

**From:** [David Sleigh](#)  
**To:** [Katz, Sarah](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Mike King  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 10:55:05 AM

---

**EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.**

**From:** William Cobb [mailto:wcobb@cobblawvt.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2020 10:20 AM  
**To:** David Sleigh  
**Cc:** Jennifer Cleveland  
**Subject:** Mike King

Hi David,

I got the message from Jennifer yesterday about Mike's decision to change lawyers. Happy to provide you everything I have.

Just a couple of thoughts about his cases. My expectation with Caledonia was to discuss a transfer of the case to **Washington**. I'm conflicted out of representing clients in Caledonia due to my Probate Judge position. However, that also gives me flexibility to cherry pick which county to transfer to in the event that a client in Caledonia has retained me. Recently, in State v. Mohamed Diarra, a drug trafficking case, Jessica Z had offered 8-10 years to serve or some crazy number. Mohamed's family retained me. I then sent the affidavit to Rory in Washington to get his take on it. He said that he thought it was more like a probation case with time served. So I circulated a stip to transfer the case which everyone signed off on (both judges, both SAs, etc.) So we appeared in front of Judge Morrissey at the first appearance with a 1-3 all suspended with 6 months to serve. He was past that, so he was out the next day.

With Mike's case, I was planning to again email the info/aff from Caledonia to Rory to discuss what he thought he might think is fair to resolve. The Caledonia case is 7-8 years old. Rory would probably say to me, "we'll talk to the victim." But he might be willing to throw out some much more reasonable numbers than anything Caledonia will offer. I know there's a trial possibility but who knows?

I will only add that I recently was assigned in [REDACTED] a case involving B [REDACTED] A [REDACTED], a new case. B [REDACTED] admitted to sexually assaulting his 14-year-old daughter over a number of years. I was only assigned for the weight of the evidence hearing. I advised him not to go forward with it since the evidence was strong and he had admitted to the police that the allegations were all true. However, I told B [REDACTED] that I would meet with [REDACTED] first to get some idea of where he thought the case could end up. [REDACTED] said that if he would plead early he could envision a probation sentence with 5 years to serve. I thought that was pretty favorable all things considered.

So my take on a case like Mike's is that a transfer to Washington is at least worth a thought. However, that can't happen unless I'm involved with my "conflict" problem. So, just letting you know what my idea was for Mike.

I'm more than happy to stay on and assist you in any way that you thought was helpful. Mike

has already paid me for my work and I won't ask him for more money to stay on. I'm willing to second chair Windsor or Washington (if it got transferred), but could not do direct courtroom work with Caledonia. I could, however, do jury prep for both counties.

Anyway, just some thoughts. Not trying to step on toes. If this doesn't help you, then I'll just step back entirely.

Bill

-----  
William W. Cobb, Esq.

Law Offices of William W. Cobb, PLC  
1129 Main Street, Ste. 1  
PO Box 274  
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819  
Tel: (802) 748-2377  
Cell: (802) 498-5983  
[wcoobb@cobblawvt.net](mailto:wcoobb@cobblawvt.net)

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This electronic email transmission may contain attorney/client privileged and confidential information intended only for the individual or entity named above. Any dissemination, use, distribution, copying or disclosure of this communication by any other person or entity is strictly prohibited. Should you receive this transmission in error, please notify the sender by telephone (802-748-2377) and return the original transmission.