

SW, PH, HR, 9KS

1/22/72

Dear Bud

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If you mean by "How did you get so popular with the courts?" the opposite, then you are on fairly solid footing, as what I believe I have sent Jim in full should show. I have been keeping after them on their refusal to appoint counsel and otherwise help in response to my affidavit in forma pauperis. They keep repeating what to me seems the meaningless, that there appears to be "no non-frivolous issue". I regard such an affidavit and request as anything but frivolous. So there has been a series of exchange in which, in one way or another, I raise this question, and in one way or another they say no more than the above.

My last letter on this, addressed to the Chief Judge who will sit, is without answer. Almost all have been addressed to him and all have been answered by Paulson or Cathey in Paulson's name.

To make your life easier and simpler, as soon as the Graham story appeared I also write Gessell remind him that my charge of perjury in the clothing/pix suit had not been responded to in any way, by him, the office of the U.S. Attorney or the Archivist, against whom I made the accusation. I then quoted the appropriate parts of the Rhoads affidavit filed in that case compared with the reality reflected in the Graham story and added a new charge of new perjury, in that Rhoads swore and on the basis of that oath Gessell ruled that Rhoads could not let anyone see that clothing. I think the perjury is clear. Only it appears to be less than popular to embarrass the courts by making them face federal corruption or the many assorted kinds in which it can come before them. Unless you are the Post or the Times, when it provides judges with the opportunity of appearing courages and striking poses for history.

Because I do not really know what this means, if it means any more than that they will decide and record their decision with nobody there, then there is no point in making any preparation. However, the second paragraph of Paulson's letter refers to the time limitation and the number of counsel. So, I take it there will be argument. In that even, I strongly encourage you to be completely prepared on the question of Williams' perjury, which you chickened out on and omitted from the pleadings and the appeal. You have a memo on it from me, sent you as soon as I first read it. Before Bazelon, especially if we are put on the defensive, it might be effective. This memo also goes into the irrelevancies and immaterialities.

It might be a good idea to be prepared on the other perjuries and on my keeping after them, with the later the simplest formulation being that either I swore to the truth or I didn't. If I swore falsely it is a crime. If I did not, why the denial? If it has to do with a technical fault not spelled out, I did precisely what was told, by the clerks of that court, and how can a man who is not a lawyer and needs one, and uses this means to seek one, be held to account for not knowing the law? Why else did or would I ask for a lawyer? Whether or not binding on him or other judges, the very last thing Gessell said, and he volunteered it, is that the Appeals court would help me in precisely this way.

Of reference to the number of counsel who may argue is some subtle hint that perhaps I intend this, you know this is not the case. I have left this entirely up to you. There is one thing that I think should be different this time, though. Last time you asked me not to sit with you. This time I should, Last time you missed something Werdig said on which you could have clobbered him. While it is by no means certain that were this to happen again you would miss it and I would not, I think it would be better to have me sitting next to you for this reason and in case you want to ask me anything. The government is hung up because these tests are negative, not positive, which today makes this suit more important than ever.

fw

FROM THE OFFICES OF

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

TELEPHONE (202) 347-3919

Harold

How did you get
so popular with the
courts?

Bud

United States Court of Appeals

FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

No. 71-1026

September Term, 1971

Harold Weisberg,

Civil Action 2301-70

Appellant

v.

U. S. Department of Justice

United States Court of Appeals
District of Columbia Circuit

1971 - JAN 19 1972

Before: Bazelon, Chief Judge

O R D E R

It is ORDERED, sua sponte, pursuant to Rule 11 of the General Rules of this Court that the Clerk is directed to place this case on the summary calendar.

Counsels' attention is directed to the provisions of Rule 12 of the General Rules of this Court with respect to the matter of the number of counsel who may argue and the time allotted for argument in summary calendar cases.

Per Curiam

For the Court:



Nathan J. Paulson
Clerk

U.S. APPEALS D. C. RULES

(b) The court may on motion or sua sponte advance the date for the hearing of any case, motion, or petition, and may allow the filing of typewritten, mimeographed or xerox-type briefs, in lieu of printed briefs, in cases advanced for hearing. (Added July 1, 1968)

(c) When a case has been set for hearing, it may not be continued by stipulation of the parties or their counsel but only by an order of the court on a motion promptly filed and for good cause shown. (Added July 1, 1968)

(d) Whenever the court, sua sponte or on suggestion of a party, concludes that a case is of such character as not to justify extended oral argument, the case may be placed on the summary calendar. (Added July 1, 1968)

No separate summary calendar will be maintained. Cases will be placed on the summary calendar by the clerk, pursuant to directions from the court. Such cases may or may not be heard on days set for oral argument of cases not on the summary calendar. (Added July 1, 1968)

(e) Whenever the court, sua sponte or on suggestion of a party, concludes that a case is of such a character as not to justify oral argument, it may, after causing notice to be given by the Clerk to the parties of that determination, proceed to dispose of the case without such argument.

RULE 12 (Added July 1, 1968)

ORAL ARGUMENT (Added July 1, 1968)

(a) NUMBER OF COUNSEL. Not more than two counsel shall be heard for each side in the argument of the case, except by special leave of the court, upon sufficient reason shown. (Added July 1, 1968)

Not more than one counsel shall be heard for each side in cases placed on the summary calendar. (Added July 1, 1968)

(b) TIME ALLOWED FOR ARGUMENT. Counsel in all cases scheduled for argument on the merits shall be allotted 30 minutes to a side, except that only 15 minutes to a side shall be allotted to cases placed on the summary calendar and to motions scheduled for argument. A motion or request pursuant to Rule 34(b), Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, for the allowance of additional time shall be filed or made not later than 10 days after appellee's brief has been filed. (Added July 1, 1968)

Where two or more cases are consolidated they shall be considered as one case for the allotment of time for argument. (Added July 1, 1968)

(c) APPORTIONMENT OF TIME. Counsel for the parties, including counsel for any intervenor, on each side may agree on the apportionment of the side's time; otherwise the court will apportion it. Counsel for an intervenor ordinarily shall be permitted to argue only to the extent that counsel for the party on whose side he intervenes is willing to share his allotted time. If the apportionment is agreed upon, counsel who opens the argument on his side shall announce the apportionment. The time so apportioned to each party shall not be exceeded unless the court permits, in which event the time apportioned to the other parties on that side will not be reduced. (Added July 1, 1968)

(d) FAILURE TO FILE BRIEF. A party who fails to file a brief shall not be heard at the time or oral argument except by permission of the court. (Added July 1, 1968)

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