

NEW YORK STATE SENATE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

PUBLIC HEARING IN THE MATTER OF
AN EXAMINATION OF THE JUDICIAL DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

Senate Hearing Room
250 Broadway
19th Floor
New York, N.Y.

September 24, 2009
Thursday
10 a.m.

BEFORE: Senator John Sampson
 Chair
 Judiciary Committee

Senator Bill Perkins
Chair
Corporations, Authorities & Commissions

Senator George D. Maziarz

Senator Eric Adams

Senator Ruben Diaz

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS:

Shelly Mayer
Majority Counsel

Lisa Lashley
Counsel

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1 will back this all up with some papers to
2 you later.

3 Thank you, thank you.

4 SENATOR SAMPSON: Thank you very
5 much, Mrs. Malarkey.

6 The next witness is Nora Renzuli. Ms.
7 Renzuli.

8 MS. RENZULI: Thank you. Senator
9 Sampson and Senator Maziarz, my name is Nora
10 Renzuli, I'm an attorney, I was admitted to
11 the practice of law in New York State and in
12 New Jersey in 1987.

13 I have been practicing law in the State
14 of New York and have been employed by the
15 Office of Court Administration since 1990.

16 SENATOR SAMPSON: Are you still
17 employed with them?

18 MS. RENZULI: Yes, I am. I have
19 presented my material to the committee, and
20 it does lay out my case and my position that
21 a judge in Family Court without legitimate
22 authority or jurisdiction took my children
23 and handed them over to my former husband
24 who is living out of state in Pennsylvania

1 who was represented by a Brooklyn and Queens
2 clubhouse attorney who managed to wrap the
3 judge around his little finger.

4 My children were sent out of state
5 before I was allowed to put on a word of my
6 case.

7 That was in 1999. The children had
8 been with me since their father left in
9 1990, I had been the custodial parent for
10 nine years, I had finally gotten a child
11 support order and it was affirmed on appeal
12 in 1998.

13 My former husband then went to the
14 Family Court and subverted the whole due
15 process and dual tier system for Family
16 Court decision making by pulling the rug out
17 from under a fully litigated divorce and
18 custody, visitation, child support decision
19 making by Supreme Court orders.

20 The focus I would like the committee to
21 look at most is something that hasn't really
22 been touched on here, and that is parent
23 child relationships, that's why I'm here,
24 that's front and center of everything I have

1 done ever since my children were born.

2 And to have lost them nine years ago to
3 a deadbeat dad who was able to hoodwink the
4 whole system and get a judge to act without
5 subject matter jurisdiction and take them
6 away before I was heard, one word, despite
7 being represented by a former Family Court
8 judge, retired, who obviously had lost his
9 clout, Family Court Judge's name is Terrence
10 Miguel Rath in Staten Island Family Court.

11 I brought a Writ of Prohibition, the
12 Family Court judge was represented by
13 Attorney General Elliott Spitzer.

14 Elion Gonzales was protected by
15 Attorney General Janet Reno.

16 David Goldman's son who is in Brazil
17 now is being protected by the efforts of
18 Senator -- by Secretary of State Hillary
19 Clinton.

20 Does anyone in this room think that
21 former Attorney General Elliott Spitzer
22 lifted a finger to help protect my children?

23 He did not. Even though his own
24 investigator in the public integrity unit

1 told me there was, "obvious misconduct and
2 malfeasance."

3 There was a publicly paid law guardian
4 who consorted with the attorney for my
5 former husband who created the scam that I
6 had never been given actual custody and
7 therefore I did not need to be heard before
8 the children were moved.

9 In these kinds of cases often
10 possession does end up being 9/10 of the
11 law, especially when kids are sent to
12 another jurisdiction in another state, or
13 they are abducted and sent to another
14 country.

15 I have been trying since that happened
16 to get some kind of remedy, and I have done
17 everything conceivable, possible, legal, to
18 make that happen.

19 On September 11, 2007 the Court of
20 Appeals of New York State dismissed my Writ
21 of Prohibition by saying it had mooted out
22 because the children were now over 18.

23 That is no solution to these kinds of
24 problems.

1 The state of New York is suffering from
2 avoidance disorder and if it were a person
3 it would be diagnosed with access to
4 avoidance personality disorder.

5 We need to deal with these problems, we
6 need to name them, claim them and nip them
7 in the bud before children are irreparably
8 damaged.

9 The Attorney General of the State of
10 New York has a role to play, when there is
11 no jurisdiction and a judge doesn't have the
12 power, he loses immunity.

13 The Attorney General's Office needs to
14 assess these cases, vet them and when they
15 are asked to represent some kind of
16 dishonesty, dirty dealings, they should say
17 to OCA no way, I'm not going to represent
18 this dirty judge, this dishonest judge, this
19 dishonest process, but no, they go right in
20 and do it and it goes all the way to the
21 Court of Appeals, wasting our taxpayer's
22 dollars and the credibility and the
23 legitimacy of the office of Attorney
24 General, the chief law enforcement officer

1 of the state.

2 What is that AG doing representing
3 these kind of judges?

4 Unbelievable, and I finally get to the
5 Court of Appeals and then they wash their
6 hands, as if it only had to do with the ages
7 of the children.

8 It had to do with a complete perversion
9 of justice.

10 Two senators on your committee from
11 Staten Island have tried to help me, they
12 have reached out to the District Attorney of
13 Richmond County, they asked that an
14 investigation each be conducted into the law
15 guardian's behavior.

16 The D.A. of Richmond County wouldn't
17 even investigate, and that was after a call
18 from the Democratic leader of Richmond
19 County, after letters from Senator Lanza,
20 Senator Savino and Assemblyman Titone,
21 didn't make a hill of beans difference with
22 this D.A.

23 I think that OCA needs to get a handle
24 on these kinds of problems early on and deal

1 with them before all the damage is done.

2 It's not just damage to me as a
3 litigant, as a citizen, as an attorney, as
4 an officer of the court, but it's damage to
5 our whole process.

6 SENATOR SAMPSON: Okay.

7 MS. RENZULI: I really appreciate
8 what you're doing, Senator, and I hope that
9 the orders, taking custody from me,
10 illegitimately giving it to my ex, taking
11 child support out of my pay for the last
12 nine years, over \$100,000, out of my court
13 salary, they will devour their own, this
14 court system is out of control.

15 I want those orders voided. Thank you.

16 SENATOR SAMPSON: Thank you very
17 much.

18 Next witness is Stephanie Klein,
19 Stephanie.

20 If we can just take a five minute
21 break, is that all right?

22 (Discussion off the record.)

23 SENATOR SAMPSON: We will start right
24 now, I had to make sure no more coups were