

Eenie, meenie, minie, moe

Jury agrees police made random arrest and says 'moe' can go

A man charged with drug possession before Common Pleas Judge John J. Chiovero made at least two jurors chuckle when he revealed how cops decided to arrest him, rather than others at the scene.

By saying, "Eenie, meenie, minie, moe. And I was moe," defense lawyer Douglas Stern then urged the jury to "acquit moe" of the crime. They did.

That was no house

Luis Vasquez, 37, of Rising Sun Avenue near 5th Street, yesterday beat a drug rap after his lawyer, Douglas Stern, argued that police had claimed Vasquez was arrested in an abandoned house "that does not exist."

Police said they chased Vasquez into the home on Orkney Street near Somerset after watching him make a drug sale nearby on Dec. 31.

"My client was actually arrested inside a Chicago-style

bar, not a house where police say they found drugs," Stern said. The DA's office asked Common Pleas Judge Joan A. Brown to drop the charges.

Cleared by jury

A jury has acquitted Brian Williams, 28, of possessing \$11,000 worth of cocaine after his lawyer, Douglas N. Stern, argued that the cops had arrested the wrong man.

Stern said Williams, who was tried under the name of Kenneth Paulson, was charged after police found the drugs under a pillow on a sofa in a Weill Street house on Nov. 9. Stern said there was no proof that Williams knew about the drugs.