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## Feds are investigating Scruggs' link to Hinds County judge

BY JERRY MITCHELL • [JMITCHELL@JACKSON.GANNETT.COM](mailto:JMITCHELL@JACKSON.GANNETT.COM) • FEBRUARY 21, 2008

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Scruggs' attorney, John Keker of San Francisco, has said his client is innocent and that Scruggs "didn't corruptly influence Judge DeLaughter."

## in your voice

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**newtrick** wrote:

humpty, I was just playing with your "name" :)

2/22/2008 12:02:11 PM

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**humptydumpty** wrote:

Newtrick, you're right...FOLO changed their information - I hadn't seen the correction until now. My apologies. Though, I'm still interested in other times I've "fallen off the wall".

2/22/2008 2:01:30 AM

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**humptydumpty** wrote:

Newtrick - give me some examples of times I've "fallen of the wall". Re the motions...I copied/pasted that straight from FOLO before I left the office...so I won't dispute that if you have the info. Koolaid...I'm glad you're back. Please, give us some opinions re what happened yesterday/today w/ Scruggs...I'm interested in your point of view.

2/22/2008 1:55:40 AM

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**BaronLee** wrote:

I recently sat on a jury. Honestly, we looked at the evidence and not what we had heard or read. I believe that the court in Oxford can select a jury in this case that will look at what is presented on the witness stand and put aside what the individual members have heard or read. Members still have to look at themselves in the mirror once they have rendered their verdict.

2/22/2008 12:57:35 AM

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**TRUTHOUTLET** wrote:

He has been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

2/21/2008 10:39:02 PM

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**TRUTHOUTLET** wrote:

I am glad that something is being done about people like Scruggs who think that money can buy a victory. He moved to Oxford, Ms. and has tried to run everything from the football team to the university while maintaining a law practice. The worse thing he has doing is getting his own son involved in this terrible situation which could cause this young man several years in the pen.. I admire Judge Biggers who will up hold the letter of the law and insure a fair and balanced trial.

2/21/2008 10:37:42 PM

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**speakerofthetruth** wrote:

May Dickie Scruggs be mounted by a rabid dog!!!!

2/21/2008 8:58:33 PM

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**Franklin** wrote:

MITCHELL--ESE Jerry Mitchell can sure take a perfectly fascinating story and just sap the life right out of it ---techniques include : 1) confusing chronolgy; 2) facts entering and exiting like ghosts in a haunted house; 3) lack of story-stelling ; 4) no topic sentences or overall context; 5) Mundane verb choice; 6) tired journalistic cliches ----- and he wins awards for this stuff , amazing.

2/21/2008 8:56:59 PM

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**WhiteTrash** wrote:

I say we waterboard 'em and get to the bottom of this.

2/21/2008 8:55:13 PM

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**JanetbGood** wrote:

All my Trent Lott posts are Folo today have been expoided as complete BS! I'll cover by ripping Jerry Mitchell's writing style again. Yeah, that's the ticket. Latah.

2/21/2008 7:47:49 PM

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Scruggs' attorney, John Keker of San Francisco, has said his client is innocent and that Scruggs "didn't corruptly influence Judge DeLaughter."

## in your voice

### READ REACTIONS TO THIS STORY



**newtrick** wrote:

humpty, you fell off the wall - not that it's your first time to be "off the wall" - the Judge took the Motions to Sever under advisement.

2/21/2008 6:49:51 PM

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**JamesSavik** wrote:

Since Jim Hood took office, he hasn't missed a single opportunity to grandstand until Scruggs got caught with his hand in the cookie jar. Since when has a politically partisan and aggressive AG been satisfied letting the Feds handle a high profile public corruption case that he could easily ride to higher office? It just doesn't happen. Hood's silence in this matter speaks volumes.

2/21/2008 6:41:48 PM

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**RUs25601** wrote:

So who out there hasn't figured out that when Lott recommended another judge, he had been tipped off by the Bush administration about the investigation of

Scruggs? Good grief, the feds investigation of judicial bribery in Mississippi began in 2001, when Scruggs first came into focus for his gifts of payoff of loans for Mississippi justice Oliver Diaz. Guess Scruggs felt pretty secure about his power to get so stupid with it.

2/21/2008 6:37:01 PM

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**snowflake1** wrote:

EXCUSE ME GUYS--- I meant COMPLETELY OUT OF CIRCULATION.

2/21/2008 6:27:49 PM

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**snowflake1** wrote:

I totally agree with GOAHEADFRED. He is so right, the state will always be last (50th) in everything until ALL the good ole boys are completed out.

2/21/2008 6:26:45 PM

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**moslander** wrote:

Trent Lott went to Congress poor and retired RICH...he is, in my view an arrogant bastand with a processed hair cut.....

2/21/2008 6:23:33 PM

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**koolaid** wrote:

Yawn yawn yawn, the Fed's are investigating EVERYTHING except why everything from China is KILLING us and WHERE to find Bin-Laden!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

2/21/2008 5:56:27 PM

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**madres** wrote:

What ever happened to innocent until proven guilty? The media and public have convicted these men already, without having heard their side of the story. I seriously doubt they will get a fair trial in this state. It is a shame.

2/21/2008 5:03:54 PM

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**goaheadfred** wrote:

As George Costanza once said and I paraphrase: this thing is like an onion, the more layers you peel off the worse it stinks. Whether you're talking about politicians or lawyers, the good 'ole boy system has completely ruined this state. We will never elevate out of 50th place until we round up all these good 'ole boys and run them clear out of the state.

2/21/2008 4:58:24 PM

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**humptydumpty** wrote:

The motions for a change of venue and to sever as to Zach Scruggs and Sidney Backstrom were denied.

2/21/2008 4:50:46 PM

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## in your voice

### READ REACTIONS TO THIS STORY



**humptydumpty** wrote:

I'm starting to feel like an "ignorant yahoo" without the masterful guidance of Koolaid...his sheer genius and flawless insight need to be expressed on this canvass so that we too can see through the facts and pay our respects to Dickie Dick and The Funky Bunch in a respectful and unbiased fashion. Koolaid...whereyat?

2/21/2008 4:45:47 PM

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**kwestjr@yahoo.com** wrote:

ANYONE can suggest a candidate for a Senator to consider for a nomination. That is your right as an American. The fact that all of this has a side show attached is irrelevant.

2/21/2008 4:43:08 PM

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**speakerofthetruth** wrote:

Maybe it can be called "All My Criminals"

2/21/2008 4:31:51 PM

[Recommend \(2\)](#)

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**Gunslinger6** wrote:

As the stomach turns, so do the days of our lives and the politics in Mississippi. DeLaughter does look like Sutherland. The more they stir the more it stinks, poo poo.

2/21/2008 4:25:57 PM

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**speakerofthetruth** wrote:

Is it just me or does DeLaughter look like Donald Sutherland????? Maybe Sutherland can play him when they make a movie on all this corruption!!!

2/21/2008 4:17:52 PM

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**humptydumpty** wrote:

...unless Dickie rolls on Trent in some sort of deal...

2/21/2008 3:36:12 PM

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**humptydumpty** wrote:

MJC - Agree...there's got to be more to that story. They can't get Lott on that - it would be difficult to get him even is he did know about the 'bribe' aspect of it... I'm guessing there won't be a trial - so we may never know.

2/21/2008 3:35:11 PM

[Recommend \(5\)](#)

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**mjcIII** wrote:

By the way, thanks for that link Folo! I would also like to add clarity to my sentence a couple of posts ago....it will be next to impossible for them to prove that Lott knew that Scruggs promised Delaughter a consideration for a judgeship IN RETURN FOR ILLEGAL JUDICIARY FAVORS.

2/21/2008 3:25:26 PM

[Recommend \(3\)](#)

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**mjcIII** wrote:

Here's the best part::: Scruggs outdid them, with his \$4.3 million. A registered Democrat, Scruggs was part of a legal team that won a \$246 billion settlement against tobacco companies on behalf of a group of states. Scruggs's law firm was awarded a \$1 billion legal fee. If the Republican proposal to limit high legal fees became law, Scruggs stood to lose most of his fee. Moreover, other trial lawyers who also received huge fees would also have been hit. Given that trial lawyers are major donors to the Democratic Party, Scruggs saw the attack on their fees as a Republican effort "aimed at essentially de-funding the Democratic Party by penalizing trial lawyers."

2/21/2008 3:21:32 PM

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**mjcIII** wrote:

Whatever Lott's link to this case is (ignorance or corruption), it will be virtually impossible to prove that he knew that Scruggs was promising Delaughter consideration for a judgeship. So don't get too excited you cute little Demmy's. I wonder when the ole C-L will start discussing this interesting piece from the Boston Globe which shows Scruggs reaching out to other Republicans:

[http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2006/03/31/special\\_interes](http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2006/03/31/special_interes)  
page=full  
2/21/2008 3:20:39 PM

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