

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 30, 2026

Justice Is Exposure Media Calls for Documented Answers on Government Disclosures and a Survivor's Civil Action

FLORIDA - Justice Is Exposure Media, LLC is calling for specific, on-record answers about government conflict disclosures that identify John Williams's former civil case, the implementation of the safeguards described in those records, and the public description of professional recognition connected to the 2023 settlement.

Our most recent DCF investigation brings together government disclosures, a court approval endorsement, official professional-association records, and published accounts of public officials' responsibilities. We ask the former law firm, the Massachusetts Governor's Office, the Attorney General's Office, and the Federal Bar Association to answer the questions within their knowledge and identify supporting records they are authorized to release.

The civil action and the questions at issue

Williams reports filing an action against his former law firm on September 25, 2026, in Suffolk Superior Court, docket 2684CV02864. The civil tracking order is dated September 25. The complaint copy names the firm as the sole defendant; the Commonwealth, Governor, Attorney General, Kate Cook, and Judge Joshua I. Wall are not named as defendants. [D01, D27]

Williams alleges that he made settlement and dismissal decisions without disclosure of a firm partner's marriage to a senior official in the opposing government or an explanation of the relationship's implications for his representation. He seeks answers about independent legal advice, records of his representation, and an accounting attributable to his own recovery. These are his allegations and requests for relief, not adjudicated findings. Filing a lawsuit does not establish wrongdoing.

Government disclosures specifically identify the underlying case

Kate R. Cook's January 3, 2022 disclosure identifies her as First Assistant Attorney General and identifies her spouse as a partner in Williams's former law firm. It specifically lists Middlesex Superior Court No. 1981CV03788. Her January 26, 2023 disclosure, made as Governor Maura Healey's Chief of Staff, again identifies the partnership and underlying litigation. [D13-D14]

The documents describe recusal, restrictions on receiving confidential information, and removal of the covered matters from Cook's reporting structure. The appointing-authority determinations select reassignment to another employee; Governor Healey signed the 2023 determination on February 1. The records invoke G.L. c. 268A, § 6. A fair account of these disclosures includes both the financial-interest relationship and the safeguards the forms describe. [D13-D14, D26]

We request a documented response identifying who received the reassigned responsibility for this litigation, how restrictions on participation and information access were implemented, and what publicly releasable records demonstrate those arrangements. We also ask the former firm to identify any disclosure or explanation it provided to Williams about the relationship and its own assessment of the implications for his representation. These questions do not assume that an official participated improperly or that a screen failed.

The professional award and the judicial approval date

The Federal Bar Association identifies an attorney at the former firm as the recipient of its 2023 Robyn J. Spalter Outstanding Achievement Award. Its convention agenda scheduled presentation for September 22, 2023, in Memphis, Tennessee. The firm's published biography connects that recognition to advocacy securing a \$7 million child-welfare settlement. This is the firm's description; the original nomination and selection records have not been reviewed. [D02-D04, D23]

The court-record copy bears Judge Joshua I. Wall's September 28, 2023 endorsement allowing the joint motion and approving the underlying settlement. The motion expressly invokes G.L. c. 258, § 7. For covered Chapter 258 settlements exceeding \$20,000, that statute requires the specified governmental approval and Superior Court approval before finality. The judicial endorsement is dated six days after the scheduled award presentation. [D05-D06]

We request the original award citation or publicly shareable nomination materials, the selection date, and an explanation of how the settlement's status was described to those evaluating the nomination. Were they informed that judicial approval remained pending? Section 7 governs settlement finality; it does not prohibit professional recognition before that approval. The chronology alone establishes neither an unlawful award nor misconduct.

Historical roles and judicial nomination responsibilities

The Massachusetts Chapter's December 2010 and April 2011 newsletters list Cook in awards and diversity assignments and an attorney at Williams's former firm in an annual judicial-reception assignment. The chapter attorney and Cook's spouse are different people. These rosters document historical chapter roles, not who participated in the national award selection in 2023. Did either listed person participate in that nomination or selection, and what publicly shareable records identify any such role? [D10-D11, D24]

Governor Deval Patrick's July 16, 2014 announcement identifies Joshua Wall as a Superior Court nominee and describes his previous Suffolk County prosecution service. Cook's 2014 professional profile describes her general judicial-nomination responsibilities as Patrick's chief legal counsel. Neither source establishes her participation in Wall's particular nomination. Judicial appointment authority rests with the Governor, with the Council's advice and consent, under the Massachusetts Constitution. [D07-D09, D25]

We request publicly releasable records identifying Cook's role, if any, in that particular nomination. We also request identification of any public judicial disclosures, disqualification motions, rulings, or recorded waivers concerning these associations in the underlying litigation. Rule 2.11(A) of the Massachusetts Code of Judicial Conduct addresses impartiality and disqualification; Comment [5] addresses disclosure

of information potentially relevant to a disqualification motion. The records reviewed do not establish a disqualifying relationship or compromised judicial independence. [D12]

Separate honors and later public leadership reporting

Cook's 2014 Top Women of Law and 2022 Circle of Excellence recognitions were issued by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly. They are separate from the 2023 Federal Bar Association award; the reviewed profiles do not identify Williams's settlement as their basis. A Harvard Kennedy School article published September 25, 2026 describes a September 10 chiefs-of-staff discussion. It supplies background on executive responsibilities, not evidence of involvement in this settlement or a response to Williams's filing. [D15-D16, D22]

Williams asks why the relationship was not disclosed

Williams identifies the professional relationships and government roles documented in this release as circumstantial support for his theory about why the marriage and its potential implications were not disclosed to him before settlement. That is his allegation and inference from the identified records. The records establish the roles and relationships described; they do not establish any person's motive, an agreement to conceal information, or compromised judicial independence. The former firm should address this allegation directly and identify any contemporaneous disclosure, explanation, or other publicly shareable record supporting its account. [D07-D14, D24]

The Attorney General acknowledged vulnerability

An August 8, 2023 letter from Attorney General Andrea Campbell to Williams and the other plaintiffs contains this acknowledgment: "I am incredibly grateful that you were willing to be vulnerable (again) and share such painful memories." The quotation is reproduced from the letter transcription retained in Williams's September 22 intake materials. The letter also recognizes that foster-care trauma continues into adulthood. [D28]

Williams cites that acknowledgment as context for his vulnerability, exhaustion, and reliance on counsel during the litigation. Justice Is Exposure Media calls for a documented explanation of what Williams was told about potential conflicts, what risks and alternatives were explained, and what opportunity he had to obtain independent advice. The letter does not determine his capacity to consent or establish exploitation; it expressly separates proposed legislative reforms from settlement negotiations and does not address how his case should resolve. [D28]

John Williams on the continuing impact

John Thomas Williams Jr., founder and plaintiff, stated:

"Our most recent DCF investigation changed how I understand trust, institutions, and accountability. The records we reviewed and the information we uncovered raised questions I could not ignore. After years of trying to rebuild my life, I am still seeking answers and navigating another legal process.

What has been especially painful is having to question people I believed were looking out for me. The loss of that confidence, particularly in the legal system, has been devastating. That emotional impact deserves to be acknowledged alongside the dates, documents, and legal proceedings.

I am a human being whose life continues long after a settlement is signed. I deserve clear information, honest communication, and the opportunity to make informed decisions about my own life. I will continue pursuing answers with care and determination. When people say they care, their actions matter.”

Responses and editorial independence

We request a prompt, substantive response to each question within the recipient's knowledge or responsibility, identification of the appropriate spokesperson, and supporting records authorized for public disclosure. We welcome factual corrections and will consider substantive responses in follow-up coverage. A decision not to comment will not be treated as an admission.

For transparency, plaintiff John Williams is the founder and owner of Justice Is Exposure Media, LLC and is representing himself. Dr. Jessica Lynn Campbell is acting as Chief Information Officer and media contact, not as his legal counsel. This is reporting by an organization owned by the plaintiff, not an assertion of editorial independence from him.

This publication requests no payment, settlement, waiver, release, or litigation concession. Publication or nonpublication is not offered in exchange for any financial or legal concession. Reporting decisions are made on editorial grounds, subject to applicable law. No disclosure of privileged, sealed, impounded, or otherwise restricted information is requested.

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Supporting documentation

References D01-D28 identify the accompanying supporting records and source notes. These materials distinguish record copies from attributed summaries and explain what each source establishes. D28 identifies the retained transcription supporting the Attorney General letter quotation; it is not an original letter image or certified court record.