

Sibel Edmond's Statement-Our Current Broken System

July 8, 2004

On Tuesday, July 6, 2004, Judge Reggie Walton made a decision and ruled on my case. Under his ruling, I, an American Citizen, am not entitled to pursue my rights; First Amendment & Fifth Amendment; guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States. The vague reasoning being cited, without giving any explanation, is to protect '*certain diplomatic relations for national security.*' Judge Walton reached this decision after sitting on this case with no activity for almost two years. He arrived at this decision without allowing my attorney and I any due process: **NO** status hearing, **NO** briefings, **NO** oral argument, and **NO** discovery. He made his decision after allowing the government attorneys to present their case to him, privately, in camera, ex parte; not allowing us to participate in these cozy sessions. Is this the American System of Justice we believe in? Is this the due process we read about in our civics 101 courses? Is this the judicial branch of our government that is supposed to be separated from the other two branches in order to protect the people's rights and freedom?

This court decision by itself would have been appalling and alarming enough, but in light of all other actions taken against my case for the past two years it demonstrates a broken system, a system abused and corrupted by the current executive branch, a system badly in need of repair.

Under this current broken system the Attorney General of the United States is being allowed to *illegally gag* the United States Congress regarding my case. And even worse, the United States Congress is readily complying with this *illegal gag*.

Under this current broken system the Attorney General of the United States is being allowed to hinder on going investigations such as the ones by the 9/11 Commission and the DOJ-IG

Under this current broken system the Attorney General of the United States is getting away with interfering and tampering with pending cases under the judicial process, such as my court cases, and the lawsuit by the 9/11 victim families.

To this date John Ashcroft's relentless fight against me, my information, and my case, on various fronts, from the Congress to the courts, and from the 9/11 Commission to the Inspector General's Office, has been taking place under his attempt at a vague justification titled 'Protecting Certain Foreign & Diplomatic Relations for National Security.'

On September 11, 2001, 3000 lives were lost. Yet this administration has hindered all past and on going investigations into the causes of that horrific day for the sake of this vague notion of protecting '*certain diplomatic & foreign relations.*'

As a result of the attack on 9/11, many thousands lost their loved ones and had their lives changed forever. Yet, this administration knowingly and intentionally let many directly or indirectly involved in that terrorist act go free - untouched and uninvestigated - by simply citing '*protection of certain foreign & diplomatic relations for national security.*'

Today, we are told that we are still under the threat of terrorists, and remain under various colors of the color-coded threat system invented and promoted by this administration. Yet, this same administration is relentlessly preventing any real investigations into finding out the facts, the real facts, regarding acts, semi-legit organizations, and people, involved in plots against this country and its people - under their sorry excuse of '*protecting certain foreign & diplomatic relations.*'

Isn't it time to ask what *diplomatic or foreign relations* they keep referring to?

Isn't it fair to demand that they should let the people know what kind of *foreign relations* is worth 3000 lives lost?

Isn't it this administration's obligation to justify these costs in lives and in our national security for the sake of maintaining *certain foreign relations* that benefit only the **few**?

Just take notice of the means this administration has used in my case alone to accomplish covering up and protecting those '*foreign relations*' in question, and to dodge any accountability themselves: illegal reclassifications, secrecy, gagging congressional inquiries, blocking court proceedings, stopping investigations, invoking the rarely invoked State Secret Privilege, asserting National Security.

It is apparent that this administration confidently expects us, the people, to sign blank checks unquestioningly. It is obvious that they believe they are entitled to unchecked power, unlimited authority, and unquestioning citizens' support. To them, our Bill of Rights under the Constitution is nothing more than an inconvenient roadblock to overcome; our American system of checks and balances can be bypassed by overusing national security; and people's dissent is a problem that can be diverted away by a culture of fear and complete submission to government authority.

As I have stated many times previously, I will continue this fight, since in taking my citizenship oath I pledged that I would support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and **domestic**. Therefore, as an American Citizen, I have the right and the obligation to defend the Constitution and laws of the United States against John Ashcroft's assaults.