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Contact: 14thAmendmentNow@gmail.com

When Insurance Lawyers Get Paid to Bury the Truth — and the Courts Help Them Do It

“SHE SLANDERED HIM. SHE EVICTED HIM ILLEGALLY. SHE FILED FALSE INSURANCE CLAIMS. SHE MURDERED HIS PARTNER. AND NOW THE COURT IS FORCING HIM TO PAY HER OVER HALF A MILLION DOLLARS — BECAUSE HE DIDN’T HAVE A LAWYER.

San Francisco, CA – May 26, 2025 —

A federal civil rights lawsuit filed in Washington, DC is exposing a **San Francisco court scandal** where insurance defense lawyers were paid to defend a known fraud — and the courts helped them do it by silencing the one person who could prove it.

The case, *Feldman v. Ivy*, focuses on a years-long campaign by defendant **Linda Holmes**, who:

- Repeatedly slandered Feldman with proven lies of violent elder abuse
- Filed a false eviction
- Murdered his partner and attempted to murder him more than once
- Stole his electricity to support a narcotics lab protected by the SFPD Narcotics Unit
- Was backed by **at least nine lawyers**, all paid by home owner’s insurers

The Insurance Defense Trap — and Who Profited

Holmes’s actions weren’t covered by insurance — but she made a claim anyway. Her insurers accepted it, and under California law, once they began defending her, they couldn’t stop. That meant they kept paying for a legal team to keep the case going — even as they recycled slander, ignored court rulings, and escalated attacks on a disabled tenant.

“The lawyers knew she lied,” said Feldman. “But they were paid to win, not to be right — and they were paid with no end in sight.”

Named attorneys include:

- **Nolan S. Armstrong**, McNamara Law
 - **Steven S. Abern**, Haapala, Thompson & Abern, LLP
 - **Stephanie Davin**, Rankin | Stock | Haeberlin | O’Neal
 - **David Stock**, same firm
 - **Marvin J. Straus**, Straus Meyers LLP
 - **Julian Swanson**, Feldman’s former counsel — who refused to pursue damages clearly documented in the record
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Court Clerks and Officials Who Helped Cover It Up

- Clerk **Monique** removed Feldman's name from the case record and told judges he could not speak — directly violating court rules.
 - Court **executive officers refused to take corruption complaints unless he had a lawyer.**
- Feldman, who was unrepresented and disabled, had his filings ignored while the defense team pushed false evidence unchallenged.
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A Fourteenth Amendment Failure

The Constitution guarantees **equal protection and due process**. That means the right to be heard, to respond, and to access the courts fairly.

But here:

- A known slanderer was defended by a nine-lawyer team
- The disabled plaintiff was silenced by court staff
- Judges refused to enforce their own rulings — because he didn't have counsel

"This isn't a trial. It's a punishment for not having a lawyer," said Feldman.

The Outcome — And What the Court Allowed

"This court let a murderer and narcotics manufacturer walk," Feldman said. "I was blocked from filing a wrongful death suit because I didn't have a lawyer — and I was told I wasn't allowed to represent the estate without a lawyer by the Probate Court in San Francisco."

"Even though I proved she slandered me, even though I proved the eviction was false, the court is now forcing me to pay her over \$500,000. They've blocked me from filing damages I was told to file in 2020. They're going to garnish my wages, take everything I own — and give it to the person who lied."

"That's if the court doesn't hand it to my current landlord first — who is now trying to evict me using the same false elder abuse slander started by my previous landlord in California. That's exactly why both are named in this lawsuit, and why this case had to be moved to the District of Columbia: because the same lie is being used in two states to destroy me. This is what happens when the courts protect lawyers, not justice — and when the Fourteenth Amendment is treated like a suggestion instead of the law."



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CONTACT: Daniel J. Feldman, Ph.D.

Email: 14thAmendmentNow@gmail.com

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+1 (307) 699-3223

