

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: wgalison@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2009 1:36 AM
To: elena@judgewidth.org
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Documented Crimes and improprieties by Jonathan Lippman
Attachments: Integrity_in_the_Courts best.pdf; friedman lippman registration complaint.pdf; Brewington.m4a

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

From: wgalison@aol.com
Sent: Mon, 26 Jan 2009 12:50 pm
Subject: URGENT: Documented Crimes and improprieties by Jonathan Lippman

Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee
Office of Senator John D Sampson
506 Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12247

Jan 24, 2009

Dear Senator,

To grant Judge Lippman the highest Judicial office in the state would represent a treasonous dereliction of duty by your committee and a willful betrayal of the interests of your constituents, and the citizens of the state and the nation.

I possess documentation of numerous violations of ethical, judicial and criminal rules and laws by Justice Jonathan Lippman. These violations include:

- a) granting illegal favors to Leon Friedman, the partner, friend, and 15 year office-mate of Gerald B Lefcourt, a veteran member of the Judicial Nominating Commission
- b) willful and ongoing violation of Judiciary Law § 468-a[5] in regard to Leon Friedman, who has been fraudulently registered with the OCA for over ten years,
- c) ignoring of complaints of official misconduct against his court clerk Ronald Uzenski
- d) ignoring of repeated and documented complaints regarding egregious misconduct by his appointees Roy Reardon and Alan Friedberg in thier capacities as Chair and Chief Counsel to the First Departmental DDC.
- e) Presiding over the illegal transfer of three disciplinary complaints to the Second Department DDC, with no justification and no due process. One of the three respondents, Yvonne Shivers did not even request a transfer, yet she was transferred despite my fervent objection. Ms. Shivers is also an office

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mate, de facto partner and frequent co-counsel to Mr. Lefcourt.

Mr. Lefcourt and Ms. Shivers represent the major organized crime families in New York State. The other two respondents Ronald Minkoff and Wendy Stryker "represent" respondents at the DDC.

Documentation of the above allegations is beyond the scope of this email, but I stand ready and eager to supply the Committee with ample and dispositive evidence in support of every allegation.

As one example, 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.

- 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

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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:

- 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 SHREDED the information I gave them.

This is malicious dereliction of their mandated 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. I am requesting that I be called as a witness at the hearings regarding the Commission and the confirmation hearings for Judge Lippman.

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 assume that your committee will consider my allegations with more integrity, responsibility and alarm than the Judicial Nomination Commission has.

I look forward to hearing from 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. Once again, confirming Mr. Lippman as Chief Judge without would be an unmitigated disaster and a black mark on your legacies as Senators.

Sincerely,

William Galison
917 517 7344

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