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by e-mail

(13Jun04)

Dear Attorney Stapleton:

I am a friend of Steve Gartin's, whom you met at the cutlery store. We are longtime associates, and I was his primary Witness in his cases against the various government agencies and so on. I have been subjected, by officers of the law, prosecutors, and involved corporations and individuals, to a deliberate and malicious attempt to improperly influence me, as a Witness, through actions, threats, intimidation and defamation.

The question stems from my position as a 3rd Party Witness for Steve in Federal District Court on his behalf.. He was complaining of various abuses of his civil rights by officers of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the District Attorney's office and some magistrates/judges. As an adjunct of this complaint, he also included a person in the State Attorney General's office, Maurice Knaiser, council for Henry Nieto, Judge of the Appellate Court, and some private individuals who had instigated or enabled the abuses complained..

Over some good period of time, some four years or so, I have been threatened by lawyers, a police officer, Sheriff's Deputy, and an FBI agent, that my witness for Mr. Gartin would 'lead to trouble'. They have sought to extort, by threat of force, an abandonment of my responsibilities to a court to render truthful testimony in order to cover their abuses as charged in the actions.

On February 19th, 2001, I was surprised to be arrested at my home by the Fugitive Apprehension team from Jefferson County on a Fugitive Warrant based on a Secret Grand Jury Indictment issued 60 days prior (23 Dec 00). There were sixteen charges; Attempt to Influence a Public Official, Filing False Instruments, Criminal Extortion (multiple counts) and Carrying a Concealed Weapon on a Jefferson County School Ground. (Ref. Case number 00CR3373)

I was afforded a public defender and upon her appearance, the first fifteen felony charges were dropped within the first 90 days or so; as was the misdemeanor CCW. None of the charges had anything to do with me although they had been presented as reason for treating me in such a manner..

The surviving felony, Criminal Extortion, was carried by Special Deputy State Attorney General Marlene Langfield for several months until a motion was made by the District

Attorney's office to dismiss. The charging was inappropriate by any measure- even if events had transpired as they alleged- which they had not.

It was a vindictive, malicious and selective prosecution to gain unfair advantage in a civil case/s against them, and a realization of all the documented threats they, themselves, had been making for a number of years..

I was thoroughly cooperative throughout the experience.

The indictment for 'Criminal Extortion' was based on deliberate material perjury by two witnesses to the Grand Jury.

One of the witnesses, Hector Bonilla, is the brother of a Federal Confidential Informant, member of an international criminal gang (La Eme; Cinco Familias). He was the complainant against me.

Another witness, Victoria de Thouars-Tollman, testified, under oath, about a fictitious event that seemed to support the idea of such conduct as was alleged by Hector Bonilla. She spoke on behalf of Sherman & Howard lawfirm and for her own self-aggrandizement, giving a false account of her involvement and knowledge. She represents several deep pocket entities and her perjury is beyond dispute and immediately demonstrable/provable.

Both of the witnesses were well known to the prosecution team, but not to each other, and both of them gave perjury that can be proven in a court of law.

I believe that their testimonies were suborned as perjury by the prosecution team in the person of Don Estep, Gary Clyman and at the direction of Marlene Langfield, Senior Deputy State Attorney General.

I believe that my arrest, detention and treatment whilst in jail was to threaten and intimidate me against giving truthful testimony in their actions against Steve Gartin.

I believe that the entire prosecution was an attempt to gain advantage in Mr. Gartin's Federal Court action by attacking my 'credibility' as a Witness for the Plaintiff and obstructing due process of the petition for redress of grievance..

I believe that even a casual examination of this sequence of events will reveal a broad pattern of abuse of process and obstruction of justice under color of authority by these people.

My initial one year statute of limitations complaining vindictive/malicious/selective prosecution will come up sometime around 3 Oct 02, as the anniversary of the date that the last charges were dropped. I have reserved action while trying to find an attorney to represent me in actions against the various actors; State, county, corporate and individual, while simultaneously trying not to get in the way of Steve's troubles with them.

The several attorney's I've spoken with have been uniform in saying that I have a strong cause of action, but have demurred to get involved because of either their specialty interests being different, or their firm's inability to proceed with what they think will be an expensive prosecution. It is primarily a matter of scrutinizing the record, as everything has been documented as we proceeded.

I wonder if you would be available for consultation with the intent of soliciting your firm to prosecute this complaint. Some of the complaints against individuals are so instantly provable, that I would contemplate several of them settling immediately and paying the freight for the prosecution of the rest.

Thank you for your time and kind considerations-
Very truly,

Chas Clements