



Foxgrover Sentenced To 6 Years For Theft And Forgery As Judge

July 15, 1992 | By Terry Wilson.

A former Cook County Circuit judge who pleaded guilty to stealing fines he imposed on defendants who appeared in his courtroom was sentenced Tuesday to 6 years in state prison and ordered to pay \$25,934 in restitution.

Paul Foxgrover, 50, who was appointed an associate judge in 1984, is the first Cook County judge to be tried within the circuit courts and the first to be sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Criminal Background Check

instantcheckmate.com

- 1) Enter Name & State - Search Free
- 2) Access Criminal Background Check

Foxgrover, who had pleaded guilty last month to theft, official misconduct and forgery, sat quietly throughout the hearing.

``That sense of shame is there,`` Foxgrover, of Beverly, said in court prior to his sentencing. ``I`m the only one who wears it every day. I`ve destroyed everything around me, which extends to my family who will have to bear it, and for that I remain forever sorry.``

But Assistant State`s Atty. Gerald Nora, who had sought a 7-year prison term for Foxgrover, said the former judge had become ``a criminal in robes.`` ``A judge who breaks the law deserves the

penitentiary more than anyone else,`` Nora argued before Du Page County Circuit Judge John Nelligan, who presided over the case in Cook County in order to ensure impartiality.

``This is a man who, in a very calculated way, decided to turn away from the law and subvert it. He was nothing but a cheap extortionist hiding behind a judge`s robes.``

Foxgrover, who presided over a courtroom in the Markham branch of Cook County Circuit Court, endorsed 35 checks from defendants over an 18-month period that began in January 1990 and ended shortly before his arrest in July 1991, prosecutors charged.

Foxgrover demanded that defendants pay restitution or fines with money orders and pocketed more than \$50,000 in three bank accounts, according to prosecutors. He did not resign until June 17.

But several attorneys testified during the three-day sentencing hearing that Foxgrover had started his career as an assistant public defender, earning a reputation for being dedicated, resourceful and caring of his clients.

Prosecution witnesses, however, presented a different picture.

Matteson Police Cmdr. Kenneth O`Keefe testified that Foxgrover once asked him to bring in \$1,663 in cash that was to have been used as evidence in a drug trial he was presiding over. O`Keefe said he took the money to Foxgrover`s court chambers, had the judge sign an evidence release form, and never saw the money again.

Nora criticized Foxgrover for not resigning his judgeship until last month and for drawing a paycheck through that time. He also said Foxgrover never showed any signs of being ashamed of his actions.

Foxgrover`s attorney, Daniel Gallagher, said his client had been punished enough by the case, which destroyed his marriage and taxed his relationships with his five daughters.

16% Annuity Return 2014 

advisorworld.com/CompareAnnuities

True Investor Returns with no Risk. Find out how with our Free Report.

``He lost his occupation, his license to practice law, his pension, his financial security,`` Gallagher said. ``There isn`t much more that a man can lose.``

visited on 5/20/2015

Nelligan said he would do what he could to ensure that Foxgrover be sent to the Sheridan Correctional Center, a medium security facility in Downstate Sheridan, when he surrenders to authorities on July 28. Several former law enforcement officers, correctional officers, school principals and others with special protection needs are serving prison terms there.

Nelligan said he believes that Foxgrover can be rehabilitated and that officials at Sheridan can ensure his safety from retaliation by inmates he might have sentenced during his tenure on the bench.

``If you can `t trust the judge on the bench, who can you trust?``

Nelligan asked. ``Dishonesty in the judiciary is a cancer on the whole society.``

Cute Plus Size Clothing



zulily.com

Up to 70% Off On Plus Size Dresses & Accessories. Shop Now!

See Also

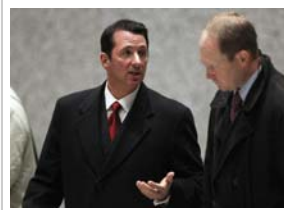
- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Early Signs of Bipolar | 6. High Paying Jobs |
| 2. Remedies for Foot | 7. Colon Cleansing Diet |
| 3. Colon Cancer | 8. Effective Weight Loss |
| 4. Top 5 Wrinkle Creams | 9. 10 Best Weight Loss |
| 5. Affordable Dental | 10. 10 Affordable Luxury |

Featured Articles



(/2014-06-

Family touched by tragedy in bribes scandal wows



TV pitchman Kevin Trudeau sentenced to 10 years in prison



(/2013-05-

Chicago native Susan Aikens stars on NatGeo's 'Life Below

'America's Got Talent' (/2014-06-06/news/chi-family-touched-by-tragedy-in-bribes-scandal-wows-americas-got-talent-20140606_1_toby-willis-tragedy-middle-tennessee) (/2014-03-17/business/chi-kevin-trudeau-sentenced-20140317_1_kevin-trudeau-global-information-network-guzman) Zero' (/2013-05-29/entertainment/ct-ent-0530-life-below-zero-20130529_1_pork-chop-chicago-palatine)

MORE:

Manteno Man Kills Son, Himself To Avoid Going To Nursing Home (/1997-07-23/news/9707230317_1_nursing-home-distraught-man-boy)


Pain relievers: What are the differences? (/2011-01-13/news/sc-health-0112-pain-reliever-differen20110113_1_alcohol-warning-chronic-pain-tylenol)

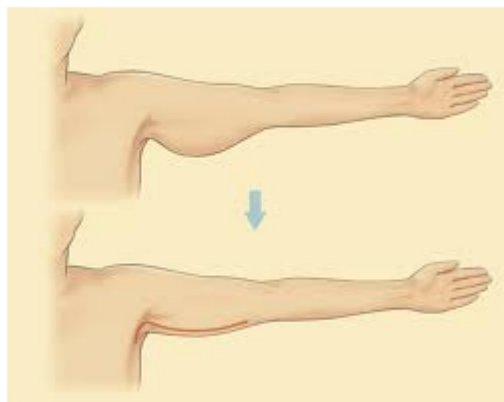
Failing nursing student kills 3 professors, self in Arizona (/2002-10-29/news/0210290318_1_nursing-school-nursing-student-bomb-squad)

The Victim: An Awful Price To Pay (/1995-09-17/sports/9509170415_1_lawrence-phillips-gas-station-robbery-nebraska)

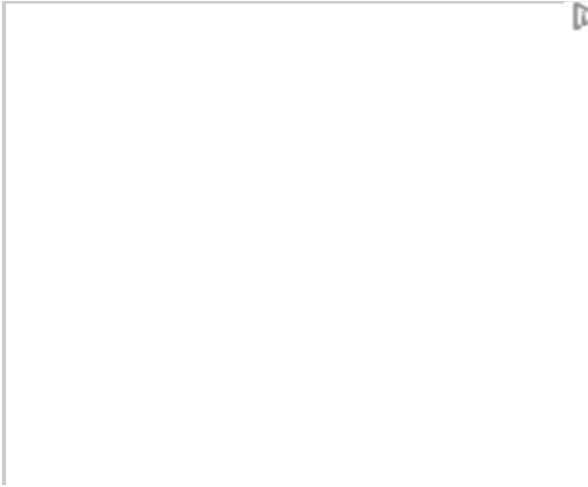
Life Skill #201: Washing a baseball cap (/2013-08-06/features/sc-fam-0806-lifeskill-wash-cap-20130806_1_hat-brim-wool)

6th Child Dies After Van Wreck (/1994-11-10/news/9411100233_1_van-wreck-duane-scott-willis-gas-tank)

How To: Lift Saggy Skin 



[Watch Presentation >>](#)



Related Articles

Man gets 18 months for unlicensed drive (/2001-12-19/news/0112190094_1_valid-license-arrested-probation)
December 19, 2001

Judge Reduces Sentence For Juror (/1988-02-28/news/8804030051_1_juror-sentence-morning-jury-selection)
February 28, 1988

Drug Dealer Gets 25 Years In Prison, \$1 Million Fine (/1988-06-30/news/8801110853_1_sentenced-smuggling-cocaine)
June 30, 1988

Hammond Man Fit For Sentencing In Calumet City Couple's... (/1995-10-04/news/9510040191_1_sentencing-guilty-fit)
October 4, 1995

Man Gets Death In Rape, Double Slaying (/1996-10-18/news/9610180037_1_sentenced-parking-lot-defendants)
October 18, 1996

Find More Stories About

Defendants (/keyword/defendants)

Terms of Service
(<http://www.chicagotribune.com/tos/>)

visited on 5/20/2015

Privacy Policy

(<http://www.chicagotribune.com/privacy/>)

Index by Date (/1992/jul/15)

Connect

Index by Keyword

Like us on Facebook

(<https://www.facebook.com/chicagotribune>)

www.chicagotribune.com

Follow us on Twitter

(<http://www.chicagotribune.com>)

(<http://twitter.com/#!/chicagotribune>)

Chicago Tribune