

me?" and Justice Prosser said, "Yea, . . . you are a bitch" and added, "There will be a war against you and it will not be a ground war". Justice Crooks and Bradley had concerns for the Chief Justice after this, and therefore went to speak with Voelker and Brady. Justice Crooks said both his law clerk and assistants had told him they felt they were working in "a hostile work environment."

Justice Crooks said he has never tried to calm Justice Prosser down when he becomes irate, and the person that has been the most effective in calming him down has been Justice Bradley over the years. Justice Crooks said Justice Bradley sits next to Justice Prosser during their meetings. Justice Crooks states he feels that if he ever tried to calm Justice Prosser down, it would be like "fueling the fire."

After the February 2010 incident, Justice Crooks said the chief justice had a friend, who is either a psychiatrist or psychologist; evaluate Justice Prosser's behavior. Justice Crooks said the behavior was evaluated only by what the Chief Justice told the psychiatrist at the time. The psychiatrist had not talked to anybody about Justice Prosser's behavior, including Justice Prosser. Justice Crooks said the psychiatrist believed that it would be highly unlikely Justice Prosser's behavior would escalate to any sort of violence. Justice Crooks said that it was clear, based on the June 13, 2011 incident, that the psychiatrist was wrong.

Justice Crooks also said that he believes there are a lot of people in their office that are fearful of losing their jobs if they speak out about this incident or any other incident. Justice Crooks also said Margaret Brady had told them she could not do anything because they are elected officials.

I asked Justice Crooks if he feared for his own safety at any point and he stated he did not. Justice Crooks did say that, although he does not fear for his safety, he does feel intimidated by Justice Prosser. Justice Crooks said he feels that he has to "walk on eggshells" because he does "not want to trigger an explosion or set him off." Justice Crooks said he has to watch what he says to Justice Prosser at all times. Justice Crooks also has noticed when the Chief Justice is out in public giving any type of speech, and Justice Prosser is present, he has noticed the Chief Justice will always turn to Justice Prosser and ask him if he has anything he would like to add or say at that time. Justice Crooks said the Chief Justice does not ask any of the other justices if they have anything to say, only Justice Prosser. Justice Crooks believes this is the Chief Justice's way of appeasing Justice Prosser while they are out in public.

Justice Crooks also talked about a public hearing in the fall of 2009 in which the justices were listening to a case regarding campaign money. Justice Crooks said someone was lobbying in regards to the campaign money and during this time, Justice Prosser "displayed anger and showed accusations". Justice Crooks said that was an example he could recall in which Justice Prosser had showed a temper tantrum in a public meeting.

Justice Crooks said he would be fine if the result of this investigation resulted in Justice Prosser receiving counseling or treatment for his behavior. Justice Crooks believes Justice Prosser needs more than just anger management counseling.

Justice Crooks also told us that he has witnessed Justice Prosser say that the judges in Dane County and police in Dane County are corrupt. Justice Crooks said he has no idea why Justice Prosser would say this, but added, "It's like he's paranoid or something."

ATTACHMENTS:

Justice Crooks gave us information printed from the Internet, which were newspaper articles that mentioned incidents involving Justice Prosser and his behavior. He also gave us notes he had typed for the Feb. 22, 2010 meeting. A copy of the notes has been attached to this case number. The newspaper clips were not attached because they have already been circulated to the public.

08/23/11