

OPEN LETTER TO JUDGE TESHA BALLOU

Michelle Kennedy
Public Information Officer (PIO)
18th Judicial Circuit (Brevard & Seminole Counties)
State of Florida

August 30, 2022

Ref: Probable Judicial Conflict Of Interest
The State of Florida vs. Skyler Francis
05-2016-CF-012745-AXXX-XX

Francis' Appeal For New Trial – Due To Judicial Misconduct.

<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/stateattorney/2022/recksiedler52022/skyler3850.pdf>

Michelle:

Unlike some within the community * – we (VolusiaExposed.Com) have opted NOT to engage in *ex parte* communication with local judges. However, we find it both appropriate - and necessary - to express our (VolusiaExposed.Com) concerns that Judge Tesha Ballou has an apparent conflict of interest - being the assigned judge in Francis' pending September 7, 2022 hearing.

*** rumor has it - that Sheriff Ivey has been known to have such *ex parte* communications with judges – regarding on-going litigation attached to the Brevard County Sheriff's Office.**

Therefore – we shall expect your office (PIO) to address our conflict of interest concerns.

In January 2016 - the Brevard County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) arrested twenty-two year old Skyler Francis for the alleged murder of two BCSO deputies.

According to the arrest report (see below linked copy) – Francis had “murdered” two sheriff deputies – when in reality - Francis and the deputies had engaged in a short physical confrontation - after the deputies had broken into the curtilage of the Francis family home.

<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/bcso/2022/inthedefenseofskylerfrancis8302022/arrestreport.pdf>

Florida Statute 782.04 (Murder – click below link) – as initially filed within Francis' arrest report
http://leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0700-0799/0782/Sections/0782.04.html

Obviously – the criminal charges against Francis were quickly reduced to battery on law enforcement officers.

During Francis' trial – Judge Robin Lemonidis engaged in several acts of judicial misconduct that in the OPINION of many – biased the jury against Francis.

In February 2020 - the Florida Supreme Court took disciplinary action against Judge Lemonidis - partially for her judicial misconduct within the Francis trial (see our below linked December 23, 2020 article for particulars)

<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/highprofile/bitchofbrevard122020.html>

Click below to read the Florida Supreme Court's reprimand.

<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/highprofile/bitchofbrevard122020/reprimand.pdf>

In November 2021 - Francis through his attorney - filed a motion for post conviction relief – in which Francis requests that his conviction be over-turned based on Lemonidis' judicial misconduct.

<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/stateattorney/2022/recksiedler52022/skyler3850.pdf>

In June 2019 – Attorney Tesha Ballou was appointed to the judicial bench by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis. During the appointment process – Ballou submitted a judicial application – that now provides evidence that calls into question her judicial ability to provide Francis with an unbiased review of his post conviction motion.

Click the below link to review our June 5, 2019 article

<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/jnc/teshaballouappointment62019.html>

Click the below link to review Ballou's 2019 judicial application.

<http://volusiaexposed.com/jnc/jncrainwater32019/applications/ballou.pdf>

According to her judicial application (question 7 – page 1) Judge Ballou is married to retired law enforcement professional Matthew “Scott” Ballou. Mr. Ballou retired from the Seminole County Sheriff's Office after thirty-two (32) years of law enforcement service.

Further – according to her judicial application (question 21 – pages 5-6) – Judge Ballou served as the “General Counsel” to the Seminole County Sheriff Department from 2001-2006.

Brevard and Seminole counties comprise the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit.

According to available records - Mr. “Scott” Ballou is still active within the law enforcement educational community. He also is noted for his July 27, 2017 Op-Ed within the *Orlando Sentinel* - in which he opines about police officers making "reasonable suspicion - stop and frisk" searches of citizens. Mr. Ballou questions why some citizens are so eager to make examples of officers who make mistakes?

<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/opinion/os-ed-a-cop-explains-traffic-stops-basic-policing-front-burner-20170727-story.html>

Given both Mr and Mrs. Ballou's history of representing the interests of law enforcement agencies – maybe it is easier for them (the Ballous) to understand how to “make an example” of a citizen WHEN officers and judges make mistakes – rather than addressing those mistakes?

Perhaps – this is the very reason why Judge Ballou was assigned to the Francis case?

Things are surely interesting within the 18th Judicial Circuit – stand by to stand by there is surely more to come of this.

Regards,

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“A judicial system is corrupt if truth is denied the right to be a witness.” ~ Suzy Kassem

OTHER VOLUSIAEXPOSED.COM ARTICLES REGARDING THE FRANCIS PROSECUTION

VolusiaExposed.Com’s December 21, 2018 article
<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/highprofile/skylarfrancis/skylarfrancis122018.html>

VolusiaExposed.Com’s March 26, 2020 article
<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/highprofile/skylerfrancis12202019.html>

VolusiaExposed.Com’s June 13 2022 article
<http://volusiaexposed.com/brevard/stateattorney/2022/recksiedler52022.html>