HIV Isn’t Bioterrorism

February 27, 2012 By Cristina Gonzalez

Case dismissed: Daniel Allen, an HIV-positive man from Michigan who became the first person in the state to be charged with HIV-related bioterrorism, has been set free after reaching the end of his 11-month probation. The case against Allen stems from a 2009 scuffle in which he allegedly bit his neighbor on the lip and was subsequently charged with a felony for assault. HIV was labeled an agent of bioterrorism, and Allen was accused of administering harm with a biologically dangerous weapon. The judge dismissed the bioterroism charge, and after Allen completed his probation, his felony charge for assault was reduced to a misdemeanor. While he can now see the light of day, we’re still in the dark about how HIV could have been classified as “bioterrorism” to begin with. The need to educate the legal system about the medical facts of HIV/AIDS continues…

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