

**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF BIKINI BOTTOM  
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

**BIKINI BOTTOM,**

**vs.**

**SHELDON PLANKTON and**

**SQUIDWARD TENTACLES,  
Defendants.**

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: **No. 427 CR 2011**

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: **CHARGES: Theft, trespass and  
commercial burglary**

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**BACKGROUND**

This fairy tale trial is based on the TV cartoon "Spongebob Squarepants." In the cartoon, Plankton is always trying to steal the secret recipe for the Krabby Patty, which is Bikini Bottom's favorite meal. On July 15, 2011, Spongebob arrives early for work as per usual. Spongebob finds the restaurant door is left open from last night and immediately runs over to Mr. Krabs house. When Mr. Krab goes inside the restaurant he finds that a tiny hole has been drilled into his safe and sees a Chum Bucket in the location where his recipe used to be. Mr. Krabs calls the police and Sandy Cheeks arrives at the Krusty Krab to investigate the whereabouts of the missing recipe. Mr. Krabs tells Sandy that Squidward and Spongebob were working the night before when the theft allegedly took place. Spongebob and Squidward were subsequently questioned about the evening in question. Mr. Krabs was also questioned and when asked whether he had reason to suspect anybody, Mr. Krabs indicated that Plankton had made numerous failed attempts to steal the recipe from Mr. Krabs in the past.

## **PROSECUTION'S THEORY**

Plankton has the motive to steal the Krabby Patty recipe — his restaurant the Chum Bucket hasn't seen a customer in years because of the Krabby Patty's popularity in Bikini Bottom (and because his Chum Burgers are not appetizing). More importantly, a Chum Bucket was found at the scene of the crime. The prosecution believes that Plankton enlisted the help of Squidward Tentacles, a Krusty Krab employee, to help steal the recipe. Squidward, who is known for his love of the "fancy life," was promised a share of the profit once Plankton started selling the Krabby Patty at the Chum Bucket. On the evening of July 14, 2011, Squidward was supposed to close up the Krusty Krab for the night. Instead, Squidward left the restaurant without locking the front doors. A surveillance tape, which only offers a grainy picture of the events as they unfold, shows someone using a small screwdriver type of instrument to open the vault. The actual tool itself is not clearly visible from the tape but Spongebob remembers seeing Squidward playing around with his clarinet before leaving for the day and Spongebob thought he saw Squidward with a screwdriver type of device. To further support their case, the prosecution will offer evidence that the Chum Bucket was doing well the week after the secret recipe was stolen from the Krusty Krab.

## **SQUIDWARD'S BIO and DEFENSE – Squidward will NOT testify**

**Most of the things in his defense can be brought out through Spongebob who was working with him the day/night of the theft**

### **BIO:**

Squidward is generally grumpy, short-tempered and sarcastic. He dislikes many things, including most of the people in Bikini Bottom, and in particular, Spongebob. He also dislikes his job at the Krusty Krab and frequently sleeps at the counter, fails to clean his workplace and reads art magazines instead of attending to customers. He enjoys playing his clarinet and considers himself a brilliant musical prodigy. He also enjoys fancy things.


Defendant, Squidward, has been charged with criminal conspiracy in the alleged trespass and burglary of the Krusty Krab and theft of the Krabby Patty formula. Squidward's defense, however, is that, as a loyal Krusty Krab employee, he'd never get involved with the likes of Plankton. He may have "forgotten" to lock the doors of the Krusty Krab as he left on July 14, 2011 (he was rushing to get to his clarinet recital), but it wasn't intentional and it sure wasn't to help Plankton steal the secret recipe. More importantly, he can't stand any of the other sea creatures except the other squids, his mother being one of the only other squids there, so he wouldn't do anything to help any of them, including Plankton.

## **PLAKTON'S DEFENSE and BIO – Plankton will testify**

BIO:

Plankton and Krabs grew up together and both were considered outcasts; Plankton was a nerd and Krabs was poor. They paired up and decided to make money by selling hamburgers. In the beginning their restaurant was not successful. One day they got into an argument and Plankton slammed the door of the kitchen as he was walking out, as a result, a number of ingredients fell into the patty batter and the patty became a hit. When Plankton tried to take the recipe from Krab, who had subsequently written down what ingredients fell in the batter, Plankton was only able to get the corner of the recipe, which read “and a pinch of chum.” Since that day Plankton has been obsessed with trying to obtain the Krabby Patty formula so that his restaurant, the Chum Bucket, can become more successful than Mr. Krabs.

DEFENSE:

Defendant, Plankton, has been charged with criminal trespass, burglary and theft. His defense is very simple – two words – PROVE IT! Plankton claims that he was talking with Karen, his internet wife, during the time in question and that he couldn't possibly have been the one who stole the  recipe. When asked why a Chum Bucket was found at the scene he informed Sandy Cheeks that he had just attended a restaurant convention and that he brought along a couple of Chum Buckets for advertising purposes but that one of the buckets had gone missing by the end of the conference. He told Ms. Cheeks that Mr. Krabs was also at the conference and that he vaguely recalled Mr. Krabs being

around the area where he placed the Chum Bucket display. Finally, Plankton claims that his business was starting to do well before the theft of the recipe because he had learned about a new advertising technique at the conference and had been using it to drum up sales.

### **WITNESSES**

#### **SPONGEBOB:**

##### **BIO:**

An energetic and optimistic sea sponge who lives in a Pineapple and works at the Krusty Krab where he has been the Employee of the Month every month for as long as he has worked there. He is extremely loyal and likes everyone and doesn't realize that Squidward despises him. He is also exceptionally gullible and easily manipulated.

##### **TESTIMONY:**

He was working with Squidward on July 14, 2011 and left a couple of minutes before Squidward left for the day. Although he is a great employee, Mr. Krabs does not allow him to open or close the restaurant. When he arrived at work the next morning, July 15, he noticed the door was open so he went to Mr. Krabs house immediately to tell him. Spongebob did not go into the restaurant when he saw the door open. Spongebob loves Squidward and is willing to testify about how great and loyal Squidward is and how he would never get involved with Plankton.

**Possible areas of cross:** Spongebob is extremely gullible and would believe anything anyone told him. Spongebob likes everyone and trusts everyone in Bikini Bottom, even Plankton who has tried many times to deceive Spongebob into giving him the recipe.

Finally, Spongebob has taken the boat test exam 1,258,056 times and has failed each time but thinks each time will be different and that he will pass the test (or so he says every time he retakes the test).

### **Mr. Krabs**

#### **BIO:**

Since he grew up poor, Mr. Krabs is very stingy and obsessed with money. He speaks with a pirate type of accent and uses sea-faring vocabulary (staff = crew, disagreement = mutiny, kitchen = galley). His only interest is to make money and he could care less for his customers or employees, whom he is very strict with. He sees customers as money and will frequently say “that’s me money walking out the door” He is prone to fits of insanity if he has to give up so much as a penny and goes to irrational lengths to avoid losing money.

#### **Testimony:**

The night of the alleged theft Mr. Krabs was at his daughter Pearl’s concert, which he arrived to early so that he didn’t have to pay for the ticket. He believes it was Plankton who stole the recipe because he is always trying to steal it and will testify that Plankton has been jealous of him ever since they were kids. He isn’t sure whether Squidward left the door open by accident or whether it was intentional but wants to see him get in trouble for leaving it open because now his “money is walking over to Chum Bucket.” Mr. Krabs was asked about the restaurant conference and he said he was there and did see Plankton but tried to avoid him. He saw a couple of the Chum Buckets but denies

taking one of them. He has also noticed that Chum Bucket has been more popular since his recipe has been stolen.

**Possible areas of cross:** he obviously dislikes Plankton as well and hates competition. He is extremely paranoid about money and is prone to use rash measures when his money is in danger. He could have staged the theft because Chum Bucket's business had been increasing and he wanted to make sure the restaurant was shut down for good by having Plankton arrested for theft and trespassing. Evidence of his irrational behavior can be found in his criminal record. Was previously charged with fraud.



## **Sandy Cheeks**

### **BIO:**

She is a squirrel from Texas who loves karate and Texas-style justice. She speaks with a heavy southern accent, using typical southern slang and takes great offense at bad remarks about Texas and violently attacks insults. She is extremely smart and well liked among the sea creatures of Bikini Bottom and she knows how to investigate criminal activity. She is also prone, however, to mood swings and can be vicious when angered.

### **Testimony:**

She was called out to Krabby Patty's on July 15, 2011, and noticed right away that the front door was opened with no signs of forced entry and that the vault door had been opened with some type of device. She reviewed the surveillance tape, which she acknowledges was grainy, and states that it was hard to make out the person or the tool

that was used. She interviewed Mr. Krabs, Spongebob, Squidward and Plankton. She remembers Spongebob saying that it all was probably an accident and that maybe the recipe was just misplaced somewhere. As a result of her investigation, which took about 30 minutes, she arrested Plankton and Squidward.

**Possible Cross:** Sandy believes in quick justice and is often quick to jump to conclusions. Although she is smart, she is quick to find someone guilty, especially if the person insults her beloved Texas, which Squidward had done while he was being interviewed by her. Sandy's relocation to Bikini Bottom is questionable since her last case in Texas involved a person who was found to be innocent of the crimes she arrested him for and her investigative tactics were questioned since she arrested him within twenty minutes of her investigation.

**Exhibits:**

1. E-mail or text messages between Plankton and Karen
2. Surveillance video
3. Chum Bucket that was found in the vault
4. Clarinet tool used to open the vault
5. Crabby paddy (possibly)
6. Criminal record for Mr. Krab --- not a serious crime but something funny...possibly something having to do with fraud.