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March 2015

AMERICANS FOR LEGAL REFORM

BE SURE TO VOTE

BUT NOT FOR LAWYERS

A 501c3 NOT FOR PROFIT VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION – Est. 1992

**MEETING DATES 2015: 7:00 PM, Plainview-Old Bethpage Library, 999 Old Country Rd.,
Plainview, NY 11803, (516) 938-0077**

Tues., April 7th – SPEAKER: **Steve Levy**, “*Cost Effective Government*”

Tues., May 5th – SPEAKER: **Jason Starr, Esq.**, (NYCLU Nassau President), “*Fourth Amendment Rights*”

SUMMER BREAK ... START AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

We want to thank all of our past speakers!

Note: We are available for private lectures.

SAVE THIS NEWSLETTER FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. IF YOU CAN'T MAKE OUR MEETING, START ANOTHER ORGANIZATION. WE WILL HELP YOU.

Does anyone have any information on: (We will keep your name confidential.)

Judge Thomas Whelan (S)

Ronald Rosenberg, Esq.

Mark Cuthbertson, Esq.

Judge Emily Pines (S)

Steven Schlesinger, Esq.

Jason Barbara, Esq.

Judge Elizabeth Emerson (N)

David Denenberg, Esq.

Leonard Marlow, Esq.

Ex-Judge Marion McNulty (S)

Harrison Edwards, Sr., Esq.

Frank Blangiardo, Esq.

Judge Timothy S. Driscoll (N)

Steven Schlesinger, Esq.

Chas. Cancellare, Esq.

Judge F. Dana Winslow, (N)

James Leonard, Esq.

David Grossman, Esq.

Judge Dorothy Eisenberg, Esq.

John Carman, Esq.

Louis England, Esq.

Judge James Quinn, (S)

Sari Friedman, Esq.

Terrance Hoffman, Esq.

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What's Good For The GooseA longtime Hillsborough County Florida judge was arrested, accused of “hitting his wife and grabbing her by the hair”, authorities said. Judge Eric Renard Myers, 58, was taken into custody by sheriff's deputies at about 2 a.m. at the county courthouse in downtown Tampa. Myers was released from jail after posting a mere \$500 bail. (*Fox 13, Tampa, FL*)

[http://www.myfoxtampabay.com/story/27877707/hillsborough-county-judge-arrested-for-domestic-violence.](http://www.myfoxtampabay.com/story/27877707/hillsborough-county-judge-arrested-for-domestic-violence)

Money Can't Buy An Easier Divorce: Ex-Lehman Brothers exec, David Milberg, was accused of child abuse. The finance big, (who now heads his family's investment house), was arraigned on assault, endangering the welfare of a child and harassment raps. Manhattan prosecutors asked for \$2,000 bail, but the judge released him on his own recognizance. Both still reside at their \$6.5 million Upper West Side pad, which they had been sharing “War Of The Roses style” with their three kids. (*N.Y. Post, 1/19/15*). <http://nypost.com/2015/01/19/ex-lehmanbrothers-exec-accused-of-child-abuse-by-estranged-wife/>

Staten Island Needs Its Long-Delayed Courthouse Completed! Mayor de Blasio inherited this problem from former Mayor Bloomberg to be fair, but it was set to open 11 years ago, already! Enough delays! The St. George neighborhood needs the economic shot in the arm. Justice is delayed for those in Staten Island.

Florida Lawyer Finds Way To Deal With DWI Stops: A Florida lawyer has come up with a novel way for drivers to handle police drunk driving checkpoints and posted a video about it that has gotten over 2 million views. Boca Raton attorney Warren Redlich says: “Drivers don't have to interact with officers or even roll down their windows.” “All drivers must do is place their license and registration papers on the glass, along with a note saying they have no comment, will not permit a search and want a lawyer. It's not about letting drunk drivers escape but permitting people to assert their rights and protect themselves.” (*N.Y. Post, 2/10/15*). <http://nypost.com/2015/02/10/lawyer-finds-way-to-deal-with-drunk-driving-checkpoints/>

Recycled Stop-and-Frisk Lawyer Makes Out Like Bandit From Taxpayers: The biggest winner in the Stop-and-Frisk lawsuit against the city is the court-appointed Federal Monitor in charge of NYPD oversight. Lawyer Peter Zimroth's fees, (which come to \$43,750/mo., \$525,000/ann.), will be picked up by the taxpayers. Zimroth works under an agreement with the de Blasio administration. (Zimroth was Corporation Counsel under Mayor Ed Koch.. (*N.Y. Post, 2/6/15*.)

Bad Social Security Data: Americans may be getting older, but not THAT old! Social Security Records show that 6.5 million people in the U.S. are 112 years old. As of Fall 2014, only 42 people in the country illegally often use Fake or stolen Soc. Sec. Numbers. The IRS estimated it paid out over 5 *billion* in fraudulent tax refunds in 2013 due to identity theft. Time to update those Sec. Sec. Number records! (*Newsday, “An Age-Old Risk, 3/15/15*).

Dmocrat Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver Arrested: Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver lined his pockets with nearly \$4 million in bribes and kickbacks in a stunning abuse of power dating back to at least 2000, Federal authorities charged in January 2015. The Manhattan Democrat, acknowledged as the second most powerful Democrat in the state, was hit with five felony charges involving fraud, extortion and conspiracy that each carry up to 20 years behind bars. (*N.Y. Post, 1/22/15*).

Sheldon Silver Uses Political Position To Line His Pockets: Sheldon Silver has perverted the courts as well as the Capitol. His law firm, Weitz & Luxenberg, gets its asbestos cases (and paydays) moved more quickly than those of other attorneys and reaps a fortune from favorable rulings by friendly judges, charge lawyers and tort-reform advocates. Silver's East Village firm handles more than half the cases in a special section of Manhattan Supreme Court called "NYCAL," (New York City Asbestos Litigation). So dominant is the firm, the court's website refers to cases as "Weitz" or "non-Weitz." (*N.Y. Post, 1/25/15*.)

RECOMMENDED READING: Several A.L.R. members attended the "Dowling College Breakfast for Good Government" in February. The breakfast was attended by local lawmakers with big ideas for fiscal responsibility and change. Steve Levy did a bang-up job! *Recommended read: Steve Levy's book: "Bias in the Media."*

Public Mistrust Earned: Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman of the New York Court of Appeals, said in his annual address in Albany that the public's trust in the justice system had been shaken by the secretive proceedings that did not lead to indictments in the cases of the NYPD officer who killed Eric Garner and an officer in Ferguson, Missouri, who shot and killed an unarmed black teen last year. (*Reuters, 2/17/15*).

Jerry Sandusky Lawyer Above The Law: Attorney Karl Rominger misappropriated more than \$535,000 of his client's money for personal use and for gambling at casinos, investigators claim in criminal charges filed. The 25 Theft and Fund misappropriation charges already lodged in the case come more than a year after Rominger, whose clients have included Jerry Sandusky, came under investigation by the Cumberland County District Attorney's Office. The State Supreme Court accepted Rominger's voluntary surrender of his law license last spring. He is scheduled for a preliminary hearing on the criminal case in April, before Carlisle District Judge Jessica Brewbaker.
[.http://www.pennkuve.cin/midstate/index.ssf/2015/02/Sandusky-lawyer-karl-rominger.html](http://www.pennkuve.cin/midstate/index.ssf/2015/02/Sandusky-lawyer-karl-rominger.html)

Divorce in Suffolk County Ruins Lives: How many lives were ruined by Judge Carol Mackenzie? Dr. Amato committed suicide because of the course his divorce took. Mackenzie had Dr. Amato jailed for non-payment of support. His practice was ruined. He had no children with the ex-spouse. He was beaten while in jail. His family abandoned him. How does Mackenzie sleep at night? Dr. Amato ended his suffering of this life on Tuesday, April 30, 2013, the night before his scheduled trial. R.I.P. Dr. Amato, E-courts lists the Supreme Court trial scheduled for 5/1/13 as "ABATED BY DEATH". May the courts be revamped and made more civilized for families and litigants, whose lives get ruined on a daily basis. (*Amato v. Amato, (Index No. 022770/2010)*).

SEE ALSO: <http://patch.com/york/merrick/dr-richard-a-amato-rip>.

Conflict of Interest? When a Senate Majority Leader works for a law firm with a lobbying arm that makes millions of dollars in state grants and contracts, is there a conflict of interest? Newsday thinks so. It researched Dean Skelos, 67, and found that he makes \$250,000/yr. for his "part-time" job at law firm Ruskin Moscou and \$120,000 in New York State salary. Additionally, NBC New York reported in January that a Federal prosecutor was looking at Skelos' income, with special focus on his real estate clients. State ethic laws prohibit any public official from any activity which they have a direct or indirect financial interest. Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver has been charged in a corruption scheme, which involves a powerful real estate developer. Skelos denies any wrongdoing. (*Newsday 3/15/15: "Skelos Law Firm's Links to Lobbyists"*).

Parting Shot Before Kathleen Rice Moved Up To Congress; Manhasset man sues in "Flush The Johns" false arrest by Rice's office. A false arrest for patronizing a prostitute wrecked the life of a Manhasset man, whose wife divorced him after the false arrest. The purpose of Rice's publicizing the Johns after their arrests, but BEFORE their convictions, was to "shame them, ruin their public reputation and humiliate them." This, in a country whose motto is "Innocent Until Proved Guilty"??? Rice responded: "Public awareness is what our joint sting was about." Only one of the men who contested the charges and went to trial was convicted. Six men who went to trial were acquitted by a judge at non-jury trials. *Newsday, 3/15/15, "Suit Over John's Arrest."*

Statistics From The World Health Organization (WHO) – The Latest Murder Statistics For The World:

Murders Per 100,000 Citizens Per Year: Honduras: 91.6 (WOW!!). El Salvador: 69.2. Jamaica: 52.2. Venezuela: 52.2. Belize: 41.4. U.S. Virgin Islands: 39.2. Guatemala: 38.5. Saint Kitts and Nevis: 38.2. Zambia: 38.0. Uganda: 36.3. North Korea: 15.2. Benin: 15.1. Sierra Leone: 14.9. Botswana: 14.5. Zimbabwe: 14.3. Gabon: 13.8. Cuba: 5.0. Belarus: 4.9. Thailand: 4.8. Suriname: 4.6. Laos: 4.6. Georgia: 4.3. Martinique: 4.2. U.S.A.: 4.2. *One-Hundred and nine of the countries above America have 100% gun bans.* It might be of interest to note that *Switzerland* is not shown on this list because it has **NO MURDER OCCURRENCE1** However.

Switzerland's law requires that EVERYONE: 1. Own a gun.; 2. Maintain marksman qualifications regularly.

"Liberty has never come from the government. Liberty has always come from the subjects of it. The history of liberty is a history of resistance." - Woodrow Wilson.

"There is a higher court than courts of justice; and that is the court of conscience. It supercedes all other courts." - Mahatma Gandhi.

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