



# Judicial Watch

*Because no one is above the law!*

October 6, 2006

**VIA FEDEX & FAX (202-514-9412)**

Assistant Attorney General Alice Fisher  
Criminal Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
10<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Avenue N. W.  
Room 2107  
Washington, DC 20530

**Re: Request for Investigation**

Dear Ms. Fisher:

Judicial Watch Inc., (hereafter “Judicial Watch”) is a non-profit, non-partisan, public interest organization promoting transparency, accountability and integrity in politics, government and the law. We are organized to educate the American public about the operations and activities of their government, and to promote fidelity to the rule of law.

Judicial Watch hereby submits this request for a criminal investigation into the reported activities of Mr. Anthony D. Rodham, Ms. Vonna Jo Gregory, the former owner of the now bankrupt United Shows International Inc. (hereafter “United Shows”), Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton and former President William J. Clinton.

**Background:**

On March 15, 2000 President William J. Clinton pardoned Edgar Gregory Jr., and his wife, Vonna Jo Gregory, for a 1982 bank fraud conviction.<sup>1</sup> Anthony D. Rodham, the brother of Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton and brother-in-law of President Clinton, was instrumental in obtaining the Gregorys’ pardons. According to press reports, the pardons were granted over the objections of the U.S. Department of Justice.<sup>2</sup> News media reports said the United States

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Edgar Gregory Jr. died in April 2004.

<sup>2</sup> See: Kevin Sack, “Pardoned Couple Say Access Has Served Them Well,” *New York Times*, March 10, 2001; and, Marc Lacey and Don Van Natta Jr., “Second Clinton In-Law Says He Helped

attorney who prosecuted the case (Ginny S. Granade, Esq.) and the sentencing judge opposed any clemency for Mr. and Mrs. Gregory.

At the time Mr. Rodham brokered the pardons, he was receiving monies from the Gregorlys as a “consultant” in the carnival and radio broadcast industries. Both Mr. Rodham and the Gregorlys refused to disclose the exact terms on their financial relationship at the time of the pardons, however, a congressional investigation concluded that Mr. Rodham was provided \$323,769 by the Gregorlys for “work” for which there is little documentary evidence.

The House Committee on Government Reform issued a report on March 14, 2002, titled “Justice Undone: Clemency Decisions in the Clinton White House.”<sup>3</sup> Chapter Four of the Committee’s report (Exhibit 1) contains a detailed analysis of Mr. Rodham’s role in brokering pardons for Mr. and Mrs. Gregory.

**Recent Legal Actions Highlight Need for Further Investigation:**

According to consent orders filed in the U. S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia on July 25, 2006, Mr. Rodham “received \$107, 000 in loans from United Shows in 16 checks issued by the company from May 2000 to February 2002, about six months before United Shows filed for bankruptcy protection.”<sup>4</sup> (See *In re: United Shows of America Inc., Debtor, Michael E. Collins, Chapter 11 Trustee, Plaintiff v. Anthony D. Rodham, Defendant*; United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria Division), Case No. 06-00103 RGM, Chapter 7.)

United Shows, owned by the Gregorlys, went bankrupt in 2002. Reportedly “control of its [United Shows] finances was placed in the hands of court-appointed trustee Michael E. Collins, who has sought to garnish Mr. Rodham’s wages.” In June 2006 Mr. Collins won a default judgment against Mr. Rodham in a complaint filed in bankruptcy court in Nashville, TN. The trustee sought repayment of the “loans,” plus more than \$40,000 in interest. On July 27, 2006, the *Washington Times* reported that Mr. Rodham has been barred from accessing a bank account containing approximately \$142,000.<sup>5</sup>

There is now sufficient reason, based on the issues and circumstances before federal bankruptcy courts, and the conclusions drawn by the House Government Reform Committee, for

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to Obtain Pardon,” *New York Times*, March 1, 2001.

<sup>3</sup> Found at: <http://news.findlaw.com/hdocs/docs/clinton/pardonrpt/>

<sup>4</sup> Jim McElhatton. “Hillary’s Brother Barred from Bank Account,” *The Washington Times*. July 27, 2006, found at: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/metro/20060727-121614-3198r.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

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the U.S. Department of Justice to launch an investigation into Mr. Rodham's unlawful pardon brokerage activities. It is now even more apparent that the reason for the payment of "loans" to Mr. Rodham by United Shows and Edgar and Vonna Jo Gregory was a *quid pro quo* to influence President Clinton to issue the pardons.

Such activity by members of the Rodham family is certainly not be new. The other brother of former First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Hugh Rodham, supposedly "returned about \$400,000 he received for lobbying for a presidential pardon and prison commutation for two clients."<sup>6</sup>

**Request For Investigation:**

Judicial Watch requests a criminal investigation into the details and transactions cited above and, if the evidence warrants, prosecution by the Department of Justice of any actor who violated federal law in the process of obtaining or granting a pardon for Edgar and Vonna Jo Gregory.

Judicial Watch applauds the increased efforts to prosecute public corruption by the Justice Department. However, Justice's past handling of the "Pardongate" scandal is a stain on the Department's record. We hope this changes with a renewed investigation into the Rodham issue.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.



Thomas J. Fitton  
President

cc: Chuck Rosenberg, Esq., US Attorney for Eastern District of Virginia  
Michael J. Garcia, Esq., US Attorney for the Southern District of New York  
Edward Nucci, Esq., Acting Chief, Public Integrity Section, USDOJ

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<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*