



BY U.S. Certified Mail

October 6, 2007

Governor Bill Richardson
490 Old Santa Fe Trail
Room 400
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Continued Specific Evidence of Racketeering in the NM Courts

Dear Governor Richardson,

This letter is a follow up to our letter of August 8, 2007, a copy of which is attached. To date, we have not received any response. New Mexico Attorney General Gary King did meet with us, but we have heard nothing since meeting with him. As the Governor of New Mexico, you should care about what goes on in your own back yard and not sacrifice New Mexican children and parents on your altar of national dreams.

Once again, we call for immediate state and federal investigations. Families are being greatly harmed by the illegal and criminal activities of the court industry. Attorneys and judges are not above the law here in the United States, but in New Mexico those white collar criminals have been given free reign to act against ordinary citizens without consequence or accountability. Such transgressions are routine and commonplace. We citizens seem to be the only ones concerned about the unfettered breadth, depth and longevity of the racketeering enterprise extant in the New Mexico legal system.

Attached is a list of all cases (according to the Santa Fe District Courthouse's Court Administrator's office) in three NM counties in which attorney Sylvia Lamar of Santa Fe participated. We began to receive complaints about her from our northern New Mexico members a couple of years ago. The actions taken by attorney Sylvia Lamar seem to have the full backing of "law enforcement" in her practice, which possibly explains why there has been no official inquiry. It is time for the State to take over the investigative responsibility. Our volunteers are tired of accomplishing what New Mexicans' tax money pays you to handle.

The attached list shows that from 1990 to 1992 (cases D-101-DM900054 to D-101-DM9200995 on the list), **fifty-four cases in a row** (with the exception of two) from Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, and Los Alamos counties **were assigned to Judge Petra Maes**. The probability of this occurring in a fair system - one in which cases are properly assigned - is effectively zero. Clearly persons are tampering with the system, and our records show that the assignment of cases is just the beginning of the impact of corruption on New Mexico families. Of most concern is that Petra Maes continues to preside over cases at the highest level in our state as a New Mexico Supreme Court Justice, and continues to summarily dismiss review of grave misdeeds from the lower courts in all counties against families in New Mexico. We have ample evidence of the great harm this woman has caused over the last three decades in this state.



As was true of the Richard Lees cases, a second New Mexico Supreme Court justice, Patricio Serna, is involved. From 1992 to 1995, 32 of 45 Sylvia Lamar domestic relations cases (D-101-DM-9201299 to D-101-DM-9500302) from Santa Fe and Rio Arriba counties were assigned to Patricio Serna. This number represents over two-thirds of her domestic relations cases during that time period.

From 2001 to the beginning of 2006, 48 out of 66 Sylvia Lamar domestic relations cases (excluding one that was not in the database – presumably sealed) were assigned to Judge Daniel Sanchez (cases D-101-DM200100814 to D-101-200600264 of the attached list). Again, that is over two-thirds of all cases involving Sylvia Lamar during that time period. Moreover, a look at the Sylvia Lamar domestic violence cases from 2001 to 2005 (D-101-DV-200100490 to D-101-DV-200500747 on the list) shows that 25 of 34 cases were assigned to Daniel Sanchez. (As in our last study, by “assigned to”, we mean either initially assigned the case or secondarily assigned the case after a brief assignment to another judge who either voluntarily recused or was excused from the case.) The 25 cases are over two-thirds of the total number of cases.

Finally, an examination of the Sylvia Lamar cases shows that Judge Raymond Ortiz has been “her man” when it comes to domestic relations and domestic violence proceedings since the beginning of 2006. Eleven out of twelve Sylvia Lamar domestic relations cases since 2006 (D-101-DM-200600073 through D-101-DM-200700597) were assigned to Raymond Ortiz, and all nine Sylvia Lamar domestic violence cases since 2006 (D-101-DV-200600009 through D-101-DV-200700430) have been assigned to Raymond Ortiz. This rate is nearly 100 percent of Sylvia Lamar cases assigned over the last two years.

Information for the cases in this study was derived from www.nmcourts.com.

As has been true of Richard Lees, Sylvia Lamar has been inordinately blessed with favorable decisions from the bench, even to ridiculous requests. She has not been required to provide evidence to back up the many misrepresentations made in pleadings, and in many situations, the opposing side has been prevented from showing any evidence in its defense. Sylvia Lamar has made hundreds of thousands, if not millions of dollars in fees based on her behavior, much of which has never been subject to scrutiny in an evidentiary hearing. It is important to note that Sylvia Lamar and Richard Lees are close business associates. Such proceedings further evidence white collar crime and corruption that are devastating New Mexico families.

Based on this evidence we publicly call for an immediate suspension of Petra Maes, Patricio Serna, Daniel Sanchez, and Raymond Ortiz from the bench pending a full investigation with respect to racketeering and conspiring to defraud New Mexico parents of their assets by threatening or destroying their relationships with their children over the last thirty years. Richard Lees, Sylvia Lamar, and all clerks responsible for assigning the cases should be included in the investigation. Our review of records leads us to believe that at least two Domestic Relations Hearing Officers, Margaret Kegel and Linda Martinez-Palmer, are centrally involved as well. As you well know, these persons are funded by federal Title IV-D money.



Sincerely,

Leslie Cumiford, President

not available

Ralph Gutierrez, Vice President

Lee Kittell, Secretary

Janice Blevins, Acting Treasurer

Bill O'Connell, Research Director at Large

cc: New Mexico Attorney General Gary King BY U.S. Certified Mail
New Mexico U.S. Attorney Larry Gomez BY U.S. Certified Mail

Attachments:

1. Listing of Sylvia Lamar cases in Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, and Los Alamos counties from 1982 to 2007
2. Letter of August 8, 2007 regarding Richard Lees cases