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Mass. Bar Association Lauds SJC's Drug-Lab Ruling in 'Bridgeman'

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association strongly applauds today's Supreme Judicial Court holding in the *Bridgeman* case, concerning the fallout from the egregious conduct of former chemist Annie Dookhan's actions at the Hinton drug lab.

"By capping a Dookhan-defendant's punishment to what was under the original plea deal, the SJC has preserved a defendant's right to not suffer further harm for bringing an action to rectify the commonwealth's egregious prosecutorial misconduct. To find otherwise would have put a chilling effect on our justice system," said MBA Chief Legal Counsel and Chief Operating Officer Martin W. Healy. "The SJC should be commended for correctly and strongly asserting its superintendence powers over the administration of justice."

The Massachusetts Bar Association was successfully one of the first organizations to call for an independent investigator appointed to look into Dookhan's actions.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.