

Please be advised that the Director of the FCVFC, Jill Jones-Soderman became aware of a notice of an Order to Show Cause, issued by Judge Douglas E. Hoffman, citing numerous erroneous statements, proffered, it seems as fact and conflating several issues. Notice was provided as per direction of Judge Hoffman by litigant Brook Altman, in proceedings before Judge Hoffman by Brook on 1/12/2017. Judge Hoffman has the address of the FCVFC offices in Manhattan.

1 - Brook Altman, petitioner before the court is a litigant in a case (noted above) before Judge Hoffman.

2 – The Foundation for the Child Victims of the Family Courts is a Foundation whose mission is stated in the Introduction to the complaints filed.

3 – Two Complaints were filed with the Grievance Council against Judge Douglas E. Hoffman with regard to issues as stated in the Altman/ Scollar custody litigation.

4- On Jan. 12th, 2017 a hearing before Judge Hoffman took place dealing with the Altman/Scollar matter.

5 – On Jan. 12th, 2017 Jill Jones-Soderman was present at the open court presided over by Judge Hoffman who requested names and titles of those present in the court pews.

6 – On Jan. 12, 2017 at the hearing before Judge Hoffman some members of the audience did not share names nor did they articulate their identities. I saw no reason not to disclose my presence, though the attorneys for Ms. Scollar were clearly, actively taking note of names and titles.

7 – Judge Hoffman incorrectly states “members of the organization of the FCVFC were present. The only “member “ of the FCVFC present at the hearing was myself. The FCVFC does not have “members”.

Judge Hoffman proceeds to lump Brook Altman and myself in a thoroughly, legally unprecedented, illegal action stating that “we” Brook Altman – Petitioner in a Custody litigation and myself, Director of the FCVFC and spectator in an open court setting should “show cause at a Term, Part 9, of the Family Court, 60 Lafayette Street, New York, New York on Jan. 20th, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. Sharp.....”

Brook Altman, Petitioner in a legal action before the court of D.E. Hoffman is not responsible for issuing service in a complaint issued by a judge, particularly an unwarranted and illegal action participated in by a judge, for reasons to be elucidated in the following complaint.

Brook Altman had no part in any communication with regard to complaints One and Two issued to the Grievance Council. Ms. Altman's name did not appear in any manner as an author of the complaint filed on behalf of her and her child by the FCVFC as interested parties in Constitutionally Protected Rights of Citizens and Free Speech Activists.

Jill Jones-Soderman is a Non Party to the legal case between Brook Altman and Allison Scollar. However, Jill Jones-Soderman is among her many role, personally and professionally, a citizen activist, interested in the rights and protection of children as they are adjudicated before the courts. In an open court system, Jill Jones-Soderman has the right to observe and subsequently comment on the demeanor and performance of the Judge or any other court actor. As part of such privileges as a citizen, as a participant in a Democracy, as the Director of the FCVFC presence at court hearings is a routine part of my personal and professional life. Commentary – positive or negative is also a part of that routine.

Complaint number two was filed against Judge Hoffman following this hearing, with the Judicial Grievance Council based on rude, disrespectful, dismissive statements against a child subject to his rulings. This complaint was well grounded in fact and content based on Judicial Ethics and Canons of Judicial Behavior. Judicial oversight in the form of critique is absolutely necessary to provide even some minimal guard against the immense over reaching power accorded by Discretion and Immunity privileges, as demonstrated by the irresponsible, grandiose behavior currently exhibited by Judge Hoffman.

Judge Hoffman in his instant complaint/Order to Show Cause appears to have conflated a court appearance by Brook Altman, a complaint against himself by the FCVFC, via JJS as Director/spokesperson for the FCVFC related to a land mark case which epitomizes many issues of public concern and a note to him related to a snarky/humorous comment he made about a child whom is the subject of this judicial proceeding and the entire litigation.

Judge Hoffman also seems to have forgotten that he is paid by tax payer dollars, subject to Public scrutiny,(as derailed as that process has become) and not precluded from receiving commentary from the Public about his function and demeanor. Judge Hoffman may have chosen to personalize the receipt of a book and pictures of the children who are the topic of that book, residents of Illinois, subjects of unimaginable judicial impropriety. Judge Hoffman's personalization of receipt of rather objectively compelling material, betrays a bias, a thin skinned irritability, perhaps guilty conscience, related to his own appalling comments. Other judges, court actors, public servants whom have received the material meant to educate and raise consciousness - all sentiments indicated in the note did not react with such personal mendacity. Neither Governor Cuomo, not Mayor DiBlasio responded with any such venom.

Further, it is necessary to address the impropriety of a Judge demanding that a litigant serve a non party, independent spectator of a court action whose identity he had access to as a result of the good will of that citizen based on expectation of non interference with liberty rights as a citizen. The over reach of this judge, the clear intent to intimidate, Ms. Altman, to manipulate, control, interfere with the litigation of a litigant is beyond alarming. The articulated intent to direct control of the litigation process and content through the attorney (now fired for incompetent management of the case) is again a considerable over reach. Judges preference for dealing with attorneys, not simply for ease of communication, efficiency of process and case management, but other more nefarious motives is a topic of concern as well. While Judge Hoffman's behavior is beyond unprecedented, it is not beyond an expectation of consequences to Judge Hoffman whom will be asked to recuse himself from this case and as per recommendation should be removed wholly from Judicial practice.

Attachments – Complaint 1 and 2

Note to Judge Hoffman

Book - “An American Tragedy”

Photograph – Children Subject to Trafficking

CC – Governor Cuomo

Mayor DiBlasio