



ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE DONALD MARSHALL, JR., PROSECUTION

MARITIME CENTRE, SUITE 1026, 1505 BARRINGTON STREET, HALIFAX
NOVA SCOTIA , B3J 3K5 902-424-4800

CHIEF JUSTICE T. ALEXANDER HICKMAN
CHAIRMAN

ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE LAWRENCE A. POITRAS
COMMISSIONER

THE HONOURABLE
MR. JUSTICE GREGORY THOMAS EVANS
COMMISSIONER

November 17, 1987

Mr. Charles Balcom
P. O. Box 951
Middleton, Annapolis Co.
Nova Scotia B0S 1P0

Dear Mr. Balcom:

Thank you for your letter, directed to George MacDonald, one of our Commission counsel, which was received by this office on November 12, 1987.

As you may know, the Terms of Reference of the Royal Commission on the Donald Marshall, Jr., Prosecution are to inquire into the circumstances which led to the wrongful conviction of Mr. Marshall and to question whether the administration of criminal justice in Nova Scotia was at all to blame in this instance. We hope to make recommendations to Government which will ensure that such a situation will not occur again. I have read your submission and have come to the conclusion that, unfortunately, there is nothing that we can do to help you. While our mandate is quite broad, it does not appear to me to be broad enough to encompass your particular situation. However, we do appreciate hearing from members of the public and hope that this Royal Commission will answer some of the broader questions relating to the administration of justice which might affect individuals in Nova Scotia.

Once again, thank you for your interest in the Royal Commission.

Yours very truly,

Susan M. Ashley,
Commission Executive
Secretary

NOV 12 1987

Geo Macdonald
Maritime Centre
Suite 1026.

1505-Barrington St

Yfr. 7-5-

Dear Sir,

My Request was that if at all possible that I may speak with you in person my call was returned asking me to write, I have to admit that I'm not very good at this as I only was able to obtain a grade 6 Education, That is one of the reasons I asked to speak with you in person, as to my problem & what happened is so complex I feel I cannot explain to you so as to get my point. First of all I would like to inform you, that I'm well aware that most people that go through a divorce, some one ends up a loser, But in my case I have lost all respect for our justice system in N.S. and the people involved. Even though I don't know Donald Marshall or the facts I can see how perhaps ^{many} innocent people have suffered and were at a loss to do anything about it. For instance I was married for 20 yrs, worked at a Company for 12 yrs, approx 7 hrs a week sundays & holidays you name it all his of the night. Trying to build a home & provide for my family we had to children & toys. I then had the chance for a better job, which gave me the time to be home

with my family more, I worked very hard there for approx 4 yrs. In the course of this 4 yrs my Ex wife walked out on us twice & the last time moved into Yfk, & got involved with my Employers family, and through them got involved with many other people of so called power. I was contacted a few months later & she wanted to return, & would try hard to make the marriage work, so I went along with it. As soon as she got back in the home she was gone, & I also found out she was doing part time work for Sonny Dowell, a lawyer from Middleton my home town who had his office in Yfk. She also made it clear to me & the children that had many friends lawyers judges etc. and when she was through with me I would be out on the street with nothing. Example her best friend was a lady friend who worked as hostess in the club known as the Halifax Club on Hollis street I believe not very far from the law courts, and I had a very good idea who belongs to that club. And with out doubt her lady friend worked there. I was then sued for a divorce, and there was no way we could go to court in our home town or area it had to be Yfk. my lawyer could not get it changed, so we went to the Yfk law courts for a hearing.

before Chief Justice Hallat. He order that
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 that the matter must be settled
 in 4 months, this was not obeyed
 it went almost a year before we
 returned to Court. Causing much hardship
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 there on my part. And a few others from
 my home. The only person in the
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 lady friend from the Halifax Club.
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 decision 4 other ladies came in and
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My two boys had to travel by there
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 So I went to his office and saw
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 cost me 650.00 just to get it hushed up

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I then went to my M.L.A. another very interesting person, who was going to help me. wasted effort. I was talking to him at the Grand Hotel in Yarmouth a few months later. He was drinking a good amount at the time and made it clear that I was getting a raw deal. So he came home and a few months later guess who moved in my home & purchased it. my M.L.A.'s son. The CBC came out Clyde Vicory done a program on what happened the interview was done in street in front of my house, and there was a stop put to it. There are many more things that happened, I just can't explain in writing. I had to ~~be~~ declare Bankrupt. etc etc. after working hard the best yrs of my life, my two sons ended up suffering to no end. My wife at the time 39 yrs of age. job Experience, in sales, at a newspaper, Real Estate license etc etc. I'd like to know is this our justice system. and how it works in Nova Scotia. also I would like to point out I have said nothing in this letter

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That I can't prove, I am making no attempt at this time to accuse anyone of any thing. I'm only telling you some of what and how it happened. I intend to make the public aware of what happened how it happened & who was involved. I can't afford a lawyer right now. But somehow I can afford to go through the news media, and let the people of Nova Scotia know just how it works, and let them make their own judgement of justice in this province. My big concern the province of N.S. put my two sons out on the street. Took every thing away from the one who kept them and wanted to provide for them in other words gave me custody of two boys, and put us out on the street with nothing. How can the court justify this? That's what is in question. There are many other ways they are going to suffer because of the Supreme Court of N.S. such as Education, etc. I'm writing to you on the advice of Vince Maclean, as I was consulted by his office a few weeks ago. Could I please hear from you by return mail.

My legal fees approx 9,000

Thank you
Charles Balcom

The average person or parent who abuses a child is charged and punished, who in this case abuses 2 children, when they put them out on the street with no food, no clothes, one parent, who was on u.i.c. and when he did have a job, it required him to be away. Days at a time took away all means of finance to educate them or even feed them properly, as many people in the area claim child abuse is mental as well as ~~physical~~ other things.

The supreme Court of Nova Scotia put them on the street. Can they account for such actions as people who can make decisions that affect the lives of other people such as children that can't help themselves.

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P.O. Box 951

Wickliffton Anna. Co.,

Nova Scotia

Box 170.

picture of my home I lost & my sons were put out of, & couldn't even have to live in until they became of legal age.

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