

“Judge Fixes Own Red Light Ticket”

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By Bob Lamonica



[Fred Keeley & "non-entity" Bob Lamonica email exchange 2-7-21 to 2-8-21¹](#) (with 2 Attachments [A²](#) and [B³](#)).

Santa Cruz Superior Court **Judge Ariadne Symons** was [caught fixing her own red light ticket⁴](#) in 2016. She knew she was driving the car. She knew she was filing false information. That we are even having this conversation on the assuaged culpability of a former sitting **Judge** is remarkable. As a culture we do not know how to deal with **abuse of power**. If recognition and response to abuse of power is not important, *nothing is*. (**Abuse of power**. Unlawful act in an official capacity. *Example: A Judge who knowingly submits false information on a traffic ticket.*)

It's been total avoidance with public silence like it never happened from the [Santa Cruz Chapter ACLU](#), which has *repeatedly and continually* acted to discount truth and deceive the public about blatant local application of values abuse of power malfeasance for over three decades now and counting. This is [documented since 1987⁵](#) when the **victim** of the District Attorney's at-fault bodily injury car wreck **was blood tested** and the **D.A. was not**, and *he had just been drinking*.

The grand old Santa Cruz Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union epitomizes petty power over principle. Ask Mike Rotkin, the emeritus presence of the modern, duck and cover configured SC ACLU why they don't stand up. I will give Mike Rotkin plenty and often due praise and credit for supporting social and environmental cause issue politics, including an advisory measure for [rent control in Santa Cruz in 1999](#) launched by yours truly. Unfortunately, it's not that way with Mr. Rotkin or the SC ACLU with egregious local application of values abuse of power issue politics. Apparently, it's too hot, as in "*Down in flames,*" to quote Mr. Rotkin.

By a distinctive, traceable pattern of evasion the SC ACLU does not stand up to local abuse of power, they downplay, they slough off accountability, and by their silence, *condone*. Over long historical precedence their influentially pivotal role in the community is shown to be, when called upon, to *deny* glaring local abuse of power while vigorously upholding their pretense as protectors of civil liberties and defenders of the Constitution—to the very heights of hypocrisy. Their track record responding to local abuse of power is dismal. Not a peep. Nada. They're busy with showboating bombast. They are and were, in the way.

Many well-known local collaborators have been covering-up flagrant local abuse of power, usually with look the other way and go along to get along silence, but sometimes with actual blocking action as objectively documented since ['95, even '87](#)⁶. Enthusiastic lead deflector for the then incumbent, ticket fixing, up for re-election Judge Ariadne Symons was local political frontispiece **Fred Keeley**.

The former California Assembly Speaker Pro Tem had earned his opportunist, bought and paid for "trust" peddling obfuscation while Chair of the Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors in 1995, infamously, as time will bear, by the career-building decision to cover-up abuse of power for political favor with [Resolution #114-95](#)⁷. The incumbent D.A. Danner had directed that the timecards of an Assistant D.A. on staff, at the time enduring an episode of troubling personal behavior, be falsified as "unavailable" overlapping his 1994 re-election as she sat it out silently at home, from March 18, 1994 through July 20, 1994. The issue surfaced months after the June 1994 re-election. It went to the Board of Supervisors for binding determination as **Resolution #114-95** in April 1995.

July 30, 2019 Keeley says to me about the California Commission on Judicial Performance Symons censure, **"DON'T YOU THINK I READ THE FUCKING THING?"** then walks away in classic last-word finale style. I must keep reminding myself, *he's a hotshot and I'm nobody*. A "*non-entity*" to quote Mr. Keeley (see above).

Symons was indeed officially [censured by the California Commission on Judicial Performance](#)⁸ May 8, 2019. The penned and pushed by Fred Keeley post-censure "alternative facts" revisionist history ["Statement of Support for Judge Symons"](#)⁹ emphatically states, with bold alacrity, **"She is a person with impeccable ethics and always places service above self."** It is signed by a stunning list of prominent Symons aggrandizers that includes 18 former and current elected officials, 12 members of the legal community, four members of the law enforcement community and 10 community "leaders."

It is impossible to find a context for the Symons "Statement of Support" except as an inability to deal with the truth when it's local and one of your own. From Sam Farr, former US House of Representatives to Rene Schlaepfer, Senior Pastor Twin Lakes Church, Symons red light fixing post-censure "supporters" list is startling and shows the degree some will engage in petty power over principle, corruption enabling cover-up rather than standing up to acknowledge abuse of power malfeasance when it's a question of local application of values. **All claims of "no jurisdiction" are made moot by this document.**

November 6, 2019 *Santa Cruz Sentinel*: [Judge Symons calls off reelection bid, announces retirement.](#) Because it would mean naming collaborators, the most fear of outcome dismissed story in recent Santa Cruz is the aforementioned Fred Keeley orchestrated [Endorsements for Symons 2020 Re-election](#)¹⁰. Endorsed by numerous notables and elected officials, the page remained active on her re-election website well past the election of March 3, 2020, none of whom have publicly ever retracted.

When is a documented account of abuse of power sufficient to demand resignation? How about Judge Symons fixing her own red light ticket? Not for the bloated list of Symons aggrandizers. They simply moved on to their next dinner party set enabled photo-op puff piece. *Let them publicly justify themselves.*

Had Ariadne Symons gone to traffic school it would have been an honor for her and a teaching for us all. But she did not. She **abused power**, without acknowledgement and without accountability, and most certainly, to date, with NO REMORSE. Never forget we're talking about a sitting **Judge** here. **To impudently run for re-election in 2020 with "brand name" support is the real scandal.**

Footnote Reference Links

1. <https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Fred-Keeley-Bob-Lamonica-email-exchange-2-7-21-to-2-8-21.pdf>
2. https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Symons_DO_Censure_05-20-19.pdf
3. <https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Statement-of-Support-for-Judge-Symons.pdf>
4. https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Symons_DO_Censure_05-20-19.pdf
5. <https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/The-Double-Plaque-Cover-Up-of-the-Santa-Cruz-County-D.A.-v0.84.pdf>
6. <https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/The-Double-Plaque-Cover-Up-of-the-Santa-Cruz-County-D.A.-v0.84.pdf>
7. <https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Resolution-114-95.pdf>
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9. <https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Statement-of-Support-for-Judge-Symons.pdf>
10. <https://www.boblamonica.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/View-Endorsements.pdf>