

1 Linden Place, Unit 107
Hartford, CT 06106
kenkrayeske.com



KENNETH J. KRAYESKE
Law Offices

P: 860-995-5842
F: 860-760-6590
attorney@kenkrayeske.com

March 19, 2015

Received & Inspected
MAR 25 2015
FCC Mail Room

Mr. Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Mr. Michael O'Reilly, Commissioner
Ms. Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner
Ms. Jessica Rosenworsel, Commissioner
Mr. Ajit Pai, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Rebecca Neumann, Esq.
Lerman Senter, PLLC
2000 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

2015 MAR 25 PM 2:39

re: Application of CBS Radio Stations, Inc. (CBS) for
Renewal of License of Station WTIC(AM), Hartford, CT
(File No. BR-20131127AOD)

Dear Honored Commissioners and Counsel Neumann:

In my last correspondence of March 1, 2015, I promised that I would file another report with the FCC on the status former WTIC(AM) talk show host John Rowland and how it relates to the license renewal. It gives me no pride to report that on March 18, 2015, former governor John G. Rowland received a 30-month sentence for violation of federal election laws.

United States District Court Judge Janet Bond Arterton, in ruling on his sentence, stated "What is striking and disturbing is Mr. Rowland's total contempt for those law, which was made abundantly clear at the trial, including his shameless use of his radio talk show to advantage one candidate, Ms. Lisa Wilson-Foley, and to disadvantage her lead opponent."

Attached please find a true and accurate copy of the March 18, 2015 story from the Hartford Courant, by Ed Mahony, describing the sentencing, and quoting Judge Arterton. I do not have access to the full transcript from the federal court, but I expect

The Federal Communications Commission
re: CBS Radio Stations, Inc. License Renewal for WTIC(AM)
March 19, 2015
Page 3

Regards,



Kenneth L. Krayske, Esq.
attorney@kenkrayske.com

cc: Mr. Mark Berlin, FCC Media Bureau
Sen. Richard Blumenthal
Sen. Christopher Murphy
Rep. John Larson
Rep. Rosa DeLauro
Rep. Joseph Courtney
Rep. Elizabeth Esty
Rep. Jim Himes

prosecutors had wanted, but more than the 18 months or less that his high-priced Washington defense team had wanted.

Rowland was sentenced for seven crimes — five of them felonies — associated with a conspiracy to break federal campaign law promoting open elections by requiring public reports on all campaign expenditures. Rowland was charged for his attempted involvement or involvement in the Greenberg and Wilson-Foley campaigns, while concealing his salary.

Arterton disagreed with a letter from a Rowland supporter and with Weingarten, both of whom asserted that Rowland's offenses were relatively trivial campaign violations that should be subject to civil rather than criminal punishment.

"I disagree that nobody was hurt because enforcement of these statutes, compliance with these statutes, is how you achieve a free and open campaign process," she said.

Arterton said she remains unsure of Rowland's motive.

"Perhaps it's lust for influence," she said, "but, nonetheless, it cannot be tolerated."

Arterton imposed 30-month sentences for five of the crimes and 12-month sentences on the remaining two. She ordered all to be served concurrently. She fined Rowland \$35,000 and ordered him to serve three years of supervision by the federal probation office upon his release.

She gave Rowland until June 16 to report to prison, allowing him to participate in the upcoming wedding of a stepson. He was released on bail until then and it was clear from discussion in court that, in coming days, Rowland will ask to continue to be free on bail while pressing an appeal of his conviction at the U.S. 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals.

Rowland's appellate lawyer was present at the sentencing.

Five people spoke on Rowland's behalf, including his wife, Patty; daughter Julianne; and his former sidekick on WTIC radio, the Rev. Will Marotti, pastor of the New Life Church in Wallingford.

Julianne, Rowland's youngest child, nearly overcome by emotion, called him her "backbone and sounding board."

Marotti said he is Rowland's friend and pastor, and he knows Rowland "probably better than anyone." He told Arterton of times when Rowland quietly tried to help the disabled or the destitute. Once, Marotti said, Rowland and he visited a homeless man who was in a coma in a hospital burn unit after being set on fire by some youths. Marotti said that Rowland spoke to the victim as if he were "a fellow governor," not a penniless homeless person.

"We prayed over him," Marotti said.

Patty Rowland, the former governor's high school sweetheart, said their family

The evidence at his trial suggested that he was incapable of simply talking about politics on the radio.

Rowland wanted to consult for a campaign, but he and the prospective candidates realized that it would be political suicide to be seen buying advice from an ex-governor with a corruption conviction. If he were to be a paid political adviser, it would become widely known because federal election law requires congressional campaigns to make public reports on consultant salaries.

Greenberg, a real estate mogul who ran for Congress as a Republican in the 5th District, testified that he rejected a pitch by Rowland to work as a paid but unreported consultant during the 2010 election cycle. Greenberg said Rowland proposed that his consulting fees — more than half a million dollars — be laundered through a nonprofit animal shelter that Greenberg and his wife ran.

Two years later, in 2012, Rowland made a similar offer to Wilson-Foley, another wealthy Republican running for his old 5th District seat. This time the candidate and her husband, Brian Foley, who owns the Apple Rehab nursing home chain, agreed.

Under the deal, Rowland would advise the campaign, but be paid a total of \$35,000 through a phony consulting contract with Apple Rehab. Both Foleys pleaded guilty to misdemeanor conspiracy charges and Brian Foley became the government's star witness against Rowland at his September trial.

After deliberating for seven hours over two days, Rowland's jury convicted him of conspiracy, two counts of falsifying records in order to obstruct an investigation, two counts of causing false reports to be filed with the Federal Election Commission and two counts of exceeding campaign contribution limits.

Courant staff writer Jon Lender contributed to this story.

Copyright © 2015, Hartford Courant