

May 18, 2011

Mr. Christopher Scholl
CBS Producer, "Follow the Money"

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Dear Mr. Scholl,

I have been asked by Mrs. Christine Porter to respond to your requirement that for you to do a story on probate court corruption, akin to Marie Long's story, which you produced with Correspondent Sharyl Attkisson, it must be „a story of national interest“. That is understandable. So kindly let me pitch this story as such on one side of a page; I can expand it upon your request.

The national scope of guardianship abuse is established by the U.S. Government Accountability Office's Report "Guardianships: Cases of Financial Exploitation, Neglect, and Abuse of Seniors"¹. Your work with Sen. Herb Kohl's staff in preparation for the Marie Long's story must have made you aware of that. The national interest in the story is established by demographics and politics: 30.5% of the population is 50 years old or over². This means that one in every three Americans is concerned by having to care for, or institutionalize, an elderly loved one or by being cared for or institutionalized. Ask any old person and you will find that the single gravest concern is "How am I going to survive when I can no longer work or take care of myself?!" Your series of stories that they can be not only involuntarily, but also unnecessarily placed under guardianship by somebody that they do not even know just to strip them of their savings would be a horrifying and riveting story. The debate over reducing SS benefits due to budget deficits has only heightened the concern of seniors and those approaching retirement that they will spend their old age in poverty. If they also learn that they risk becoming forced wards of abusive guardians appointed and protected by the courts, could it fail to grab their interest? Politicians cannot fail to be interested in those concerns, for seniors constitute the segment of the population with the highest percentage of voters and can swing an election one way or another.

Collusion between predatory guardians and the courts was hinted at by Corr. Attkisson when she reported that an AZ appellate judge had defended the outrageous expenses billed to the estate as "reasonable, necessary and for Marie's benefit". What establishes the reasonableness of suspecting such collusion is that without judges' approval and willful blindness, guardians could not abuse their wards. What provides the colluders' motive and means is the two most insidious corruptors: money and power³. Judicial power „is absolute and corrupts absolutely“ because judges, even state ones, are as a rule unaccountable⁴: They exempt themselves from discipline⁵, cover for each other, and hardly ever are investigated by anybody⁶. Here lies what can make your investigative journalism of such national interest: Former Supreme Court Justice O'Connor was a Superior Court judge in Maricopa County, AZ, and thereafter an AZ appellate judge⁷. Similarly, Former U.S. 2nd Circuit Judge Sotomayor was suspected by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Politico*⁸ of having concealed assets of her own⁹. I argued before her a case¹⁰ and have shown that she covered up the concealment of assets involved in a fraud scheme pervading the federal, national bankruptcy system¹¹. Your investigation can lead you and Corr. Attkisson to ask: "What did these and other Justices know and when did they know about probate court corruption and the bankruptcy fraud scheme¹² and when did they know it? Your findings and those of the media that would jump on your bandwagon¹³ can shake the Supreme Court to its foundation since the applicable standard is a low one: "the appearance of impropriety"¹⁴. You can cause any or all its members^{15a} to resign, just as Justice Abe Fortas had to on 14may69^{15b}; and expose those who nominated or confirmed them^{15c}. That is a story of national interest and Pulitzer Prize worthy. I am at your disposal to help you research it.

Sincerely, *Dr. Richard Cordero, Esq.*

Endnotes(=ent.)

To easily retrieve the references below download the digital file, which has active links;
<http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/journalists/CBS/11-5-18DrRCordero-ProdCScholl.pdf>

- ¹ GAO Report, GAO-10-1046, 30sep10; <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-10-1046?source=ra>
- ² http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/age/age_sex_2008.html
- ³ Here applies the aphorisms of Lord Acton, Letter to Bishop Mandell Creighton, April 3, 1887: "Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely", and 1 Timothy 6:10: 'Money is a root of all evil and those pursuing it have stabbed many with all sorts of pains': When unaccountable power, the key element of absolute power, strengthens the growth and is in turn fed by the root of all evil, money, the result is that both corrupt absolutely and inevitably. Cf. ent.11
- ⁴ http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/HR/11-4-7DrRCordero-HR_COGR.pdf >HR:3/ent.10
- ⁵ http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/statistics&tables/judicial_misconduct_complaints.pdf >Cg:1-6
- ⁶ <http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/journalists/CBS/11-3-15DrRCordero-CorrSAttkisson.pdf> >para. 2 and supporting endnotes. In the last 221 years since the creation of the Federal Judiciary in 1789, only 8 judges have been impeached and removed; http://www.fjc.gov/history/home.nsf/page/judges_impeachments.html. If your boss had life-tenure and knew that fear of his retaliation dissuaded everybody from even investigating him no matter what he did, would he be tempted to abuse his power and take advantage of you and your colleagues?
- ⁷ <http://www.supremecourt.gov/about/biographies.aspx> >Retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor
- ⁸ http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/SCt_nominee/JSotomayor_integrity/6articles_JSotomayor_financials.pdf
- ⁹ http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/SCt_nominee/JSotomayor_integrity/12table_JSotomayor_financials.pdf You can determine yourself whether the financial declarations made by Then-Judge Sotomayor in documents that she filed with the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, http://judicial-discipline-reform.org/SCt_nominee/JSotomayor_integrity/2SenJudCom_Questionnaire_JSotomayor.pdf, and in the mandatory annual financial disclosure reports filed with the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts for *review by her peers*—retrievable from <http://www.judicialwatch.org/judicial-financial-disclosure>—give probable cause to believe that she concealed assets as part of the reciprocal cover-ups that have enabled wrongdoing to become the institutionalized modus operandi of discipline self-exempting judges; ent.4 >HR:214 and 219; http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/docs/Dynamics_of_corruption.pdf.
- ¹⁰ *In re DeLano*, 06-4780-bk-CA2, Judge Sotomayor, presiding; ent.4 >HR:213 and 216
- ¹¹ In CY09, federal bankruptcy judges dealt with the \$325.6 bl. in liabilities self-reported by individual bankrupts with predominantly consumer debt. To this figure must be added the \$10s of billions in debt of predominantly commercial bankrupts. The judges discharged \$310,329,885,000. Even a tiny percentage of this amount and of the non-discharged difference of \$15,270,115,000 is a colossal 'pie' of money for the table of only judges -and a few insiders of the bankruptcy and legal systems- whose decisions most individual bankrupts, who are pro se, cannot afford to appeal or know how, which makes them easy prey; http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/statistics&tables/bkr_stats/bkr_as_percent_new_cases.pdf.
- ¹² http://judicial-discipline-reform.org/Follow_money/How_fraud_scheme_works.pdf & ent.4>HR:220
- ¹³ ent.4>HR:215 & http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/DeLano_course/17Law/DrRCordero_Course_trigger_history.pdf
- ¹⁴ http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/docs/Code_Conduct_Judges_09.pdf >Canon 2
- ¹⁵ **a)** ent.4>HR:vii/ent.14b; **b)** id. >HR:266/ent.13; **c)** id. >HR:iii and HR:vi/ent.3c and 4-7