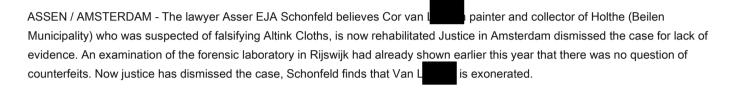
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Alleged forgery case Altink shelved

Of our correspondent



Van Lagran was arrested mid-July 1992 for allegedly forged twelve paintings of the Groningen Ploeg Altink painter (1885-1976). In addition 32 sheets were taken up. he recovered the paintings in January this year, as had shown a painting and writing Scholars think they were fake.

Van Least the Altink had in 1991 to various auction houses, including Christie's and Sotheby's in Amsterdam offered. But before the paintings were auctioned, they were withdrawn because it was not clear whether they were real. Only Sotheby's in Amsterdam went to the police for attempted fraud. Christie's did not return, although the auction acknowledged that the three works Altink that they had intended to auction, were not real.

Now justice has dismissed the case because there is no evidence against Van Least art painting it and the merchant Holthe itself wants the matter to forget as quickly as possible. But according to his lawyer Schönfeld there is a possibility to claim damages for the four days that he wrongly detained in Amsterdam and the damage in material sphere. On the one hand he wants to leave it now. He has urged that the past is very important. But on the other hand puts him enormously that this is all just can, "said Schonfeld. According to the lawyer Asser he is with his client in consultation. "We are investigating the possibility, but it may be that we leave there," he says.