Courts

Drug Acquittal

Attorney A. Charles Peruto Jr. won an acquittal for his clients in a \$150,000 drug possession trial without calling a witness. He did it by suggestion.

While police were describing a raid at a home on Rising Sun Avenue and Clarkson Avenue on April 26, Peruto asked whether anyone had checked on the name listed on a passport he claimed was in the basement where 55 pounds of marijuana was seized. No one had.

Pertuo suggested that the passport belonged to a man renting the basement from the family, and the drugs were his. Municipal Judge William A. Meehan Jr. acquitted Jorge Alcantara, 51, his wife Nelly, 49, and their daughter, Marianella, 21, of drug possession and sale charges.