

(DRAFT)

May 23, 2026

TO: Department of Justice Anti-Weaponization Task Force

RE: Formal Submission — Weaponization of Federal and Interstate Governmental Process for Political Retaliation | Christian D. Chesson, Complainant

## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Submission concerns a documented, multi-year pattern in which federal governmental process, interstate governmental coordination, disciplinary systems, and prosecutorial authority were allegedly utilized against a political challenger and later against members of his family and household following his campaigns for District Attorney of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

The publicly stated purpose of the Department of Justice Anti-Weaponization Fund is to provide a mechanism for review of allegations involving misuse of governmental authority or governmental systems for political, personal, or otherwise improper purposes. The chronology presented herein closely aligns with those stated concerns.

This Submission is not based solely upon unfavorable rulings or generalized allegations of local political hostility. Rather, it is supported by:

- contemporaneous email communications;
- federal bankruptcy court proceedings;
- judicial disqualification orders;
- appellate reversals;
- reciprocal discipline proceedings;
- law enforcement reports;
- body camera footage;
- hearing transcripts;
- public corruption investigations;
- and independently verifiable governmental records.

The strongest federal dimension begins with the use of the United States Trustee process in the Western District of Louisiana after Complainant challenged incumbent District Attorney John D. DeRosier in the 2014 District Attorney election.

That conduct was followed by:

- interstate information exchanges involving the Texas Attorney General’s Office;
- campaign ethics and disciplinary proceedings tied to Complainant’s political activity;
- reciprocal discipline proceedings timed immediately before the 2020 District Attorney election cycle;
- and an ongoing pattern of selective prosecution, recusal irregularities, disputed evidence, and institutional retaliation involving Complainant’s son, Trevor Chesson, and fiancée, Jessica Ashley Nicole Henson.

The concern presented is not simply that proceedings occurred. The concern is that governmental systems — federal, interstate, and local — were repeatedly mobilized against a political challenger and later against those closely associated with him.

## **II. THE FEDERAL FOUNDATION: THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE PROCESS**

### **A. Political Context**

In 2014, Christian D. Chesson, a Louisiana attorney with approximately twenty-one years of practice in Calcasieu Parish, challenged incumbent District Attorney John D. DeRosier in the Calcasieu Parish District Attorney election.

At the time, Chesson operated a substantial bankruptcy practice within the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Louisiana, including approximately 1,000 to 1,300 Chapter 13 matters.

Following the election, multiple governmental, disciplinary, and collateral proceedings were initiated or intensified against Chesson across several separate forums.

### **B. Gerald Casey and Romelzy Willis**

Beginning in late 2015, Gerald Casey — who served as DeRosier’s campaign finance manager — together with attorney Romelzy Willis, began directing allegations concerning Chesson and former clients into the United States Trustee system.

The documentary record includes:

- emails from Casey directing Willis toward federal officials and identifying which officials “need to be in the loop”;
- communications forwarding federal complaints into DeRosier’s office;

- inquiries regarding whether the Office of Disciplinary Counsel had been contacted;
- and efforts to solicit additional former clients to expand the proceedings.

Former clients later testified that many had not authorized Casey or Willis to disclose or discuss their matters with others.

The significance of these events is not merely that complaints were filed. Rather, the concern is that individuals directly connected to a political opponent allegedly utilized federal governmental process as part of a broader retaliatory campaign against a District Attorney challenger.

## **C. Federal Court Findings**

The federal court itself recognized serious concerns surrounding the conduct of Casey and Willis.

Judge Robert R. Summerhays granted Chesson's motion to disqualify Casey and Willis from representing fact witnesses during the proceedings.

That ruling is significant because it reflects federal judicial recognition that the integrity of the proceedings had been compromised by the conduct of politically connected actors participating beyond ordinary boundaries.

Despite years of allegations and proceedings:

- no intentional fraud by Chesson was found;
- the Western District ultimately imposed no additional sanctions beyond those already served;
- the federal matter was formally closed in October 2019;
- and the Western District accepted assurances and remediation measures already completed.

The ultimate outcomes were materially inconsistent with the severity and political framing of the allegations advanced against Chesson during the proceedings.

# **III. INTERSTATE GOVERNMENTAL CONDUCT: THE TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL COMPONENT**

The federal dimension expanded beyond Louisiana through involvement of the Texas Attorney General's Office.

Financial and legal information obtained through official Texas governmental process was later utilized in Louisiana political and disciplinary proceedings connected to Chesson's political activities and campaigns.

The significance of this issue is not limited to the underlying Texas litigation itself. The concern is the interstate transmission and political use of information obtained through official governmental authority.

That conduct implicates:

- interstate governmental coordination;
- use of official governmental information across state lines;
- financial records utilized within political and ethics-related proceedings;
- and potential misuse of governmental systems for retaliatory purposes.

FOIA and public records requests have now been submitted both to the Texas Attorney General's Office and to the Calcasieu Parish District Attorney's Office concerning communications and information exchanges relating to these matters. Responsive records are expected imminently and will supplement this Submission.

The broader significance of the Texas dimension is heightened by the national controversies surrounding former Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, including securities fraud charges, impeachment proceedings, whistleblower litigation, and continuing national political scrutiny.

Additionally, portions of the relevant interstate conduct have been communicated to individuals associated with the campaign of Texas State Representative James Talarico, a nationally recognized public figure and Presbyterian minister who has publicly focused on governmental ethics and institutional accountability.

## **IV. RECIPROCAL DISCIPLINE AND BALLOT ACCESS**

The timing of the reciprocal discipline proceedings is among the strongest evidence supporting the political dimension of this chronology.

On October 18, 2019, Chief Judge S. Maurice Hicks, Jr. issued an order adopting the magistrate judge's findings and formally closing the federal bankruptcy disciplinary matter.

Three days later, reciprocal discipline proceedings were initiated through the Louisiana Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

Had identical reciprocal discipline been imposed, Chesson would have been legally unable to qualify for the 2020 District Attorney election.

The timing of the proceedings directly implicated:

- ballot access;
- political participation;
- and Chesson's ability to run against the same institutional and political network connected to many of the underlying proceedings.

The Louisiana Supreme Court ultimately declined to impose reciprocal discipline, finding extraordinary circumstances sufficient to depart from the ordinary reciprocal rule.

However, regardless of the final outcome, the proceedings imposed substantial financial, professional, and political burdens during the precise timeframe surrounding the upcoming District Attorney election cycle.

## **V. CONTINUING RETALIATION: TREVOR CHESSON**

The retaliatory pattern did not end with the federal proceedings.

### **A. Post-2014 Proceedings**

Following the 2014 District Attorney campaign, Trevor Chesson became the subject of criminal proceedings within Calcasieu Parish.

Hope Buford Wyatt — then serving as an Assistant District Attorney within the Calcasieu Parish District Attorney's Office — was listed on charging documents associated with portions of those proceedings.

The District Attorney's Office was later recused and the matter transferred to the Louisiana Attorney General's Office. Trevor ultimately completed diversion and the charges were resolved without felony conviction.

### **B. Post-2020 Proceedings**

Following Christian Chesson's 2020 District Attorney campaign, Trevor again became the subject of criminal prosecution.

The proceedings involved:

- irregular charging instruments;
- inconsistent arraignment notices mailed simultaneously to different addresses with different charges;
- recusal proceedings in which virtually no evidence was presented despite substantial advance notice;
- and overlapping personal and institutional relationships involving judges, prosecutors, and probation supervision.

Trevor later entered guilty pleas in proceedings presided over by Judge Robert Wyatt.

At that time, Hope Buford Wyatt was serving as Deputy Chief of Litigation within the Calcasieu Parish District Attorney's Office under District Attorney Stephen Dwight. Judge Robert Wyatt later retired in March 2025, after which Hope Buford Wyatt succeeded him as judge.

Trevor now remains under probationary supervision within the same broader institutional environment in which Hope Buford Wyatt presently serves as judge.

The concern presented is not merely familial relationship alone, but the broader continuity of overlapping prosecutorial, judicial, and political relationships across multiple generations of proceedings involving the same family.

Trevor also filed victim complaints in unrelated matters where evidence indicated he was the injured party. Those complaints allegedly received no meaningful investigative attention.

Complainant contends the contrast between aggressive prosecution when politically useful and institutional inaction when Trevor was the victim reflects evidence of selective treatment.

## **VI. CONTINUING RETALIATION: JESSICA ASHLEY NICOLE HENSON**

Jessica Ashley Nicole Henson, Complainant's fiancée and future spouse, became involved in extensive custody and protective-order litigation beginning in 2021.

Judge Cynthia Clay Guillory separately served for approximately thirty-five years as a prosecutor within the Calcasieu Parish District Attorney's Office before assuming the bench on

January 1, 2021. Her long tenure within the same institutional environment is relevant to the broader chronology presented herein.

Complainant alleges the proceedings involving Jessica Henson included:

- ex parte filings containing false allegations;
- disputed photographic evidence;
- unsigned affidavits;
- alleged alteration of court documents;
- suppression or delayed disclosure of records;
- and judicial assignment irregularities.

The proceedings also allegedly involved undisclosed personal and professional relationships among participants connected to the local judiciary, prosecutorial offices, and adverse parties.

Jessica Henson herself is not a political actor. Complainant contends she became a target due to her relationship with him.

The cumulative impact of years of litigation, family separation, repeated proceedings, and ongoing institutional conflict has allegedly resulted in severe emotional and psychological harm affecting Jessica Henson and the broader family unit.

## **VII. EXTERNAL VALIDATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CORRUPTION CONCERNS**

The concerns raised in this Submission are not supported solely by Complainant's own allegations.

Independent investigative reporting by the Washington Post documented serious corruption concerns within the Calcasieu Parish District Attorney's Office during the tenure of John DeRosier, including:

- diversion and probation irregularities;
- gift card and money order practices;
- financial accounting concerns;
- conflicts involving auditing relationships;
- and misuse of prosecutorial programs.

Additionally, findings by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor documented structural and financial irregularities within the same institutional environment.

These external findings are significant because they independently corroborate the existence of broader institutional dysfunction within the precise governmental environment involved throughout this chronology.

## **VIII. WHY THIS CLAIM FITS THE FUND'S PURPOSE**

This Submission concerns far more than unfavorable rulings or ordinary political disagreement.

The documented chronology reflects:

- alleged use of federal governmental process by politically connected actors;
- interstate governmental coordination involving official information;
- disciplinary proceedings timed in a manner affecting ballot access;
- selective prosecution concerns;
- overlapping judicial and prosecutorial relationships;
- and continuing institutional retaliation extending to family members.

The publicly stated purpose of the Anti-Weaponization Fund is to review allegations involving misuse of governmental authority or governmental systems for political, personal, or otherwise improper purposes.

This chronology closely aligns with those publicly described concerns.

Importantly, the record presented is unusually extensive and independently verifiable through:

- federal court proceedings;
- appellate records;
- judicial discipline rulings;
- law enforcement materials;
- public investigative reporting;
- hearing transcripts;
- and documentary communications.

## **IX. CURRENT RECORD DEVELOPMENT**

This Submission is part of an ongoing effort to continue developing the factual and documentary record.

Current efforts include:

- pending FOIA and public records requests to Texas and Louisiana governmental offices;
- organization of federal and state court records;
- preservation of body camera and documentary evidence;
- and coordination of materials relating to judicial discipline findings, disciplinary proceedings, and related litigation.

Additional materials will be supplemented upon receipt.

## **X. PUBLIC INTEREST AND MEDIA SIGNIFICANCE**

This matter also presents substantial public interest considerations.

The chronology described herein involves:

- federal governmental systems;
- interstate governmental conduct;
- prosecutorial ethics;
- ballot access concerns;
- judicial integrity issues;
- and the continuing effect of institutional retaliation on an attorney, his family, and associated parties.

Additionally, the relevant institutional and community networks extend through longstanding educational, religious, civic, and social connections within Southwest Louisiana and the Houston metropolitan area, including communities associated with Parkview and related Christian educational institutions familiar to thousands of residents in the region.

As additional records are obtained through pending FOIA and public records requests, Complainant intends to continue developing the public record through lawful public advocacy, media engagement, and transparency efforts concerning the issues raised herein.

## **XI. RELIEF REQUESTED**

Complainant respectfully requests that the Anti-Weaponization Task Force:

1. Accept this Submission for formal review;
2. Review the coordination between Gerald Casey, Romelzy Willis, and United States Trustee officials in connection with the federal bankruptcy proceedings;
3. Review the timing and circumstances surrounding the reciprocal discipline proceedings in relation to the 2020 District Attorney election cycle;
4. Review the interstate information exchanges involving the Texas Attorney General's Office and Louisiana political and disciplinary actors;
5. Review the evidence relating to selective prosecution and continuing retaliatory conduct involving Trevor Chesson and Jessica Henson;
6. Evaluate whether the totality of the chronology reflects misuse of governmental systems or authority for political or retaliatory purposes; and
7. Coordinate with any appropriate federal agencies or officials regarding matters disclosed herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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NOTICE: Supporting documentary exhibits - including federal court orders, appellate opinions, email communications, hearing transcripts, disciplinary rulings, public records materials, and related evidentiary documents - are attached or available upon request.