

AFFIDAVIT REGARDING COURT CORRUPTION AND DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION: 7th CIRCUIT, 11th CIRCUIT, WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA, INDIANA SUPREME COURT

I, *affiant* Andrew U. D. Straw, wish to explain and delineate the corruption of state and federal courts that have injured me:

1. This document will be placed permanently at the following URL:

<http://courts.andrewstraw.com>

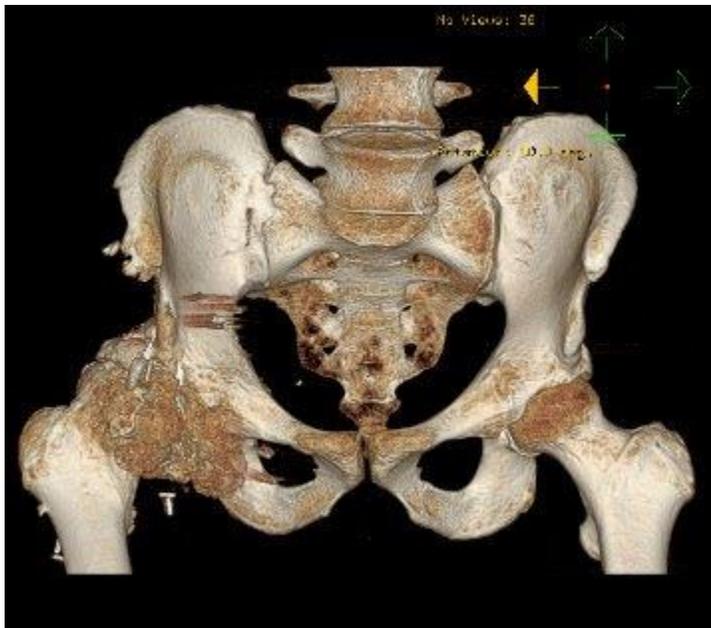
INDIANA SUPREME COURT

2. I worked for the Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court from 2000-2002. My work included services to every state court in the State of Indiana because I was the statistical analyst and worked on court technology. This was my second job after law school; the first was working as corporate counsel for Virginia billionaire Alan Manners Voorhees.
3. I was in a bad car accident on 2/22/2001 due to a reckless driver hitting me head-on while I was driving to the Indiana Supreme Court to work. Both my legs and my pelvis were crushed and the X-rays can be viewed here: www.andrewudstraw.com

4. Below are two photos of my damaged legs/hip:



(Above: True and correct copy of my right hip, X-ray, 2012)



(Above: True and correct copy of MRI scan, my right hip, 2001)



5.

(Above: True and correct copy of X-ray of my left leg, 2016)

6. My attorney, Samuel Ardery, of Bloomington, Indiana, told me that with injuries and pain this severe, my damages should have been \$500,000, but the miserly people of Indiana only forced the reckless woman who did this to me to provide \$100,000, 1/3 of which went to my attorney and more to the hospital, leaving me with \$50,000, 10%. The Indiana Supreme Court didn't care. When they fired me, I had to use this 10% to get by. None remains in 2017. \$0.

7. I was poisoned as an infant aboard U.S. Marine Corps bases, including Camp LeJeune. This poisoning caused mental illness and killed my mother (breast cancer). My disabilities from Camp LeJeune include several neurobehavioral effects: bipolar disorder, depression, social anxiety, and intense migraines that cause blindness. The VA has a webpage about the poisoning: <https://www.clfamilymembers.fsc.va.gov/>
8. I am suing the United States for these injuries. *Straw v. United States*, 16-17573-GG (11th Cir.).
9. In 2011, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana issued a permanent injunction stopping the Indiana State Board of Law Examiners (an Indiana Supreme Court agency) from collecting information on mental illness on Question 23 of its bar application form. *Perdue v. Individual Members of the Indiana State BLE*, 266 F.R.D. 215 (S.D. Ind. 2010) (Dkt. 193)
10. I took the Indiana bar exam in 2002, answered Question 23, which was still on the application at that time in 2001, passed the exam, and was subject to numerous indignities such as a hearing on my bipolar disorder before people with whom I worked in the

judicial branch. I was fired after taking an FMLA leave that my doctor said was necessary because the Court was putting so much pressure on me due to my U.S. Marine Corps disabilities.

ADA COMPLAINT / ADA COORDINATOR RETALIATION

11. I made an ADA COMPLAINT in August 2014 to the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court. The Clerk refused to file it twice and then referred it to the Indiana judicial branch ADA Coordinator, Brenda F. Rodeheffer.
12. This failure to file and instead give my complaint to Rodeheffer was a fundamental error or omission that gave rise to everything else that happened to me thereafter. If the Clerk had simply entered my complaint into the Court record as a matter of attorney admission and discipline governance and Court employment, the ADA coordinator likely would not have even noticed.
13. Instead, Rodeheffer attacked me. Making a complaint that attacked me as a lawyer due to my mental illness from the U.S. Marine Corps violates the *Perdue* injunction.

14. Rodeheffer failed to respond to me until September 19, 2014, but on September 3, 2014, she filed an attorney disciplinary complaint¹ that attacked my mental illness from the U.S. Marine Corps, evaluated my disabilities like a medical professional, labeled me “incompetent,” and attacked my ADA work in federal court.

15. No ADA Coordinator has the right or power under the ADA (which creates her very position) to attack a disabled person who is making a complaint to her. To do so is retaliation on its face.
42 U.S.C. § 12203; 28 C.F.R. § 35.134.

16. The Indiana Attorney Disciplinary Commission (IADC) should have dismissed this complaint as obviously violating Rule 8.4(g), which prohibits discrimination based on disability. Instead, the IADC protected Rodeheffer and everyone else I complained about, each time violating Rule 8.4(g) and suborning discrimination under the ADA.

¹ *Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court, et. al.*, 1:16-cv-3483-SEB-TAB (S.D. Ind.) (Dkt. 1-13)

HEARING OFFICER CORRUPT

17. The hearing officer assigned to my case was corrupt. He was appointed by the Chief Justice and simultaneously he was a candidate for Indiana Supreme Court justice. The Chief Justice oversaw both.
18. Hon. James R. Ahler refused me the right to make motions in my defense. The docket is replete with my defenses, which I filed since January 2016, when the case against me was opened. This is the URL of that docket:
<https://public.courts.in.gov/mycase/#/vw/CaseSummary/eyJ2Ijpw7IkNhc2VUub2tlbiI6Ik5URXhOREl3TnpFek1qSXhPamt3TWpJNU16SXlaalk9In19>
19. The hearing officer had a limited amount of time under the Indiana Supreme Court rules to submit his hearing officer report. He was not even close. He was over 5 months late. His report was filed in December 2016 and his hearing, which I refused to attend due to Ahler's bias and conflict, was held in May 2016.

INDIANA'S DISCIPLINE

20. Indiana's discipline of me was based on a few federal judges labeling my ADA work in their courts as frivolous, but not imposing any sanction under Rule 11.

21. The cases were about health privacy,² addressing national discrimination on the Law School Admission Test³ with statistics,⁴ protecting a disabled parent's rights to see his children (a right supported by the ABA⁵ and the National Council on Disability⁶), and opposing discrimination by the Indiana Supreme Court ADA

² Lawyer health privacy rights are very serious matters and have led to permanent injunctions. *Perdue v. Individual Members of the Indiana State BLE*, 266 F.R.D. 215 (S.D. Ind. 2010) (Dkt. 193)

³ <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/law-school-admission-council-agrees-systemic-reforms-and-773-million-payment-settle-justice>

⁴ As of 2017, Harvard Law School Admissions has changed its policy and now agrees with me that collecting disability statistics from new students is "important."

⁵ https://www.americanbar.org/groups/child_law/tools_to_use/attorneys/disabled-parents-and-custody--visitation--and-termination-of-par.html

⁶ <https://www.ncd.gov/publications/2012/Sep272012>

Coordinator, who interfered in a civil suit⁷ with her disciplinary complaint to make me lose when I was winning, causing all manner of pain and suffering and humiliation. For the state supreme court to interfere in such a fashion violated my due process rights.

22. None of my cases was frivolous even a little bit. Labeling something frivolous is too easy to do when you are hostile and irrational and Courts do abuse this labeling power. Federal district courts abused me 3 times (one of the 4 cases did not even use the term frivolous).

23. So, Indiana *inflated* the choices of these 4 federal judges not to discipline me into 180 days of discipline without reinstatement, starting February 14, 2017. I call it the Valentines Day massacre of my disability rights. Indiana has refused to dissolve my Indiana law license because I cannot afford to reinstate. They want me to pay all of these costs when I cannot work. They should allow me to

⁷ My former client sued me for malpractice, then admitted in deposition under oath that she had not been fired from her job, the sexual harasser had left employment there, she had received 3 years of raises after my work for her (I was not compensated even 1 cent) and so she had no damages, but the Indiana Supreme Court ADA Coordinator gave information about her disciplinary complaint to my former client's lawyer, who entered it into the state trial court record, causing my insurance to want to settle. *Sconiers v. Straw*, 71D07-1310-CT-000265 (St. Jos. Sup. Ct. #7).

renounce my Indiana license as a First Amendment matter, without any costs, because I do not wish to be associated with a court that would abuse my disabilities from working for them and from my U.S. Marine Corps disabilities. I do not wish to be associated with a bar that would allow a state supreme court to act this way against me. Every lawyer I asked would not help.

24. I had to deal with this alone, in poverty, on food stamps, and living in public housing, my principal income being SSDI at \$1,115 per month. And Indiana wants me to *pay* for the privilege of giving back their license, which has been a source of pain and suffering since 2001, when I applied for it and revealed my Marine Corps disabilities.

25. Indiana's hearing officer stated that there were no mitigating circumstances, such as the fact that no judge actually sanctioned me under Rule 11 and the fact that I have physical disabilities from working for the Indiana Supreme Court. You would think that this would be a mitigating factor for someone doing ADA work. These were the first ADA cases I ever filed in court and I did so completely on my own, not as a member of any firm or agency.

26. The hearing officer also did not consider as mitigating the fact that the IADC offered me to go into disabled status.

27. In other words, I have disabilities and the IADC recognized that I have certain rights, but then the hearing officer acted in a hostile and irrational manner to inflict the most pain possible on me.

28. 180 days is 180 days *more* than an Indiana judge got for driving drunk into oncoming traffic. Judge Page got a reprimand.⁸

29. Let's be really clear about this. I was punished for trying to do ADA work to benefit all disabled people when I have mental and physical disabilities from public service, including broken legs and pelvis from a reckless driver. Indiana punished me with 180 days of suspension and a wide variety of collateral damages, but **DRUNK-DRIVING** and **RECKLESS** Judge Page received a **mere reprimand** 6 days after I was suspended. This is the definition of outrageous and asinine. It shows that I am blackballed for asserting disability rights as a disabled lawyer, and members of the

⁸ <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/opinions/pdf/02201701per.pdf>

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/supreme-court-reprimands-former-lake-county-judge/article_1387518e-842b-5934-8446-ab95eff3e134.html

“club of judges” can put other people’s very lives at risk and are treated with kid gloves.

30. Hearing Officer Hon. James R. Ahler was one of my defendants in my federal ADA lawsuit to stop the discipline and he acted the fool as my appellee, trying *again* to become a part of a court judging my matters, to be explained below.

FEDERAL LAWSUIT

31. I sued the Indiana Supreme Court and several court staff in federal court. *Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court, et. al.*, 1:16-cv-3483-SEB-TAB (S.D. Ind.).

32. Federal judge Magnus-Stinson would not interfere, citing *Younger* doctrine. She let this abuse happen to me even when I proved in my court pleadings that Indiana was abusing me and violating my disability rights. She said *Younger* prevented her.

33. Indiana imposed its discipline while this case was still open and I asked for declaratory judgment that the discipline was illegal ADA violation.

34. She cast about for any excuse not to protect me. She did not mention the fact that the Southern District of Indiana had enjoined

Indiana Supreme Court permanently in the *Perdue* case not to collect information based on mental disability. But here was Indiana again engaging in attacks based on my mental disability and the proof was already in the federal court record. (*Straw*, Dkt. 1-13).

35. No way. *Younger* and *res judicata* was her answer even though no one had ever even considered the discipline before since it was imposed on 2/14/2017 and not a day earlier. The Indiana Supreme Court claimed *Rooker-Feldman*, which protects state court losers from appealing.

SEVENTH CIRCUIT CORRUPTION

36. I appealed to the Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and the corruption continued to grow. *Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court et. al.*, 17-1338 (7th Cir.)⁹

37. The hearing officer was my appellee and he applied to be a bankruptcy judge, hired by the Seventh Circuit, **while he was my appellee.**

⁹ On appeal to U.S. Supreme Court: *Andrew Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court, et al.*, 17-6812 (U.S. Sup. Ct.)

38. If that's not bad enough, the Seventh Circuit **HIRED HIM** while he was my appellee. This indicates that James R. Ahler, my dishonest hearing officer, had illegal and unethical conversations with the Court where I was suing him.

39. When I complained about it, the Chief Judge, Diane Wood, called my complaints "frivolous," *judging herself* because Diane Wood was "pleased to announce"¹⁰ the hiring of James R. Ahler, my corrupt hearing officer, to a 14-year bankruptcy judge position.

40. If that's not bad enough, one of my panel members employed Hon. Ahler as his clerk in the past. Judge Kanne, my panel member, first voted against me and *then* recused due to this obvious conflict. Why does Ahler get the benefit of his vote FIRST? Kanne's vote should have been removed. The whole panel was tainted by this. In fact, every 7th Circuit judge involved in hiring Ahler was conflicted. **The whole court!**

41. When I complained about the ethical violations, Judge Wood *judged herself*, just like the Indiana Supreme Court *judged itself*, and found the 7th Circuit to be pure as the driven snow. Wood

¹⁰ http://www.innb.uscourts.gov/pdfs/Judge_Ahler_PR.pdf

threatened me with financial penalties she knows I cannot pay if I reveal and complain about more ethical violations by her court.

42. The Seventh Circuit decided on July 6, 2017, that *Younger* doctrine did NOT APPLY. The Seventh Circuit decided also that *Rooker-Feldman* did NOT APPLY. But then it decided, with conflicted Judge Kanne's help, that *res judicata* applied to discipline that did not even happen until 2 days before the case below was dismissed. (District Court dismissed on 2/16/2017; Indiana Discipline was imposed on 2/14/2017). This use of *res judicata* is nonsensical and corrupt, meant to impose an **Anti-Andrew Rule** and apply nonsense so that I lose. I should have won this case, hands down.

43. With *Younger* and *Rooker-Feldman* out of the way, my injunction in the District Court should have been granted and my declaratory judgment motion granted, but the Seventh Circuit said it was frivolous (AGAIN!) to actually apply the opinion it wrote on 7/6/2017. So, I win, but I lose.

44. That's corruption, people. That's how state and federal courts work in the Seventh Circuit. Any doctrine can be twisted so long as Andrew Straw loses.
45. Richard Posner was also on my panel until I made an ethics complaint about him. He went to the NYT and his views on judging were printed on 9/11/2017.¹¹ Posner said he did not follow the Constitution, laws, or any court rules. He said he decided the outcome and then made excuses for it, using any reasoning he could muster.
46. Corruption. Impeachable offenses, every time he did this, including in my case.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR: THE ONLY SENSIBLE COURT

47. While this ethical quagmire was unfolding at the Seventh Circuit, the Virginia State Bar held a hearing and found that Indiana's use of its ADA Coordinator to attack me, "had all the

¹¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/11/us/politics/judge-richard-posner-retirement.html>

grace and charm of a drive-by shooting.”¹² (I did call it a *Valentine’s Day Massacre*¹³, after all. The Seventh Circuit is in Chicago.)

48. The Virginia State Bar said I met my “clear and convincing” evidence standard and I would not be disciplined in Virginia. Indiana’s discipline was rejected 100%.

49. The Virginia State Bar knew about what Indiana was attempting to do to me in 2016 and chose to take my license *out of* disabled status and put it *into* Active in Good Standing status.

50. This was an adjudication by Virginia that should have stopped the Indiana discipline as full faith and credit. U.S. Const. Art. IV. Virginia stated its position even louder the second time, in 2017.

51. IADC spoke with my brother and my father and suggested that I should put my Indiana license into disabled status, which would completely shut down my career in every court where I was admitted to practice law. This was the *opposite* of the action taken by the Virginia State Bar.

¹² <http://www.vsb.org/docs/Straw-062217.pdf>

¹³ <http://www.history.com/topics/saint-valentines-day-massacre>

52. In fact, Virginia State Bar allowed me to be a member of its Diversity Committee. I am a member as of December 25, 2017.

53. The ABA terminated my membership after Indiana disciplined me, preventing me from law reform work as a member of that organization. This seems odd after the ABA recognized my disability rights work in 2014.¹⁴ I am suing the ABA¹⁵ for doing this to me in collaboration with my former employer and ADA violator, the Indiana Supreme Court.

FOUR DISTRICT COURTS: DUE PROCESS VIOLATORS PROTECTED BY SEVENTH CIRCUIT

54. Due to the Indiana Supreme Court attack on me, four U.S. District Courts suspended my licenses, even the two districts that *did not sanction me* for the cases Indiana was punishing.

55. The four districts are Southern District of Indiana, Northern District of Indiana, Northern District of Illinois, and Western District of Wisconsin.

¹⁴

https://www.americanbar.org/groups/disabilityrights/initiatives_awards/spotlight/straw_a.html

¹⁵ *Straw v. ABA*, 1:17-cv-5714 (N.D. Ill.); *Straw v. ABA*, 17-P-25 (Chic. Hum. Rel. Comm.)

56. The Seventh Circuit in an incredible display of violence to my due process rights, allowed the Southern District of Indiana to suspend me with **no hearing**, no opportunity to **confront my accusers**, and essentially just sided with Indiana. *Straw v. U.S. District Court*, 17-2523 (7th Cir.) Chief Judge Diane Wood, the one who **hired my appellee**, appears to have written this terrible and civil rights-shredding opinion. The Seventh Circuit completely disregarded the fact that Indiana **violated a federal injunction** by attacking me.

57. I am also suing the Western District of Wisconsin for giving me **no hearing**, **no notice**, and **ignored the defensive filings I made** when the Indiana discipline was imposed. I found out that I was suspended 8 months after it happened with **no actual notice** to me of anything at all. *Straw v. U.S. District Court*, 17-3550 (7th Cir.).

58. The Seventh Circuit has been just as dishonest and hateful as the Indiana Supreme Court and Congress did not create the Seventh Circuit to act in this manner. The entire court should be abolished.

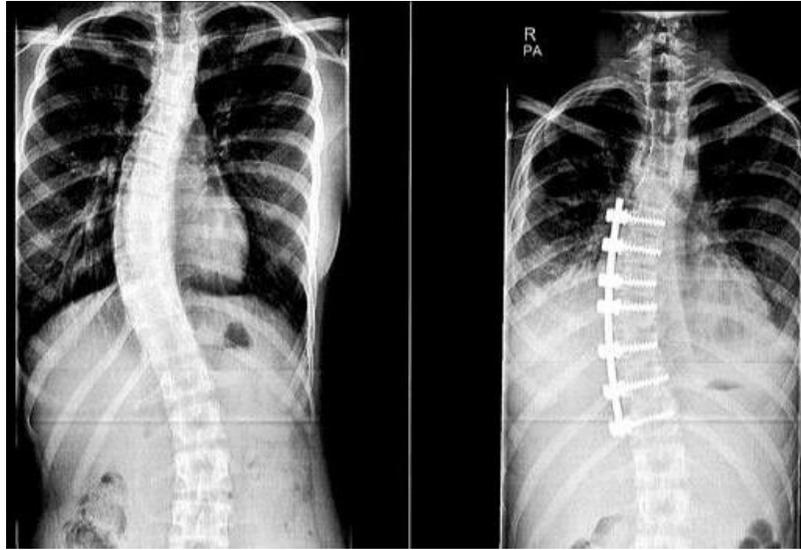
ELEVENTH CIRCUIT ADDS MORE DAMAGE

59. I have been pursuing my family's poisoning cases since 2012. I filed in Navy JAG Code 15, pursued federal cases, prosecuted these four cases at the MDL in the Northern District of Georgia, and then attempted to protect my family's cases at the Eleventh Circuit. *Straw v. United States*, 16-17573-GG (11th Cir.) This includes my mother's death from the poisoning while I was in law school (photo of my mother's grave):



60.

61. The lawsuit includes my mental disabilities and migraines that blind me. It includes my daughter needing major back surgery, open spine, for the scoliosis caused by these poisons. Here are true and correct copies of my daughter's back X-rays (Ava Straw):



62.

63. Chief Judge Carnes stated that I would not be allowed to become a member of the bar of the 11th Circuit even after 5 years of representing my family members. He single-handedly managed to end their fight for justice by getting their appeals dismissed based on Indiana inflating the abusive word “frivolous.” I am so angry. Extremely angry. Supremely angry. You don’t want to know what I think should happen to Carnes and all the other abusive judges after violating my family.

64. Judge Carnes mentioned the Indiana discipline and ignored the fact that Virginia rejected it. He rejected my Virginia license and my Fourth Circuit law license.¹⁶

¹⁶ My ACTIVE 4th Circuit law license is shown on page 120 of this attorney roll report as of 12/19/2017:

INDIANA ALLOWED TO RETALIATE EVEN MORE

65. The Indiana Attorney General and his staff attacked my right to communicate with other parties under Rule 4.2 (Comment 4) and the First Amendment, but when I opposed this in federal court, naturally the abusive use of the word “**frivolous**” appeared again. I had to appeal. *Straw v. Indiana Attorney General, et. al.*, 17-3357 (7th Cir.).

66. I opposed four other acts of administrative retaliation related to the Indiana discipline, but again, was denied justice and had to appeal. The district judge has invented an immunity from the ADA from my complaints and again abused the concept of *res judicata*, which does NOT apply to this situation. *Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court*, 17-3596 (7th Cir.)

67. I have a 0.000 batting average at the corrupt 7th Circuit, which is biased against me and I proved it by their very actions. These courts think that if they violate my rights *consistently, repeatedly*,

somehow their lies and abuses become truth, but it's not true. Nothing I did was frivolous, but what they did was **corrupt on its face**.

68. The Indiana Supreme Court, the 4 districts, the 7th Circuit, and the 11th Circuit chief judge are all corrupt. They violated me. They violated my family. I remain in poverty, abused, due to their corruption.

DAMAGE

69. I live in poverty because these courts discriminate against me, retaliate against my complaints, and interfere in my career. They violate me even when my disabilities are from **public service to the U.S. Marine Corps and every state court in the State of Indiana**.

70. I live on SSDI and food stamps and my residence is a public housing apartment in Elgin, Illinois. I continue to have migraines that cause blindness and symptoms of depression and the civil rights violence and consistent dishonesty of these courts has frequently caused me to have **suicidal thoughts**. It is overwhelming to be confronted with such dishonesty. They are inflicting damage that must be compensated in full.

71. I have not spent Christmas with my children since 2009. These awful, horrible, hateful ADA-violating courts are the reason because they undermine me and destroy me in every way. I have nothing because of them and that makes what they did into an unconstitutional attainder of me that keeps going and going and going, inflicting the Anti-Andrew Rule on me and my family. Every opponent who benefited from these dishonest courts is also a violator of me and should not have accepted their corrupt victories. Victories as dirty and corrupt as Nazi violence at the beginning of WWII.
72. I await justice not only for the ADA violations and the poisoning, but the absolute failure of the legal and judicial systems in the United States to protect and help me. Corrupt judges have this effect. They should be impeached. Honest people know it.
73. No amount of money can compensate the level of pain inflicted here, but my family and I must be compensated fully. I don't know how this can happen when the Courts themselves discriminate and are corrupt.

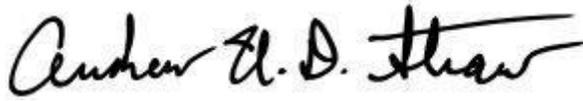
74. I maintain a PDF copy of my CV at this URL:

www.andrewstraw.com

I, *affiant* and *plaintiff* Andrew U. D. Straw, certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances, that the above statements and factual representations are true and correct. Signed this 22st day of December, 2017

Updated: December 24, 2017

Updated: December 25, 2017



s/ ANDREW U. D. STRAW

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OTHER FACTS: Courts are dishonoring my family's support

- My father, Phillip U. D. Straw, is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran of Vietnam and he helped me through college, a master's degree, and my law degree with monthly assistance payments.
- My grandfather, Gerald L. Isaacs, was a U.S. Navy veteran of WWII and he collected and sold scrap metal that people discarded in Elkhart, Indiana, to help me with college expenses. He died before I graduated from Indiana University. When my grandmother died, the sale of his small, 10 acre farm paid for my last year of law school.
- My brother, Captain Jason Lee Straw (ret.) is a disabled combat veteran of the Afghanistan conflict, and served in the U.S. Air Force as a critical care trauma nurse. Before this, he earned his wings as a paratrooper medic in the 82nd Airborne, U.S. Army. Jason's work in Afghanistan involved saving the lives of multiple amputees blown apart by roadside bombs. He served in Kandahar and Bagram bases. He helped my grandfather help me with the metal.
- I founded Disability Party in 2013 to increase "Access & Opportunity." My brother is the medical advisor of the Party. He also advocates for medical marijuana law reform in Indiana.