

HEY, DEFENDANTS: YOUR WARDROBE CAN BE A FACTOR IN YOUR VERDICT

dress appropriately

Though what a defendant wears rarely tips the scales in a jury's decision, the wrong appearance, many lawyers say, can prejudice a jury or potential jurors.

By Louis Hansen
The Virginian-Pilot

Norfolk defense attorney Andy Protogyrou's first look at his client wasn't pretty.

The man's head was shaved clean as a bullet, and his Fu Manchu mustache dangled well past his chin. He wore standard-issue, motorcycle gang leather. Lots of it.

"The jury's going to convict you just because of the way you look," Protogyrou told his client.

The middle-aged man rode with a motorcycle gang. Federal prosecutors considered him a Johnny Appleseed of methamphetamine in the late '90s, delivering the drug from California to a new market in Virginia. He faced felony charges that, if proven, could have

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