

# Committee On Public Integrity

*"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)*

March 2, 2010

The Honorable Preet Bharara,  
United States Attorney for the Southern  
District of New York  
The United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York 10007

**Delivery Confirmation**  
# 03093220000067001836

The Honorable Joseph M. Demerest, Jr.  
Assistant Director in Charge, New York  
26 Federal Plaza, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10278-0004

**Delivery Confirmation**  
# 03093220000067001829

**RE: (1) Request for Immediate Action Concerning Alleged \$40 Million Dollar Fraud by  
2 top New York State Judges (Hon. Jonathan Lippman and Hon. Charles Ramos)  
(2) Request for Appointment of Federal Monitor Over the New York State Court System**

Dear Sirs:

Our research has revealed, and fully documented, a troubling state court "ethics" oversight structure that is itself corrupt. We have documented countless examples where the law, attorneys, litigants, state employees and, in fact, judges have been targeted for annihilation simply because of a political whim or from the vengeful, misguided desires of a few. Conversely, we have evidence of many outrageous and criminal acts, in violation of various federal laws, by certain individuals within and about the New York State court system that have been substantively overlooked for no other reason than their favored position or political affiliation.

## **CRIMES AGAINST FAMILIES**

It is most troubling when evidence and witnesses appear to be ignored involving serious allegations that involve New York State's Chief Justice, Jonathan Lippman, and an Appellate Division Associate Justice, Charles Ramos. The apparent common denominators are "greed of money" and "thirst for power," results propelled by a corrupted "ethics" oversight structure in and about the entire New York State Court System. The widespread crimes, in violation of federal laws, against families, state employees and citizens are outrageous, and must end. New York State needs Federal Intervention.

## **Immediate Action Required**

**OVERVIEW:** New York State Supreme Court Justice Charles E. Ramos received a "waiver" of the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct from then-Chief Administrative Judge Lippman based upon information he (Ramos) provided in writing. The "waiver" pre-approved Judge Ramos to be co-executor of two estates of a couple who were alive; the "waiver" also approved Judge Ramos' in a role over various family trusts.

**DOCUMENTED FACTS:** The highly unusual "waiver" of the State Judicial Rules was given by then-Chief Administrative Judge Jonathan Lippman on May 7, 2003. The May 7, 2003 dated letter from the Administrative Judge allowed Judge Ramos "to be named and to serve as a co-executor and trustee under the Wills of Ruth and Herb Weissberg." (see attached) However, on May 7, 2003, Ruth and Herb were very much alive. And though Herbert Weissberg would die about 2 months later, on July 3, 2003, it was known that Herb had had a stroke and couldn't speak, due to dementia and aphasia, for well over one year prior to his death.

While Judge Lippman's letter reiterates Justice Ramos' contention that he "had a longstanding relationship of trust and confidence with the Weissbergs going back 36 years"(see attached), there is no mention as to why the original March 24, 2002 dated Will did not name Charles E. Ramos as an executor or trustee but, instead, the Last Will named trusted accountant Andrew Rubin and long-time friend attorney Paul Herman as co-executors. It was only by virtue of a subsequent Codicil, purportedly by the long-incapacitated and dying Herbert Weissberg that Andrew Rubin and Paul Herman were removed as named co-fiduciaries, and replaced with Judge Ramos and the frail, soon-to-be-widow, Ruth Weissberg as the new named co-fiduciaries. Witnesses confirm that Herb could barely say "yes" or "no" and was in a fetal position during the last year of his life. People who knew the Weissberg family for decades were shocked to hear that Judge Ramos had presented himself as a long time "dear friend" of Herbert Weissberg.

It appears that other plans to wrestle control of Herb's millions were in the works. It is also alleged that in October of 2001, Herbert Weissberg's attorney, Paul Herman, went to the hospital to visit Herb, who was at that time extremely ill and unable to speak due to dementia and aphasia. While it cannot be determined exactly how many documents, purportedly signed by Herbert Weissberg, emerged from that hospital visit, or exactly from whom, what is certain is that Herb's signature varies significantly from one writing to another on papers with the exact same date. One document, supposedly prepared by Herb, misspells the word "Gramercy" – as in the Gramercy Park Hotel- the place Herbert Weissberg had run for decades. Out of thin air, but with a judicial waiver in hand, Judge Ramos then appeared and became a paid trustee. The question remains that if Judge Ramos was such "a close, personal friend of the family" and as was presented to Judge Lippman, then Judge Ramos surely would have known that Herb Weissberg had been very ill, could barely scribble a signature, and could not communicate or understand anything complex- all long before the codicil giving him (Ramos) so much was even drafted. Simply, people with Dementia and Aphasia do not initiate complex estate changes.

**ALLEGATIONS:** (1) Judge Ramos, in early 2003, filed papers within the New York State Court system containing knowingly false information, so to advance a scheme, in violation of various federal laws, where he would improperly, and financially, gain; and (2) Judge Lippman, since at least mid-2007, has been aware of the false presentation of information by Judge Ramos, and he has failed, and he continues to fail, to take appropriate action as required by law.

In late 2007, and as arranged by FBI SSA [REDACTED] the attached information was personally presented to FBI Special Agents [REDACTED]. As confirmed in January of 2010, and upon information and belief, material witnesses have never been contacted. In fact, and as also presented during that meeting, was a list of over [REDACTED] names of state employees willing to testify as to the involved crimes and cover-up. Upon information and belief, not one person has been contacted.

As we continue our efforts with elected officials in Albany and Washington, D.C., we are confident that future generations will echo our gratitude that both of you will begin a process to restore New York citizens' sadly lost faith in their government and in their system of law.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that you immediately begin the process for the appointment of a Federal Monitor over the affairs of the New York State Court System. To that end, we ask that you further, and publicly, announce a hotline where citizens may contact a federal entity to present evidence and allegations of violations of federal laws within and about the New York State Court System.

All the best,

  
Franklin N. Brady

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