

**NOVA SCOTIA COURT OF APPEAL**

**Citation:** R. v. Aldhelm-White, 2008 NSCA 86

**Date:** 20081008

**Docket:** CAC 293229, CAC 293244, CAC 293240,  
CAC 293241, CAC 293239, CAC 293242,  
CAC 293243, CAC 293238, CAC 294720,  
CAC 293236, CAC 293232, CAC 293230

**Registry:** Halifax

**Between:**

Ian ALDHELM-WHITE, Sydney H. BLEICHER, Mark Wayne HERMAN, Robert John HUGHES, Charles Herbert MANUEL, Robert Percy MUNROE, James William NICHOLS, Scott Lawrence PETERS, Christopher Kenneth RELF, Phillip Steven SLAUNWHITE, Ronald Scott SPEED, Charles Grover TIPPING

Appellants

- and -

Her Majesty the Queen

Respondent

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**Judges:** By the Court:  
MacDonald, C.J.N.S.; Roscoe & Bateman, JJ.A.

**Appeal Heard:** September 24, 2008, in Halifax, Nova Scotia

**Subject:** **Criminal law, police corruption, disclosure, full answer and defence, stays of proceedings.**

**Summary:** While investigating the appellants for drug-related offences, then R.C.M.P. Officer Daniel Ryan kept a dark secret. In fact he was a drug dealer, breaking the very laws that he was sworn to uphold.

When Ryan's wrongdoings came to light, the R.C.M.P. comprehensively reviewed all his files. This included investigations involving the twelve appellants. Their ultimate convictions have led to these present appeals. The review concluded that the Crown's case against each appellant rested on

evidence obtained through the execution of search warrants which in turn were issued on the strength of either fabricated or unreliable information that Ryan had provided.

Upon being made aware of these revelations, the Crown promptly notified the appellants and offered support to see the convictions quashed; thus their appeals to this court.

**Issue:** Should (a) the convictions be quashed, and (b) the proceedings be stayed?

**Result:** Being unaware of this police corruption, each appellant's right to a full answer and defence was breached. In these exceptional circumstances, quashing the convictions and staying all the proceedings represents the only viable outcome.

**This information sheet does not form part of the court's judgment. Quotes must be from the judgment, not this cover sheet. The full court judgment consists of 12 pages.**