## Kevorkian ordered to trial in area man's suicide

BYBILL CASPER
STAP WHITEA
Dr. Jack Kevorklan has been ordered to stand trial on a charge that he violated Michigan's neglect that he violated Michigan's regular banding assisted suicide after be-ellegedly alded in the Sept. 3 suicide of Donald O'Keefe in his home in southwest Redford Township.
The ruling to bind over Kevorkian for trial in Wayne Circuit Court was issued Monday after moon by Redford's 17th District Court. Judge Kane Monday after courtroom that was packed to enpacty with spectators, including several of O'Keefe's family members and a number of Khalif semily.

Ders and a family.

The jury box in her courtroom was filled with television cameras, including one from CNN, and other print reporters seated in a reserved section among the spectators as Khalil entered to render

tators as Khalil entered to render her decisions.
"Let me first make clear it is my opinion that a final resolution on the question of the propriety of

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sasisted suicide is not going to be resolved in this court proceeding, nor will it be determined by the decision which will be reached by the Court of Appeals," Khalii said. "It is an issue which the people of this state will continue struggle with even after the courts have ruled on this specifiew.

"This is a highly charged emotional case which has been the focus of worldwide attention, and rightfully so. The issue of assisted sides.

to strigge with even arter accounts have ruled on this specific law.

"This is a highly charged emotional case which has been the focus of worldwide attention, and rightfully so. The issue of assisted suicide is one which must be addressed not only in this courtoom, not only is this state, but in this nation and it must be addressed in the proper forums with input and leadership from the medical profession . . It is appropriate that this debate take place and that through the proper democratic processes we resolve these issues as they arise."

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Khalil's remarks were clearly audible in the quiet courtroom even though she was battling lar-

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cides.

In explaining her decision to deny Fieger's motion to dismiss the charge against Kevorkian Khaili said the Michigan Court of Appeals is now addressing the constitutional issue.

The issue went before the appellate court on appeal by the Attorney General after Wayne Cir-

cult Judge Cynthia Stephens ear-lier this year ruled the law unconstitutional in a lowsuit filed by Teresa Hobbins to challenge the assisted suicide ban that took

the assisted suicide han that took effect Feb. 25. The appellate court has received legal briefs from attor-neys arguing the question and is preparing to hear oral arguments, Khalil said.

Khaill said:

The district court concludes that it would be improper to take action on an issue before the appellate court, Khaill said: "Let me further emphasize my position that this type of action on the part of the district court could possibly lead to judge or forum shopping by those interested in assisting in suicides."

Khaill urged the appellate court to promptly render a deci-

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sion in the interest of fairness to Kevorkian, 65, and all the people of the state.

Fieger argued in court Sept. 29 that the state's assisted suicide law violates the fundamental liberty interests guaranteed under the first, fifth and fourteenth amendments to the U.S. Consti-

amenaments to the State State

be decided through the democratle process.

After hearing the attorneys' arguments, Khalil announced she's
would take time to review them,
hefore rendering her decision;
Monday when she denied Figer's
motion to dismisse to assisted
suicide charge against Kworklan.
She then ordered the pathologist be bound over the draut court,
saying the prosecution has met
the burden of showing probable
cause that the crime of assisted
suicide had been committed and
that Kworklan assisted in the
suicide.

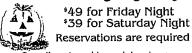
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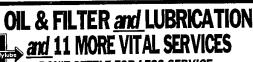




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