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Palm Beach Daily News

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Posted: 12:00 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014

Victims awaiting release of billionaire sex offender's correspondence

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By Michele Dargan

Daily News Staff Writer

A New Mexico gubernatorial candidate vowed last week to return more than \$30,000 in donations from companies related to sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, while his victims await public release of correspondence that may shed light on the billionaire's plea deal.

Victims' attorney Brad Edwards says that although the U.S. Attorney's Office was ordered by the court months ago to give him all Epstein-related correspondence, that still hasn't happened. Edwards says he and co-counsel Paul Cassell have about 2,000 documents.

Based on emails and correspondence already in his possession, Edwards says he knows there are more documents that he doesn't have.

"The government still hasn't turned over everything," Edwards said. "We have received what the government represents as the majority of the correspondence. We're waiting for an order from the court directing us to file the unredacted correspondence that is in our possession. We're also waiting for the remainder of the correspondence before we file a motion for summary judgment."

Epstein, 61, has settled more than two dozen lawsuits and claims by young women who say they were lured to his El Brillo Way mansion as teens to give him sexually charged massages and/or sex in exchange for money. The terms of all settlements are confidential. Jane Does No. 1 and No. 2, who were, respectively, 12 and 13 at the time, received confidential settlements.

Edwards and Cassell have been fighting on behalf of victims Jane Does No. 1 and No. 2 to invalidate a secret deal with the U.S. Attorney's Office that saved Epstein from facing serious federal charges and significant prison time.

More than 30 girls were identified as victims in the non-prosecution agreement, signed in September 2007. The agreement absolved Epstein of any federal crimes that he could have been charged with if he successfully served his state jail sentence and year of probation.

In June 2008, Epstein pleaded guilty to soliciting a minor for prostitution and soliciting prostitution. He served 13 months of an 18-month sentence at the Palm Beach County Stockade and received liberal work-release privileges while in jail.

U.S. District Judge Kenneth Marra rejected the U.S. Attorney's Office argument that it was under no obligation to notify victims prior to striking the non-prosecution agreement simply because Epstein had no federal charges filed against him. In June 2013, Marra ordered the correspondence turned over to the victims.

Epstein and his attorneys appealed that ruling, but in April, a federal appeals court backed Marra's ruling and ordered the correspondence turned over to the victims.

Edwards and Cassell are awaiting an order from Marra saying they can release the correspondence into the file.

On Tuesday, New Mexico Democratic gubernatorial candidate Gary King announced he'll return \$35,600 in donations from Epstein-related companies. All of the companies are listed at the same U.S. Virgin Islands address that is posted on Epstein's New York state sex offender registry.

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- Posted by DeanCris at 1:01 a.m. Sep. 15, 2014
- Report Abuse

Bush and Clinton used every connection they had to get this child rapist off with probation. Other men who did what he did would get life in Prison. He is friends with Woody Allen and goes to 3rd world countries to rape girls. Disgusting. Several rabbis signed letters to petition his release. Naturally the US media hid this story for a fellow tribe member. Odd that they put so much attention on Catholic abuse but not men like this Putz or woody allen, etc

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