AOC files Impeachment Articles against Supreme Court justices



By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Senior National Correspondent

New York Democratic Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, renowned for her unyielding and fiery approach to governance, has taken unprecedented steps against Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito by introducing articles of impeachment on Wednesday. This decisive action comes as accusations of corruption fly along with a deepening constitutional crisis.

Ocasio-Cortez arrived in Congress in 2019 with a flare, temperament, and youthful enthusiasm not seen in a long time. She also arrived as part of "The Squad," and the 34-year-old firebrand, better known as AOC, has taken a no-holdsbarred approach to governing, something rarely seen in Democrats. Now, she's leading the charge against a heavily right-leaning and potentially corrupt U.S. Supreme Court.

"The unchecked corruption crisis on the Supreme Court has now spiraled into a Constitutional crisis threatening American democracy writ large," Ocasio-Cortez declared in a press release. She condemned the justices for their "pattern of refusal to recuse" from cases involving their personal and financial interests and their "failure to disclose" millions of dollars in gifts spanning decades.

The impeachment resolutions are rooted in allegations that Thomas and Alito have repeatedly failed to disclose significant financial gifts and have refused to recuse themselves from cases with clear conflicts of interest. Thomas faces additional scrutiny for not recusing himself from cases involving his wife's legal and financial interests. At the same time, Alito is accused of presiding over cases where he had a personal bias.

Ocasio-Cortez's bold move follows a contentious 6-3 Supreme Court ruling that granted presidents broad immunity from criminal prosecution, a decision that favored former President Trump amidst his multiple felony charges related to his ef-

forts to overturn the 2020 election results. "Today's ruling represents an assault on American democracy. It is up to Congress to defend our nation from this authoritarian capture," Ocasio-Cortez wrote on social platform X.

Their affiliations with the "Stop the Steal" movement, which questioned the validity of the 2020 election, have made the allegations against Thomas and Alito worse. Thomas's wife played a significant role in the movement, and Alito faced criticism for a flag associated with the movement flying over his home. Both justices have refused calls to recuse themselves from related cases, raising serious concerns about their impartiality.

In parallel with Ocasio-Cortez's impeachment resolutions, Democratic law-makers have proposed reforms to increase accountability within the Supreme Court. These include imposing term limits on justices, establishing an enforceable code of ethics, expanding the number of judges, and enhancing congressional oversight.

This week, Senators Sheldon White-house (D-R.I.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) called on Attorney General Merrick Garland to appoint a Special Counsel to investigate Justice Clarence Thomas for potential violations of ethics, false statements, and tax laws. They highlighted solid evidence of Thomas's failure to disclose over \$267,000 in forgiven debt for a luxury motorcoach and numerous other undisclosed gifts from billionaire benefactors.

The senators stressed the need for thorough investigation and accountability, noting that no government official should be above the law. "Presented with opportunities to resolve questions about his conduct, Justice Thomas has maintained a suspicious silence," they wrote.

Ocasio-Cortez underscored the gravity of the situation, concluding, "The integrity of our democracy is at stake. We must act decisively to uphold the rule of law and ensure that no one is above it, not even Supreme Court Justices."

Detroit man sentenced to 10 years for assaulting and strangling nurse Practitioner

DETROIT - A Detroit man was sentenced to 10 years in prison for assaulting, strangling, and injuring a nurse practitioner in a federal detention facility, United States Attorney Dawn N. Ison announced.

Ison was joined in the announcement by Cheyvoryea Gibson, FBI Special Agent in Charge.

Tyjuan Gray, 24, was sentenced by United States District Judge Terrence G. Berg.

According to court records, in July 2023, Gray, an inmate at FCI Milan, attacked at a nurse during a routine medical visit. Gray grabbed the nurse's throat, hitting her head against the wall. Gray held the nurse's wrists so that she was unable to radio for help or defend herself. When the victim fell to the floor, Gray kneed her in the stomach while restraining her and strangling her. Just as she was nearing unconsciousness, another inmate pulled Gray off the victim, allowing her to activate her alarm. Afterwards, the

victim required medical treatment from the effects of strangulation.

"This defendant perpetrated an unprovoked, egregious assault on a healthcare professional providing him with medical care. His actions not only caused her physical injury but took away her ability to feel safe at work and left her with emotional scars that will last a lifetime. The prosecution and sentence in this case should send a strong message that we will address violence wherever it occurs," U.S. Attorney Ison said.

"The defendant's assault of his nurse was unjustifiable and completely unacceptable, considering the defendant was receiving routine medical care," said Cheyvoryea Gibson, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI in Michigan. "This sentencing reflects the seriousness of his despicable actions and hopefully provides the nurse with a bit of solace knowing justice was served."

This case was investigated by the FBI and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tara Hindelang.

AG Nessel charges Detroit woman with Medicaid fraud

LANSING - Deseraye Dejarnette, 29, of Detroit, was arraigned this month in the 54B District Court in Ingham County before Judge Lisa Babcock on one count of Medicaid Fraud - False Claim, a felony punishable by up to four years and/or \$50,000 fine, announced Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel.

Dejarnette was hired as a Direct Hire/Support Professional through Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network to provide support services to a Medicaid beneficiary with special needs. It is alleged Dejarnette submitted fraudulent signed time sheets claiming she provided services to the beneficiary from July 15, 2022, through April 27, 2023, despite having been terminated from her position during that period. As a result, Dejarnette received payments for services she allegedly did not provide totaling \$19,183.19.

"Medicaid funds must be used appropriately, not diverted through fraudulent schemes," Nessel said. "My office will continue to protect the Medicaid program from those who exploit it for their own personal gain."

Dejarnette was released on a \$50,000 personal recognizance bond. A probable cause conference has been scheduled for July 19, 2024, at 8:30 a.m., and a preliminary examination has been set for July 25, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

The Attorney General's Health Care Fraud Division (HCFD) handled this case for the Department. The HCFD is the federally certified Medicaid Fraud Control Unit for Michigan, and it receives 75% of its funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under a grant award totaling \$5,541,992 for the fiscal year 2024. The remaining 25% percent, totaling \$1,847,326 is funded by the State of Michigan





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