

## **Philadelphia Jury Hears WMD Case**

**by KYW's Mike DeNardo**

A Philadelphia jury is hearing testimony in the first criminal case to use Pennsylvania's law against weapons of mass destruction.

A North Philadelphia father and his two sons are charged with having weapons of mass destruction to protect their marijuana operation.

Assistant DA Scott Sigman says 62-year-old Johnnie Bellmon and his sons Benjamin and Harry had an arsenal -- including grenades and an armor-piercing dart -- in their Marshall Street house:

"This law is perfect to apply to anybody who is a domestic terrorist or an international terrorist."

But defense attorney Lewis Hannah says the weapons were mostly decommissioned World War II-era guns:

"They're inoperable. They're not weapons of mass destruction, and I think it's a miscarriage of justice for the Bellmons to be prosecuted under that statute."

A conviction under the WMD law can tack on an extra 10 to 20 years in prison.