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Press Release

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Christiansburg Divorce Lawyer Fabricates Divorce with Client and IRS Criminal Agents to Conceal Multi-Million Dollar Embezzlement

A divorce lawyer in Christiansburg, Va. spent three years consulting and advising his client on the ups and downs of her situation related to leaving her husband of seven years. He knew of her adultery, fault, frauds, and forged ahead anyway, laying a claim in May 2006 after the husband fired her from his business in April. Her lawyer was aware she did her planning from work, the same place she was fleecing, and the business the husband owned long before they met.

After the husband was ambushed and the divorce dragged on, the husband's third lawyer began uncovering a long trail of deceit and unlawful legal filings by the wife and her attorney. He ultimately quit the case a year later due to the unlawful actions of his colleague, unaware that a mountain of evidence had accumulated, contradicting the fictitious allegations made for the wife. The wife's lawyer admitted he had no grounds for divorce in an email to her a day before filing.

The wife was the CFO of the husband's healthcare business, overseeing privacy policy. They recorded phone calls for insurance purposes and tracked almost every keystroke of the information systems, including accounting for HIPAA.

The husband's lawyer described the matter in court as a premeditated divorce by the wife after she accused the husband of a constructed desertion, despite her spending three years planning an exit and engaging in multiple adulterous relationships. Her lawyer admitted the husband was "charming and successful" in conversations. She complained to her lawyer about "prostitution" he had her doing.

The husband's lawyer was bound to report the wife's lawyer to both the judge in the case and the Virginia State Bar, as required under the Virginia Bar Association Rules of Professional Conduct, but chose to drop his client instead, stating he had too many other cases with the wife's lawyer and someone out of town needed to handle it. The wife had gone as far as removing the

husband from his business bank accounts, buying an extra \$1 million life insurance policy for him, hiring her hairdresser to help embezzle, structuring his finances to favor her in a divorce, and stripping all the husband's and children's equity out of his businesses over that three-year period. They recruited elements from the local IRS office to lend a hand as well. Her lawyer was on a contingency, which was illegal too.

Local law enforcement was so concerned they asked an FBI profiler to take a look and listen to her recorded calls from work and interview co-workers. He later reported to the husband that he was shocked the husband was still alive.

Nine lawyers in all passed the husband around, each taking their slice of the pie, never reporting their colleague under the Rules of Professional Conduct. The husband had to conduct his own two-day divorce hearing, in which the judge sat him down a year later and directed him to appeal his decision to the Court of Appeals. The husband was able to source an appeals lawyer who advised him it was a criminal matter before quitting also, without completing the appeal. So much for a self-policing industry, as the Bar Association claims to be.

At the heart of discovering the fraud is the wife's attorney's original trial book, with notes, which he accidentally gave the husband's attorney 30 days before their first scheduled hearing in 2007. A forensic and valuation accountant hired by the wife, a semi-retired IRS Criminal Senior Agent, was fired from the case in a pre-trial conference. He seemed to be aware of the frauds, millions missing, and provided a trial book made by the wife containing such.

The husband's bank auditor had earlier referred the husband to the same agent in January 2006 for suspicion of embezzlement and a forensic "how-to" in his cashless business. That agent was already working for the wife's attorney, selectively forgetting and instead pumping the husband for information.

The husband's lawyer never briefed him on the trial book's existence or related evidence from a trash pull by a private investigator. The husband assumed they were all the same, but this was far from the truth. The wife's attorney produced a new trial book during that first hearing, made at 11 PM the night before after realizing his was missing, hoping his opponent would not say anything. The husband's lawyer realized something was wrong on the fly as the hearing started.

It was hard not to notice the new 1” binder lying on top of the original 4” binder already opened in court that morning, containing his opponent’s notes.

The husband was sitting in the courtroom alone at their table when the wife and her lawyer appeared. Her lawyer dropped the new book as he passed by their table on the way to the judge’s chambers. The husband’s lawyer was already in chambers passing time. One note stated all the trial books are different. The husband’s lawyer already had their dictated and handwritten notes, emails, and recorded phone calls from the husband’s business. The husband’s lawyer realized and accused her lawyer of using different trial books during and after the hearing.

While that hearing was far from the end, the wife’s attorney was called out on some of the trial book exhibits before the judge, but upon closer examination afterwards, it was starkly different. Her original 4” book confirmed all the husband’s allegations 100%, admitting her wrongdoing. After the husband’s lawyer confirmed the wife made the trial book in a subsequent follow-up hearing, he quit, saying he “cannot be involved anymore,” and sent the husband off to the next lawyer in line.

It was not until preparing for an appeal in 2012 that the husband and his new lawyer, #9 by then, discovered the 4” binder and 1” binder for the same hearing and began to understand the reason for the switch out and lawyers quitting. It became apparent quickly, as the husband’s lawyer left bright sticky notes in it for the next lawyer. It was from that book that the husband discovered at least \$6.3 million was missing from his business by the time it was over, confirmed for sure in 2018. The husband had been carrying hugely incriminating evidence from lawyer to lawyer with the same outcome: taking his money and quitting when realizing the frauds. He assumed he was copied on the same, never realizing the ruse.

By this time, the husband had been put in jail twice over child support, once for a year. The husband had more than \$200,000 overpaid in child support, almost none of it credited by the wife’s lawyer. She had an income 4-5 times the husband's and should have been paying him based on fixed guidelines. A forensic accountant and his regular accountant testified in the first hearing that the wife had “stripped” the businesses of equity and cash in the three years prior to filing with her lawyer and IRS help. All of this was before asking the husband to move out.

The ex-wife and her lawyer painted the husband as a fat cat in that first hearing, yet he worked the first ten years of his business without compensation and the next ten at an entry-level amount, all the while the wife was making double to triple during her exit plans. That did not include at least \$600,000 she embezzled in that three-year window or the \$6.3 million. Most of that \$600,000 was from the children's estate set up by the husband. She was divorced from a wealthy husband after a few years who did not want kids before hitting a home run.

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