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## Investigative Report

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Investigator: Maggie Green  
Date: October 1, 2013

Court Case: 13CR114  
Defendant: Buckley, Craig

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### WITNESSES:

Judge James Hartmann  
Chief Judge, 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

### NARRATIVE:

On 09/30/13, at approximately 4:30 pm, Deputy District Attorney Catrina Weigel and I spoke to Judge James Hartmann by telephone. Judge Hartmann provided us with some background information regarding his interactions with Craig Buckley.

Judge Hartmann confirmed he is no longer the judge in Craig Buckley's civil case. Judge Hartmann stated that the civil case originated when Buckley filed a lawsuit seeking over a million dollars from his former employers for unlawful termination.

Judge Hartmann stated the case proceeded primarily through motions practice. There were approximately 99 motions filed by Buckley. Judge Hartmann also stated that responses and orders were filed with these motions. He stated that the defense would often ask for attorney fees stating the motions were frivolous under Title 13. Judge Hartmann stated that most of the time he denied the fees as Buckley was a pro se defendant, but there were a few occasions when he did grant the attorney's fees.

Close to the trial date for the case, the defense subpoenaed Buckley and Pam Reynolds, who had also been a party to the lawsuit, for a deposition. There was a motion to dismiss Reynolds as a party to the lawsuit that was granted, but the attorney's fees that had been granted were prior to that motion. Neither Reynolds nor Buckley appeared for the deposition. The attorneys for the defense filed a motion to dismiss. Judge Hartmann did not dismiss the case, and instead had a telephone status conference with Buckley and informed him he had to show up when he was under subpoena for the deposition. Buckley failed to appear again for another scheduled deposition. The defense filed a motion to dismiss, and Judge Hartmann granted it with prejudice. Fees were also assessed.

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The defendants filed a lien against Buckley's property to try to obtain the fees that had been assessed through the court. Buckley filed a request to have the lien lifted. Judge Hartmann denied this request. There was a Rule 69 motion filed for Buckley, and possibly Reynolds, to answer interrogatories. These would be in regard to assets. Buckley did not answer this request, and the defense filed a motion for contempt. Judge Hartmann decided to recuse himself at that time, and sent the case to another judge for the contempt hearing. Judge Hartmann stated it was the other judge who issued the warrant for the contempt.

Judge Hartmann stated that the lien imposed on Buckley's property was to recover attorney's fees and costs. The enforcement of the lien made Buckley unable to refinance his property.

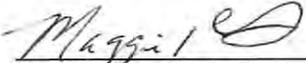
Judge Hartmann stated that by the end of the case, Buckley was only seeking compensation for his unused vacation. Judge Hartmann stated this was under \$1000.

Judge Hartmann stated that the issue had gone in front of an administration board for workman's compensation benefits. Buckley felt the defendants (his former employers) had lied during this action. Buckley filed a pleading with the court with this information, but the civil case had already been dismissed by Judge Hartmann, and Buckley had not filed an appeal of that decision.

After the lien was placed on Buckley's house, Judge Hartmann received a handwritten note from Buckley. The note was written in Sharpie on a piece of paper and stated, "Hartmann you need to fix this now." This was turned over to the Weld County Sheriff's Department. They turned it over to the District Attorney's Office, but the District Attorney's Office did not file charges. Judge Hartmann stated this was in 2009 or 2010, and he stated that it would be contained in the case file for the civil case.

Judge Hartmann confirmed there was a criminal harassment case filed in Weld County against Buckley. The defendants from the civil case were the victims in the harassment case. Judge Hartmann was subpoenaed for that case, but that subpoena was quashed.

On 10/01/13, I contacted Cathi Walker, the Clerk of the Court for the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. I requested the court files for Buckley's civil case (09CV991), and his criminal harassment case (11M578). She stated those would be transferred to DVD and mailed to me the following week.

  
Investigator

10/02/13  
Date

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