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**Subject:** Judicial Conflict of Interest - Kathleen Edwards' Prosecution ?

**Date:** Fri, 02 Jul 2021 14:40:41 -0400

Michelle Kennedy  
Public Information Officer  
18th Judicial Circuit

July 2, 2021

Ref: The Criminal Prosecution Of Kathleen Edwards -  
Judicial Assignment For Arraignment

Dear Michelle:

As you most certainly know – since the criminal prosecution and conviction of Internet reporter Dana Delaney Loyd, our publication – VolusiaExposed.Com – has been covering developing events within the 18th Judicial Circuit (Brevard & Seminole counties).

VolusiaExposed.Com has published several articles, alleging that the criminal prosecutions of both Loyd and Kathleen Edwards are politically motivated.

We would have provided you links to our articles – but as advised by you – you are restricted from opening these email incorporated web links, as per instructions from your IT department. These web links will eventually be made available within a now developing article.

In short, we have argued that Loyd’s prosecution was in retaliation for her articles addressing alleged corruption with in the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office, the State Attorney’s Office – and within the local court system itself.

We have further argued, that Edwards’ prosecution is also retaliatory – in direct response, to her public allegations and civil lawsuit connected to her husband’s December 2018 in-custody death within the Brevard County jail.

Recently, VolusiaExposed.Com has “explored” our belief that the 18th Judicial Circuit is actively engaging in “jury packing” – regarding criminal prosecutions that have more of a foundation in political retaliation – than in the administration of justice.

We have published our suspicions that “jury pools” within these political prosecutions are not randomly selected. By “jury packing” the “jury pools” – the Court effectively negates the jury “voir dire” process. In short, the Court insures that the number of potential jurors favorable to the defendants are never more than what the State’s peremptory challenges can remove from jury service during the “voir dire” process.

With the jury now successfully “packed” – the Brevard Court will seek to have a judge assigned that is favorable to the State’s political and retaliatory agendas.

In the Loyd prosecution – we submit our “OPINION” that Judge Robin “Railroad” Lemonidis was hand picked to guide a “packed jury” to a guilty verdict against Loyd. During the trial – and as video recorded

by this publication – Lemonidis departed the courtroom expressing a desire to have a “private” conversation with this “packed jury” – within the jury room.

In our “OPINION” – and as memorialized within several of our articles – Judge Lemonidis engaged in SEVERAL acts of judicial misconduct during the Loyd trial – thus denying Loyd a fair and impartial trial.

As you are also aware – the Florida Supreme Court shortly thereafter took disciplinary action against Judge Lemonidis for similar judicial misconduct attached to other criminal prosecutions. Shortly after being disciplined by the Supreme Court – Judge Lemonidis withdrew her bid for re-election to the bench.

VolusiaExposed.Com has taken notice that Edwards’ arraignment has recently been scheduled for July 22, 2021 in front of County Judge Benjamin Garagozlo.

VolusiaExposed.Com has concerns that Judge Garagozlo and his spouse (Patricia) have personal “attachments” to the upper administration of the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office (BCSO) that should preclude Judge Garagozlo’s involvement within the Edwards prosecution.

Within our pending article – this publication shall publish a political endorsement by Brevard County Sheriff Wayne Ivey to Judge Garagozlo during his 2014 re-election campaign.

In 2020 – Judge Garagozlo’s spouse, Patricia Garagozlo applied for a judicial appointment within the local Judicial Nominating Commission process. Within Mrs. Garagozlo’s judicial application – she used then Brevard County Chief Deputy Doug Waller as a character reference.

According to BCSO written records, Chief Deputy Doug Waller was heavily involved in both investigations attached to the Edwards family – the December 2018 in-custody death of Mr. Edwards, and in the events that lead to Mrs. Edwards’ arrest and criminal prosecution.

Therefore, it can easily be concluded that Chief Deputy Doug Waller is very much intertwined within the civil litigation attached to Mr. Edwards’ in-custody death – and the criminal prosecution of Mrs. Edwards.

Chief Deputy Doug Waller has recently retired from the BCSO.

According to media reports – and other available political endorsement records - Sheriff Ivey’s political endorsement is a well sought after political prize by local politicians – including even judicial candidates (elections AND re-elections)

Our questions for your office are as follows – does Judge Garagozlo have an apparent conflict of interest in his assignment to the Edwards case? AND - given the above - can ANY local judge, or state attorney afford to lose the political endorsement of Sheriff Wayne Ivey? After-all ... politics is politics.

The conflict of interest standard is NOT whether a conflict actually exist – but rather – whether the “appearance” of a conflict exist. Given the reality of “politics”, and the circumstances surrounding the Edwards matters, including statements made by both the state attorney and Sheriff Ivey regarding Mrs. Edwards’ prosecution, and her husband’s in-custody death – we would argue that the entire 18th Judicial Circuit has a glaring conflict of interest within Mrs. Edwards’ political prosecution.

This email letter will be incorporated within our pending article – we invited your office to provide a response to our views and concerns.

Regards,

VolusiaExposed.Com  
[editor@volusiaexposed.com](mailto:editor@volusiaexposed.com)

Man is least himself when he talks in his own person. Give him a mask, and he will tell you the truth. ~ Oscar Wilde

cc - as noted  
bcc - several - interested, and affected parties

P.S. Michelle, if you happen to run into newly selected **Chief** Judge Jessica Recksiedler - wish her our (VolusiaExposed.Com) best.  
Yes, our staff recorded her lying to the judicial nominating commission - and yes the Florida Supreme Court disciplined her for lying.... but after all - she is a judge within the 18th judicial circuit - lying and corrupt judges all blend within that circuit - she will do fine as that circuit's chief judge !

However, given the 18th circuit's retaliatory nature - we (VolusiaExposed.Com) certainly hope that Chief Judge Recksiedler doesn't hold a grudge.

(Michelle - the below web links were attached for the benefit of the bcc recipients)

VolusiaExposed.Com staff video records Judge Recksiedler lying to the 5th DCA JNC  
<https://youtu.be/nYtpCul6rG0>

Florida Supreme Court's disciplinary action against Judge Recksiedler (see page 2 of decision - VolusiaExposed is recognized by the Florida Supreme Court as a "local news organization")  
<https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/242724/file/sc15-311.pdf>

Florida Supreme Court archived a "screen shot" of our coverage of the JNC meeting where Judge Recksiedler lied.  
[https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/242725/file/SC15-311\\_%20Volusia\\_Exposed.pdf](https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/242725/file/SC15-311_%20Volusia_Exposed.pdf)

Orlando Sentinel article regarding Judge Recksiedler's selection as the 18th Judicial Circuit's Chief Judge - and her refusal to address her lie.  
<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/seminole-county/os-ne-seminole-judge-recksiedler-chief-20210616-vgkgm2u3mbhl3acliyqtb34n4a-story.html>