

## Palmer Court House of Horrors



Why Alaska Courts Suck: Bumpkins Rule

### Description

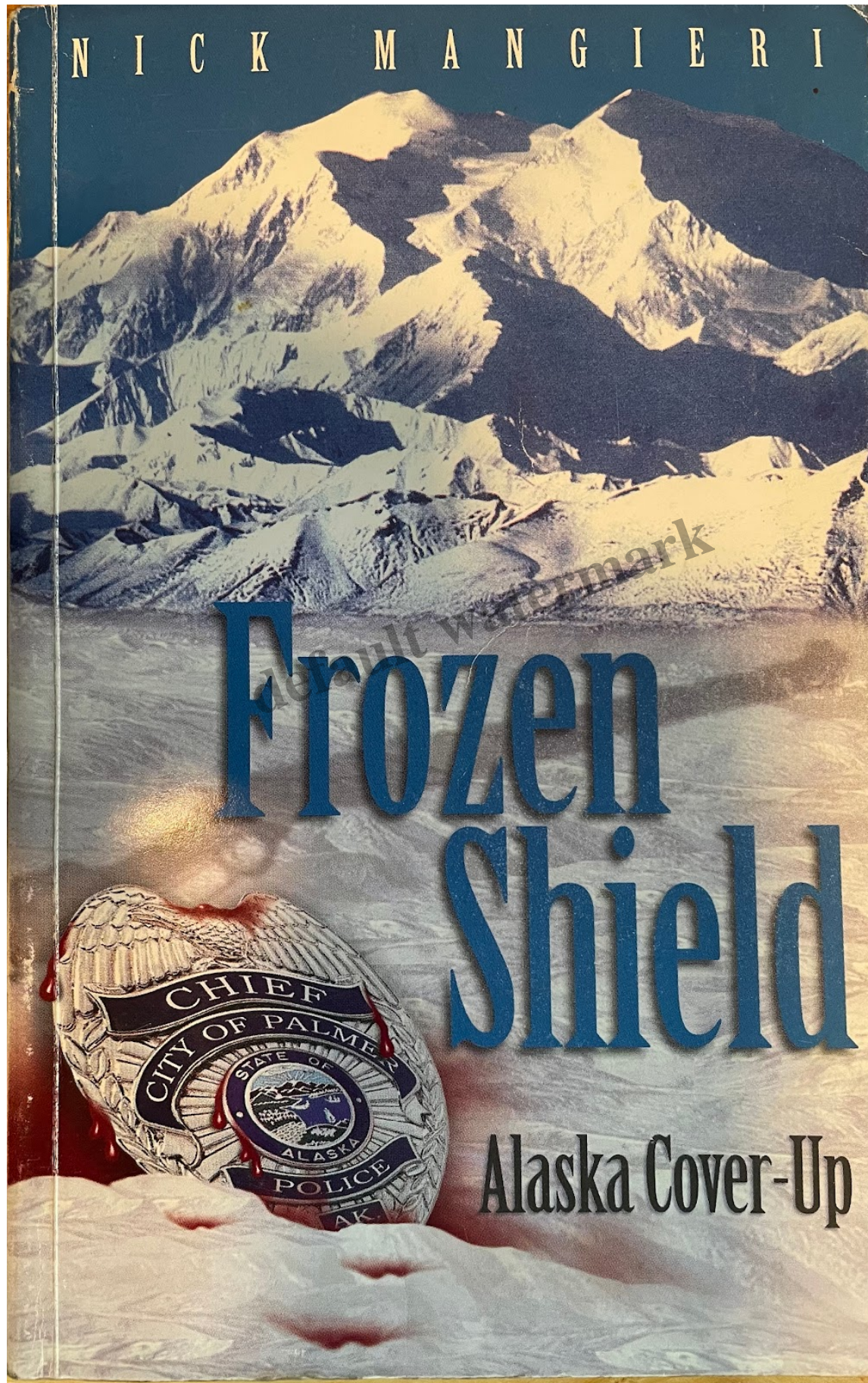


Business hours are Monday – Thursday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm and Friday, 8:00 am – 12 noon.

Count me as somebody who has lived in Alaska long enough to see a lot of bumpkins come and go through our great state. This has diminished my confidence in our public institutions—after watching so many bumpkins find positions and team up to pass laws, implement laws, and enforce laws for Alaskans who mostly just want to do their own thing.

**This is particularly true of the *Alaska Court System*. Any Alaskan who expects “justice” from our courts is a fool. Anytime you are in court you have already lost something.**

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*Frozen Shield*, by **Nick Mangieri**, is a book documenting one honorable man's experience in the mid-1970s getting jacked around by local government, state government and the *Alaska Court System*, until he lost everything. He went all the way to federal court. A police chief hired to lead the *Palmer Police Department*, Mangiere believed in following the law, and was naïve enough to think doing good would prevail in the end.

### **A Perversion of the Bible Book of Job.**

Soon after buying a home and some horses for his family, Mangieri engaged the community of Palmer in a gung-ho manner. He writes about the experience:

*...in spite of the rigid hierarchy that ruled the town and surrounding area, there were honest citizens who came forward to voice their concerns about the corruption that had long festered in the City and Borough governments. At first, the complaints were specific. Not only did the people cite instances of massive land fraud, but they also hinted about past violence and death in the valley that had not been resolved to the satisfaction of the citizenry.[1]*

**The Mat-Su Valley has long had a wild west nature. Some of my Adult Basic Education students at the Wasilla Job Center came to work on all-terrain vehicles ridden in the ruts alongside the highways. They lived rugged lives of self-sufficiency but needed to provide better for their families. Some had to quit smoking pot, which is legal in Alaska now, you know.**

In this social milieu Mangieri may have taken his job as Top Cop too seriously, running afoul of the good ol' boy network too soon after being hired.

**In his book Mangieri names many whom I recall as local leaders and legislators. Bumpkins.**

The opening chapter has Mangieri being fired. I have personally seen this happen to Alaska newbies who expected to bring past professional experience and expectations for fairness to the workplace. It happened often in Juneau when I worked there nearly five years as a business agent for the largest union of state workers, the *General Government Unit*. I have seen, for example, top performing caseworkers in the *Alaska Department of Health & Social Services* decapitated by the bumpkins' entrenched status quo buzz saw. I have seen abusive managers rewarded by political appointees for malevolent actions against people who just wanted to do their job. Ultimately I experienced it in my own career. By the time my own illegal firing case got into the *Alaska Court System*, I learned I had been gambling with my retirement funds and the house always wins.

**My own day in court was denied by a maneuver in the system. But had I stayed in that line of work I might not have entered the most rewarding career of my life, teaching.**

## **Go Along to Get Along—Or Else!**

Mangieri didn't see what was coming. He had received community recognition for doing a good job, but the city manager simply asked for his resignation without cause. No reason was given or required until the political heat turned up. The people who had liked what was happening with a *new sheriff in to*

wn couldn't help him much. He appealed through a hearing with the city counsel to no avail. He wrote letters to the editor of the *Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman* newspaper, even getting editorial support for his return to the job. But the bumpkins were in control. It didn't matter how much taxpayer money was spent to protect the status quo.

Early on Mangieri's wife had also written a letter to the editor with this statement in it:

*When Nick took over as Chief of Police of Palmer I knew what a damned good cop he was when I had my children come home and tell me, "boy dad's sure cleaning up drugs in this town. It's dry. Kids are mad at us because they can't even buy grass and speed is at a standstill, and they are blaming Dad for it." And Nick's reply, 'isn't that too bad.'"[2]*

Next Mangieri came into the warm embrace of Alaska attorneys. They tried to help him get justice in the Palmer Courthouse. He became quite proficient in serving as his own counsel over the course of this struggle—as his money ran out.

**This book is a testament to Mangieri's belief that somehow justice would prevail if he just kept fighting. He fought to the end.**

Before it was over Mangieri's dog would be killed and he would lose everything; his home, the horses his kids loved, his marriage, but not his faith in mankind. I guess this is why Mangieri's story was compelling to me. He knew writing a book would provide a testimony for future fair-minded Alaskans.

**I have also written a book!**

## Lessons Learned from a Political Court System



Gulliver was tied down by little bumpkins.

*Our Alaska* Supreme Court narrowly dismissed 3-2 a case brought by exploited children who asserted that the state's fossil fuel policy exacerbates the climate crisis in Alaska, harming them in violation of their fundamental rights under Alaska's Constitution.[3]

These are Exploited Children, too.

Those kids aren't paying their own legal fees and will suffer no consequences for bringing a frivolous lawsuit all the way to the *Alaska Supreme Court*. We know this isn't a serious court concerned with meaningful issues of Alaskans. The judges are all only elevated attorneys helping each other out. This case is about *social justice*—that could destroy the fragile Alaskan economy—paid for by a non-profit corporation, *Our Children's Trust*, whose unstated mission is to create more jobs for attorneys.

Looking back over the decades since statehood we can see in case law this court system is a joke. Outside attorneys come to Alaska to make their mark on the state and the ones who become judges enable this legalistic travesty.



Property Rights have been under assault in Alaska for many years. Our prolonged fight has been expensive—the opposition enabled by corrupt elected officials. Our case is scheduled to be heard January 18, 2022 at Nesbett Courthouse (3AN-19-05746).

Please contribute: <https://gogetfunding.com/protecting-property-rights-in-alaska>

Contact: [steamboat\\_000@aol.com](mailto:steamboat_000@aol.com)



To read this story: <https://donnliston.blogspot.com/2021/08/arrogance-of-entitlement.html>

Read about how former Municipality of Anchorage Attorney, **William Falsey** started a case working for the People of Anchorage and now pursues that case in private practice:

## Arrogance of Entitlement

<https://donnliston.net/2021/08/arrogance-of-entitlement.html>

## How do you find an honest Alaska attorney?

I know some honest and capable attorneys. But we who have lived here decades know Alaska is a big place with a lot of fish. So when somebody needs a service—attorney services, for instance—it is hard to know where to go. Recommendations from friends? The **Bar Association** referral service? Options for such services in other states are vast and varied, but in Alaska you may find out the outfit you put your retainer down on will use your case to become educated about that particular kind of law.

**In my own case over the last year I have defended myself against vultures with now their fourth attorney pro se. What happened to me as an attack by the Bordens, dba High Caliber Realty, Inc. (sic) caused me to be a victim to professional scammers. Why should I be have to pay attorneys to defend myself? Should every crime victim have to lawyer up if the persons committing the crime are outside scammers? Should a rape victim have to prove to a court what they had for breakfast?**

I am ready to go all the way to the **Alaska Supreme Court**. It has been decades since Nick Mangieri took his case as far as it would go in the **Alaska Court System** and wrote a book about our third-rate **State of Alaska**.

It hasn't gotten any better and I am just getting warmed up. . .

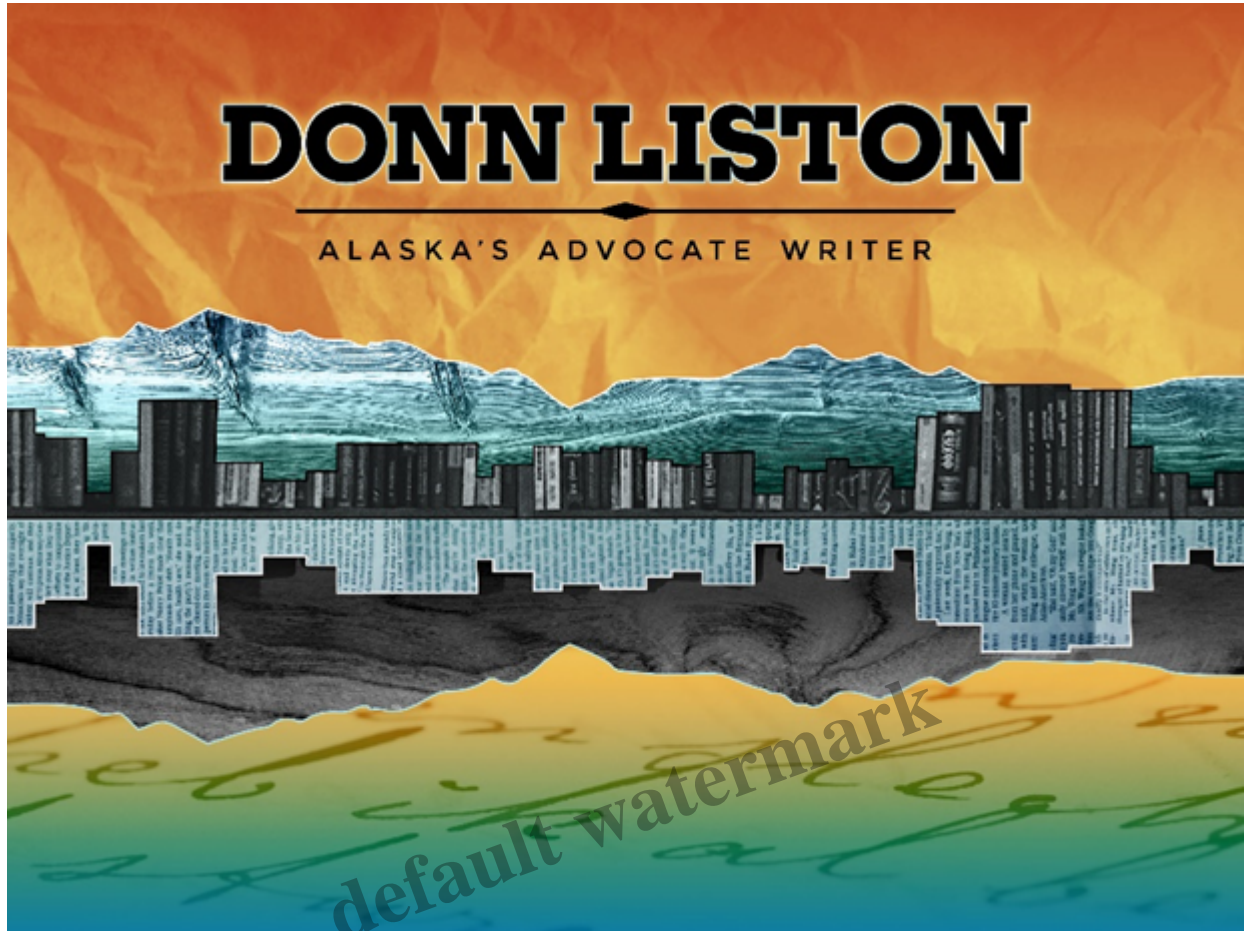
### References:

[1] Mangieri, N. J. (2000). *Frozen Shield; Alaska Cover-Up*. Williamsburg, VA: Veracity Press, Inc., P8.

[2] Ibid, P19

[3]Alaska Supreme Court narrowly dismisses youths' climate change lawsuit, **Anchorage Daily News**, January 30, 2022

<https://donnliston.net/2021/08/what-would-don-and-roberta-sheldon-have.html>



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1. Alaska Courts
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### **Date Created**

February 4, 2022

### **Author**



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