

# HB 5724 (Exhibit #1 of 4) - Introduction to the Third Circuit Court Judge Martha Snow

From: defilippispeter@aol.com (defilippispeter@aol.com)

To: msweet@house.mi.gov

Cc: defilippispeter@aol.com

Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 11:14 AM EDT

Dear Judiciary Chair Breen and Standing Committee Members,

## **RE: Ethically challenged Third Circuit Court Judge Martha Snow**

Attached please find both my letter regarding the above-captioned matter as well as my corroborating documents. The **original documentation** exchanged in February 2019 between myself and the "7 Investigators Team" to whom I reported Judge Martha Snow and her disgraced husband, Joseph Xuereb, is attached below this email. A month later, in March 2019, Judge Snow **immediately** began harassing me, aided and abetted by her fellow Rick Synder-appointed judges from the Michigan Court of Appeals.

This topic was included in my testimony on June 12, 2024, along with a discussion of the life-altering incidents that occurred with the inept and corrupt Redford Police Department ("RPD") when they victimized, bullied, and harassed me, a then 52-year-old man who had **no criminal history**. **The PRD inexplicably issued two baseless felony warrants for my arrest and illegally abused LEIN to entrap me.** Unlike the RPD, Mr. De Filippis is *not* a coward and I am proud that I **successfully** fought back against these veritable thugs. (See Exhibit #4 of 4)

The interactions with the RPD and Judge Snow, followed by my subsequent interactions with their equally **ethically challenged** and corrupt fellow officers of the court (See exhibits #2 of 4 and #3 of 4) have **scarred me for life**. They also have had a galvanizing effect on me and served as the catalyst for my visit to your offices on January 25, 2024, followed up with an email on March 12, 2024.

**Please make certain that this email and this Exhibit are also included as part of the permanent testimony for HB 5724.**

Sincerely,  
Peter De Filippis

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Catallo, Heather <hcatallo@wxyz.com>

To: defilippispeter@aol.com <defilippispeter@aol.com>

Sent: Monday, February 4, 2019 at 02:46:50 PM EST

Subject: RE: Follow-up inquiry - Grieving metro Detroit man loses out on thousands due to probate practice

Thanks Peter,

I appreciate you sending this!

I will check into this; I too have been shocked at the inaction of the AGC/ADB.

**Heather Catallo**

WXYZ-TV Investigative Reporter

248-827-4473

<https://www.facebook.com/heathercatallo7/>

<https://twitter.com/HeatherCatallo>

<https://www.instagram.com/heathercatallo/?hl=en>



**From:** defilippispeter@aol.com [mailto:defilippispeter@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 3, 2019 12:46 PM  
**To:** Catallo, Heather <hcatallo@WXYZ.com>  
**Cc:** defilippispeter@aol.com  
**Subject:** Follow-up inquiry - Grieving metro Detroit man loses out on thousands due to probate practice

Dear Ms. Catallo,

**RE: Attorney Grievance Commission Compliant Status Inquiry Regarding  
Fired Public Administrators, Joseph M. Xerub and Cecil St. Pierre**

First and foremost, congratulations and a heartfelt thank you are in order to the 7 Investigators Team, for reporting about the beyond disgraceful situation regarding the above-captioned matter. Your exhaustive investigative, won't back down reporting style and refusal to not ferret out facts from innuendoes is to be highly commended!!!

Greeting from New York City. Although I have now lived in the Empire State for far longer than I lived in the Great Lakes State, Michigan will always occupy a very special place in my heart. As I was born and raised in Wayne County before I departed for the Big Apple, Wayne County to me is, to paraphrase the Billy Joel song, a place that "I knew it complete when I wore a younger man's clothes."

As an introduction, I was imbued with all the right values and principles during my formative years in Michigan, raised by my immigrant, non-English speaking parents from the Calabria region of Italy; who came through Ellis Island before I was born and settled in Dearborn.

I was truly sickened to my core when I watched the video "*Grieving metro Detroit man loses out on thousands due to probate practice.*" Anyone who has ever lost a parent knows what a traumatic experience it is, regardless of their age. To then be subjected to what this victim, who had the misfortune to be assigned to nefarious shyster Joseph Xerub, had to endure is unconscionable and it is difficult to watch this poor man being taken advantage of.

I was honored and humbled recently when I was asked by Gilda's Club New York City, to be featured in their newsletter article "Why I Volunteer." I discussed the loss of my father and my experiences with his passing. By the grace of God, I did not have to ALSO endure predatory vultures like Messrs. Xerub and St. Pierre at that time.

I pride myself on being a highly civic-minded individual. To that end, since 1991, I have volunteered with over 40 non-profits, including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, The Make-A-Wish Foundation, The Bob Woodruff Stand Up for Heroes Foundation, and The Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health. Most recently I reached out to the Together Helping Others /Backpacks for the Streets organization, when I read an article about them, as their mission to assist the homeless loudly resonated with me.

You stated in your story that, "We now learned that this is being referred to the Attorney Grievance Commission for a full review." As this was in September 2017, I wanted to provide you with an update.

On February 1, 2019, I contacted the Attorney Grievance Commission (AGC) to ask if either of the two above-referenced former public administrators had been disciplined as a result of the investigation and formal complaints that were filed against them.

The AGC could not provide me with this information, as I did not file these complaints, but referred me to the Attorney Discipline Board (ABD). I was beyond sickened but certainly not surprised, to be informed by the ABD that **neither** of these two truly dangerous and egregious individuals **has as of yet to be disciplined.**

As per the attached enclosure, you will see that Mr. Xerub's wife, Martha Snow, was an Attorney Grievance Commission Member very recently. **How do you spell conflict of interest???**

The Xerub/Snow family is not unbeknownst to the media and also not known in the most flattering light. See the attached article published in the Canton Observer on July 7, 2008, "Candidate's stepson admits stealing opponent's sign."

There is no greater textbook example of the adage - scraping the bottom of the barrel - than the intertwined stories of Rick Snyder's appointed official to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Court, "Judge" Martha Snow and her husband Joseph M. Xerub, two unconscionable individuals totally lacking a moral compass, whose union was destined by kismet and truly deserve each other.

Please keep up the good work and if you have any information as to why neither of these two aforementioned individuals were not formally disciplined, can you please let me know?

Thanks,

Peter De Filippis

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Judge Martha Snow exhibit.PDF

364.9kB

Dear Judiciary Chair Breen and Standing Committee Members,

**RE: The repercussions and fallout from the unprovoked verbal attack that I was subjected to in the “fair and impartial” courtroom of Third Circuit Court Judge Martha Snow**

*“Which office do I go to get my reputation back?”*

Raymond J. Donovan

Chair Breen, your fellow bar member, the ethically challenged Third Circuit Court Judge Martha Snow, as well as the inept and corrupt Redford Police Department (“RPD”), are the catalyst of why I am here today. Please note that Judge Snow was in attendance in the hearing room on June 5, 2024. She did not provide oral testimony, but her written testimony ostensibly is part of the record.

**Timeline of Events**

On June 23, 2017, while in the courtroom of Judge Martha Snow, I was completely blindsided and taken aback when, on the record, Judge Snow attacked my character with the bizarre and unfounded assertion that I *“have no respect for authority.”* My beloved mother had passed away three months earlier, on March 19, 2017, and I was still struggling with depression over her death. Given my vulnerability and fragile state of mind at that time, **Judge Snow’s words cut to the quick, and her disgraceful vile attack hit me especially hard.**

The following **three facts** only served to further intensify this unjustified and unprovoked attack on the content of my character by Judge Martha Snow:

1. The Redford Police Department (“RPD”) issued **two** life-altering warrants for my arrest, alleging activities of which I was later fully exonerated.
2. RPD Officer James Butler was formally disciplined when I filed a Civilian Complaint against him for calling me an *“asshole”* and then attempting to provoke me into a fight by screaming *“yeah, I’m talking to you”* directly in my face. **Had my 92-year old disabled mother not also been with me when this occurred,** I firmly believe that I would have been subjected to a severe beating or even worse, at the hands of this unstable officer.
3. RPD Chief of Police, Eric Pahl, made defamatory and baseless allegations and claimed that I was using *“burner telephones”* to commit a crime that **never** occurred.

After the verbal attack that I was subjected to by the “Honorable” Martha Snow, I conducted my due diligence. My objective unequivocally WAS NOT to obtain any Personal Identifying Information (“PII”) about a judge appointed to the bench by then-governor Rick Synder, but rather to research any publicly available **documented** history of Snow’s activities.

I soon discovered a treasure trove of **disturbing information regarding criminal and unethical activities** that had been committed by both her husband, disgraced former Public Administrator Joseph Xuereb, and her stepson.

No one wants to be caught in the crosshairs and exposed on the local news media as being investigated for committing a crime or engaging in unethical behavior.

The “7 Action News Investigators” program on WXYZ-TV in Detroit had been exposing a disturbing pattern of some public officials taking over probate estates after someone dies, often leaving the rightful heirs with very little. Mr. Xuereb was exposed on the TV series “7 Investigates” for having committed this offense. It was stated during this segment that an Attorney Grievance Commission Complaint (“AGC”) had also been filed against him. Mr. Xuereb was terminated from his position and two laws were subsequently passed in Michigan to prevent others from being subjected to these predatory practices. However, Mr. Xuereb managed to escape being formally disciplined by the AGC. I contacted the “7 Investigators” team that had spotlighted him in their segment to relay some heretofore unknown additional information to them and they expressed their appreciation.

I also made Judge Snow aware of the course of action that I had pursued against her husband, which had also included posting less than complimentary reviews on highly trafficked websites. While my reviews may have been mean-spirited, they certainly were not libelous, as every statement that I made that was not an opinion can be substantiated with concrete tangible evidence in a court of law. I have not yet seen any concrete evidence to corroborate Judge Snow's claims that I "*have no respect for authority.*" Her built-in bias and prejudices against an innocent civilian, who as a Pro Se litigant was up against her fellow officers of the court, was particularly reprehensible and is consistent with what is commonly referred to as “black robe disease.”

And unlike the **actual** crimes committed by her step-son (in 2008, he was convicted of stealing the campaign lawn signs of candidate Martha Snow's opponent, who defeated her and won election to the bench at the Northville District Court) or her husband, whose unconscionable actions have since resulted in laws being passed, which makes them now criminal instead of just unethical, **my actions against her family were neither criminal nor unethical in nature.**

Former Attorney General Bill Schuette, who fired Mr. Xuereb as a direct result of his unconscionable actions supported the proposed new laws to reform the office of the Public Administrator and stated “*What has happened in the system is unacceptable and these changes I hope ensure this never happens again. By creating a clear, current, and direct path for public administrators to follow in the probate process we can better protect Michigan citizens and weed out any bad actors.*”

This statement left no doubt that AG Schuette was referring to Mr. Xuereb as being one of the “*bad actors*” that needed to be “*weeded out to better protect Michigan citizens.*”

On February 7, 2018, Governor Rick Snyder, who appointed Judge Snow to the bench, signed into law Public Acts 13 and 14, making critical and necessary changes to the state’s Public Administrator system. The changes were aimed directly at combatting the probate abuses committed by Joseph Xuereb.

### The telling timeline of these three documents

**January 23, 2019:** Pro Se Plaintiff Mr. De Filippis posts reviews on various websites which are highly critical of Judge Snow's husband.

**February 4, 2019:** Whistleblower/Plaintiff contacts "7 Investigators" team" regarding Judge Snow's husband.

**March 19, 2019:** The motion for sanctions for vexatious proceedings is GRANTED by the two judges that Chief Judge Murray of the Court of Appeals "randomly assigned" to this panel. It was REMANDED to the trial court, presided over by the now-seething Judge Martha Snow, so she could extract her revenge against Peter De Filippis, her disgraced husband's Whistleblower.

### Summation of my actions regarding the "fair and impartial" Judge Martha Snow

I strictly adhere to the motto that if you can dish it out, then you should also be able to take it. Judge Snow engaged in a vile narrative spun with unsubstantiated falsehoods. I, her intended prey, then returned with factually concrete evidence and proved that the pot *should not* be calling the kettle black.

**Judge Snow should have known better.** Only one of us took an oath to treat all litigants with courtesy and respect, and on June 23, 2017, she unconscionably chose to violate that oath. I then choose to exercise my First Amendment rights with cold hard facts, and I did so. Therefore, commencing in January 2019, as an **elderly and well-respected citizen of my community who has no criminal history**, and while not engaging in **any** criminal behavior, I proudly choose to defend myself and took my reputation back.

Sincerely,



## Schuette Commends Passage of Long Over Due Public Administrator Reform Bills, Signed into Law Today

Contact: Andrea Bitely, Megan Hawthorne; 517-373-8060

February 7, 2018

**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today applauded the Legislature for the passage of two bills that were signed into law today. Now Public Acts 13 and 14, the bills seek to make critical and necessary changes to the state public administrator system. The changes are aimed at combatting probate abuse by requiring a more thorough search for heirs and sets up a clearer path of action for public administrators.

The Attorney General's Office appoints county public administrators, who primarily serve as representatives for estates in which a deceased person has no known heirs.

"Actions that came to light last year made it clear that now is the time to make changes to the public administration system," said Schuette. "What has happened in the system is unacceptable and these changes to an almost 40-year-old law will help ensure this never happens again. By creating a clear, current and direct path for public administrators to follow in the probate process we can better protect Michigan citizens and weed out any bad actors."

The legislation was introduced in September 2017, after the questionable practice of a small number of public administrators was discovered. The questionable practices involved properties in tax and mortgage foreclosure, where no heirs opened the estate. Public Administrators who violated the high standards of their office have been terminated. The Department of Attorney General worked with the legislators to ensure the legislation brings the 1947 (significantly amended in 1976) statute up to date, and sets criminal penalties for those that don't follow procedures.

"Establishing a more transparent process for the appointment of a personal representative when no heir can be located will prevent future fraud schemes in probate," said Jim Runestad, R-White Lake. "Public administrators do good work to help our citizens and these reforms provide further safeguards when families are grieving."



## Candidate's stepson admits stealing opponent's sign

BY TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

**The stepson of 35th District Court judge candidate Martha Snow has admitted he stole and destroyed a campaign lawn sign belonging to one of her competitors, Jim Plakas.**

Plymouth police are investigating the actions of 21-year-old Ryan Xuereb — a University of Michigan student who lives with Snow and her husband, Joe Xuereb, in Northville Township — following a complaint filed by Plakas. Ryan Xuereb has not been charged in the case.

"Ryan made a mistake and we're dealing with it at home, and it will obviously be dealt with in court," said Snow, "My opponents will make this a political event and it's not. It's a family matter." In a story reported in Sunday's Plymouth and Canton Observers, another judicial candidate, Cam Miller, reported to police he saw a hatchback vehicle "full of lawn signs" on Hamilton, near Ann Arbor Trail, in Plymouth Saturday, July 5. Miller said he "got a description of the person, the vehicle and license plate number and called the police immediately."

Joe Xuereb said when he and Snow were discussing the story about the high number of judicial lawns signs stolen, Ryan admitted to stealing the sign. Xuereb said his son was frustrated by a recent e-mail sent to judicial candidates and the media attacking his siblings, as well as stolen Snow lawn signs. "But, it was wrong, inexcusable," said Xuereb, who said they called Plakas to apologize. "The only question I asked him was about my signs," said Plakas. "That's when he claimed he took only one, threw it away and would reimburse me for it. He said he was frustrated by the campaign and I explained to him that it's a very frustrating process, there's really nothing pleasant about it and there's a lot that happens."

Plakas said he accepted the apology but won't drop the complaint, waiting instead to find out the results of the police investigation. "I know that it's interesting he was in an area where other signs were taken," said Plakas. "I've heard certain things that lead me to believe, and I think certain things, but I will let the police do their investigation."

Snow said she doesn't believe the incident will derail her bid for 35th District Court judge. "People who know me and my family know Ryan is a top-notch kid, a good human being who is always helping people," said Snow. "He had a momentary lapse in judgment and he's suffering for it. And, if it means I have to work that much harder to achieve my goal-of becoming judge, I will."

tbrusGato@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2172