

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTS

In re: SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ROLF LARSEN

Stenographic record of hearing held in
Room 140, Main Capitol, Harrisburg,
Pennsylvania

Friday, May 6, 1994, 1:11 p.m.

HON. THOMAS R. CALTAGIRONE, Chairman
HON. JEFFREY E. PICCOLA, Minority Chairman

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

Hon. Frank Dermody, Chairman
Hon. Daniel Clark, Co-Chairman

Also Present:

David Moffitt, Esquire, Special Counsel
William H. Andring, Chief Counsel to Committee
Mary Woolley, Counsel to the Committee
Richard Scott, Counsel to the Committee
Margaret Tricarico, Secretary
Karon Haring, Secretary
Sally Spang

Reported by:
Emily R. Clark, RPR

1 CHAIRMAN DERMODY: At this time I would like to
2 reconvene the April 22, 1994, meeting of the Subcommittee on
3 Courts. The purpose of today's meeting is to have the
4 Subcommittee recommend to the full Judiciary Committee the
5 final report of the Subcommittee's investigation into the
6 conduct of Supreme Court Justice Rolf Larsen.

7 Before we do, I would just like to take a moment
8 once again to thank special counsel for the work, again, that
9 they put into this investigation and this final report. As
10 you can see, the final report is comprehensive. I'm sure you
11 all have it.

12 We have Special Counsel David Moffitt here;
13 Clayton Undercofler and John Moses are not. And Charlie Gehy,
14 a professor at Widener, who has also been a help for us, is
15 present here today and has been intimately involved in
16 preparing this report. This has been an incredible amount of
17 work for them, an incredible amount of work for the
18 subcommittee, and we can't thank them enough for the hard work
19 and the dedication they've shown in preparing this report.

20 Representative Clark?

21 REPRESENTATIVE CLARK: Yes. I, too, would like to
22 thank our special counsel as well as all the Judiciary
23 counsel. This is a process and procedure which hasn't
24 occurred in Pennsylvania since 1811, and there was a lot of
25 hard work that went into setting up a procedure, a lot of

1 research that went into it, a lot of discussions surrounding
2 various decisions which we had to make, and it's been a very
3 meaningful and pleasurable experience for me to deal with such
4 good, honest, hard-working people such as Representative
5 Dermody and the special counsel who is appointed to help both
6 caucuses, as well as the rest of the members of this
7 subcommittee, and the staffs, both Republican and Democrats,
8 of the Judiciary Committee.

9 As I indicated here a few minutes ago, you know,
10 this is like we've all been thrown in 16 feet of water and we
11 don't know how to swim, and we need a lot of help. And we
12 need to help each other a lot to outline this and bring it to
13 an end. I certainly appreciate everyone's help and
14 consultation in getting us to this point.

15 CHAIRMAN DERMODY: Thank you, Representative
16 Clark.

17 Is there a motion to recommend the final report to
18 the full Judiciary Committee?

19 REPRESENTATIVE CALTAGIRONE: So moved.

20 REPRESENTATIVE CLARK: Seconded, Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN DERMODY: Are there any negative votes?

22 (No audible response.)

23 CHAIRMAN DERMODY: Hearing none, the record will
24 reflect that the Subcommittee on Courts has unanimously voted
25 to recommend the final report of the Subcommittee's

1 investigation into the conduct of Justice of the Supreme Court
2 Rolf Larsen to the full Judiciary Committee.

3 I think this is a very significant step for the
4 Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, a significant step to restore
5 the integrity and the people's belief in our Supreme Court and
6 our judicial system. Thank you very much.

7 REPRESENTATIVE PICCOLA: Move we adjourn.

8 CHAIRMAN DERMODY: The meeting is adjourned.

9 (Whereupon, the hearing was concluded at
10 1:19 p.m.)

11 * * * * *

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me on the within proceedings, and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same.

Emily Clark

Emily Clark, CP, CM
Registered Professional Reporter

The foregoing certification does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.