

Profile of a **POPULAR** Advocate:
Dale Nathan, Esq.



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Introduction – Education – Career – Personal

- Introduction - Education
- Dale was born, grew up, and educated in Kentucky. He graduated from the University of Kentucky with a bachelor of arts degree with majors in political science and accounting, and a bachelor of laws degrees both received in 1957. He completed seven years of college work in five years and paid for his college education through scholarships and concurrent employment.

- Career
- In the early years of his career, Dale worked for government, then for private industry, and was a law editor for a publisher of legal reporters. In 1965, Dale moved to Minnesota and became the chief counsel for a large division of a multi-national company that manufactured weapon systems for the military services. In 1978, Dale left that company and went into private practice after there was a change in management and the new management decided to increase profits by engaging in procurement fraud. In private practice, Dale handled major whistleblower cases among others.

- For thirteen years beginning in 1972, Dale was the co-director of the Government Contracts Program and an adjunct professor at the College (now University) of St. Thomas in Minnesota where he taught courses on government contract law, contract management, negotiations, and marketing. He also was a member of the University of Minnesota Government Contract Seminar Planning Committee that presented an annual seminar on government contracts topics.

- In 1972, Dale was the National President of a national organization, the National Contract Management Association. During his term, the organization implemented a certification program for contract managers that included a commitment to integrity in contract management.

- Personal
- In private life, Dale was a foster parent to four teenagers. He taught courses including religions of the world in religious schools for thirteen years.

License to Practice Law Suspended

- In 2000, Dale represented the mother of a four year girl who was the subject of a visitation dispute. The girl was born out of wedlock. The mother who had been married to her husband for over 30 years conceived the girl in an affair with a co-worker during a separation from her husband. The girl's biological father wanted the mother to leave her husband with their daughter and live with him. The mother, who had reconciled with her husband, refused to do that. The biological father was granted supervised visitation with his daughter every week but wanted unsupervised visitation. His demands for unsupervised visitation were rejected until a new judge was assigned to the case. He decided that the girl would develop a relationship with her father if she was alone with him on weekends even though psychologists reported that the girl was terrified of her father, and that he had abused her including sexual abuse. The biological father was trying to use his daughter to force the mother to leave her husband and live with him with their daughter. After the judge ordered the mother to produce the child for unsupervised visitation with her father on weekends, the mother went into hiding while the judge's order was on appeal. She did not inform Dale on where she was. While the mother was in hiding, the judge ordered Dale to disclose what the mother had told him in attorney-client communications. Dale refused to do so. The judge jailed Dale for close to seven weeks in an attempt to force him to disclose what his client had told him. Dale was released by an appeals court after it became clear that he would not violate his obligation to keep attorney-client communications private. Dale violated a court order in another proceeding. A judge ordered him not to publicly disclose racism in a juvenile court proceeding. In that proceeding, a judge terminated a mother's right to custody of her four children because the mother, who was white, had dated a black man for a while. Dale disclosed the judge's racism in a newspaper article that did not mention any name other than the judge's name.
- In late 2003, the Supreme Court of Minnesota suspended Dale's license to practice law on the basis that Dale had violated court orders, criticized courts and judges, and engaged in a frivolous lawsuit - a federal suit to enforce the mother's constitutional right to protection against racism.
- The order of the Supreme Court of Minnesota gave Dale the right to apply for reinstatement of his license to practice law if he would admit his wrongdoing and swear to never again disobey a court order. Dale refused to do that and instead chose to work on legal system reform.

Work on Legal System Reform

- In November, 2004, Dale released his book: *Minnesota Injustice: True Court Horror Cases - With Names; plus: How We Can Improve Our Legal System*. In 330+ pages, Dale's book summarizes 30 true court horror cases, explains why our legal system is dysfunctional, and shows how our legal system can be reformed to provide affordable justice for society.
- In November, 2008, Dale released a 30 page proposed law to reform state legal systems. The bill would provide for: (1) judge accountability for their actions and a judge oversight board as part of the legislative branch of government, (2) performance evaluations on how judges have performed their work with reports to voters before each election on judges who seek to continue in office; (3) election of new judges by the people in competitive elections; (4) public funds for judge election campaigns at no increase in taxes; (4) a ban on \$150 tips for judges from lawyers, special interests and others (a little known rule issued by judges in almost all states lets them take tips of up to \$150 in value from lawyers, special interest and others without having to disclose these tips to anyone), (5) assurance that lawyers will provide quality services to clients, (6) public information on courts, judges and lawyers, (7) publication of summaries of irresponsible acts of judges and public officials, (8) a code of ethics for the judicial branch of government comparable to the codes of ethics for the legislative and executive branches; (9) penalties for the wrongful termination of a parent's right to the custody of his/her child, (10) the right of a non-custodial parent to liberal visitation with his/her child unless it is shown that such visitation would be harmful to the child, (11) a lawyer's oversight board that is independent of the judicial branch of government, (12) the statutory obligation of judges to follow the state and federal constitutions, state statutes, and established case law in reaching decisions and issuing orders, and to strictly follow court rules in proceedings, (13) the right of citizens to get a grand jury investigation by a petition signed by 5 percent of the population of a county or 5 percent of the population of the state, and (14) the right to criticize judges and courts, and prohibition on retaliation against whistleblowers.