

## Part 7 ~ The U.S. – L.A.P.D. Reform Deal & Related Considerations

**Negotiations** for an agreement between L.A. and the federal government cut a wide swath and proved to be the most lasting **monument** to a turbulent political year. Mayor **Riordan** and Police Chief **Parks** argued bitterly on how long to fight it. Police Commission President Gerald **Chaleff** was further at odds with Parks as well as drawing suspicion of the mayor. **Council members** were angry and defensive. Police morale was shaky.

This heated debate erupted when the U.S. Justice Department threatened to sue Los Angeles over what it alleged was a “**pattern of practice**” of civil rights abuses, exemplified in such scandals as the 1991 **police beating** of Rodney King, **murder investigation** of O.J. Simpson, and now the **horrifying revelations** connected with the now **notorious Rampart Division** and its **anti-gang unit**. Mayor Riordan fought the feds hard against a lawsuit, finally agreeing to **pledge Los Angeles to beef up the LAPD’s I.A.D.** among other things, including that **anyone who violates it – including the mayor or chief – could be held in contempt of court**. The pact was agreed to on 11/02/2000.

Now a **federal consent decree to reform LAPD** was at hand as the **mayor and police chief ‘seemingly agreed’**. The same thing happened in 1991 when Mayor **Bradley** and Police Chief **Gates** accepted the **Christopher Commission’s recommendations**. It **didn’t happen then** and there should be concern that **it won’t happen now**. An **unfulfilled promise of reform is worse than no reform** because it only creates an **illusion of reform**.

If **three, not one, federal judges are appointed** to oversee the consent decree, and LAPD fails to comply, **LAPD will be steered to a judge with close contacts with the LAPD and the corrupt state court system that winked and nodded at LAPD abuses**. If this happens, there will **never be reform** no matter what the decree says.

With nearly 70 Rampart civil rights **cases pending** against LAPD that were assigned to 15 different randomly picked federal judges, the city was **successful** in getting **Chief Judge Terry J. Hatter Jr.** to **reassign 63 Rampart cases to Judge Gary Allen Feess**. The city knew that **Feess** was the **only judge** in the group to whom Rampart cases had been assigned **who had ruled that City Council members, the city attorney and his deputies could not be held liable for Rampart abuses**, though his decision was **overruled** by a federal appellate court in *Cunningham v. Gates*. The transfer was **solicited in an inappropriate ex parte letter from the city to the federal court**.

As a **state court judge** from 1996 until his **appointment to the federal bench** in September, 1999, **Feess presided over cases involving potentially corrupt LAPD cops** and dismissed **DA Gil Garcetti as a defendant in 3 of the cases without disclosing that Feess’ wife, Deborah Kranze, worked for Garcetti as a deputy district attorney**. This is a **potential violation of federal judicial ethics**.

Which **judge** will be **randomly selected** from the 30 who sit in Los Angeles will be assigned to preside over the consent decree? Regardless, the consent decree case will be **steered to Feess, as done before**. Having spent his **entire career shuffling** between jobs with the **federal government** and **big business litigation law firms**, and with a wife who is part of an allegedly **corrupt criminal justice system** and his history of letting **high-ranking local government officials off-the-hook**, Feess would be the worst **judge** for the Angeles citizens to get the consent decree case.

The U.S. Justice Department and the Federal Court placed the LAPD under a **consent decree** for their ‘**pattern and practice**’ of **framing innocent citizens targeted for retaliation**.

But the U.S. Justice Department and their FBI have done “**nothing**” to get the **thousands of innocent citizens “released”** who have been **falsely imprisoned** by the “**corrupt**” LAPD and the “**corrupt**” **judges** ~ who deliberately violated their **Constitutional rights** to imprison them. And the U.S. Justice Department has “**not**” **prosecuted the corrupt judges who steal the monies and properties** from the innocent people they frame and **falsely imprison**.

The news media has termed this as the worst **LAPD corruption scandal in 60 years** and with the **most extensive inquiry into LAPD misconduct**.

This is **not the biggest corruption** by the LAPD. Detective **Fisk** and his **buddy** detectives, **Von Villas** and **Ford** and many other L.A. cops operated a company called “**Murder Incorporated.**” These cops, for over 10 years, did:

- 1] **contract murders,**
- 2] **robbed jewelry stores and banks**
- 3] **sold illegal weapons and explosives,**
- 4] **took out life insurance policies** on people they targeted to be murdered, then
- 5] **framed innocent relatives** so they could **collect insurance proceeds** in conspiracy with **attorneys and corrupt judges.**
- 6] These **corrupt judges** with their prosecutors and defense attorneys **framed innocent people** for the murders by these cops so they **could share** the life insurances and seize all assets of the innocent people they targeted.
- 7] **Staged auto accidents,**
- 8] **Ran protection rackets, etc.** (see cases **People v. Von Villas.**, 10 Cal. App 4<sup>th</sup>. 201; 11 Cal. App. 4<sup>th</sup>. 175 [1991] et seq.)

When these cops were **exposed** by a **private citizen**, the LAPD’s Internal Affairs **not only tried to discourage** the private citizen from **testifying** against their brother cops, but many **crucial witnesses** came up **dead** ~ shot in the head, “**police style executions.**”

The LAPD, **instead** of using their **self-proclaimed** great investigative capabilities to expose and prosecute all the other cops involved in this racketeering, **hired writers** to write books to **deceive the public** into thinking that the corruption **only involved** two cops, Von Villas and Ford. The LAPD also **bribed news media** reporters to **falsely**

report to the public that only two cops were involved in this ongoing corruption covering over a 10-year period, right under the noses of the LAPD ~ who lay claim to the greatest investigative capability of any police force in the nation.

When Detective Mark Furman admitted on tape that he brutalized, murdered and framed people; that he gave perjured testimony, planted evidence, and set-up people, the LAPD claimed that he was just bragging.

A federal judge ruled that its **anti-racketeering statute**, created to deal with **drug bosses and organized crime figures**, can be used against the LAPD. U.S. District Court Judge William J. Rea **drastically increases** the city's potential **liability**, since the law **permits a longer statute of limitations** which could **triple the damages**. Under **Racketeer Influenced And Corrupt Organizations Act {RICO}**, the statute of limitations is **10 years**. Thus, the 'civil rights' lawsuit is now a 'racketeering' lawsuit. **LAPD is essentially a criminal enterprise.**

The **LAPD Inspector General's** position was created in **1995** on the recommendation of the **Christopher Commission** and has yet to be **fully defined** five years later, due to political struggles. At a **forced resignation**, **IG Katherine Mader** criticized the police commission for **undercutting** her authority by **withdrawing her access to disciplinary information** until cases were completed. Her being **"bottled up"** and **lack of independence** was a **"fraud on the voters"** who created her post in a 1995 ballot measure.

**LAPD** is determined to know who is pointing fingers in misconduct cases when officers send anonymous complaints to avoid retaliation by the LAPD. And it is not uncommon for **Internal Affairs to come over** wanting to **fingerprint the envelope**. The confidentiality of complaint sources is in danger. Rising tensions between the Inspector General's Office and the LAPD has now reached an **"us vs. them mentality."** And the **L.A. group** is more likely to go after a **whistle-blower** than a **cop accused of misconduct**.

In a Superior Court class action filed, **LAPD** was charged with enforcing a *'code of silence'* by **intimidating, harassing and retaliating against those who report misconduct**. *Jones v. Los Angeles*, BC235705, 41 officers added support to this charge.

*Operation Big Spender*, a federal investigation of **money-skimming** in a L.A. County Sheriff's **drug enforcement unit convicted** more than **24 deputies and 12 others**. It was launched in 1989 and found that **anti-drug teams beat suspects and stole money and properties** after confiscation. **Deputies** were accused of **stealing millions in cash from narcotics dealers, money launderers and private citizens**.

At least **14 investigations** in **13 U.S. cities** are being investigated by the U.S. Department of Justice, looking for **patterns and practices of police misconduct**. **L.A. city officials** anticipate as many as **250 lawsuits**. **L.A.** has a **decades-long history of excessive force, dispensing street justice and much more**. And when installed reforms don't work,

there is **wide-spread rioting** to force LAPD to accept change. But there is no point in reforming the police if the judicial system is not credible as well.

It should come as no surprise that L.A. Superior Court Judge Jacqueline Connor wiped out the corruption convictions of 2 LAPD sergeants and 1 LAPD officer after a 12 - member jury found them guilty on Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. She did this close to midnight on Christmas Eve. This timing was intended to obscure the events to the maximum extent.

Only rarely does a judge in a criminal case **overturn** the verdict reached by jurors in her own courtroom. Still rarer is the judge who admits to committing an error so serious it taints a verdict. But on Christmas Eve, Judge Connor in an extraordinary ruling did **overturn** the convictions of 3 Rampart Division cops. Did the judge cross the line as to the mental processes of all 12 jurors? Its significant to note that this judge **relied** on defense affidavits to reach her conclusion. Rarely do judges allow defense lawyers to take affidavits from jurors. One is puzzled as to whether the average defendant could ever count on a judge's overturning a conviction on a similar basis? The Judge, in a conspiracy with the corrupt cops called **set-it-up** so the corrupt cops can now sue and steal money from the taxpayers for the corrupt cops' criminal acts.

For LAPD's consistent ability to dodge both the bullet of the law and the consequences of chronic, endemic brutality and corruption for over 50 years, **judicial complicity is the linchpin**. In L.A., weak and ineffective civilian oversight of police encourages police to violate the Constitution.

Superior Court judges are most to blame, most being former deputy district attorneys who spent their legal careers communicating by **winks and nods with cops**. Many state criminal court judges are cutting cops slack. A significant part of the local federal bench regularly gives cops a wide berth and police brutality victims a hard time. Rulings in civil rights cases regularly permit admission of evidence harmful to plaintiffs and keep out prior bad acts of cops.

A significant detail sneaked into the federal consent decree receiving virtually no attention, due to Park's and Riordan's **red-herring** foot-dragging to divert attention, that makes the decree all but meaningless. The federal judge must appoint a monitor to oversee LAPD's reforms; however, the monitor cannot ask the judge to take any action, and only the city or the U.S. Justice Department will have the ability to seek enforcement of the decree.

So what is left is what there was: a **brutal, corrupt LAPD; virtually non-existent part-time civilian oversight; prosecutors who go along** with the program; and worst of all, L.A. Superior Court judges who, when all else fails, **step up to make sure nothing bad happens to cops** who break laws.

These corrupt LAPD detectives were convicted of framing innocent people, but Judge Connor ~ whose court these corrupt LAPD detectives, along with Perez, repeatedly

gave perjured testimony in conspiracy with Judge Conner, who for years has denied all U.S. Constitutional rights to the private citizens being framed, claimed she was concerned for the Constitutional rights of these defendants ~ because they are corrupt cops. This shows the ongoing organized crime by the LAPD with their corrupt judges to conspire to imprison innocent citizens while giving the corrupt LAPD cops immunity to carry-out this racketeering to imprison innocent citizens. The new L.A. District Attorney Cooley, also will not prosecute corrupt cops for framing innocent citizens, and those corrupt cops exposed: Cooley gives deals to keep the "code of silence," so that this organized crime to convict innocent citizens can continue.

In the *Ninja Slayings* trial, the court let stand the conviction of Neil Woodman for murdering his parents in a 1985 shooting in their Brentwood garage. The case became known as the "Ninja Murders" because a witness confused a black-hooded sweatshirt worn by one assailant with the outfit worn by Japanese martial arts warriors. Woodman and his younger brother Stewart were accused of hiring a former L.A. police officer and the ex-cop's brother as hit-men and expected of collecting more than \$500,000 from their mother's insurance policy. Stewart Woodman was convicted in 1990 and serving life. *People v. Woodman*, B102452.

LAPD cops operate as hit-men and kill people targeted to collect their life insurances. LAPD Detective Fisk with his buddy detectives, Von Villas and Ford, killed citizens and framed innocent citizens. Sharing the life insurances with the corrupt judges for many years. And when a private citizen exposed this ongoing organized crime and racketeering, the corrupt judges, prosecutors and LAPD limited all prosecution to only Von Villas and Ford, although many LAPD cops and judges were involved in this organized crime.

The defense attorney Donald Green defended the LAPD cop who did this contract murder, because Attorney Green is part of this organized crime family of the LAPD. Attorney Green specializes in covering up crimes and "murders" by corrupt racketeering cops. And the corrupt Judge Schwab (former State Assistant Attorney General, who defended against Robert Peernock's lawsuits, and lost) assigned Attorney Green to block "all" defense in the Peernock case – to cover-up the murder by Schwab's (and the psychopath LAPD cop Fisk's) informant, Dozier.

Judge Schwab "illegally" assigned Green – to cover up the racketeering scam by Schwab and his buddy judges to use the Probate Courts to collect and share with the cops, the life insurance proceeds of the citizens killed by the LAPD cops – so Schwab could use in court for racketeering in an horrendous "obstruction of justice."

Mr. Peernock was suing Green for malpractice and for being part of this organized crime and racketeering scam, and Judge Schwab and Green "lying" to the jury and claiming that Green was representing Mr. Peernock was an unequivocal violation of "all" U.S. Constitutional Rights, besides being lunatic reasoning.

The *Code of Silence* is not restricted to the LAPD, but also includes the Judges.



