Palumbo, Nashua, NH) - Steven Spader's fate will soon lie in the hands of a jury.

Spader is charged with first degree murder, conspiracy, burglary and witness tampering in a brutal attack inside a Mont Vernon, New Hampshire home last October that claimed the life of Kimberly Cates and maimed her then eleven-year-old daughter Jaimie.

The state based its case on the testimony of 45 witnesses - including two of the young men accused of committing the crime alongside Spader - William Marks and Quinn Glover.

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Prosecutors even used letters Spader allegedly wrote about the crime against him.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Jeffery Strelzin said, "Who else would that kind of detail about the murder of a mother and the maiming of a little girl if it wasn't true? The answer is nobody except the killer, that killer."

But with no DNA evidence tying Spader to the crime, the defense argued the jury shouldn't trust these witnesses who are getting a deal for their testimony.

Defense attorney Jonathan Cohen said, "But just because they didn't find the physical evidence or present the physical evidence that doesn't get them off the hook for their heavy burden of proof."

The defense didn't call a single witness in this case, but they said the jury should focus on the quality of the evidence not the quantity.

"There is very little quality evidence in this case," said Cohen, "You are left not knowing what happened in that house."

Cohen said Spader's alleged confessions were just him exaggerating and making stuff up.

But the prosecution argued it was actually Spader bragging about what he had done.

"Does this look like a joke to anybody here? asked Strelzin as he held up the machete he alleges was used in the crime. "It didn't to Kim and Jaimie, not when they were bringing it down on their bodies over and over again."


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