



Broken Scale of Justice

False Prosecution, Conviction and Sentencing

Summary

In 1895, my cousin, HRM Queen Lili'uokalani, lost the kingdom through force of arms by unethical American businessmen who were backed by the United States Government to steal the Hawaiian Kingdom. They wanted the Kingdom for its fertile lands and ocean harbors and the coves for the U.S. Naval operations. Our Queen was arrested and tried for aiding in a short-lived attempt to restore the monarchy. At her trial, which took place in the Throne Room at 'Iolani Palace, she denied having any knowledge of the Counter-Revolution led by devoted Hawaiian Nationals to restore her throne. Nonetheless, she was found guilty, fined 5,000 U.S. Dollars, and sentenced to five years of hard labor. These corrupt men attacked her lineage, culture, tradition, humble character, good nature, and name to humiliate and shame her before the eyes of her people. Her situation mirrors much of my own. As a young man of royal Hawaiian ancestry, I campaigned to restore the Kingdom of Hawai'i, and that's when my troubles began.

Many years ago, I was arrested outside my office by FBI agents and charged with theft by deception and fraud. I was extradited from my Islands to Colorado to face the charges levied on me by the State of Colorado. Unable to hire a private lawyer, I was given a public defender whose clients were often convicted as they were not given adequate defense. The fact was that I received not a loan, grant, or borrowed money but an investment in a self-defense video for women called 'Safe on Your Own: A Woman's Guide to Self-Defense.' This video was produced by Red Mountain Production in Aspen, Colorado. The investor was briefed every step of the way, showing the money was used correctly.

Innocence Upheld

Since I spent 24 years in the Colorado Prison system, I have not voiced my thoughts nor found the need to defend what happened because those asking had already judged me. My family, friends, staff, and those dedicated to me have requested that I write my testimony to the facts. What is painfully true is that bad things happen to good people all the time.

Constant judgment of me will continue even after I have long transitioned from this life. God, the ultimate judge, will judge me according to His Omnipotent Will, Mercy, and Love.

Academically, I am highly educated, a Grandmaster of Chinese Martial Arts, a Master of Pekiti-Tirsia Kali, and Hawaiian Lua. I served honorably in the U.S. Army—holding Top-Secret Clearance. I came from a disciplined, principled, loving family. I have never violated any laws or committed a crime in my life.

I pled NOT GUILTY and demanded a Trial. None of the jurors were my peers. The majority were Caucasian women, and the rest were Caucasian men. To be clear—Fort Collins, Colorado, houses the Ku Klux Klan. In their court is where I first heard the phrase “Coconut Nigger” and learned it came from the KKK (footnotes 1,2).

I chose to fight for my freedom, knowing I was innocent of the charges hurled against me. The Prosecutor was on a mission to send me away for the rest of my life. If the rules of law were executed correctly, the jurisdiction or venue would have been hearing a civil case at best, not a criminal one. **Case in point—it wasn’t about the money. If the state wanted the money paid back, they would allow the defendant to work towards that goal. It was servicing someone’s objective to discredit and bring dishonor upon me and my good name.**

Approximately \$250,000, not \$500,000 as stated in the record, was invested in a Women’s Self Defense Video. It was agreed the investment money would be used for the production and promotion of the video. My CPA testified every penny went precisely to the production and promotion of this investment venture. He brought his files, showing this as factual. Facts didn’t matter. Truth was not heard, and justice was denied. I was found guilty of “Theft by Deception,” which is fraud. I was sentenced to 24 years—for what should have been a Civil case.

In Closing

Throughout the trial, my attorneys told me to prepare myself; I would not win my freedom. An attorney said she would appeal the decision and take it to the appellate courts, where I might receive justice. Unfortunately, defending against this injustice was expensive—money I did not have. So, I had to rely upon Public Defenders to argue my case. A Fort Collins Private attorney said he’d take my case, but I needed to pay him \$50,000 as a retainer and possibly another \$50,000 more. Lawyers soliciting me said you committed no crime, but we must be paid. I had no money, and I didn’t ask anyone for it.

The experiences I learned while falsely imprisoned are valuable. The men and women who served their sentences by the courts should be able to live their lives in harmony with nature, the natural world, and the human family. Instead, public ridicule and judgment continue to follow them, and they are constantly defending themselves, which affects their health, state of mind, and the opportunity to work and live in peace or even have a family.

Public judgment has taken more lives than bullets from a gun because of depression and many ills affecting the body, spirit, and mind. Yet, these issues are never addressed because, to society, they are outcasts. The convicted are no longer treated as citizens and have no country or nation to call home. Justice, citizenship, and Freedom are forever denied.

What was done to me can never be undone. I was not the only victim of this miscarriage of justice; so were my family and friends. They, too, were victims. While sitting in the cell, hate, anger, and vengeful thoughts occupied me. One day, while talking to my daughter on the phone, she said Dad, forgive these people and come home. Her words broke my heart, and I cried. She was right. I knelt and asked God to forgive me for my vengeful thoughts—HE DID. I was free of the hate and forgave my enemies.

The law failed me and emboldened evil. Yet, I have forgiven those who have lied against my good name and character. Speaking falsely against a person is deceitfully wrong. But that's a choice each person will make. My blessed duty is to right the substantial wrongs, and I will not be deterred. I shall continue to fight against injustices committed against those who can't defend themselves, advocate for the First Nations' ancestral lands to be returned to them, call out world leaders to serve their nations with honor, champion peace and reconciliation throughout the world, and restore Sovereign Recognition of the Kingdom of Hawai'i amongst the countries of the world. I will live and enjoy the beautiful blessings I have come to appreciate, like hugging a tree, swimming in the ocean, hearing a child's laughter, holding my children and grandchildren, smelling beautiful flowers, and so much more. I am at peace. **Praise be to God.**

“In a respectful, gentle way, you can shake the world.” - This quote encapsulates Gandhi's belief in the power of nonviolence and peaceful resistance, reminding us that significant transformations can be achieved with compassion and understanding.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edmund K. Silva, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Edmund K. Silva, Jr. PhD
February 14, 2005

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.northerncoloradohistory.com/noco-klan-timeline-1920s/>
- 2) <https://www.northerncoloradohistory.com/the-klan-in-northern-colorado-part-7-we-werent-immune/>