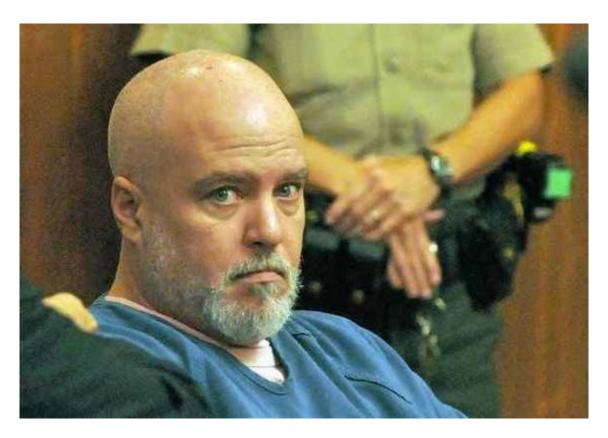
The Mind Numbing Corruption And Perversions In Marin County In California

By Susan Lundt

Recognized for it's rolling green hills and freshly scrubbed blonde yuppies, Marin County in Northern California is supposed to be Heaven-on-Earth but a peek behind the scenes reveals Marin to be operated by crony criminals and ridden with pedophiles and anal sex fanatics. Even when you die in Marin County, the coroner may still rape your body and the tax people will rape your estate. Take a look at these stories for some color on Marin County that will make you blush red with anger and embarrassment:

In typical Marin County corruption case; Marin official's girlfriend, on stand in Marin corruption trial, recounts crimes



By Richard Halstead, Marin Independent Journal

Comments

A girlfriend of Brett Richards, the former Ross Valley Sanitary District manager, testified Monday that she accompanied him on trips to Las Vegas, Europe, Alaska, the Cayman Islands and the Philippines after Richards received a \$350,000 housing assistance loan from the district.

Richards is standing trial in Marin County Superior Court on charges that he took the loan from the district and never purchased housing.

Lynne Andonian, an assistant professor in the department of occupational therapy at San Jose State University, testified she began dating Richards in February 2010, but it wasn't until December 2010 that she began traveling with him extensively.

During pretrial hearings, Marin District Attorney Edward Berberian presented evidence showing that Richards deposited the \$350,000 housing loan in his Citibank account on Dec. 3, 2010.

Berberian asked Andonian if she remembered traveling to Munich, London, Paris, Venice, Barcelona, Florence, Rome and Croatia with Richards. Andonian said she recalled going to Europe with Richards, but she said she didn't recall specific locations they visited.

Berberian asked Andonian if she recalled taking trips to Las Vegas with Richards.

"I recall one trip to Las Vegas," Andonian said. She also confirmed the trips to Alaska, Croatia and the Cayman Islands.

Richards dropped from sight in July 2012 shortly after local political writer Dick Spotswood, in a column published by the Marin Independent Journal, raised questions regarding whether Richards used the \$350,000 loan to purchase housing. Richards resigned by email from his \$197,000-a-year job on July 25, 2012.

Andonian also testified she met Richards in the Philippines in August 2012. After that, Andonian said she communicated sporadically with Richards via phone and email until March 2013.

Andonian said she didn't hear from Richards again until July or August of 2013.

Berberian questioned Andonian about a telephone conversation she had with Richards while he was in jail awaiting trial. Inmate calls are recorded, and Berberian showed her a transcript of the conversation.

During the call, Andonian told Richards she had been distraught during the three months she couldn't reach him.

Berberian asked Andonian if Richards had replied that he had broke off contact with everyone he cared about because he was being investigated.

"I remember him being concerned about others getting hurt," Andonian said.

During pretrial hearings, Richards lawyers asserted that their client did not travel to the Philippines to elude authorities and was unaware that he was suspected of committing a crime.

Under cross-examination by Richards' co-counsel, Jai Gohel, Andonian testified that she accompanied Richards on numerous open houses around the Bay Area to assist him in his search for a house.

Also testifying Monday was Susanne Brown, an assistant city attorney with the city of Concord, who advised the Ross Valley Sanitary District when it was negotiating with Richards in 2009 over the terms of an earlier version of his housing loan. This \$125,000 loan, unlike the subsequent \$350,000 loan, would have required Richards to provide a deed of trust as security. Richards never used the earlier loan.

Brown said she spoke in detail with Richards about putting a clause in this earlier loan agreement that would have allowed him to promptly access \$45,000 in case he wanted to make a deposit on a real estate property.

Brown testified that Richards wanted to be able to move the money directly into his account without use of an escrow account. She said he became upset when she raised objections.

"He started screaming at me," Brown said. "I've never had a client talk to me like that before or since. He basically threw a hissyfit on the phone."

Brown said, "His reaction raised suspicions on my part."

Richards is charged with 13 felony counts including misappropriation of public funds, embezzlement and multiple counts of money laundering. He could face a up to 10 years in prison and \$1.5 million in fines if convicted.

From a public Filing:

Marin County, CA Superior Court corruption investigation

Target: Alberto Gonzales, US Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice

This petition is to request a special investigation by Attorney General Alberto Gonzales into the ongoing corruption in Marin County, CA superior court.

US AG Special Litigation Section has authority to investigate state and local law enforcement agencies and is authorized to take action if there is a pattern or practice of illegal conduct.

CONSPIRACY AGAINST RIGHTS

Section 241 of Title 18 is the civil rights conspiracy statute.

DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS UNDER COLOR OF LAW

Section 242 of Title 18 makes it a crime for a person acting under color of any law to willfully deprive a person of a right or privilege protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States

In July 2005 California AG Bill Lockyer's released findings by his Domestic Violence Task Force that determined the criminal justice system is failing to enforce DV laws.

- 1) Marin County, CA judges have a long history of denying orders of protection for victims of DV and child abuse, routine denial of all evidence and witnesses when the accused party fails to show up for the restraining order hearing. In cases involving child custody and domestic violence, sole custody or unsupervised visitation have been given to the perpetrators of abuse in direct conflict of child welfare and DV laws.
- 2) Ex-parte, secret, in-chambers meetings between the abuser, his attorney and the judge are used to change custody to the abuser. Ex-parte hearings are not allowed unless proper notice is given to the opposing party and she or a legal representative is present. Fraud Upon the Court can occur when any order is made under these circumstances, the order and subsequent orders made that rely upon the illegal order are invalid and not enforceable.
- 3) Conspiracy to obstruct justice happens when officers of the court assist each other to cover evidence of criminal activity committed by judges, attorneys and perpetrators of abuse. Conspiracy can occur when confidential court files are missing evidence that was supportive of the abuse or violence, as well as when psychiatric, psychological, medical, school and police reports are illegally removed from the files, motions for discovery denied, due process is ignored.

Petition powered by ThePetitionSite.com

Marin County's Deputy Chief Coroner Arrested For Child ...

Marin County's deputy chief **coroner** was **arrested** last week on accusations of multiple counts related to child molestation, as first reported by the **Marin** ...

<u> nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Marin-Countys-Deputy-Coroner-A...</u>

Marin head coroner arrested on molestation charges | The ...

The head of the **Marin County coroner's** office was **arrested** last week on a warrant charging him with four felony **county** of child molestation.

pressdemocrat.com/news/6969520-181/marin-head-coroner-arres...

Marin coroner charged with molesting girl - marinij.com

The head of the **Marin County coroner's** office has been **arrested** on a warrant charging him with four felony counts of child molestation over a period of seven years.

Coroner In Marin County Arrested On Child Molestation Charges ...

A Northern California **coroner** has been **arrested** on child molestation charges.

Sacramento.cbslocal.com/2017/05/08/child-molestation-coroner-mari...

Marin County coroner charged with child molestation | The ...

NOVATO — The Northern California **coroner** for one of the wealthiest counties in the country was **arrested** and charged with sexually abusing a girl younger than 14 ...

pressdemocrat.com/news/6971303-181/marin-county-coroner-cha...

Marin coroner arrested in Eureka on molestation warrant

The head of the **Marin County coroner's** office was **arrested** in Eureka on a warrant charging him with four felony counts of child molestation over a period of seven ... times-standard.com/article/NJ/20170507/NEWS/170509888

Head of Marin County coroner's office charged with molesting

The head of the **Marin County coroner's** office was **arrested** on charges of repeatedly molesting an underage girl over a span of seven years, beginning when she was ... sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Head-of-Marin-County-coro...

Head Coroner Arrested On Child Sex Abuse Charges In Marin County

MARIN COUNTY, CA - UPDATE: MONDAY, MAY 8, 4:40 p.m. **Marin County** Chief Deputy **Coroner** Darrell Alan Harris was arraigned this morning on felony and misdemeanor ...

https://patch.com/california/sanrafael/head-coroner-arreste...

Marin County coroner charged with molesting girl

The head of the **Marin County coroner's** office made his initial court appearance on child molestation charges Monday but delayed entering a plea. Darrell Alan Harris ...

EBT eastbaytimes.com/2017/05/08/marin-county-coroner-charged-w...

Marin County coroner charged with molesting girl

The head of the **Marin County coroner's** office made his initial court appearance on child molestation charges Monday but delayed entering a plea.

Marin County Coroner Accused Of Child Molestation

Marin County Coroner Accused Of Child ... who is in charge of the **Marin County's Coroner** office, remained in jail Monday on \$750,000 bail and is ...

The Marin County Corruption Scandal!

- What to do when County officials engage in political reprisals and idealogical vendettas against you!

By Andy Cosgrove and The Marin Alliance

Are public employees who hate Trump, or hate Obama, using their public offices (that your tax dollars pay for) in order to attack you because they hate the current President or they hate your politics? **Is that legal? No!** It is a violation of the law, a violation of the U.S. Constitution and a violation of the trust of the public. Here is what you can do:

- File public-interest lawsuits for RICO, Civil Rights violations and related corruption charges against the top 10 county administrators, PERSONALLY, the county itself and the attacking investigator, **personally,** for abuse of office.
- Publish a WIKIPEDIA book on the internet, ASAP about the entire incident naming all of the names involved.
- Contact the Secret Service to advise them that a public official is using Government resources to express their intentions towards the acting President.
- Investigate the top 15 county officials, and their campaign financier,s and track-back every:
 Hooker use and sex party activity; Off-shore tax evasion account; Un-reported or improperly
 documented Illicit family trust fund; Covert construction company and building supplier
 ownerships which inure to those officials through payola and kickback deals; All of their
 pedophilia crimes; Nepotism hires, and every other traceable illicit action which clever private
 and public investigation and forensic science can uncover.
- Seek Federal defunding of the entire County and contact every federal entity that has ever distributed funds to the county within the last 10 years to demand defunding of that County.
- Deploy a global website that documents each and every corrupt person and their corrupt deeds in the county (ie: http://xyzcase.xyz)
- Use the peer-to-peer investigation network of millions of voters and current and former intelligence and law enforcement contacts to eradicate any and all improprieties in the County

- and place all County staff under long term surveillance using Voat.co, Reddit.com, Facebook, and all social media.
- Send out bi-weekly national press releases with updates on the investigations.
- Hold public TV press conferences in front of the offices of officials engaging in such reprisals.
- Use ALL of these entirely legally actions WITH the support of Congressional officials and Federal law resources.
- Make absolutely certain that every voter in the County knows that the defunding and the ruckus
 is because of these officials. You can even name the whole scandal after the Chief Administrator
 of the County or the investigator who was doing the reprisals so that everyone knows who to
 thank for all of the hassle.

You can now easily eradicate these corrupt public officials, wipe out their pensions, expose them in global media, have them arrested and indicted and end their ability to abuse public offices. They work for YOU. They are YOUR employees. Hold them to task! Thousands of dirty officials have been terminated, 100% legally, using these tactics!

In Marin County, California an incredible number of public officials have been caught having sex with the children of the local populace and then using their offices to cover up their underage sex crimes. In addition, the greatest disparity of millionaire vs. poor people exists in Marin County yet, guess who all the bosses of Marin County government and the Judiciary are: Millionaires! The poor (under \$75K/Yr. Total family income) are consistently set upon in Marin by bureaucratic fascists who feel that anyone who is not pulling in a cool million are "sub-humans". In fact the majority of Marin County are not even remotely millionaires and that majority is tired of getting a boot on their head every time they look for justice. These bureaucrats must no longer be allowed to prey on our children, our poor and become fat off the trough of the public's taxes.

They get away with these things because they live in a bubble in which they believe they are "untouchable" and that nobody is their boss. Tell them now, Tell them Today: YOU ARE THEIR BOSS!

Pedo-like Marin County Bosses should no longer get to think that the public is their day labor and realize that every one of the Elitist Political Mob Bosses lording it up under Frank Lloyd Wright's big blue domes are the tools of that very public! The *Alliance Against Marin County Corruption* is asking everyone to participate in an Anti-Corruption program by reporting on, discussing and exposing Corruption in Marin County by adding #STOPMARINCORRUPTION as a hashtag, or keyword, on all of your social media when exposing corruption in Marin County.

Marin Residents are stepping up to the task, even if their elected officials won't do it!

Petition: Marin County, CA Superior Court corruption ...

This petition is to request a special investigation by Attorney General Alberto Gonzales into the ongoing **corruption** in **Marin County**, CA superior court. thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/279/133/210/

Marin County, CA Superior Court corruption investigation

Marin County, CA Superior Court **corruption** investigation Target: Alberto Gonzales, US Attorney General, U.S ... **Marin County**, CA judges have a ...

truthinscotsthistle.blogspot.com/2006/09/marin-county-ca-superior-court.html

Marin County Schools | Exposing corruption, incompetence and ...

Exposing **corruption**, incompetence and lies in the Ross Valley School District (especially at White Hill Middle School), as well as at St. Rita's School

https://marincountyschools.wordpress.com

Marin County illegally uses reprisal and economic blackmail against poor people...

Exposing **corruption**, incompetence the abuse of the poor by rich elitist Marin County insider bearocrats...

http://www.pilpca.org/2012/04/10/marin-county-illegally-refuses-subsistence-money-to-thousands-of-poor-residents/

Ripoff Report | Marin County Superior Court of California ...

Marin County Superior Court of California, Jeanne Mann, ... Home > Reports > Outrageous Popular Rip Off > Government **Corruption** > **Marin County** Superior Court Of ... ripoffreport.com/reports/government-corruption/marin-count...

Marin County BLACKMAILS Citizen for Exposing Corruption ...

If you want to complain about government abuses or **corruption** in **Marin County** be prepared to go bankrupt—unless you are really, really, rich.

capoliticalreview.com/capoliticalnewsandviews/marin-county-blac...

<u>CPS/Family Court Corruption, Uncovering the Truth—Bay</u> <u>Area ...</u>

CPS/Family Court **Corruption**, Uncovering the Truth—Bay Area ... Assemblyman Tim Donnelly is coming to **Marin County** to gather stories from aggrieved families in ...

https://facebook.com/events/231221910374531/

Corrupt Judges are out of control in America - Ugly Judge

The **corruption** is spreading from Santa Clara **County** to **Marin County** as ... and the code of conduct sworn to by all lawyers and judges. "**CORRUPTION** ALERT: ... uglyjudge.com/judges-2/

Marin County CCW Corruption -- Update - Keep and Bear Arms

Marin County CCW **Corruption** -- Update. by Jim March <u>jmarch@prodigy.net</u>. December 3, 2001. Hi all, The official response to the initial **Marin County**, California CCW ... <u>keepandbeararms.com/newsarchives/XcNewsPlus.asp?cmd=view&arti...</u>

Judge Adams and her Reign of Terror | Free Jasmijn

Judge Adams and her Reign of Terror. ... Volumes have been written about the rampant **corruption** on the **Marin County** Superior Court bench located on the north side of ... freejasmijn.com/?p=720

Marin County Superior Court - Public Index

Marin County Superior Court Public Index Usage Agreement: The information provided on and obtained from this site does not constitute the ... **County** of **Marin**. marincourt.org/PublicIndex/Default.aspx

The Marin Post

In the latest **corruption** of process, **Marin County** Department of ... And if medical office use has now become a **County** project, then why should **Marin** General be the ... https://marinpost.org/blog/2016/1/24/the-latest-corruption-of-p...

Family Court Crisis Online Photo Exhibit

Family Court Crisis: Surviving A Broken System is a moving photography exhibition from the Center for Judicial Excellence in **Marin County**, California. centerforjudicialexcellence.org/multimedia/family-court-crisis-online-pho...

Novato High School track coach arrested for sexual ...

Novato track coach arrested for sexual relationship with **student**. Email EMBED </> ... according to the **Marin County** ... news teacher arrested **sex** teacher **students** ... abc7news.com/news/novato-track-coach-arrested-for-sexu...

Novato High School track coach arrested for having sex with ...

Police have arrested Novato High School track coach Steven ... arrested for having **sex with student**. ... Deschler was booked into the **Marin County** Jail on ...

kron4.com/2015/07/03/novato-high-school-track-coach...

Marin County Film Teacher Arrested on Child Porn Charges ...

A San Francisco man who taught film production and screening classes to young children in **Marin County** has been arrested on child ... in **sex** acts with ...

nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Marin-County-Film-Teacher-Arre...

Deputies: Marion County teacher had sex with second student

... Marion **County** teacher had **sex with** second **student** Bail set at \$715,000 | Updated: 5:55 PM EST Feb 27, ... the **arrest** affidavit said Adams and the girl had sexual ... wesh.com/article/deputies-marion-county-teacher-ha...

Community sickened by arrest of Novato High School track ...

Community sickened by **arrest** of Novato High School track coach for **sex** ... **arrest** for **sex** crimes with a former **student**. **Marin County** sheriff's officials said ...

kron4.com/2015/07/03/community-sickened-by-arrest-o...

Martin County teacher arrested for having sex with student ...

Martin **County** teacher arrested for having **sex** ... Martin **County** teacher arrested for having **sex with student**. ... **County** school where a teacher is under **arrest** for ... wflx.com/story/20073189/martin-county-teacher-arre...

San Rafael sex offender arrested at Terra Linda High School

A convicted **sex** offender was arrested in San Rafael after an off-duty probation officer spotted him ... was booked into **Marin County** Jail on ...

marinij.com/article/NO/20170319/NEWS/170319784

<u>Victim's mother berates ex-Novato coach during sentencing in ...</u>

A former Novato High School coach accused of **sex** acts with a 17-year-old **student** was sentenced to ... during sentencing in **sex** ... **Marin County** District ... marinij.com/article/NO/20160218/NEWS/160219780

Arrested Made in Murder of Novato High Student - patch.com

... The **Marin County** Sheriff's Office on Nov. 22 announced a new **arrest** ... Sheriff's deputies previously arrested two Novato High School **students**, Juan Carlos ... patch.com/california/novato/arrested-made-murder-no...

New suspect in Marin teen's slaying arrested in Maryland

New suspect in **Marin** teen's slaying arrested in Maryland. ... The **Marin County** District Attorney's Office is still ... were **students** at Novato High School and ... <u>mercurynews.com/2016/11/22/alleged-ms-13-gang-leader-arre...</u>

Marion County teacher arrested on sex battery charges with ...

An Ocala teacher already charged with having **sex with** a **student** has been arrested again after a new accusation that he ... Marion **County** teacher arrested on **sex** ...

clickorlando.com/news/marion-county-teacher-arrested-on-se...

Marin County School Aide Arrested For Alleged Sex Acts With ...

Marin County School Aide Arrested For Alleged **Sex** Acts With Teen Girl January ... was scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday in **Marin County** Superior Court, ...

sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2013/01/30/marin-county-school-aide-arres...

Alleged gang member arrested in Maryland for murder of Novato ...

The **Marin County** Sheriff's Office announced today another **arrest** in the murder and attempted murder of two Novato High School **students** in May. Edenilson Misael Alfaro ... marinscope.com/novato advance/news/alleged-gang-member-a...

<u>Headmaster Of Highbrow Marin School Busted With Meth ... -</u> SFist

Headmaster Of Highbrow **Marin** School Busted ... a tony private high school in **Marin County** that's produced ... as its headmaster is allegedly at the center of a **sex** ... sfist.com/2014/10/07/headmaster of highbrow marin s...

Recent Bookings | Martin County Sheriff's Office

Recent Bookings. THIS REPORT IS NOW ... MONDAY THRU FRIDAY . This report reflects the **arrests** in Martin **County** for the last 24 hrs. ... Place of **Arrest**: ...

Another Arrest Made in May 25 Slaying of Novato High Student

The **Marin County** Sheriff's Office announced Tuesday another **arrest** ... The **Marin County** ... Sheriff's deputies arrested two Novato High School **students**, ... nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Another-Arrest-Made-in-Slaying...

<u>Authorities ID arrested suspects in Marin hiker slaying - KTVU</u>

The **Marin County** Sheriff's Department late Wednesday released the identities of ... Homeless **student** graduates ... Authorities ID arrested suspects in **Marin** hiker ... ktvu.com/news/31084130-story

California teachers arrested for 'having sex with students on ...

... (right), 30, met up with and had **sex with** a group of male **students** on an Orange **County** ... arrested for having **sex with students** ... Mail Online. Published: 17:00 ... <u>dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2915878/Two-California-teach...</u>

Marin County

Welcome to **Marin County** Open Data. Explore, view, and download our data. <u>marincounty.org</u>

County Of Marin - Online Warrant Search

Volunteers and **Student** Internships; ... Online Warrant Search ... If there is an outstanding warrant for your **arrest**, you may contact the **Marin County** Superior ... apps.marincounty.org/WarrantSearch

San Rafael Cracking Down On Massage Parlors Accused Of ...

Sex parlors masquerading as ... San Rafael Cracking Down On Massage Parlors Accused Of Prostitution June 5 ... In the hub of bucolic **Marin County**, ... sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2014/06/05/san-rafael-cracking-down-on-ma...

Martin County

MARTIN **COUNTY** Name: BALUJA, TANYA ODALYS Race: W **Sex**: F DOB: ... Arresting Agency: MCS Officer: STONEBRAKER Place of **Arrest**: ... sheriff.martin.fl.us/cad/new_bookings.html

Marin County Sheriff's Office

Alert **Marin**; Hazard Information; Reducing Risks; ... The **Marin County** Sheriff's Office is committed to partnering with our communities to provide leadership and ... marinsheriff.org

California principal arrested with drugs, unconscious woman ...

Police say the principal of a private **Marin County** high school was arrested after ... California principal arrested with drugs, unconscious woman. ...

foxnews.com/us/2014/10/07/california-principal-arrest...

Marin County Court needs FBI oversight | Free Jasmijn

Judge Adams takes orders from child molester. ... This is a newspaper article about previous anticorruption protests at **Marin County** Superior Court.

freejasmijn.com/?p=602

<u>The Pension Scandals in Sonoma and Marin Counties - Union Watch</u>

Special Interest **Corruption**; 2013 Archives; ... In both Sonoma and **Marin County's** Code of Ordinances there ... 8 Responses to The Pension Scandals in Sonoma and ... unionwatch.org/the-pension-scandals-in-sonoma-and-marin-...

District Attorney - County of Marin

County of **Marin** - District Attorney: Home Page. Skip to Main Content. Text Resize. Website Accessibility. Search Box Search. Home; How Do I? Register. **County** Vendor [PDF] marincounty.org/depts/da

Martin County Is Corrupt

The Martin **County** Sheriffs Offices civil suit, ... If you agree with what you read in the **corruption** that goes on beneath the surface and want to try to make a ... https://martincountyfloridaiscorrupt.com

Hon. Lynn Duryee (Ret.), JAMS Mediator and Arbitrator

As a Superior Court judge in **Marin County**, California, Judge Duryee resolved thousands of commercial, contract, and negligence cases.

https://jamsadr.com/duryee/

Marin County Superior Court - San Rafael, California ...

Marin County Superior Court, ... Kathleen Russell — 1 star **Marin** Superior Court **corruption** is pushing hard working folks into poverty, yet their days are numbered. https://facebook.com/pages/Marin-County-Superior-Court/1367949...

Official's girlfriend, on stand in Marin corruption trial ...

Official's girlfriend, on stand in **Marin corruption** trial, ... Richards is standing trial in **Marin County** Superior Court on charges that he took the loan from the ... marinij.com/article/NO/20150921/NEWS/150929960

Family Court Accountability Coalition: Judge Beverly Wood ...

Family Court **Corruption** across the US-trash the relationship between the protective good parents and their child. **Marin** Family Court Presiding Judge Verna ...

familycourtcoalition.blogspot.com/2014/06/Marin-Judge-Beverly-Wood-Kim-Turn...

Family Court Corruption | Lies, Facts, and Laws Violated

Family Court **Corruption**. Lies, Facts, and Laws Violated. Skip to content. Home; Enforcing our Rights in Family Court. We are not here to whine about the **corruption** in ... familycourtcorruption.com

Marion Correctional Institution -- Fl Dept. of Corrections

Marion Correctional Institution **County**: Marion. Offender Search for this Facility: Queries may take a long time for facilities with large populations.

dc.state.fl.us/facilities/region3/304.html

marin county Archives - THE PUBLIC COURT

SAN DIEGO **CORRUPTION**. ... Home **» marin county**. State Audit Targets Sacramento, **Marin** Family Courts. January 21, 2011 By zoeCat@pubCourt 6 Comments. thepubliccourt.com/tag/marin-county/

Defense in Marin corruption inquiry says former Ross Valley ...

Marin County District Attorney Ed Berberian said Thursday that former Ross Valley Sanitary District general manager Brett Richards "clearly misused" a \$350,000 ... marinij.com/article/zz/20140206/NEWS/140208703

CPS Fraud-Corruption - THE PUBLIC COURT

CPS Fraud-Corruption ... family code section 3110.5 family court FL-326 government and judicial corruption kathleen russell Lesh w. robert marin county mediators ... thepubliccourt.com/cps-fraud-corruption/

Marin County Scandal and Elder Abuse Horror: Lawsuits Link ...

Marin County Scandal and Elder Abuse Horror: Lawsuits Link 'Death Nurse,' Bay Area lawyers, Doctor and 'Blind Eye' by Local, State, and National Public Officials prnewswire.com/news-releases/marin-county-scandal-and-el...

The Marin Post

Update on **Corruption** of Process on the Bently Holdings Application for Medical Office Use. ... Unfortunately, Strawberry is an unincorporated area of **Marin County**, ... https://marinpost.org/blog/2016/2/7/update-on-corruption-of-pro...

Judge Verna Adams of Marin County; enabler/apologist for ...

In 1995, then Gov. Gray Davis was duped into appointing Verna A. Adams to a judgeship on the **Marin County** Superior Court.

noethics.net/News/index.php?option=com_content&view=ar...

Marin County welfare fraud investigators arrested after realty agent gets threatening, racist phone calls

By Katrina Cameron, Bay Area News Group HERCULES >> A Marin County welfare fraud investigator is under investigation after someone called a realty age

Posted: |

Comments

Police arrested Raymond Anciaux, 51, of Hercules last week on suspicion of calling and threatening the agent, who is black, according to Hercules police.

Hercules police Sgt. Joseph Vasquez, saying Anciaux was released from jail after prosecutors asked for further investigation, said he expects the case will wrap up in a week or two. He called the allegations surprising in light of Anciaux's job.

A Marin County spokesman said "the county does not comment on the status of employees or personnel matters."

The 51-year-old realty agent, who was not identified, held an open house Aug. 2 and authorities believe Anciaux's cellphone was used to call her several times and leave voice mails. Police said the caller used several racial and gender slurs, stated he didn't want her in his neighborhood and threatened to kill her.

Anciaux was arrested on suspicion of committing a hate crime and making annoying phone calls.

IJ reporter Nels Johnson contributed to this story.

arin County Illegally Refuses Subsistence Money to Thousands of Poor Residents

by Peter Gallotta

Update: Recent <u>coverage</u> in the Marin Independent Journal critical of the County's administration of its <u>General Assistance Program</u>.

SAN RAFAEL, CA – In California's wealthiest county live up to 6,000 desperately poor residents, most of them neglected by the County's government. In a lawsuit filed on January 31 in Marin County Superior Court, three destitute Marin residents charge that the County uses illegal and unfair methods to refuse subsistence aid to its most destitute population.

The suit, filed by Greg Versis, Alfredo Garcia and Lee A. Lee and backed by two major public interest law firms, asks the court to lend order, consistency and openness to the County's methods for dispensing General Assistance (GA) funds. GA is a county program which provides a small monthly stipend (about \$387 a month) to indigent adults.

While California law requires counties to distribute GA funds fairly, the lawsuit charges that Marin County shirks this duty by running its GA program "according to *ad hoc*, unpublished, ever-changing, and often unwritten rules that result in the inhumane termination of last resort aid." Moreover, plaintiffs





MAGAZINE (http://www.govtech.com/magazines/gt/Government-Technology-March-

EVENTS (/events) PAPERS (/library) TOPICS (/topics) GOVTECH 100 (/100)



Arrest of HIX Chief Doesn't Slow 'Covered California' Development

Despite searching for a replacement for its IT chief, the California health insurance exchange is slated for an on-time launch.

BY JESSICA MULHOLLAND (HTTP://WWW.GOVTECH.COM/AUTHORS/JESSICA-MULHOLLAND.HTML) / APRIL 18, 2013















On March 15, the IT chief for California's health insurance exchange (HIX) -- called Covered California -- James Joseph Brown Jr., was arrested. And he left his post on March 25, the day he was arraigned on felony conflict of interest charges, according to local news outlet *The Sacramento Bee (http://www.sacbee.com/2013/03/29/5303231/former-california-state-employee.html)*. *The Bee* also reported that when the crimes occurred, between Nov. 2 and Dec. 8, 2009, Brown was bureau chief of information systems for the Justice Department, according to a complaint filed in Sacramento Superior Court.

And now, with California's health insurance/benefits exchange facing a year-end deadline, the exchange is scrambling to fill the position, according to the Sacramento Business Journal (http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/print-edition/2013/04/12/arrest-chief-challenge-health-exchange.html).

OBAMA'S HEAD OF CALIFORNIA OBAMACARE ARRESTED FOR CORRUPTION AND RACKETEERING OUT OF MARIN



allege that the County is breaking state law by cutting people out of GA assistance without first making the required findings of good cause.

The result: Just 450 of the county's indigents, many of whom are disabled, are given the few dollars they need to survive, and even those people face arbitrary cut-offs. The rest have fallen through the safety net. In the past 11 years, the complaint alleges, about 139 homeless people have died on the streets of Marin County and many more have been left hungry, ill, and unable to pay for shelter.

Kristen Washburn, an attorney with Bay Area Legal Aid, one of the organizations representing the plaintiffs, saw her client lose his GA benefits and then his housing. "He couldn't pay his rent and was evicted. He was living in a tent during the coldest and wettest time of the year," she said. "Then there was a cold snap and a lot of rain, and he told me his tent was leaking. I wondered how he was going to survive."

The suit alleges that Marin has shunned its indigent population for decades. "The Board of Supervisors has ignored this critical, last-resort benefit, and the very poorest members of this affluent county for more than 30 years," said Bob Capistrano, another lawyer with Bay Area Legal Aid. "Welfare workers are cutting people out of GA based upon nonsensical, unfair, and illegal rules they seem to be making up as they go along."

Plaintiff Alfredo Garcia, 49, a former construction worker who was sidelined by work injuries, was able to receive GA but he fears losing this lifeline because it is nearly impossible to understand and follow the County's many arbitrary requirements. For example, he and other recipients have to file monthly status reports and are threatened with possible termination even if they file the reports one day *early*. "I really worry about all of the other people who rely on GA and the many folks who lose it every month." Garcia said. "It isn't much money, but it is all we have to survive."

"We are asking the court to order Marin County to follow the law," said Judith Gold of the Public Interest Law Project, which is also representing the plaintiffs. "That means it can't cut people off from this critically needed aid for violating program rules unless the violations are truly their fault. It also cannot keep running this program under unwritten standards that the Board of Supervisors has not reviewed or approved. While we recognize that counties are under pressure to save money, this will save money in the long run by allowing more people to get out of costly shelter beds and into stable housing."

The Public Interest Law Project provides crucial litigation and advocacy support to local legal services and public interest law programs throughout California. (http://www.pilpca.org). Bay Area Legal Aid is the largest provider of free civil legal services in the Bay Area. Bay Legal and PILP have frequently worked together to ensure access to the GA safety net. They have successfully pursued a number of General Assistance cases against other counties, including Contra Costa and Alameda.

In Marin County, Poverty Exists Alongside Wealth | News Fix ...

An ice cream vendor in San Rafael's Canal area in **Marin County**. ... In **Marin County**, Poverty Exists Alongside Wealth 16 ... Asking for Cig Tax to **Fund** Cancer Research ... https://ww2.kged.org/news/2012/02/16/in-marin-county-

Elite Marin County Politicians Play Favorites and "Political Payback" With Public Funds

By Nels Johnson, Marin Independent Journal

More than 21,000 people live below the federal poverty level in Marin County, and 1,900 are children under 6 years old, a new study reports.

Marin's overall poverty rate checks in at 8.4 percent, a measure that involves a family of four earning less than \$23,550 a year, but the rate hits a lofty 12.8 percent for Marin children under 6.

"Poverty in the Bay Area," a new analysis by San Rafael economist Jon Haveman, focuses on the region as a whole, but provides striking insights about Marin County as well.

"It does surprise me that the poverty rate here is so high," Haveman said. "It peaked at 9.5 percent in 2011."

As for the high poverty rate involving young children, the lack of affordable child care is a problem, he said, adding 30 percent of all youngsters across the Bay Area live in households involving a single mother.

Haveman, who heads Marin Economic Consulting and has monitored the regional pulse since 2001, said that when measured by a more rigorous California poverty indicator that adjusts for the cost of living, Marin's poverty rate is somewhere between 17 percent and 19 percent — not much better than the state's 22 percent average. He added that as far as meeting a separate "self sufficiency" standard that also accounts for the cost of living, almost 30 percent of Marin residents are unable to make ends meet adequately, about the same as the rest of the Bay Area.

"Marin has a have and have-not economy," Haveman said. "The wealthiest county in the Bay Area has levels of economic hardship comparable to the region as a whole."

Heather Ravani, assistant director of the county Health and Human Services Department, said Haveman's observation comes as no surprise. "Marin may be the healthiest and one of the wealthiest counties in the state, but every day thousands of our children are hungry and falling behind, and our families struggle to meet their basic needs," Ravani said. "Until we as a community change our focus and move to support and improve these conditions, we will continue to see this gap widen and see our children unable to escape a life of poverty."

Amy Reisch, executive director of the First 5 Marin Childrens and Families Commission, said the new study backs data already on hand. "It's clear we have an unacceptable level of poverty," Reisch said. "We've known there's a big disparity in Marin, and for children in particular, we're not doing all we can."

Marin childcare activists are working on a 2016 quarter-cent sales tax measure that would raise \$10 million a year to benefit impoverished children. County supervisors have allocated \$50,000 for a plan outlining how funds raised by a sales tax for kids would be used, information needed to persuade voters the tax makes sense.

Children's advocates including MarinKids last year reported more than 800 families were on a waiting list for affordable child care, nearly 60 percent of elementary and middle school children are unsupervised after school, and hundreds of Marin children live below the federal poverty level. While 91 percent of white children attend preschool, only 32 percent of Latino kids attend. Only 30 percent of children from poor families score well in English, compared to 82 percent of others.

Haveman said he was unaware of the ballot plan.

As a region, Haveman's study indicated the Bay Area has an 11.3 percent poverty rate that hovers near historic highs, with more than 800,000 people living below the poverty line. Poverty plagues the region even though "the Bay Area has a fast-growing frontier economy that is the starting point for much of the technology created nationwide," the study noted.

How Corruption In Marin County, California works!

By IJ Researcher

One glowing example of the darkness that Marin officials use to regularly hide payola is exemplified in one recent example of agency boundoggling.

A senior Education Department official who abruptly resigned last month after a dispute with Secretary Betsy DeVos received hundreds of thousands of dollars in off-the-books bonus pure profit corruption payola over a seven-year period, according to a new report. Over 30 Marin officials are suspected of using this same payola tactic.

James Runcie, an Obama administration appointee who served as chief operating officer of the Federal Student Aid office, received secret, five-figure bonuses each year while his office gave out billions in improper payments, It was recently <u>reported</u>, citing sources inside the Education Department.

While Runcie ran the FSA, the government's \$1.4 trillion financial aid program, the office made improper payments for the federal Pell Grant program, which ballooned from \$562 million in 2015 to \$2.21 billion in 2016, and for the Federal Direct Loan program, which increased from \$1.28 billion in 2015 to \$3.86 billion in 2016.

"These are disbursements that either shouldn't have been made, went to the wrong recipient, were for an incorrect amount, or were not properly documented," it was reported, adding that "under Runcie's leadership there was pervasive fraud and corruption at the FSA."

A government source told investigators that Runcie's personnel file showed a total of \$432,885 in bonuses over a seven-year period, culminating in a \$76,000 bonus in 2016. The bonuses do not appear on Runcie's official government salaries.

Runcie resigned last month after DeVos asked him to testify before Congress on the rising rate of improper payments in student aid, *BuzzFeed* reported. The resignation came the day before DeVos was set to testify about the new proposed federal budget.

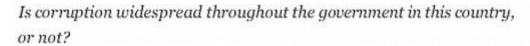
"I cannot in good conscience continue to be accountable as chief operating officer given the risk associated with the current environment at the [Education] Department," Runcie wrote in his resignation memo.

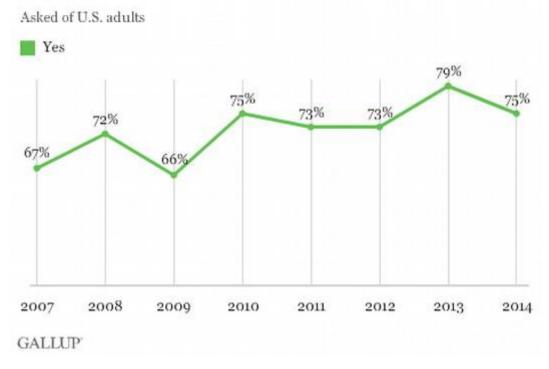
This form of corruption via government financed payola is called a "Layered Skim" in FBI circles.

A large number of Marin County officials are now under FBI, and other group investigation, because the money in question moved between states.

"Bonuses" in Marin County government reports are now receiving laser-like inspection for years 2007 to 2017.

Three in four Americans (75%) last year perceived corruption as widespread in the country's government. This figure is up from two in three in 2007 (67%) and 2009 (66%).





While the numbers have fluctuated slightly since 2007, the trend has been largely stable since 2010. However, the percentage of U.S. adults who see corruption as pervasive has never been less than a majority in the past decade, which has had no shortage of controversies from the <u>U.S. Justice</u> <u>Department's firings of U.S. attorneys</u> to the <u>IRS scandal</u>.

In Northern California's El Dorado County, neighbors are fighting back. According to their website at: https://neighborsagainstcorruption.com, they mean business.

They say: "We are ordinary people like you who are disgusted with the corruption in our local County government. For years corruption in several forms has been hurting innocent people in El Dorado County California. For example, several elected officials have rigged the County payroll and retirement system to pump-up their retirements and take home hundreds of thousands of extra dollars in non-performance bonuses in addition to their excessive six-figure salaries. While protecting his pals, the District Attorney has wasted millions of your hard earned tax dollars on failed prosecutions of innocent residents for self- aggrandizing publicity and/or punishing political enemies. Recently, the 2014-15 El Dorado County Civil Grand Jury recommended that the District Attorney convene a Criminal Grand Jury to investigate and prosecute the County Auditor-Controller for felonies and official duty misdemeanors he has committed which, by law, would automatically remove him from office. Predictable, the District Attorney has refused to prosecute the County Auditor-Controller because the two are political allies.

Disgusted with this corrupt behavior, scores of County residents including many innocent victims have joined together to form the non-partisan political action committee Neighbors Against Corruption

to educate our neighbors and recall from office the worst violators of our public trust- District Attorney Vern Pierson and Auditor-Controller Joe Harn. They report:

"We live in a representative republic. We use elections to hire a small number of our neighbors every four years to supervise and manage various functions of our Federal, State, and local governments. Unfortunately, some of these neighbors we elect behave or perform so badly that they should be fired, just like any other disastrous employee. Fortunately, Division 11, Chapter 1 of the California Elections Code provides us with a recall process which allows us the opportunity to fire these disastrous elected officials. Under our State's recall process, a petition requesting an election to recall an official elected to county-wide office, like the District Attorney or Auditor-Controller, signed by 10% of the County's registered voters triggers a recall election (10, 626 in El Dorado County). If the majority of voters then vote to recall that official we once elected, he or she is immediately removed from office – successfully fired."

Marin County, in California, would be wise to take a clue from their neighbors!

Stay Tuned; Over 45,000 Pages Of Additional Evidence Available Proving Corruption, Molestation, Retribution, Reprisals and Political Vendettas Against Citizens....



NMFOG - CVP

- Marin County
- Government Affairs

Marin County's Retaliatory Cross Complaint to Limit Access to Public Records

Posted by: Bob Silvestri -

Hot on the heels of being <u>caught trying to charge the public for access to public records</u> [1], in violation of the California Public Records Act, the County once again finds itself in hot water of its own brewing. As those who've dealt with Marin County Counsel's Office in the past few years can attest, our county's attorneys have become increasingly hostile in their dealings with the general public. However, one of their recent actions under the leadership of new County Counsel, Brian Washington, is unprecedented even for them.

"SLAPP" is a legal term used to define a retaliatory "strategic lawsuit against public participation," filed by a public agency against a member of the public to prevent them from participating in government affairs. Such lawsuits are considered a violation of an individual's "right of petition or free speech in connection with a public issue."

Unsurprisingly, SLAPP lawsuits are illegal in California.

On September 5th, Los Angeles attorney and Vice President for Open Government at <u>Californians Aware</u>, Kelly Aviles, filed an "Anti-SLAPP" lawsuit against the County of Marin. In her <u>Special Motion</u>, she charges that the County violated those rights of petition and free speech. But, this was not just a case where the County Counsel took retaliatory action against a resident. It turns out that Ms. Aviles's client is Edward Yates, a dedicated, community advocacy attorney here in Marin, who was in the act of representing a local community group seeking public records.

On March 15, 2017, Mr. Yates had filed a <u>Petition for Writ of Mandate</u>, <u>Injunctive and Declaratory Relief for Violations of the California Public Records Act</u> on behalf of his client, Friends of West Tam Valley (the "Friends"), for the County's failure to provide public documents, in violation of the California Public Records Act.

But, not only had the County failed to respond to repeated requests for documents, in response to being sued by the Friends in Marin Superior Court, for that failure, instead of working to settle the case or provide the documents in question, or even provide a legitimate reason for that failure to produce documents, the County turned around and filed a frivolous and unsubstantiated cross-compliant <u>against</u> <u>the attorney representing the Friends!</u>

As I said, this is unprecedented, even for them.

As noted by Ms. Aviles in her Anti-SLAPP petition, "The County's egregious and meritless cross-complaint amounts to a classic, retaliatory SLAPP lawsuit." Ms. Aviles goes on to call the County's actions a "frivolous Cross-Complaint in bad-faith intent to harass both Yates and Plaintiff."

In her <u>Special Motion to Strike Cross-Complaint Filed By County Of Marin Against Edward Yates Under CCP 425.16 (Anti-SLAPP)</u>, Ms. Aviles explains that the County doesn't really care about the legal merits of their SLAPP suit against Yates. Their true goal is to exhaust the financial resources of both the attorney and his clients, The Friends, so both will just go away and drop their Public Records Act lawsuit against the County.

This is a classic maneuver aimed to defeat community engagement. Aviles points out that as noted in *Chavez v. Mendoza* (2001)

SLAPP suits are brought to obtain an economic advantage over the defendant, not to vindicate a legally cognizable right of the plaintiff....[] Indeed, one of the common characteristics of a SLAPP suit is its lack of merit. [] But lack of merit is not of concern to the plaintiff because the plaintiff does not expect to succeed in the lawsuit, only to tie up the defendant's resources for a sufficient length of time to accomplish plaintiff's underlying objective. [] As long as the defendant is forced to devote its time, energy and financial resources to combating the lawsuit its ability to combat the plaintiff in the political arena is substantially diminished. [] The SLAPP strategy also works even if the matter is already in litigation because the defendant/cross-complainant hopes to drive up the cost of litigation to the point where the plaintiff/cross-defendant will abandon its case or have less resources available to prosecute its action against the defendant/cross-complainant and to deter future litigation. [Emphasis Added]

But as if all this wasn't enough, the County Counsel's attack on Yates, dug even deeper into their bag of dirty tricks and has gone even further afield.

The Backstory

In early 2016, Community Venture Partners was contacted by a group of homeowners in an unincorporated area in Tam Valley, known as Garden Valley Park. They were requesting assistance with a planning matter in their area. They called themselves the Friends of West Tam Valley.

It seems that a group of developers had been quietly buying up "paper lots" on an old subdivision, shown on County Maps dating back to 1919. Even to an untrained eye, it appeared that the developer's intentions were to purchase all the lots in the old subdivision, then apply for permits to construct single family homes, one at a time, in order to avoid compliance with new subdivision regulations governing lot sizes, emergency access, slopes and most significantly any review under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA").

In April of 2016, the Tam Design Review Board rejected the developer's single family home application, stating that

TDRB is concerned that this Design Review request is a Trojan Horse for a future sub-division along the present paper streets.

This mirrored the concerns that the community had been having for years. Their story is detailed in their May 2016 letter to Ms. Alicia Giudice, Project Planner at the Marin County Community Development Agency/Planning Division, which can be read in its entirely by clicking here.

For its part, CVP helped the community wade through a labyrinth of documents and governing regulations, and has generally advised them. We felt that the community's concerns were not only legitimate but that the County was continuing to process this development application in a haphazard

and totally uncoordinated manner: one agency seemed to have no idea what another was doing, e.g., County Planning and County Public Works didn't seem to even know that the other was also working on the application, simultaneously.

In concert with that, CVP introduced the Friends to expert land use and CEQA attorney, Edward Yates. Mr. Yates met with the Friends and advised them on how to go about getting all the information needed to evaluate all the legal issues involved, which included the California Map Act, County subdivision and paper street's ordinances, County Recorder's sales transaction records, CEQA, and much more.

Subsequently, the Friends <u>made several requests for public documents</u>. After months of attempts by the Friends to unsuccessfully obtain access to all the documents they had requested, Yates submitted a Public Records Act requests "on behalf of Friends," to the County of Marin, on September 10, 2016.

Six months later, after exhaustive efforts to obtain all the documents, had failed, in March of 2017, Yates filed a *Verified Petition for Writ of Mandate*, *Injunctive Relief and Declaratory Relief for Violations of the California Public Records Act*, on behalf of Friends of West Tam Valley.

This challenge was expected to be heard by the Marin Superior Court in due course, until the Office of the County Counsel threw everyone a curve and filed a *Cross-Complaint of County of Marin and Demand for Jury Trial* on June 30, 2017.

The County's attempt to intimidate

In its cross-complaint, the County alleged that Edward Yates, the attorney for Friends of West Tam Valley, had made false statements and that "the records he requested for copying were for a specified purpose that was untrue and false." The gist of their argument boils down to alleging that Yates was acting on his own and not representing the Friends, simply because during this entire 6 month ordeal, he communicated with different County officials and in writing letters may have used the words "I am requesting" without specifically stating, in each instance, that he was doing so as the representative of the Friends (even though the entire PRA process clearly began with his PRA "on behalf of Friends of West Tam Valley").

This action by County Counsel seems beyond desperate. In my 45+ years in business, attorneys representing me have engaged in endless communications with agencies, their employees and defendant's counsel in every imaginable way. This type of accusation is so ridiculous that on its face that it would be laughable.

However, the County Counsel was not content to stop there.

In their cross-complaint, the County goes on to accuse Mr. Yates of violating the California State Bar's Rule of Professional Conduct 2-100, which states: "While representing a client, a member shall not communicate directly or indirectly about the subject of the representation with a party the member knows to be represented by another lawyer in the matter, unless the member has the consent of the

other lawyer." The County goes on to attempt to also construe all of this to be a violation of the California False Claims Act.

Wow. Talk about reaching for ways to divert attention from the issue at hand: that the County not only failed to provide public records, but failed to even adequately respond to a series of offers to meet and try to resolve differences prior to the filing of the Friends' lawsuit.

The Anti-SLAPP lawsuit

The <u>Anti-SLAPP motion</u> filed by Aviles makes quick work of the County's far-reaching claims. As she notes,

Rule 2-100 contains a specific exception which confirms Yates' conduct was not only proper, but was itself petitioning activity. Rule 2-100(c) permits an attorney to contact a represented public official about the subject of the representation. The purpose of the rule, as noted by the California State Bar in State Bar Formal Op. No. 1984-82 [interpreting a nearly identically worded exception to the predecessor rule to Rule 2-100] is to "preserve inviolate the right of all citizens to petition their government as protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

And further that

[u]nder the plain language of section 425.16, subdivision (e)(1) and (2), as well as the case law interpreting those provisions, all communicative acts performed by attorneys as part of their representation of a client in a judicial proceeding or other petitioning context are per se protected as petitioning activity by the anti-SLAPP statute.[2]

Aviles similarly dissects the County's allegations regarding the False Claims Act and other so-called violations.

However, what is truly odd in all this is this: why would the County Counsel introduce allegations of violations of the California State Bar's Rules of Professional Responsibility, into a proceeding in Marin Superior Court, when they know well that the court has no jurisdiction in such matters and cannot in any way allow those allegations to affect their decision?

So, what possible purpose does any of this serve?

What really demonstrates how disingenuous the County is in its claims against Yates is this. If the County was so sure about Mr. Yates's conduct being in violation of State Bar Rules, why didn't they bother to actually file a complaint at the State Bar alleging such (something which they somehow never bothered to do), instead of inappropriately bringing it into proceedings in Superior Court, which has no jurisdiction in the matter? Unless, of course, the only reason they made this thinly veiled threat in the first place, was to do exactly what Ms. Aviles charges in her Motion: it was an attempt to intimidate the community and their legal counsel into dropping the case.

The final irony in all this is that by making unsubstantiated threats that Yates violated the California Bar's Rules of Professional Conduct, in their cross-complaint, the County Counsel has in fact blatantly violated *Rule 5-100*, *Threatening Criminal*, *Administrative*, *or Disciplinary Charges*, which states

(A) A member shall not threaten to present criminal, administrative, or disciplinary charges to obtain an advantage in a civil dispute.

The twist is that if the County had actually filed a complaint with the Bar, they might be able to claim some kind of ethical standards. But, to allege a Rules violation by Yates as part of the basis of their complaint in a court that has no jurisdiction in the matter, and to not even file a complaint with the Bar (because they really don't have a legitimate complaint) means *the only reason the County introduced this in their argument is to intimidate Yates and the Friends*. And, that is not just reprehensible but a clear cut violation of Rule 5-100.

The "Take no prisoners" culture at the County

The County's allegations in its *Cross-Complaint of County of Marin and Demand for Jury Trial* appear to be a shameless attempt to silence the public's voice and shut out legitimate questioning of what our government is doing. Unfortunately, this is nothing new.

CVP confronted the same hyper-aggressive behavior by the County Counsel's office in reaction to our <u>successful challenge against the Board of Supervisors for their violation of the Brown Act</u>. It remains my opinion that the Supervisor's refusal to ever fully admit guilt in the Brown Act case has emboldened this type of "take no prisoners" attitude by the Office of the County Counsel. It often seems as if the County Counsel's office has never seen a lawsuit they didn't want to take on, no matter how hopeless the outcome.

This is no longer unusual in Marin.

The more involvement CVP has had with the city and county attorneys around Marin, the more it seems that these attorneys no longer question whether the government's actions are ethical or fair, but only whether or not they can legally get away with it.

Everyone who practices law in Marin County should be alarmed and outraged by these actions by the Office of the County Counsel. This culture of disrespect for the law and rights of Marin residents needs to change.

However, what is equally disturbing is that this is all happening directly under the watch of our Marin Board of Supervisors, which has the power and the responsibility to stop abuses of government power and the mounting costs associated with it.

I'm calling on the Board of Supervisors to do the right thing and launch an independent investigation into the conduct of the County Counsel's office, to examine why their behavior has become increasingly litigious. Let me remind the Board that it is not the County Council's charge to act solely as if they are private defense attorneys, using any tactics available so long as their client wins.

As published on the County web site:

The mission of the County Counsel's Office is to provide high quality and timely legal services supporting the County of Marin's mandated and discretionary governmental functions. Advisory and litigation services are furnished to County departments, boards and agencies in a manner that is cost-effective, professional and promotes excellence in delivery of government services contributing to the health, safety and welfare of county residents and visitors. [Emphasis Added]

It is time they were held to that standard.

[1] The County has claimed that the legislation to charge citizens \$114.63 per hour for access to public records was a "mistake," but the bill was only stopped at its second reading, long after its wording had been reviewed by the Office of the County Counsel.

[2] Contreras, supra, 5 Cal.App.5th at 408–409 (quoting Cabral v. Martins (2009) 177 Cal.App.4th 471, 479–480); see also Rusheen v. Cohen (2006) 37 Cal.4th 1048, 1056 [attorney who files or prosecutes a civil action on behalf of a client qualifies for protection under the anti-SLAPP statute]; Dowling v. Zimmerman (2001) 85 Cal.App.4th 1400, 1418–1420 [attorney's act of representing client in connection with protected petitioning or speech activities is protected by anti-SLAPP statute.]

Anti-SLAPP Motion by Kelly Aviles