IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CRIMINAL DIVISION

COMMONWEALTH OF

CP-14-CR-2421-2011 CP-14-CR-2422-2011

v.

GERALD A. SANDUSKY,

PETITIONER.

HONORABLE SENIOR JUDGE JOHN M. CLELAND

TYPE OF PLEADING:

MOTION FOR RECUSAL

FILED ON BEHALF OF:

PETITIONER, GERALD A. SANDUSKY

COUNSEL FOR PETITIONER:

ALEXANDER H. LINDSAY, ESQUIRE Pa. Supreme Court Id. No. 15088

J. ANDREW SALEMME, ESQUIRE Pa. Supreme Court Id. No. 208257

THE LINDSAY LAW FIRM 110 EAST DIAMOND STREET, STE. 300 **BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA 16001**

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MOTION FOR RECUSAL

AND NOW COMES, Petitioner, Gerald A. Sandusky, by and through his counsel, Alexander H. Lindsay, Jr., Esq., and J. Andrew Salemme, Esq., and the Lindsay Law Firm, P.C., and files this Motion for Recusal and avers the following in support thereof:

On May 2, 2016, after the scheduled argument in the underlying PCRA matter, the PCRA court placed on the record that it could be a fact witness with respect to one of Mr. Sandusky's claims. Specifically, the PCRA court represented, on the record, that it was present with trial counsel Joe Amendola, counsel for the Commonwealth, and District Magistrate Scott at the Hilton Garden Inn in the State College area before the scheduled preliminary hearing. At this off-the-record meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn, certain representations appear to have been made by both the Commonwealth and Mr. Amendola and an unofficial agreement was reached regarding waiver of Mr. Sandusky's preliminary hearing that was to transpire later. This agreement is extra-record and pertains to Mr. Amendola's decision to waive Mr. Sandusky's preliminary hearing, which involves a specific claim of ineffectiveness in Mr. Sandusky's PCRA petition.

In light of the unusualness of a trial judge being present for a non-record discussion regarding a decision to waive a preliminary hearing, resulting in the PCRA court becoming a fact witness, a conflict of interest exists and Mr. Sandusky is constrained to request this Honorable Court to recuse itself and a new jurist be appointed forthwith.

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER H. LINDSAY, JR. ESQ.

Pa. Supreme Court Id. No. 15088

J. ANDREWSALEMME, ESQ. Pa. Supreme Court Id. No. 208257

THE LINDSAY LAW FIRM 110 East Diamond Street, Suite 301 Butler, Pennsylvania 16001

Phone: 724.282.6600 Fax: 724.282.2672

Attorneys For Gerald A. Sandusky

Attached are contemporaneous notes taken by the PCRA court during the meeting that it kindly provided to the undersigned and the Commonwealth on May 3, 2016.

ATTACHMENT

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on the day of May, 2016 he caused an exact copy of the foregoing document to be served in the manner specified, upon the following:

Via First Class Mail

Honorable John M. Cleland, Sr. Judge c/o Office of the Court Administrator and Office of the Clerk of Courts of Centre County
Centre County Courthouse
102 South Allegheny Street
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Assistant Attorney General Jennifer Peterson Office of the Attorney General – Criminal Prosecutions Section 16th Floor Strawberry Square Harrisburg, PA 17120

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER H. LINDSAY, JR., ESQ.

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Attorney For Gerald A. Sandusky