

To Mrs Frances Fitzgerald TD
Minister for Justice
Dept. of Justice and Equality
94 St. Stephen's Green
Dublin 2

(By recorded delivery)
(2 pages, 'cc' interested parties)

August 31st 2015

Dear Minister Fitzgerald;

Previous correspondence refers. We note that other than a generic acknowledgement of receipt, that we received no responses from you to our important letters of September 2nd and November 4th 2014, and ask that you please respond without delay regarding the following important matters:

- Please confirm receipt of the complaints previously submitted to your offices.
- Please confirm that said complaints have been forwarded to the 'Review Panel' for consideration.
- Please confirm that you accept that all complaints and affidavits submitted to you via the *Justice 4 All* campaign which were previously vetted by *Integrity Ireland* will not be dismissed, ignored or otherwise deemed 'inadmissible'.
- Please advise of the steps you have taken to ensure there is no 'conflict of interest' in barrister Mr Conor Devally being the lead member of a Justice Department Review Panel which is 'investigating' a serious case wherein Mr Devally is one of the subjects being complained about.

Impeachment of Judge Mary Devins

Secondly, we refer to our formal request for the impeachment of District Court Judge Mary Devins which was submitted to you *personally*—in your role as Minister for Justice and as a senior member of the Government—by TDs Clare Daly and Mick Wallace on 27th April this year. We note that you returned all of the accompanying documentation including several hundred original signatures and the records of several thousand additional digital signatures, along with a letter to TDs Clare Daly and Mick Wallace dated August 4th last wherein you bewilderingly declare that you "*have no role in the matter*"!?

You will forgive our puzzlement and confusion at this seemingly bizarre statement Mrs Fitzgerald, because clearly, your remit as Minister for Justice (as stated on the Department of Justice website) is to oversee your Department's supervision of policing and the Courts, specifically including issues of law and order and, "*constitutional and legislative matters related to judicial appointments*". You are also a senior member of Government and a member of Dail Eireann are you not?

Accordingly, we are completely bewildered as to why you would misleadingly quote Article 35.4 of the Constitution to us, when it clearly states that, "*judges can be removed from office for stated misbehaviour or incapacity.. upon resolutions passed by Dail Eireann..*" etc., etc. In context of the fact that you ARE a member of Dail Eireann and that you ARE the current Minister for Justice, your closing declaration that you have "*no role in the matter*" seems absolutely incongruous and absurd, does it not? Especially as this is the contrived premise upon which you have taken NO action, other than to simply return all of the documentation to us?

Perhaps you can advise us Minister who on earth we are supposed to make an approach of this nature to – if not the Minister for Justice? Indeed, we might also be asking why you, as Minister for Justice, are NOT looking into this matter ‘in the public interest’? For clearly Mrs Fitzgerald, if several thousand people have taken the trouble to sign a petition to have a judge impeached – then surely you will have deduced that something is amiss here?

If you have somehow failed to make that deduction because of the pressures of your Office in dealing with the hundreds of formal complaints *still* allegedly being ‘reviewed’ by the Review Panel (whose sterling work will no doubt be applauded when/if ever we receive any solid conclusions) then may we respectfully suggest that you urgently take a second look at the circumstances under which thousands of citizens have raised another justice-related matter of very serious concern – only to be blithely and contemptuously dismissed and ignored – as per usual. Leaving this problem to fester (while ordinary peoples’ lives are being drastically affected) without taking *any* action whatsoever seems like an abrogation of responsibility on your part does it not? Others with a more suspicious mindset might even see yet another attempted cover-up here? Perhaps you will be good enough to clarify so that there is no misunderstanding on the part of an increasingly cynical public?

While we are on the subject, let me also draw your attention to the ongoing saga revolving around scores (literally) of improper and illegal acts being committed by certain senior Gardai and judges on a routine basis – and the fact that no matter which ‘statutory oversight body’ we approach for redress, that all, without exception, are absolutely failing in their mandates to respect the law and the Constitution – and that all of these bodies come under the direct remit of *your* Department.

Indeed, we now find ourselves facing the grim reality that a section of Irish society – most notably those who hold privileged positions of power and authority, appear to believe themselves above the law. Given the clarity in *Article 40 of the Constitution* that, “*all citizens are equal before the law*” (yes, apparently that includes Garda Management, senior civil servants, judges and even Government Ministers) then we are left in the difficult position Mrs Fitzgerald of advising you personally that if you continue to fail in your duty to the people, the law and the Constitution, and continue to facilitate serial cover-ups and other serious wrongdoing by agents and employees of the State, that you, and any others so involved, each face the very real prospect of criminal charges and/or citizens’ arrests being deployed by an increasingly exasperated public, who are thoroughly and utterly fed-up with the corruption and hubris of a wholly discredited so-called ‘justice system’ – and of the arrogance and contempt of those who purport to administer it.

I therefore now respectfully request a formal meeting with you, in person, to discuss several urgent matters of concern as indicated herein – including allegations of official cover-ups of some very serious crimes – including murder, assaults and criminal conspiracy – and I look forwards to your prompt and accommodating response. We request again Mrs Fitzgerald that you sign off personally on any correspondence which claims to be sent ‘on your behalf’ so as to avoid any doubt or misunderstandings as to who in fact is reading and responding to these important letters.

Trusting the position is clear.

Yours,

Stephen Manning
Belcarra, Castlebar, Co. Mayo.
(a member of Integrity Ireland and prospective independent candidate)



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