

DISTRICT ATTORNEY, STATE OF ALASKA  
455 THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 150  
NORTHWARD BUILDING  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
(907) 451-5970

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA  
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT FAIRBANKS

STATE OF ALASKA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

FRANCIS A.S. COX,  
DOB: 2/11/1984  
ATN: 111-580-578

LONNIE G. VERNON,  
DOB: 10/10/1955  
ATN: 111-580-551

KAREN L. VERNON,  
DOB: 5/24/1946  
ATN: 111-580-542

COLEMAN L. BARNEY,  
DOB: 7/13/1974  
ATN: 111-580-569

MICHAEL O. ANDERSON,  
DOB: 12/19/1975  
ATN: 111-580-587

RACHEL A. BARNEY,  
DOB: 9/10/1973  
ATN: 111-580-596

Defendants.

- No. 4FA-11-796 CR (Francis A.S. Cox)
- No. 4FA-11-797 CR (Lonnie G. Vernon)
- No. 4FA-11-798 CR (Karen L. Vernon)
- No. 4FA-11-799 CR (Coleman L. Barney)
- No. 4FA-11-815 CR (Michael O. Anderson)
- No. 4FA-11-896 CR (Rachel A. Barney)

FILED in the Trial Courts  
State of Alaska, Fourth District  
MAR 21 2011  
By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy

INDICTMENT

I certify this document and its attachments do not contain the (1) name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2) residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address identifying the place of a crime or an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court.

The following counts do not charge a crime involving DOMESTIC VIOLENCE as defined in AS 18.66.990:



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Count I - AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a)  
Conspiracy To Commit Murder In The First Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 001  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 001  
Karen L. Vernon - 001  
Coleman L. Barney - 001  
Michael O. Anderson - 001

Count II - AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a)  
Conspiracy To Commit Murder In The First Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 014  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 007  
Karen L. Vernon - 007  
Coleman L. Barney - 012  
Michael O. Anderson - 004

Count III - AS 11.41.300(a) and AS 11.31.120(a)  
Conspiracy Kidnapping  
Francis A.S. Cox - 002  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 002  
Karen L. Vernon - 003  
Coleman L. Barney - 002

Count IV - AS 11.41.300(a) and AS 11.31.120(a)  
Conspiracy Kidnapping  
Francis A.S. Cox - 015  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 008  
Karen L. Vernon - 008  
Coleman L. Barney - 013

Count V - AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a)  
Conspiracy To Commit Murder In The First Degree  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 004  
Karen L. Vernon - 004

Count VI - AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a)  
Conspiracy To Commit Murder In The First Degree  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 005  
Karen L. Vernon - 005

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Count VII - AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a)  
Conspiracy To Commit Murder In The First Degree  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 006  
Karen L. Vernon - 006

Count VIII - AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 009  
Karen L. Vernon - 009

Count IX - AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 011  
Karen L. Vernon - 011

Count X - AS 11.56.770(b)(1) and AS 11.16.110  
Hindering Prosecution In The First Degree  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 003  
Karen L. Vernon - 002

Count XI - AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 003

Count XII - AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 004  
Coleman L. Barney - 003

Count XIII - AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Lonnie G. Vernon - 012  
Karen L. Vernon - 012

Count XIV - AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 005  
Coleman L. Barney - 004

Count XV - AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 007  
Coleman L. Barney - 006

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Count XVI – AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 008  
Coleman L. Barney – 007

Count XVII – AS 11.61.200(a)(3)  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 009

Count XVIII – AS 11.61.200(a)(3)  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 010

Count XIX – AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 011  
Coleman L. Barney – 009

Count XX – AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110  
Misconduct Involving Weapons In The Third Degree  
Francis A.S. Cox - 012  
Coleman L. Barney – 008

Count XXI – AS 11.56.770(b)(1) and AS 11.16.110  
Hindering The Prosecution In The First Degree  
Coleman L. Barney – 011  
Rachel A. Barney – 001

Count XXII – AS 11.56.610(a)(1)  
Tampering With Physical Evidence  
Michael O. Anderson - 003

**THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:**

**Count I**

That on or about the October 1, 2010 through March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX, MICHAEL O. ANDERSON, LONNIE G. VERNON, KAREN L. VERNON, and COLEMAN L. BARNEY, with the intent to promote or facilitate a serious felony offense, to wit: the murder of Judge Michael McConahy, conspired one or more

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2 persons to engage in or cause the performance of that offense, and FRANCIS A.S.  
3 COX, MICHAEL O. ANDERSON, LONNIE G. VERNON, KAREN L. VERNON, or  
4 COLEMAN L. BARNEY, or any other person conspired with, did an overt act in  
5 furtherance of the conspiracy.

6 All of which is an unclassified felony offense being contrary to and in  
7 violation of AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a) and against the peace and dignity of the  
8 State of Alaska.

### Count II

9 That on or about the October 1, 2010 through March 10, 2011, at or near  
10 Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX,  
11 MICHAEL O. ANDERSON, LONNIE G. VERNON, KAREN L. VERNON, and  
12 COLEMAN L. BARNEY with the intent to promote or facilitate a serious felony  
13 offense, to wit: the murder of AST Lt. Ronald Wall, conspired one or more persons to  
14 engage in or cause the performance of that offense, and FRANCIS A.S. COX,  
15 MICHAEL O. ANDERSON, LONNIE G. VERNON, KAREN L. VERNON, or  
16 COLEMAN L. BARNEY, or any other person conspired with, did an overt act in  
17 furtherance of the conspiracy.

18 All of which is an unclassified felony offense being contrary to and in  
19 violation of AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a) and against the peace and dignity of the  
20 State of Alaska.

### Count III

21 That on or about the October 1, 2010 through March 10, 2011, at or near  
22 Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX,  
23 LONNIE G. VERNON, KAREN L. VERNON, and COLEMAN L. BARNEY, with the  
24 intent to promote or facilitate a serious felony offense, to wit: the kidnapping of Judge  
25 Michael McConahy, conspired with one or more persons to engage in or cause the  
26 performance of that offense, and FRANCIS A.S. COX, LONNIE G. VERNON,  
KAREN L. VERNON, or COLEMAN L. BARNEY, or any other person conspired  
with, did an overt act in furtherance of the conspiracy.

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2 All of which is a class A felony offense being contrary to and in violation  
3 of AS 11.41.300(a) and AS 11.31.120(a) and against the peace and dignity of the State  
4 of Alaska.

5 **Count IV**

6 That on or about October 1, 2010 through March 10, 2011, at or near  
7 Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX,  
8 LONNIE G. VERNON, KAREN L. VERNON, and COLEMAN L. BARNEY, with the  
9 intent to promote or facilitate a serious felony offense, to wit: the kidnapping of AST  
10 Lt. Ronald Wall, conspired with one or more persons to engage in or cause the  
11 performance of that offense, and FRANCIS A.S. COX, LONNIE G. VERNON,  
12 KAREN L. VERNON, or COLEMAN L. BARNEY, or any other person conspired  
13 with, did an overt act in furtherance of the conspiracy.

14 All of which is a class A felony offense being contrary to and in violation  
15 of AS 11.41.300(a) and AS 11.31.120(a) and against the peace and dignity of the State  
16 of Alaska.

17 **Count V**

18 That on or about the January 1, 2011 through March 10, 2011, at or near  
19 Salcha in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, LONNIE G. VERNON and  
20 KAREN L. VERNON with the intent to promote or facilitate a serious felony, to wit:  
21 the murder of Federal Judge Beistline's brother, B.B., and his family, did conspire with  
22 to engage in or cause the performance of that offense and either one or them or any  
23 other person they conspired with, did an overt act in furtherance of that conspiracy.

24 All of which is an unclassified felony offense being contrary to and in  
25 violation of AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a) and against the peace and dignity of the  
26 State of Alaska.

**Count VI**

That on or about the January 1, 2011 through March 10, 2011, at or near  
Salcha in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, LONNIE G. VERNON and  
KAREN L. VERNON with the intent to promote or facilitate a serious felony, to wit:

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2 the murder of Federal Judge Beistline's oldest daughter, C.H., and her family, did  
3 conspire with to engage in or cause the performance of that offense and either one or  
4 them or any other person they conspired with, did an overt act in furtherance of that  
5 conspiracy.

6 All of which is an unclassified felony offense being contrary to and in  
7 violation of AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a) and against the peace and dignity of the  
8 State of Alaska.

### 9 **Count VII**

10 That on or about the January 1, 2011 through March 10, 2011, at or near  
11 Salcha in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, LONNIE G. VERNON and  
12 KAREN L. VERNON with the intent to promote or facilitate a serious felony, to wit:  
13 the murder of Federal Judge Beistline's youngest daughter, T.B., and her family, did  
14 conspire with to engage in or cause the performance of that offense and either one or  
15 them or any other person they conspired with, did an overt act in furtherance of that  
16 conspiracy.

17 All of which is an unclassified felony offense being contrary to and in  
18 violation of AS 11.41.100 and AS 11.31.120(a) and against the peace and dignity of the  
19 State of Alaska.

### 20 **Count VIII**

21 That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth  
22 Judicial District, State of Alaska, LONNIE G. VERNON and KAREN L. VERNON,  
23 acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or  
24 transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: did possess a Sten model MC MK 9mm  
25 machine gun (no serial number attached).

26 All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation  
of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State  
of Alaska.



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**Count IX**

That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, LONNIE G. VERNON and KAREN L. VERNON, acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: did possess a High Point .22 caliber pistol s/n ML77082 with a matched suppressor s/n79049.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

**Count X**

That on or about the February 13, through February 19, 2011, at or near Salcha in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, LONNIE G. VERNON and KAREN L. VERNON, acting as principals or accomplices, did unlawfully and knowingly render assistance to a person who has committed a crime punishable as a felony with the intent to hinder the apprehension, prosecution, conviction or punishment of that person, to wit: they did harbor and conceal FRANCIS SCHAEFFER COX.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.56.770(b)(1) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

**Count XI**

That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX, acting as a principal or accomplice, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: he did possess a Sten Machine Gun model MK II 9mm.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

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**Count XII**

That on or about February 21, 2011, at or near North Pole in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX and COLEMAN L. BARNEY, acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: they did possess one or more military or law enforcement issue pineapple grenades.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

**Count XIII**

That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, LONNIE G. VERNON and KAREN L. VERNON, acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: they did possess one or more military or law enforcement issue pineapple grenades.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

**Count XIV**

That on or about February 21, 2011, at or near North Pole in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX and COLEMAN L. BARNEY, acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: they did transport one or more military issue pineapple grenades.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

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**Count XV**

That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX and COLEMAN L. BARNEY, acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: they did possess one or more hornets nest grenades and launchers.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

**Count XVI**

That on or about October 1, 2010 through March 10, 2011, at or near North Pole in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX and COLEMAN L. BARNEY, acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: they did possess one or more tear gas grenades and a corresponding grenade launcher.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

**Count XVII**

That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: he did manufacture a homemade suppressor which he attached to the Walther model P22 .22 caliber semiautomatic pistol s/n N063641.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

**Count XVIII**

That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX manufactured, possessed,

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2 transported, sold, or transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: he did possess the  
3 suppressor attached to a Walther model P22 .022 caliber semiautomatic pistol.

4 All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation  
5 of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

6 **Count XIX**

7 That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth  
8 Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX and COLEMAN L. BARNEY,  
9 acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or  
10 transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: did possess a High Standard brand .22 caliber  
11 pistol s/n ML77077 with an attached matching suppressor s/n 79051.

12 All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation  
13 of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State  
14 of Alaska.

15 **Count XX**

16 That on or about March 10, 2011, at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth  
17 Judicial District, State of Alaska, FRANCIS A.S. COX and COLEMAN L. BARNEY,  
18 acting as principals or accomplices, manufactured, possessed, transported, sold, or  
19 transferred a prohibited weapon, to wit: did possess a High Standard brand .22 caliber  
20 pistol s/n SH 20567 with an attached matching suppressor s/n B003.

21 All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation  
22 of AS 11.61.200(a)(3) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State  
23 of Alaska.

24 **Count XXI**

25 That on or about the February 19, 2011 and March 10, 2011, at or near  
26 North Pole in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, COLEMAN L. BARNEY  
and RACHEL A. BARNEY, acting as principals or accomplices, did unlawfully and  
knowingly render assistance to a person who has committed a crime punishable as a  
felony with the intent to hinder the apprehension, prosecution, conviction or punishment  
of that person, to wit: they did harbor and conceal FRANCIS SCHAEFFER COX.

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All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.56.770(b)(1) and AS 11.16.110 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

Count XXII  
*[Handwritten signature]*

That on or about March 19, 2011 at or near Fairbanks in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, MICHAEL O. ANDERSON destroyed, mutilated, altered, suppressed, concealed, or removed physical evidence with intent to impair its verity or availability in an official proceeding or a criminal investigation, to wit: upon the arrest of Frances Schaeffer Cox, MICHAEL O. ANDERSON did remove "illegal" items from the residence of Frances Schaeffer Cox.

All of which is a class C felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS 11.56.610(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

DATED this 18 day of March, 2011 at Fairbanks, Alaska.

A true bill

*[Handwritten signature]*

Grand Jury Foreperson

*[Handwritten signature]*  
J. Michael Gray  
District Attorney, No. 9401005

4FA-11-57 SW, 4FA-11-62 SW, 4FA-11-65 SW, 4FA-11-67 SW, 4FA-11-78 SW, 4FA-11-87 SW, 4FA-11-508 SW, 4FA-11-509 SW, 4FA-11-510 SW, 4FA-11-511 SW, 4FA-11-520 SW, 4FA-11-521 SW, 4FA-11-1666 SW, 4FA-11-1667, 4FA-11-1668 SW, 4FA-11-1669 SW

WITNESSES EXAMINED BEFORE THE GRAND JURY:

- Richard A Sutherland, Jr
- AST Ø-11-1 (confidential source)
- Derek Espeland
- Joshua Moore
- Lawrance Meridith
- Avery Thompson

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**BAIL SET AT** Summons Issued  
**DATED** March 21, 2011  
Blankenship  
**JUDGE**  
**ACCEPTED FOR FILING** Mar 21, 2011  
Veik  
**DEPUTY CLERK**

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