

Suspended lawyer must turn over documents or face jail

By Elaine A. Ellis
Staff Writer

Suspended White Plains lawyer Doris L. Sassower will be going to jail tomorrow if she does not comply with a settlement she reached with a former client, a Westchester County judge ordered yesterday.

The settlement was made Dec. 13, 1991, after a seven-week

trial in which Sassower's former client, Kathleen C. Wolstencroft, sued to get documents involving her case.

Judge Nicholas Colabella wrote that Sassower's violation of that settlement "was calculated and actually did defeat, impair, impede and prejudice the rights of plaintiff in this action."

If she does not comply, Sassower will be taken into custody

at 2 p.m. tomorrow.

"I will be incarcerated on Thursday afternoon unless I get a stay," Sassower said. "It's barbaric.

"If this can be done to me — someone with legal training, someone who has the backbone to stand up and speak out against injustice and the violation of due process and human rights — you can imagine how

the rights of poor people are trampled on everyday."

In addition, Colabella wrote that Sassower still must pay Wolstencroft \$700,000 under the settlement.

"To void the settlement now as to the \$700,000 due plaintiff would serve only to punish the plaintiff and vindicate defendant's ploy to deprive plaintiff of a recovery," he wrote.

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