

Alameda County Superior Court

All Charges Dropped for Summit Defense Client Facing 10 Years in Prison

Summit Defense Attorney Kimberly Cazinha successfully persuaded an Alameda County Superior Court Judge to **drop all charges** against her client who was accused of 2 felony counts of rape and dissuading a witness. If convicted, the client would have faced up to 10 years in prison and life time sex offender registration.

Ms. Cazinha's client, an East Bay juvenile, was accused of raping a 16 year old girl at a party. The accuser woke up saying that the defendant was on top of her. She then told her parents that she had been raped. After visiting the hospital, her family filed charges with the police who arrested Ms. Cazinha's client.

Ms. Cazinha's client faced difficult odds as the prosecution was unusually stubborn and pushed for the maximum sentence and trial. Finally, after almost a full year of negotiations on the eve of trial, Ms. Cazinha was able to establish that the prosecution had insufficient evidence. The Judge agreed and the case was dismissed.