

J.A.I.L. 4 Judges

Opponents of an Impartial Justice System?

By William E. Raftery

Within hours of its resounding defeat at the South Dakota ballot box, state and national proponents of the Judicial Accountability Initiative Law for Judges movement (more commonly known as “J.A.I.L. 4 Judges”) began to circulate claims of a conspiracy involving the vote and demanded a media investigation of the conspiracy, which allegedly involved the state’s entire electoral system.¹ At the same time, they vowed that the massive loss, to them, clearly the work of a government plot, would in fact invigorate their organization.² Many in the media and elsewhere were taken aback by the conspiracy theory claims and the JAILers’ (as they refer to themselves) inability to accept the loss. However, to those familiar with J.A.I.L.’s tactics, the conspiracy claims were nothing new, as the organization has accused the judiciary of conspiring against the people for over a decade. This article

addresses the history, philosophy, practices, and activities of this movement, which has vowed to pursue the J.A.I.L. 4 Judges initiative in other states and at the federal level in the coming years.³

History

The J.A.I.L. 4 Judges movement was created in the mid-1990s by Californian Ronald Branson, who serves as the national head of the organization, or “JAILer-in-Chief.”⁴ Prior to starting J.A.I.L., Branson had been active as a pastor in various churches in California and tracked down cult groups in the state. Branson’s disagreements with the courts started in the early 1980s when he helped a Los Angeles County civil service employee in her lawsuit against the county over her termination. According to Branson, the entire state-level proceeding was corrupt, prompting him to sue the judge and other parties in the case in federal

court. When that case was dismissed, Branson attributed it to a conspiracy of judges against the people.

Branson’s hostility toward the courts grew markedly after his 1986 arrest for attempted burglary of a motor vehicle. Alleging false imprisonment, Branson sued the arresting officers, his own defense attorneys, the court clerk, and others. The cases were dismissed, and the dismissals were later upheld by the state’s appellate court. After that, as the Ninth Circuit put it, Branson “sued nearly every person he came into contact with during the state proceeding” in federal court in a series of often repetitive lawsuits.⁵

While the cases were ongoing, Branson received a traffic ticket in 1995. Appearing before a county commissioner, he demanded a jury trial and to be brought before a magistrate. At the hearing, Branson refused to enter a plea or sign a promise to appear; consequently, he was put in

jail. After being released, he almost immediately commenced lawsuits against the commissioner and every participant in the proceeding. When the court of appeals ruled against his “novel” causes of action⁶ citing judicial immunity⁷ and other reasons, he once again brought federal lawsuits against the trial judge, the court personnel, and even the appellate court judges, alleging a conspiracy among them all.

Eventually all of these cases were dismissed in various federal district court proceedings; the district court also found his continued pleadings frivolous and fined him.⁸ However, Branson persisted, bringing yet another series of actions alleging that the federal judges were part of the conspiracy as well.⁹ Branson claims that he filed at least fourteen separate petitions to the United States Supreme Court, all of which were denied. Undaunted, he filed complaints with California’s judicial disciplinary bodies, the Ninth Circuit’s Judicial Council, the California and United States attorneys general, as well as a series of bills of impeachment with the United States House of Representatives. He even went door to door to nearly every office of the California state legislature in Sacramento.¹⁰ Failing to receive a satisfactory answer, or in most cases any answer, Branson drafted his Judicial Reform Act (JRA) of 1996 and filed it with the California secretary of state as an initiative (the Act would eventually be slightly modified into J.A.I.L. 4 Judges). While at first the initiative specified that it applied only to “the members of the judiciary,” later incarnations expanded those covered to include any “arbitrator and referee,”¹¹ any “administrative officer,”¹² and “every person shielded by judicial immunity.”¹³ In the most recent version in South Dakota, the initiative reiterated this expansion beyond judges, stating its application to “all other persons claiming to be shielded by judicial immunity.”¹⁴

J.A.I.L.’s Organizational Structure

J.A.I.L. is in many respects synonymous with Ronald Branson, who bills himself as the “Five-Star National J.A.I.L. Commander-in-Chief” or “National JAILer-in-Chief” for short.¹⁵ His wife Barbie is the “Associate” Commander-in-Chief, giving her “the authority to speak for the CIC”¹⁶ (i.e., Ron Branson). Attorney Gary Zerman is billed as the “Lieutenant” Commander-in-Chief and was one of the media contact people for the South Dakota efforts.

Branson purports to have organizations in all fifty states with JAILers-in-Chief for each; however, it is unclear how active some of these states are or if they are composed of anything more than a single person sending e-mails to Branson.¹⁷ Among the more active chapters are those in California, South Dakota, New York, Vermont, and Florida. Idaho, which had a particularly active chapter until a few years ago, split from the national J.A.I. L. organization to push a modified version of judicial reform legislation.

Below the state JAILers-in-Chief are a series of “wardens” assigned to each county or group of counties. However, wardens appear to exist only in Florida, California, and New York.

Purpose and Beliefs

Although J.A.I.L. 4 Judges seeks to strip judges of personal immunity for decisions made on the bench, its purpose goes far beyond this one mandate.

The New World Order Conspiracy. In a 1996 piece entitled “The Judicial Reform Act vs. The New World Order: The Final Showdown for America,”¹⁸ Branson laid forth his understanding of the purpose behind J.A.I.L.:

1. In 1913, private bankers manipulated Congress into passing the Federal Reserve Act while most House and Senate members were away on Christmas vacation. President Woodrow Wilson then signed it without reading the text.

2. Through the Federal Reserve,¹⁹ bankers are intent on reducing the vast majority of Americans to abject poverty so that the banks will seize their property.
3. The only thing capable of preventing this ruin is if a federal judge²⁰ rules that the entire process violates the Constitution; however, bankers control the courts as well.
4. The only way to prevent the “New World Order” of a banker-controlled United States is via state and federal special grand juries envisioned under the Judicial Reform Act (later called J.A.I.L.).
5. These special grand juries will force judges to uphold their oaths and stop “covering for the bankers.” Judges who refuse will have their judicial immunity stripped and face criminal or civil penalties.

Ron Branson later elaborated on this theory, suggesting that the United Nations was involved and that “We are in a race against time to avert such a takeover by the U.N.”²¹ Barbie Branson has made similar provocative comments, noting that “The People are slowly waking up to realize who the Enemy is—and it isn’t Bin Laden.”²² In another Web posting, she alleged that, “Our Judiciary is Domestic Enemy Number One.”²³

Religion. A fundamental belief behind J.A.I.L. is that God requires its passage. According to Branson, while in custody over the traffic ticket he was “tortured” by the police with stun guns at every mention of the word “Constitution.”²⁴ It was after this abuse that Branson was made aware of the “judicial conspiracy” God had specifically called him to confront: the new “Divine Right of Kings” called judicial immunity.

Having seen that the system has everything mysteriously stacked against those who would dare take it on, I believe I have been called of

God to lead in the cause of judicial accountability. I felt led of the Lord to sit down and write what has now become called the Judicial Accountability Initiative Law, or "J.A.I.L." in short.²⁵

Branson encourages and drives the J.A.I.L. membership as a religious experience, telling followers that, "This is the Work of God, and it is glorious in our eyes! Watch God work!"²⁶ In another Web posting, he proclaimed, "It is the answer not only for the political minded conservative, but J.A.I.L. is the answer for Christians everywhere!"²⁷ Many of his postings include biblical verses, and his creation of J.A.I.L.'s Web site is seen as an act of divine providence:

Since it was for judges, I preserved a Web site entitled www.jail4judges.org. With the internet, God opened a door to this nation, and we have now attained growth at such a rapid rate that it cannot be attained.²⁸

Branson and many of his fellow JAILers feel driven by this religious mandate to push for J.A.I.L.'s passage. In one message,²⁹ Branson posted an Arizona JAILer's sentiments that "J.A.I.L. will guarantee justice based on Godly truth and not on Devil's manipulation." For Washington State JAILer and South Dakota J.A.I.L. media representative Dave Estes, opponents of J.A.I.L. are opponents of God, and "Above all, money [spent to oppose J.A.I.L. in South Dakota] cannot overcome the Spirit of the Lord and His People."³⁰ During the South Dakota campaign, Branson began to compare the attacks on the proposed amendment to the crucifixion of Jesus.³¹

J.A.I.L. also opposes the use of Social Security numbers as the biblical "Mark of the Beast" mentioned in Revelations.³² Branson has dedicated an entire Yahoo group to this entitled simply "No SSN."³³ Many, but not all, of these statements about the New World Order and the Social Security number conspiracy have been erased

from the J.A.I.L. Web sites or played down by Branson, especially since the amendment was placed on the South Dakota ballot. In one message, Branson remarked that, "The plan is to come upon our enemies as sudden as an instant heart attack, leaving them to wonder what happened. (Ever notice how I say very little on the subject of the New World Order and one other unmentionable subject [Social Security Numbers as the Mark of the Beast]?)"³⁴

As noted earlier, J.A.I.L. also believes in a conspiracy to seize property and has made clear its opposition to eminent domain as well as zoning and land-use laws. Even property taxes, according to Branson, are a direct violation of God's will.

So, if inherent in mankind is the natural right to acquire, possess and protect property, then how is it that government somehow found the "right" to tax that inherent right that is freely granted to all by God? Is this not an attack upon the Scriptural mandate that we render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's, and unto God that which is God's! For governments to impose a property tax upon that which is in the preview of God is a clear violation of supposed doctrine of separation of Church and State...[W]e contend that imposing an ungodly tax upon the inherent right to own property is likewise an assault upon God Almighty!³⁵

Amid the thought on property taxes, Branson returned to a subject that has been presented as part of J.A.I.L. for years: the assertion that marriage is of a religious nature only and not subject to government authority.

God said, "Thou shalt leave thy father and thy mother, and cleave unto they wife." Is this command of God subject to the approval by government licensure? Absolutely not! Such proposal would be blasphemy.³⁶

According to J.A.I.L., because marriage is specifically defined in bibli-

cal passages, judges and others who preside over such marriages or issue the licenses are part of a conspiracy to force people into "contract agreements" with the state.³⁷

Judicial Disciplinary Bodies. Much is made by J.A.I.L. of the fact that only 1 to 3 percent of complaints to judicial disciplinary bodies result in any action against a judge.³⁸ For JAILers, it is assumed that the other 97 percent of complaints were valid and the failure to prosecute judges is a reflection of the inability or unwillingness of the disciplinary boards to act. JAILers often cite an article written by Elena Ruth Sassower, which claims that federal judicial disciplinary laws (and, by extension, their state counterparts) are inherently flawed because they rely on judges to police each other and give judges too much discretion whether to recuse themselves from a given case or not.³⁹

When judicial bodies do act, J.A.I.L. tends to be dismissive. For example, when Arizona's judicial disciplinary body removed a judge for the first time in its history, this "dividend of 'one' Superior Court Judge" in the thirty-one years of the body's existence was considered a poor return on the millions taxpayers had spent on the body.⁴⁰ However, J.A.I.L. does not seek to do away with disciplinary boards. According to Branson, such bodies would handle those cases where a judge "smokes on the bench, uses the 'F' word and makes sexy innuendos while under the influence of liquor" whereas J.A.I.L. "deals with willful violations of established law, not indiscretions of a judge's conduct."⁴¹ This distinction was at least one reason why Idaho's JAILers

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split with the national organization to back the Idaho Judicial Accountability Act (IJAA), which seeks to replace that state's judicial disciplinary body with a J.A.I.L.-like special grand jury.⁴²

Membership

A variety of groups make up the membership of the J.A.I.L. movement.

Jury Nullification Groups. Written in the mid-1990s amid the rise of the common law court movement, J.A.I.L. supports many of the same issues as that movement: juries as exclusive trier of fact and law, lack of a judge, and a view of members of the judiciary as part of a conspiracy against the "true law" (i.e., biblical law, law of God, common law, and natural law). These views have also helped J.A.I.L. form alliances with individuals in the jury nullification movement. According to Branson, any court must have a jury if the defendant requests one.

Only J.A.I.L. will restore that absolute Constitutional Right, wherein you may again expect a restoration of the right to a jury trial for traffic matters and for every criminal and civil matter over \$20, wherein most all so-called "administrative procedures" will fly to the wind under J.A.I.L.⁴³

Even petty violations and other minor infractions would require a jury trial.⁴⁴ For example, failure of a judge to impanel a jury for a dog leash law violation case would result in a complaint under J.A.I.L.⁴⁵ Branson predicted that after passage of the amendment in South Dakota, JAILers would have intentionally driven through the state "just for the privilege of getting a traffic ticket so you can demand a jury trial. I anticipate traffic courts to be among the first courts to all but totally close except for such things as drunk driving. But traffic courts will be but only the beginning. There is so

much, much more."⁴⁶

Because of its demand for jury trials in every conceivable case as well as its parallel anti-judge stances, J.A.I.L. has maintained close ties with the Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA), an organization which supports jurors' rights to nullify laws and to rely on personal conscience when rendering decisions. Many J.A.I.L. leaders are also leaders in FIJA, such as Alaska JAILer-in-Chief Frank Turney,⁴⁷ who was previously convicted for jury tampering in his efforts to promote the FIJA cause.⁴⁸

Income Tax Protestors and Resisters.

Another group from which J.A.I.L. draws its membership is income tax protestors and resisters. According to Branson, all income taxes are voluntary; people are tricked into signing income tax returns, thereby subjecting themselves to administrative law.⁴⁹ Many J.A.I.L. state leaders are also leaders within these tax protestor and resister groups.

In South Dakota, for example, the state JAILer-in-Chief, William Stegmeier, also serves as the state coordinator for the We the People Foundation (WTP). This organization purports that the Sixteenth Amendment, which gave Congress the power to collect income taxes, was never ratified; or, if it was ratified, it does not apply to personal wages. For years, WTP has demanded answers from Congress, members of the IRS, and the executive branch to "prove" they owed personal income taxes. Most of these demands were simply ignored or given form letters in reply. Stegmeier and hundreds of other WTP members filed suit, claiming the right under the First Amendment "to petition the Government for a redress of grievances" include the right to get direct answers from Congress or the IRS to the "537 Questions the Government Will NOT Answer."⁵⁰ The case was dismissed in 2005 and is currently on appeal.

Perhaps the only instance in which J.A.I.L. approves of income taxes is when they are levied on judges. Under the J.A.I.L. initiative, judges' salaries would be reduced (the South Dakota version called for a 1.9 percent tax while other states use different rates) by a special income tax levied on them to pay for the special grand jury. When this issue arose in the original California initiative efforts, a legislative analyst noted that the legislature would have to raise judicial salaries to compensate. According to Branson, this was absolutely unacceptable and "illegal," as J.A.I.L. "does not intend for the Legislature to compensate judges for this tax on their salaries."⁵¹

Network of Lawyers. J.A.I.L. claims that an extensive network of lawyers supports its organization. However, many of its attorney members have been disbarred or, in the case of Florida Judge Matt McMillan, removed from the bench.⁵² The disbarments are all viewed without exception as meritless and cases of whistleblowers being silenced.⁵³ The lack of judges who agree with J.A.I.L. or support its agenda is itself seen as part of the conspiracy.

Noncustodial Parents' Groups.

Another pool from which J.A.I.L. draws a great deal of its membership is parents who were party to bitter divorces and/or custody disputes. Many of the organizations that support noncustodial parents believe that the court system in general and divorce/family courts in particular are aggressively and deliberately against noncustodial parents or simply conspiring against a particular parent. At the state leadership level, several JAILers-in-Chief lead or have led such organizations. For example, Alabama JAILer-in-Chief Dr. Richard Weiss serves as Director of Children's Rights Council of Alabama, a men's rights organization.

Tactics

Over the years, J.A.I.L.'s leadership has deliberately attempted to provoke confrontations with judges for two main reasons: to undermine the public's support of the judiciary and to receive media attention when judges react to the provocation. Branson referenced this policy early on:

I have often said in my public speaking engagements that the judges are in a precarious position. We at J.A.I.L. get unlimited kicks at the judges' crotches and shins, and the judges must keep a straight face and pretend we don't exist. When they wince or take a defensive posture against us, they've admitted our existence, which they don't want to do. This is a lose, lose, no win proposition for judges. If they remain silent, we keep kicking their crotches and watching their faces. If they assault us, they advertise for us and promote J.A.I.L. So, they are now playing the public game that we don't exist, but under their breath and in confidentiality, they are screaming and cursing J.A.I.L. 4 Judges.⁵⁴

When judges or others do respond, J.A.I.L. cites such reactions as "proof" of the judiciary's fear of its organization.⁵⁵ Even when no acknowledgment is made, J.A.I.L. again considers this as "proof" that the judiciary is so afraid to acknowledge the group that J.A.I.L. must be working.

ADAs and E-mail Barrages. Early on, J.A.I.L.'s policy of intentionally provoking judges and others received a "positive" response from a member of the Washington state legislature. In addition to the Yahoo message group, J.A.I.L. transmits each posting as well as other material by e-mail to its members. A state senator's e-mail was added to this list and some of the postings sent to him.⁵⁶ The senator apparently responded to the e-mails angrily, purportedly stating that there were "enough anger-driven a——s" (ADAs) he had to listen to and insisting on being removed from the list. At this, the JAILers pounced; dozens of e-

mails poured in from across the nation, with Branson copying many to the Yahoo group.⁵⁷ Eventually, the senator made an apology, which Branson posted,⁵⁸ but the phrase stuck: many JAILers now refer to themselves as simply an "ADA."⁵⁹

A similar scenario unfolded in 2001 when the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) mentioned J.A.I.L. on its Web site as a sponsor of an anti-government event. Again, Branson urged the JAILers to bombard the ADL with e-mails.⁶⁰ Ultimately, the ADL removed the mistaken attribution (J.A.I.L. was not a sponsor) but did not apologize for listing J.A.I.L. as being an anti-government group. Branson took umbrage, but the e-mail bombardment had made its point: By simply listing J.A.I.L. on its Web site, Branson contended the ADL had done the group's advertising for them. Moreover, the ADL's attention was somehow seen as evidence of the United Nations' and the New World Order's concern and interest in the group.⁶¹

All of these tactics culminated in South Dakota, where JAILers waged an e-mail war on the South Dakota legislature as it considered a resolution condemning J.A.I.L. One state senator was bombarded with e-mails from across the nation at Branson's request,⁶² many of them containing viruses and other malicious programs. Calls from across the nation were also directed to the senator's home and to his wife while he was away at the legislative session.

RICO Lawsuits. Because of J.A.I.L.'s founding premise that there is a New World Order conspiracy, private lawsuits under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act have been common from the group's inception. Early on, Branson made postings trying to connect JAILers to existing or about to be filed lawsuits alleging judicial as well as other corruption.⁶³ Every loss was cited as additional evidence of the judicial conspiracy throughout the federal and state benches.⁶⁴

Picketing Judges' Homes. Another tactic employed by J.A.I.L. members is to picket judges' homes in order to draw them into a confrontation and use any resulting altercation as the basis for later publicity. According to Branson, "Once we get them to holler 'ouch,' they've done our advertisements for us."⁶⁵ In 2002, for example, J.A.I.L.'s Orange County, California, warden, Pastor Wiley Drake, picketed with about 100 others outside the home of Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Alfred Goodwin. Goodwin's crime? He had ruled in favor of Michael Newdow in his efforts to have the phrase "under God" stricken from the Pledge of Allegiance.⁶⁶

Oaths Challenges. Many JAILers who hold state leadership positions have relied heavily on "oaths challenges," particularly in states that have no initiative process. Used extensively by the common law courts movement in the 1990s, the challenges come in three main forms.

In the first type, JAILers ascertain whether written oaths of offices were ever filed with the appropriate clerk or officer. In some cases judges and others will take their oath of office without filing or signing a paper version or will fail to file the document with both the state and county or county and town where they serve. When JAILers do find such cases, they subsequently file lawsuits seeking to void all of the judge's prior actions or to deny the judge's jurisdiction. In the last three years, JAILers in Vermont⁶⁷ and New York⁶⁸ have brought such lawsuits against various judges and have challenged the oaths of other elected officials as well.

In the second type of challenge, JAILers dispute the validity of the oath itself. For example, under Oregon's state constitution, its Supreme Court Justices are required to take an oath of impartiality when performing their duties as justices "of said State." For grammatical reasons, the actual oath taken was changed to read "of this

State.” According to JAILers, this distinction created a constitutionally lawless jurisdiction, which rendered those serving on the bench as mere impersonators. The state of Washington has seen similar efforts.⁶⁹

In the final type of oath challenge, JAILers contend that judges who operate without having filed the oath or who have done so but rule in ways that JAILers disagree with are committing acts of treason or “perjury of oath.”

FOIA/FOIL and Other Searches. In Washington and New York, JAILers have attempted to examine judges’ property and other records.⁷⁰ In addition, JAILers have issued hundreds of Freedom of Information Law/Act requests to judges throughout the nation seeking oath, property and personal information about judges.

Robes and J.A.I.L. Clothing. Another common tactic is for JAILers to wear judicial robes at public protests and to depict judges in a less than flattering light. A pioneer of this practice is Alaska JAILer-in-chief Frank Turney who, as a member of WTP, dressed in judicial robes and walked around town with a noose around his neck suspended from scaffolding held high above his head. At the end of a day’s protest, Turney would take off the robes and burn them, a spectacle he has prominently posted on his own Web site.⁷¹ By 2000, Turney had lost the noose, but still walked around in robes. A federal judge’s supposed confrontation with Turney and rebuke of this practice was cited as proof that J.A.I.L. was “throwing fear into the judges of this nation.”⁷²

Many JAILers also wear “keys to J.A.I.L.”—large gold medallions around their necks—when they appear in court or in public. An entire line of clothing is also available. As Branson put it, “You bet’cha they (judges) know we exist, and we shall be even more in their faces wearing large print www.jail4judges.org T-shirts in their courtrooms across this nation!”⁷³ By

their own admission, the purpose behind these shirts and other displays is to intimidate: “We know that it has that intimidation factor flowing through the judicial system.”⁷⁴

Use of Citizen’s Arrests. One tactic that has been used sporadically is citizen’s arrests. Hawaii’s JAILer-in-Chief George Peabody attempted such an arrest in court of a police officer and dogcatcher who had pressed charges against him.⁷⁵ Peabody’s basis for the arrest was that the officer and dogcatcher had filed false charges and conspired with the judge against him. However, the judge adjourned the court. Branson encouraged Peabody and others to execute such arrests and insisted that any law enforcement officer who did not help in the arrests should themselves be arrested. Efforts by JAILers in the state of Washington and elsewhere to make such citizen’s arrests have also been reported by J.A.I.L. over the years.⁷⁶

Looking Forward

South Dakota marks the first time J.A.I.L. has made it as far as the ballot; the California efforts in 1996, 1999, and 2000 all failed to qualify.⁷⁷ In Florida, the initiative was filed in 2002 and is still pending.⁷⁸ When J.A.I.L. was submitted to the Idaho Secretary of State in 2002, it failed to get enough signatures. Two years later, the Idaho Judicial Accountability Act again failed to qualify, but the IJAA group claimed to have gotten at least 15,000 signatures out of the 47,881 needed. Another unsuccessful attempt was made in 2006, and the group has vowed to try again in 2008.⁷⁹ When J.A.I.L. was submitted to the Oregon Secretary of State in 2000, the state’s attorney general recommended against certification for signature collection and the initiative proceeded no further.⁸⁰

Despite the loss in South Dakota, the movement has no intention of giving up. Instead, there are already plans to gather signatures to place the amendment on the ballot in Nevada,⁸¹

Florida,⁸² Michigan,⁸³ Oregon,⁸⁴ Idaho, and New Mexico.⁸⁵ There are also plans to return to South Dakota.⁸⁶ ■

Endnotes

1. Monica LaBelle, *South Dakota Voters Soundly Reject J.A.I.L. Measure*, ARGUS LEADER, Nov. 8, 2006.
2. Reprinted e-mail of William Stegmeier, South Dakota JAILer-in-Chief, to floridajail4judges.org/news.html#Debriefing (Nov. 10, 2006).
3. Much of this article is drawn from J.A.I.L. 4 Judges’ own Web site (jail4judges.org) and its Yahoo message board (found at groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/), both of which are operated exclusively by J.A.I.L. leaders and founders Ronald and Barbie Branson.
4. Ronald Branson, *Biography of Ronald Branson at www.jail4judges.org/Ron%27s%20Bio.htm*.
5. *Branson v. City of Los Angeles*, No. 91-55819, 1992 WL 188107 at 1 (Aug. 6, 1992) (unpublished disposition), *cert. denied*, 113 S. Ct. 1646 (1993).
6. *Branson v. Martin*, 56 Ca. App. 4th 300 (July 9, 1997).
7. *Branson v. Nott*, 62 F.3d 287 (9th Cir. 1995).
8. *Branson v. Haber*, No. 93-56696, 1994 WL 184682 at 1 (May 13, 1994) (unpublished disposition), *cert. denied*, 115 S. Ct. 579 (1994).
9. See *supra* note 7 and *Branson v. Fletcher*, CV-94-01932-R (C.D. Cal.) (Mar. 28, 1994).
10. See *Branson, supra* note 4.
11. California J.A.I.L. 4 Judges petition filed in 1999.
12. Idaho J.A.I.L. 4 Judges petition filed in 2002, available at www.idsos.state.id.us/elect/inits/02init03.htm.
13. Ronald Branson, *Judicial Accountability Initiative Law*, at www.jail4judges.org/goals/initiative_text.htm.
14. See www.sdsos.gov/elections/voteregistration/electvoterpdfs/J.A.I.L.pdf.
15. See *supra* note 4.
16. *Constitution and By-Laws of National J.A.I.L.*, Article IV(3), (Jan. 3, 2004).
17. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Fmr. Washington D.C. Federal Employee Praises J.A.I.L.*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/775>.
18. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Investing in America*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/954>.
19. Branson has made clear that J.A.I.L. will be used to abolish the Federal Reserve. See J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *J.A.I.L. Washington Report*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/180>.
20. There is a federal J.A.I.L. bill which Branson has tried to have introduced in Congress for nearly a decade, with no success.

21. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Foreign Takeover of U.S.A.*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/122>.
22. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Judges are Committing Treason*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/490>; J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Beyond Bad Behavior*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/494>; J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Courts Not Responsible*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/585>; J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *JAIL is Not Part of the Court System*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/1004>.
23. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *J.A.I.L. is the Duty of the People to Enforce the Constitution*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/1180>.
24. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Torture Techniques—Courts Turn a Blind Eye*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/243>.
25. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *So, We Meet Again*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/23>.
26. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Declaration of Independence 2000*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/97>.
27. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Eternal Grace Baptist Church Home Page*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/116>.
28. See *supra* note 25.
29. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *An Appeal to All Judges*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/640>.
30. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Serious Advice About JAIL Campaign in South Dakota*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/1041>.
31. See www.sd-jail4judges.org (“To this end, they set up a sham trial with false witnesses against him to condemn him to death. His crucifixion on the cross was all that mattered to them. And the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together: for before they were at enmity between themselves. (Luke 23:12). Ironically, after this same manner, today within the South Dakota legislature we have both political parties agreeing mutually together to “kill” Amendment E. Is this because Amendment E is so evil? Judge ye!”).
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34. J.A.I.L., 4 Judges, *Righteousness Exalteth a Nation: Proverb 14:34*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/773>.
35. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/1035>.
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37. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Armed Guards at DMV*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/298>; J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Understanding Administrative Law*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/761>; J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *We Need Parking Meters*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/897>.
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41. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *To the Slammer, Your Honor!*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/430>.
42. See Idaho Secretary of State Election Division at www.idsos.state.id.us/ELECT/INITS/06init02.htm.
43. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Abolishing the Right to a Jury*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/353>.
44. *Id.*; See also J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *Slay the Messengers!*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/451>.
45. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *California JAILer Stands Tough on Dog Off Leash Case*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/702>.
46. J.A.I.L. 4 Judges, *It's Time to Go to Work*, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jail4judges/message/873>.
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83. According to Michigan JAILer Rose Lear, "While I do not live in South Dakota, I am interested in this campaign to pass Amendment E as we are planning to place a similar Amendment on the 2008 Michigan ballot." See www.capjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=2&SubSectionID=2&ArticleID=15603.

84. According to Oregon JAILer Sherree Lowe, "We were ready to put JAIL on the ballot here." See www.smartbandwidth.blogspot.com/2006_05_01_smartbandwidth_archive.html#114839830804381472 and www.jail4judges.us.

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86. Kate Turnbow, *Stegmeier: Fight for Accountability Just Beginning*, CAPITAL JOURNAL, Nov. 9, 2006.