



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
P. DAVID SOARES  
6 LODGE STREET  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207  
(518) 487-5460  
(518) 487-5093 FAX

CONTACT: CECILIA WALSH (518) 275-4710  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 19, 2015

## Appellate Division Unanimously Upholds Two Albany County Convictions



**ALBANY, NY** – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that the New York Appellate Division, Third Department, unanimously upheld two cases that were prosecuted in Albany County by the Albany County District Attorney’s Office.

The Court upheld the 2011 conviction of **AMIR RIZVI**, who was found guilty after a jury trial of making a terroristic threat and identity theft in the first degree stemming from an April 2010 incident where RIZVI illegally assumed the identity of his former spouse and sent threatening emails to then-Governor David Paterson. RIZVI was subsequently sentenced to 4 years in State Prison for the terrorist threat conviction and 2½ to 7 years for the identity theft conviction, to be served concurrently. In his appeal RIZVI argued that the People allegedly failed to submit sufficient proof at trial and that the sentencing was harsh and excessive. RIZVI also asserted that the trial court should not have allowed certain statements in to evidence. The Appellate Division rejected RIZVI’s assertions in full and denied his appeal unanimously. That decision can be found [here](#).

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Linda Griggs of the Public Integrity Unit, and the appeal was handled by Vincent Stark of the Legal Affairs Bureau.

Additionally, the Court upheld the 2011 conviction of **TASHEEM GOLDSTON**, who was found guilty after jury trial of criminal possession of a weapon in both the second and third degree stemming from a 2010 shooting incident in the City of Albany. GOLDSTON was sentenced to 10 ½ years in State Prison as a second felony offender. In his appeal, GOLDSTON argued that the grand jury process was flawed, in addition to raising issues with pre-trial hearing procedures and assertions of ineffective assistance of counsel and alleged prosecutorial errors. The Appellate Division rejected GOLDSTON's assertions in full and denied his appeal unanimously. That decision can be found [here](#).

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Brian Conley of the Major Crimes Unit, and the appeal was handled by Vincent Stark of the Legal Affairs Bureau.

For more information, please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710.

###