

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: wgalison@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2009 1:38 AM
To: elena@judgewidth.org
Subject: Fwd: URGENT! to Senator Sampson; Corruption at the Judicial Nomination Commission,
Attachments: Integrity_in_the_Courts best.pdf; friedman lippman registration complaint.pdf; Brewington.m4a

-----Original Message-----

From: wgalison@aol.com
To: jburnett@npr.com; MAdler@npr.org; blshow@wnyc.org; llshow@wnyc.org; newsroom@wnyc.org; jburstein@wnyc.org; bfertig@wnyc.org
Sent: Fri, 16 Jan 2009 2:04 am
Subject: Fwd: URGENT! to Senator Sampson; Corruption at the Judicial Nomination Commission,

-----Original Message-----

From: wgalison@aol.com
To: sampson@senate.state.ny.us
Sent: Thu, 15 Jan 2009 5:27 pm
Subject: URGENT! Corruption at the Judicial Nomination Commission,

To:

Tim Spotts
Office of Senator John D Sampson
506 Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12247

Jan 15, 2009

Dear Tim,

Thanks for your time on the this afternoon. I understand that one of my colleagues from "Integrity in the Courts" called as well, and I apologize for the confusion. As I mentioned we are an "ad hoc" organization, and apparently we both had the idea to call you on behalf of the group without consulting the other.

We're not trying to overwhelm you!

Enclosed is a letter I wrote to the Judicial Nomination Commission in November 2008, advising them of a glaring appearance of impropriety at the Commission. (see attached) Specifically I alerted them to the following facts.

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- a) Attorney Leon Friedman has been fraudulently registered in the Second District for over ten years. He has used this false registration to avoid disciplinary action for serious ethical and criminal violations.
- b) The first Appellate Division is the sole agency obliged by law to refer registration fraud for disciplinary action.
- c) I reported the fraudulent registration to Judge Lippman in five separate letters, including the attached letter "Friedman Lippman registration"
- d) Judge Lippman ignored all of my letters regarding this subject, and failed to refer Mr. Friedman to the DDC, in violation of law.
- e) Judge Lippman also ignored letters by my lawyers alerting him to Mr. Friedman's documented lies in argument before the Appellate Court and other improprieties that directly influenced the decision of the Appellate Court in an underlying case.
- f) Mr. Friedman is the de facto partner of Gerald B. Lefcourt, a senior member of the Commission of Judicial Nomination. He has also been co-counsel with Mr. Lefcourt, a close friend of over twenty five years, and Mr Lefcourt is his landlord, and office mate
- g) Mr. Friedman, Mr. Lefcourt and the other members of the Law Offices of Richard Ware Levitt, at 148 East 48th street, New York NY, are lawyers for all the major organized crime families, including, Gambino, Gigante, Gotti.
- h) Illicit favors by the Chief to the lawyers of these organizations by the presumptive top judge in the state is cause for concern.

I conclude that Friedman's intimate relationship with Lefcourt, and Lippman's repeated extension of illegal favors to Friedman constitute a clear appearance of impropriety. Judge Lippman's illegal favors to Friedman are illegal and unacceptable for any judge, let alone the presumptive Chief Judge of New York State. The fact that these Favors are granted to the best friend and partner of a member of a Commission mandated to nominate him, should have, at the minimum, elicited the following response from the Commission:

- a) an investigation into the allegations of favors to Friedman
- b) an investigation into the relationship between Friedman and Lefcourt
- c) a suspension of Lefcourt from the Commission in regard to any nomination potentially involving Judge Lippman

Instead, I received not one request for further information or documentation from ANY of the twelve members of the commission, or the Commission attorneys.

The only response I did receive was from Frederick Brewington, the most recent appointee to the commission. His response, which he left on my answering machine (attached audio) was shocking: **“Do not send me any more information on this matter. The letter you did send me I am going to shred”**.

Not only did the Commission ignore:

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- a) the proven improprieties of Judge Lippman,
- b) the appearance of corruption in their own commission

They actively requested that I refrain from furnishing them with anymore information and they SHREDDDED the information I gave them.

This is malicious dereliction of their legal responsibility.

I am prepared to swear on penalty of perjury all of the above and to appear as a sworn witness at the hearings regarding the Judicial Nomination Commission.

Furthermore, I believe that failure to pursue my information and documentation would comprise a failure of the Senate Committee to effectively investigate the Commission on Judicial Nominations.

I look forward to hearing you as soon as possible, as time is obviously of the essence. I sincerely hope that we share same the goals in trying to bring integrity and accountability to our judiciary.

Sincerely,

William Galison
917 517 7344

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