

3610 Sheridan Road  
Zion, Illinois 60099  
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Dear Editor:

The milestone ruling by Chief Federal District Judge Edwin A. Robson ordering the state of Illinois to pay \$20 million to depositors of City Savings Assn. is at once just and irksome.

And the quandry to Atty. General Scott on whether to appeal the ruling is completely understandable. On one hand, culpable actions on the part of state officials resulted in a fraud upon the depositors, Judge Robson ruled. On the other, the precedent of making all taxpayers bear the cost of misfeasance by public officials could create a Pandora's Box -- especially in Illinois where indictments for official misconduct are streaming out of a seemingly endless faucet from forceful and laudable action by U.S. District Attorney Jim Thompson.

But where is justice if the taxpayers are made to pay for the misdeeds of public officials who, by general practice, are not originally selected by the taxpayers or voters -- instead by political moguls and insiders.

Wouldn't it be more fair if political parties submitted surety bonds on the good and faithful actions of those that they annoint for public office, permitting all voters to make a polling place judgment without incurring, as Judge Robson would have it, a penalty for their possible future misdeeds?

Perhaps even best of all, why not establish a Public Integrity Commission -- independent of state funds and of any direct state control -- to 1) screen candidates for office, and, 2) investigate allegations of wrong-doing by officeholders, such commission to be granted power of subpoena.

I hope City Savings depositors are reimbursed <sup>100</sup> ~~\*~~ cents on the dollar. But I more fervently hope that political corruption which generated this terrible injustice can be eliminated -- prevented in the future for the sake of all Illinois citizens, not only an aggrieved segment thereof.

Very sincerely,

*Ed DeMar*

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