

Ross remained defiant even in the face of the verdict. "This will in no way, shape, or form stop me," he told the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, but, he added, "I already sent out a letter to my clients saying I could no longer perform adult involuntaries."

Not their first kidnapping

This is not the first kidnapping-for-hire that has landed a CAN deprogrammer in hot water.

In 1992, E. Newbold Smith, a financier of the Cult Awareness Network, along with CAN security consultant Galen Kelly and former Sheriff's Lt. Don Moore, were indicted with two others on federal kidnapping conspiracy charges. Moore, a former special deputy U.S. Marshal, was a key investigator in the fraudulent prosecutions of Lyndon H. LaRouche and his associates. All four men were acquitted in that case, but several months later, Kelly was convicted for kidnapping a Washington, D.C. woman a year earlier. Kelly's conviction was overturned on appeal after serving 16 months in prison. Faced with a re-trial, he pled guilty to lesser

charges after admitting to kidnapping the woman. Moore also pled guilty for his role in the kidnapping and served eight months in federal prison.

In all these cases, CAN officials facilitated the link-up between family members and the kidnapers they hired. While CAN claims not to endorse so-called "involuntary deprogrammings," i.e., kidnapping, officials of CAN repeatedly refer callers to "deprogrammers" known to be kidnapers.

At Newbold Smith's request, CAN hired known kidnaper Kelly, as an expert on LaRouche. The project, conducted jointly with the AFF, was designed as part of a harassment campaign against LaRouche and his associates, including the planting of false stories in the media, instigating frivolous lawsuits, and initiating bogus criminal charges. During that time, Kelly maintained contact with officials of the Internal Revenue Service, the FBI, and various state law enforcement agencies. During this same period, while on retainer with CAN, Kelly is known to have committed at least three forcible kidnappings-for-hire.

Corrupt DOJ officials seek to oust Kelly's prosecutor

In apparent retaliation for prosecuting CAN's kidnap-for-hire ring, Assistant U.S. Attorney Lawrence Leiser is now facing dismissal from the Department of Justice (DOJ), according to published news accounts. Leiser, the only federal prosecutor to take on what he called CAN's "cottage industry" of deprogrammers, is accused of withholding evidence in his prosecution of CAN kidnapper Galen Kelly. Even though his initial conviction was overturned, Kelly eventually pled guilty to lesser charges while admitting to the kidnapping for which he was originally convicted.

The efforts to oust Leiser originate from a corrupt network of current and former DOJ officials long sympathetic to CAN. They include Deputy Assistant Attorney General Mark Richard, former federal prosecutors John Markham, Kent Robinson, and Mark Rasch, IRS special agent Lance Lydon, and others. This is the same network which Boston Federal Judge Robert Keeton cited for "institutional and systemic prosecutorial misconduct" during the first bogus prosecution of Lyndon LaRouche.

During the kidnapping investigation, Kelly and his accomplice Donald Moore bragged about the very misconduct cited by Judge Keeton. These boasts were captured on FBI tape recordings and made public during Kelly

and Moore's trial.

From the beginning, CAN's sympathizers have sought to sabotage Leiser's prosecutions of CAN's funders and kidnapers. John Markham, who prosecuted LaRouche, represented E. Newbold Smith when he was charged with conspiring to kidnap his son, Lewis du Pont Smith, an associate of LaRouche. Mark Rasch, another former LaRouche prosecutor, now with the Anti-Defamation League's law firm Arent Fox, represented Ann Kleinhanz, a Kelly victim-turned-accomplice.

Most egregious were the actions of IRS special agent Lydon, who was the chief IRS agent in the LaRouche case. Just days before the start of Kelly's kidnapping trial, Lydon conducted a raid on the home of Kelly's kidnap victim and main accuser. Lydon later told Kelly that he thought the raid would derail his prosecution. It is documents related to Lydon's search which Leiser is accused of withholding. Lydon was helped in his efforts by probation officer Susan Williams, the wife of Leiser's superior, Justin Williams (see *EIR*, June 30, 1995, p. 24).

Enormous pressure was brought to bear on DOJ officials to intervene to stop the prosecutions. Nathan Lewin and Stuart Levey, lawyers for Ira and Michelle Bruschan-sky, Kelly's accomplices, made a formal appeal to Deputy Assistant Attorneys General Richard and Gerald McDowell for help. Richard was already corrupted by CAN, having been the chief DOJ official overseeing the Waco disaster.

While Richard and McDowell refused to intervene at the time, the matter is still not over.