

**S. B. No. 1164 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING EXPENDITURES OF THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION AND THE STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION.**

**April 7, 2009**

Dear Legislators,

I wish to express my concerns over the abuse of funding to the Judicial Branch. I have compiled a list of examples where I have witnessed fraud and abuse of state funds that need immediate attention.

Enfield Court

Judge Scheinblum closed the court to hold a party for attorneys and court personnel. The public was excluded and attorneys were charged to attend. COST: half day pay for court employees and use of facility

State Prosecutor Chris Parakilas agreed to dismiss a criminal case until he was contacted by Judge Jonathan Kaplan, the Administrative judge at Rockville court. Parakilas documented multiple phone calls and personal meetings with the judge urging him to prosecute this case. Parakilas agreed and delayed the case for over 2 years, over 100 court appearances, some twice a week. Parakilas denied, in open court, that he had ever met or talked to judge Kaplan until a transcript was provided from Rockville court by Judge Kaplan, who admitted to calling Parakilas. Judge Scheinblum ordered the court reporter to shut off the recorder and threatened the defendant with jail, and punishment is he made any more allegations. Parakilas disqualified himself from the case, another prosecutor was appointed from Hartford, brought it to trial and the defendant was acquitted.

COST: Ongoing, 2-1/2 years of court operation, jury trial, grievances, judicial complaints and lawsuits, travel expenses for Judge Kaplan

Rockville court

Judge Kaplan conspired with Judge Lawrence Klaczak and Judge Edward Graziani to issue a false restraining order in retaliation for a complaint against Kaplan. No allegations or threats were made, the application was incomplete, no children were listed yet Kaplan approved the application and terminated contact with a father and his two daughters. At the hearing, Judge Klaczak specifically states that it is in response to complaints against Kaplan by the defendant and terminated contact for six months. The computer system added additional persons to the restraining order in error which Klaczak and Kaplan refused to fix. Graziani delayed the hearing and added persons who were never on the original application. The ruling was appealed to the appellate and supreme court and judgment was reversed as abuse of discretion.

COST: Ongoing, Court operations for 4 years including appellate court and supreme court.

Judge Kaplan and Klaczak pursued criminal charges against the same father who complained against Kaplan, for his arrest in Rockville court. Kaplan met with Prosecutor Elizabeth Learning to pursue the arrest and prosecution and Klaczak called the court to pursue a full no contact protective order to terminate all contact with the father and his children. The case was pending for over 1-1/2 years, brought to jury trial and the defendant was acquitted. The Prosecutor withheld evidence that the police officer fabricated evidence and transcripts which contradicted the allegations

COST: Ongoing, Court proceedings for 1-1/2 years, multiple appeals, jury trial, grievance, judicial complaint and lawsuits against the state

Judge Kaplan went through the same father's family court file in Rockville and Enfield criminal court case file, removed documents, tampered with evidence and drove documents down to Hartford to the state prosecutor to arrest this father. Kaplan submitted documents, which he knew were false, to be used in an arrest warrant against the father. The father was arrested 1-1/2 years after the alleged crime. The case was dismissed when the court found Kaplan had fabricated the evidence.

COST: Ongoing, 1-1/2 years court operating expenses, grievances, judicial complaints and lawsuits against the state, travel expenses for judge Kaplan driving to Hartford, time of Judge Kaplan, clerks and prosecutors to fabricate evidence and tamper with court folders.

Judge Swords appointed two attorneys in a family case in addition to the GAL to represent two children, all paid by the state. Swords refused to swear in the GAL, used her to litigate, to file motions and case law with the court and to represent the mother. Swords terminated all contact with a father and his son and forced him to pay for supervised visits with his daughters with no allegation of harm or risk to the children. Swords cited complaints against judges for her orders. Swords ordered a psychological evaluation, also paid by the state. The evaluation or report was never submitted to the court but the court paid thousands in taxpayer funds. Swords cost the state thousands in taxpayer money to keep three children fatherless.

COST: Ongoing, State funds to pay GAL to litigate and file motions, two attorneys, an evaluation never filed with court, Court hearings, appeals, petitions to the supreme court, grievances, judicial complaints, lawsuits against the state.

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