

NY jury preparing to decide fate of Silk Road creator

February 4 2015

Prosecutors say a San Francisco man enabled drug dealers worldwide to reach customers they would never find on the street through the underground website Silk Road, but a defense lawyer says the 30-year-old was set up by manipulated evidence.

A jury is expected to begin deciding the fate of Ross William Ulbricht on Wednesday. Federal Judge Katherine Forrest says she'll spend a little more than an hour reading legal rules to the jury before deliberations start.

Closing arguments were completed Tuesday. Defense lawyer Joshua Dratel (dray-TEHL') says investigators arrested his client on insufficient [evidence](#) in 2013 because they were pressured to make an arrest and shut down Silk Road.

Prosecutor Timothy Howard says [overwhelming evidence](#) proves Ulbricht was the digital kingpin of an illegal online drug dealing empire.

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