

Justice Is Everyone's Business

www.Everyones-Business.org

Seeking to Restore Integrity and Public Trust in Our Justice System

February 24, 2020

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Dear Oregon State Bar officials:

My husband and I are residents living in the Grant neighborhood of north-east Salem. That neighborhood was the scene of the Siege on Summer Street on January 22, 2019. We have been following the consequent events since. For your reading convenience, I enclose the first pages of the story we have written about it.

In connection with that event, I wish to report the conduct of two of your members who have publicly and egregiously violated their oaths of office and violated their positions of public trust. Those members of the Bar are:

Thomas ("Tom") M. Hart, Judge
Marion County Circuit Court

Paige Clarkson, District Attorney,
Marion County

The oath of office for the admission to the practice of law in Oregon reads as follows:

That I will faithfully and honestly conduct myself in the office of an attorney in the courts of the State of Oregon; that I will observe and abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct approved by the Supreme Court of the State of Oregon; and that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Oregon. To the court, opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications.

Source: [Oath of Office for Admission to the Practice of Law in Oregon](#)

Our webpage, available at: will provide you with ample and verifiable information concerning the transgressions of Thomas Hart and Paige Clarkson.

Again for your reading convenience, I include Part 7 of the story, "The Wheels of Justice?" Go on-line and you can listen to a recording of Judge Hart -- from the Bench -- threatening to prosecute *Everyone's Business* for publishing information on the case. He described our reportage as "interfering with this prosecution" and "interference with the wheels of justice."

Perhaps Judge Hart was hinting that he would apply a criminal statute to Everyone's Business reportage; his wording suggests prosecution under [ORS 162.235 Obstructing governmental or judicial administration](#) (a Class A misdemeanor) or [ORS 162.325 Hindering prosecution](#) (a Class C felony).

This is a threat to abrogate free speech and freedom of the press -- a direct violation of the 1st. Amendment.

Paige Clarkson knows that she is prosecuting a scapegoat on the basis of tampered evidence, yet she persists, attempting to force the scapegoat to abandon his Constitutional right to trial and sign a plea bargain. Since the scapegoat insists on his innocence, pressuring him to sign a plea deal in which he "admits" guilt is suborning perjury.

According to your webpage, your goal is "to protect the public by ensuring competence and integrity and by promoting professionalism in the legal profession ... to protect and advance the quality, integrity, and impartiality of the judicial system ... to foster trust in, respect for, understanding of, and access to the justice system."

<https://www.osbar.org/docs/resources/OSBMissionStatement.pdf>

Please let me know how you will discipline these persons. My readership will want to know what you are doing to protect the public according to the goals expressed in your Mission Statement.

Sincerely,

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cc; Grant Neighborhood Association