

December 22, 2008

Categories: **Bad behavior**

## **FBI whistleblower: Violations occurred during Ted Stevens' probe & trial**

A heavily redacted version of a whistleblower complaint by an FBI agent involved in Sen. Ted Stevens' (R-Alaska) corruption case was released by a federal court today, raising new questions about whether the conviction of Stevens will be overturned.

The unnamed agent alleges to have "witnessed or learned of numerous violations of policy, rules and procedures as well as criminal violations" during the investigation of Stevens, including some involving Bill Allen, the chief government witness against Stevens. Stevens was convicted of failing to disclose more than \$250,000 in improper gifts from Allen, former CEO of VECO Corp., an Alaska oil-field services company, as well as other individuals.

Judge Emmet Sullivan has suggested the whistleblower allegations include gifts of artwork and a job for a relative of federal investigators.

The FBI whistleblower alleges that a federal investigator, also unnamed, "may have revealed to Allen and/or his attorney the status of an ongoing Anchorage Police Department investigation involving Allen."

Allen may have also been told of secret grand jury testimony, according to the whistleblower, as well as being told that his phone lines were bugged.

Update: Stevens' attorneys have moved to have the case dismissed or a new trial held.

The whistleblower, whose complaint was turned over the Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility in early December, also suggests that prosecutors knowingly failed to turn over exculpatory information to Stevens' attorneys prior to and during the trial of the Alaska Republican. OPR is currently investigating the actions of prosecutors during the court proceedings after Judge Sullivan complained about the government's courtroom tactics.

In addition, the whistleblower states that DOJ's Public Integrity Section, which oversaw the Stevens' investigation and trial, "inappropriately created [a] scheme to relocate a prosecution witness that was also

subpoenaed by [the] defense during the trial."

This issue was raised during the trial by the defense team regarding Robert Williams, a VECO employee who worked on Stevens' home at Allen's direction. Stevens' attorneys alleged that prosecutors secretly returned Williams to Alaska, after paying to transport him to Washington, before he could be interviewed by them. Prosecutors said the move was made because of Williams' poor health.

But according to the FBI whistleblower, "After the final preparatory session, which included a mock cross examination, prosecutors decided Williams was not a witness the prosecution wanted to use." Williams was then sent back to Alaska without informing the defense team.

The whistleblower said that he advised "multiple times that they should advise defense counsel and the judge before executing their plan. I was ignored. They had me send Williams home. The defense and judge found out, were very angry, and suggested prosecutorial misconduct had occurred."

The whistleblower also states, "There were many serious problems I encountered in the recent trial of U.S. Senator Ted Stevens that frustrated me and I feel many of them stem from case mismanagement that occurred for too long."

The whistleblower said he is concerned about "possible retaliation" from FBI management, which was "extremely pleased" about the ongoing corruption probe that brought down Stevens and a host of other Alaska state lawmakers and influence peddlers. This agent requested whistleblower status in late November.

"I don't want to be punished for coming forward. I am absolutely outside my comfort zone by reporting my concerns beyond my efforts listed in this document," the whistleblower wrote.

[Recommend](#) [Sign Up](#) to see what your friends recommend.

**Posted by John Bresnahan 04:53 PM**

---