

GEORGE SASSOWER

ATTORNEY AT LAW
51 DAVIS AVENUE
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. 10605

914-949-2169

August 5, 1987

Hon. Denis Dillon
District Attorney, Nassau County
262 Old Country Road,
Mineola, Long Island, N.Y. 11501

Re: Dennis F. Vilella
Indictment #64177

Honorable Sir:

1a. I suggest that you, personally, assume control of the above matter, superseding Assistant District Attorney, J. Kenneth Littman, Esq., particularly since I intend to vindicate Mr. Vilella in the public arena.

b. Your failure to assume personal control and/or direct supervision of this matter shall, in my view, make you personally accountable.

b. I will not attempt to repeat what has already been stated in my letter to Ms. Robin Topping of Newsday on the 3rd inst., nor in my letter to the Grand Jury on the 4th inst., copies of which were previously sent to you.

c. Nevertheless, the evidence in my possession, as well as Assistant District Attorney, J. Kenneth Littman, Esq., is that the charges against Mr. Vilella that "he attempted to cause the death of Theresa Nappi by beating her about the head and body with a tire iron" (First Count), and for First Degree Assault by beating Mrs. Nappi "about the head and body with a tire iron" (Second County), were contrived and fabricated.

d. Unquestionably, this "tire iron" assault and murder attempt simply never happened, and there can be no charge against Mr. Vilella nor anybody else based thereon!

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2a. Even without the X-Ray Reports, which Mr. Littman did not turn over to Mr. Vilella's former attorney, I realized by February 13, 1987, that these "tire iron" crimes were contrived, and that Mr. Littman had probably obtained a grand jury indictment by some very sharp, if not unlawful, deception, a conclusion which was confirmed on July 27, 1987, when a portion of the Grand Jury minutes were received and read.

b. Nonetheless, I also was convinced that, if in fact there was an assault, "tire iron" or otherwise, the clue as to who was the perpetrator would be found on the "911 tape".

c. Detective John Richards had rendered such an opinion to Mr. Vilella in July 1986, and I came to the same conclusion in February 1987, based upon my own independent investigation.

d. Consequently, by appointment, I met Mr. Littman in his office during the afternoon of February 13, 1987 for the primary purpose of listening to such "911 tape" or making arrangements for it to be heard, if Mr. Littman did not have same readily available.

e. In my presence, Mr. Littman stated that he knew absolutely nothing of a "911 tape" and telephoned, what he said, was the Glen Cove Police.

After a conversation which was, insofar as Mr. Littman was concerned, in my presence, Mr. Littman told me that the Glen Cove Police do not have a "911 taping system" and there was some extended conversation on that subject.

f. After a conversation with Mr. Vilella, who was seated in the outer reception room, we both came to the conclusion that either the Police were lying to Mr. Littman, or Mr. Littman was lying to me.

g. About two (2) weeks later, came the communication from Mr. Littman that the Glen Cove Police did and do have a "911 taping system", but that the tape had been erased and it could not be heard.

h. While I had great doubts as to the truthfulness of such "erasure" representation, there was little I could do at that time, except move to dismiss the indictment, which I did.

i. Months later, one week before trial, which commenced on July 27, 1987, Mr. Littman informed Mr. Vilella that he has a copy of such "911 tape", and he could hear same, which Mr. and Mrs. Vilella listened to the following Wednesday.

j. While it was stipulated that the voice on such tape was not Mr. Vilella, there was no opportunity to develop and show the court and jury, that such "911 caller", who to repeat was not Mr. Vilella, was the one probably associated with the Nappi injuries.

k. Instructively, on trial, Detective John Richards testified that Mr. Littman, at all times, knew that such "911 tape" or a copy thereof, existed and had been preserved.

l. I believed on February 13, 1987, and believe now, that had I heard such "911 tape" then, I would have had a reasonably fair chance of learning who was with Mrs. Nappi during the evening of July 26, 1986.

3a. Since I do not know the precise date that Mr. Littman became actively involved in this matter, I cannot attribute to him the "putrified" condition which made a seriological analysis of Mrs. Nappi clothes impossible.

b. Nevertheless, such information should not have been kept from Mr. Vilella nor his attorneys for almost one (1) year.

4a. Mr. Littman, in his summation, after a long and eloquent exposition on the function of the jury in the Administration of American Criminal Law, struck hard at the fact that Mrs. Nappi had "six (6) skull fractures", which he knew, at least as far back as the time he appeared before the Grand Jury, was a canard of the first magnitude.

b. Unless Mr. Littman could establish such "phantom" skull fractures as an established fact, the prosecution was in trouble.

Indeed, without the skull fractures, there could be no crimes charged in the indictment against Mr. Vilella nor anyone else.

c. The six (6) skull fractures, were unquestionably phantom, and no one, not even Mr. Littman, can possibly justify such reference to same, particularly on summation (Berger v. United States, 295 U.S. 78).

d. If Mr. Littman does not know, or ignores the fact, that his position in the Administration of American Criminal Justice, is to see that justice is done by proper and lawful advocacy, rather than to unjustifiably convict, he simply does not belong in a public prosecutor's office in the "major crimes unit" or any other unit.

5a. Ketchup is employed to alter the taste of food, not to disguise essential facts or to conceal the non-existence of such essential facts.

b. Mr. Littman's first two (2) trial exhibits were "ketchup photographs", which had no significant relevance, except to inflame passion.

c. There was no question that Mrs. Nappi had sustained a substantial blood loss, forty percent (40%) according to Dr. Peter Sordi.

d. Can there be any doubt that such "ketchup photographs" were introduced in order to improperly inflame the passion of the jury and to conceal the non-existence of any skull fractures on the superior portion of Mrs. Nappi's skull?

6a. I do not believe that it would serve any purpose to set forth the other manifest improprieties of Mr. Littman, except to state that he clearly deceived Hon. Joseph Harris, in the presentment of the prosecution's case, and thus deprived His Honor of the opportunity of exercising whatever power His Honor had in order to protect a pro se defendant, if His Honor so desired.

b. After the prosecution had rested, His Honor, for the first time, saw the X-Ray Reports taken at Glen Cove Hospital, Reports which the jury never had the real opportunity to read and examine.

c. Neither His Honor's, nor the jury's, attention was ever drawn to the fact, during the trial, that the skull and head fractures, phantom or otherwise, were never treated.

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d. Neither His Honor's, nor the jury's, attention was ever drawn to the fact, during the trial, that there was absolutely no brain damage.

It must be remembered that Mrs. Nappi testified before the Grand Jury that she was struck on the head by Mr. Vilella, more than ten (10) times, with a "tire iron", and at trial, violently struck by such "tire iron" about twenty (20) times.

e. Neither His Honor's, nor the jury's, attention was ever drawn to the fact, during the trial, that the same day that Mrs. Nappi was admitted to Glen Cove Hospital, her [Non-]Coma Score was at the absolute maximum.

f. The testimony of Dr. Peter Sordi, was nothing less than orchestrated deception.

7a. These things should not happen in Nassau County, or in any other county in America, and I have a professional and societal obligation to assure that they do not, which I intend to obey.

b. In short, I intend to see that "right be done".

Respectfully,

GEORGE SASSOWER

cc: Grand Jury "A", Nassau County
U.S. Special Grand Jury, Eastern District of N.Y.
Hon. Joseph Harris
Mr. Dennis F. Vilella
J. Kenneth Littman, Esq.
Dr. Peter Sordi
Mr. Robin Topping
(unidentified)