

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF A LAWYER FORM

Request an investigation of an Illinois lawyer by printing, completing and returning this form to the Chicago or Springfield ARDC offices. The Chicago office is located at 130 East Randolph Drive, Suite 1500, 60601-6219. The Springfield office is located at the One North Old Capitol Plaza, Suite 333, 62701-1625.

1. Your name: Jaime Hernandez

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: IL Zip: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Business Phone Number: _____

2. Name of Lawyer you are complaining about: Russell J. Stewart

Name of Law Firm: Russ Stewart, Attorney at Law

Street Address: 805 West Touhy Avenue

City: Park Ridge State: IL Zip: 60068

Phone Number: (847) 692-3350 office (224) 381-4715 cell

3. Did you employ the lawyer?

Yes

If yes, when was the lawyer hired? 4/11/08

How much did you pay for the lawyer? \$3,000.00 total (\$1,000.00 on 4/11/08 and \$2,000.00 on 7/29/08)

No

If no, what is your connection to the lawyer? _____

4. If your complaint relates to a lawsuit, please give the following:

Name of court (for example: Circuit Court of Cook County): Circuit Court of Cook County, Branch 46, 555 W. Harrison, Chicago

Name of case: People of the State of Illinois Vs. Jaime Hernandez

Case number: 07MC11944701

5. Please describe what the lawyer did or failed to do that you believe may have been improper. If you employed the lawyer, explain what you employed the lawyer to do. Include important dates and names, addresses and telephone numbers of witnesses and other people involved. Do not include opinions or arguments. Attach copies of any documents that support your complaint, such as fee agreements, receipts, checks, letters and court papers.

Russell J. Stewart was retained by me on 4/11/08, to represent me in my sham criminal trial brought on by falsified charges which I mentioned in my complaint against Attorney David Wessel. I provided Russell Stewart with written instructions as to what I expected him to do, which was to proceed and litigate as a jury demand case and other requests, which he blatantly refused to accept. Russell J. Stewart did as he pleased, which cost me 30 days of my freedom. Russell J. Stewart only prepared a couple motions as my attorney, all other motions which were filed, were motions that I prepared. He took the advice of the judges (Cook County Circuit Judge Thomas More Donnelly and Maria Kuriakos-Ciesil) and the Assistant State's Attorneys, he did pretty much everything which they told him to do, as if they were paying him and not me. Prior to my trial commencing, I personally had subpoenaed and paid for travel for 25 witnesses, all were pertinent to the case, including Abdon Pallasch, the Chicago Sun Times reporter, attorney David Wessel, whom Russell Stewart excused immediately, Attorney James W. Kaiser, Attorney Mitchell F. Asher, Marie Szczypka, and Sheila Mannix all who were present in the courtroom 1506 of the Richard J. Daley Center on the morning of 2/2/07, the day which I was arrested and charged with false charges, the list of subpoenaed witnesses included 12 Cook County Sheriff Department employees, all listed by name and badge numbers. Russell Stewart excused almost all of my witnesses, even when I objected and told him how pertinent these witnesses were. One of the character witnesses who were to testify, Eugene Wzorek, asked Sheila Mannix to contact Russell Stewart, to find out when he was to testify, as he has an 85 year old mother he takes care of, he needed to find someone to watch after her. Russell Stewart told Sheila Mannix that Eugene Wzorek did not have to testify, this was done without my knowledge. My trial should have never gone forward without the testimony of these witnesses. (I HAVE ENCLOSED AFFIDAVITS FROM EUGENE WZOREK AND DR. SHEILA MANNIX) He wanted to do everything his way. I had the audiotape (which I had to obtain a court order to get) and the transcript (as mentioned in my complaint against David Wessel), Russell Stewart did not use any of this information, even though he claimed that he would. Russell Stewart did more harm than good, he along with the other characters all but destroyed my life, my business and my marriage. I am an activist; my battles have always been lawful and legal. I am an honest, hardworking businessman for nearly 30 years and I have

always been discriminated against or black-balled because I won't play ball (make political contributions). Since all of this has happened, my business has suffered irretrievable damage financially; my wife of 29 years has abandoned me, my son and our grandson and has filed for divorce. Russell Stewart has been a licensed attorney for 30 years or so, however he did something during the course of my trial that was illegal, he drafted an "Additional Appearance" form, induced me sign it and filed it with the clerk the very same day the court denied his second Motion for Leave to Withdraw. (Judge Maria Kuriakos-Ciesil denied his first request for leave) When I found out that it was illegal, I in turn filed my, "Defendant's Emergency Motion For An Order Finding Attorney-Client Agreement of 8-22-08 and His Motion For Sanctions Against His Attorney", he never was sanctioned by the court. Judge Donnelly would not allow me to fire Stewart to find "effective assistance of counsel", it was if I was trapped. Russell Stewart attempted to sue me, claiming that he had not been paid all of his money. He had been given \$3,000.00 total already and had not done a thing. The judge told him that was illegal, that he could not sue his client while still in my employ. All of the preparation work for trial, the motions, serving of the subpoenas plus fees, etc. all of that I did myself. When Russell Stewart would come to court, he was always late, several dates, he failed to appear, on one occasion, he claimed that he had a "cancerous" growth on his ankle and needed medical attention, I did not have a problem with that, however, if that was the case, why did he not notify the court? I had to sit in court until afternoon, the judge kept telling me to "call your lawyer", "tell him to get here", "we will continue day after day until he shows up", things of that nature. The next day he showed up and appeared to be fine, not walking with a limp or showing any signs of discomfort and not making any reference to why he was not present the previous morning in court.

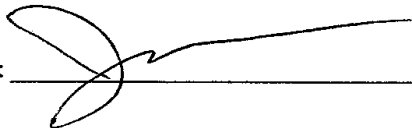
There were multiple things which Russell Stewart failed to do or just did wrong. He allowed the state to amend the complaint against me with just about no objection from him. There were times where the judge would ask Stewart something and he would lean over and whisper to me, "Jaime, do you have that case law?," and I would look at him and think "What did he just ask me?" I would have the case law because I had to be prepared for anything in case something went wrong, and dealing with Russell Stewart, something always went wrong. That really had me concerned because he is the one with the law license, he should know all of this. I believe, had he done everything proper and if he had in fact been effective counsel, then I would have been vindicated. At one point in my trial, Judge Donnelly, the two Assistant State's Attorney's (Andrea Kersten and Sarah Karr) along with Russell Stewart went into Judge Donnelly's chambers for discussion, when they came back, Stewart told me that the state was dropping the first charge, which was "Trespassing to State Supported Land", in order for this charge to stand, Judge Donnelly had referred to the statute earlier pre-trial (720 ILCS 5/21-5). Basically they could not figure out

whose enjoyment I was interfering with, which I thought was a good sign, however he said that they were not going to tell the jury, I could not believe what I heard. Trespassing to State Supported Land was the reason for which the state said that I was arrested and other charges were subsequent. Now if the jury would have known that the state had dismissed that charge, they would have realized that the state no longer had a case, resisting arrest was the second charge, now it does not take a rocket science to figure this out; I was not trespassing, so why was I being arrested? Someone would have had to make up something. It was all fabricated by David Wessel and the Cook County Sheriff Department officers. The judge, Russell Stewart, ASA Andrea Kersten and ASA Sarah Karr and others all had to co-conspire and lie to get the jury to convict me. Both judges, Thomas More Donnelly and Maria Kuriakos-Ciesil, whose job it is to remain impartial and listen to the facts of the case, both did not remain impartial, they both pretty much had tried and convicted me even though you are innocent until proven guilty. They both kept siding with the Assistant States Attorney, it makes sense, they both get paid by the state of Illinois. I had to S.O.J Kuriakos-Ciesil for several reasons including witnessing her in ex-parte communication, while trying to hide behind a pillar in the courtroom. Dealing with Judge Donnelly was a conflict of interest on his part, I was unable to S.O.J him, or so Russell Stewart told me. He had been the judge in a case which my business was involved in around the same time as this case and he remembered me, but tried to act as if he did not know what I was talking about. He was not fair in either of the cases. I have attached copies of various motions which I referred to in this request for investigation against Russell Stewart, if further information is needed, please let me know. I am submitting this request for an investigation on Russell J. Stewart in good faith, the events mention herein this request are based on my personal knowledge, are factual and true. (A copy of the audiotape and transcript were sent in with my Request for Investigation of a Lawyer- David Wessel on 4/21/09)If additional copies are needed, please advise.

Date:

3-11-09

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.