

Lawyer moved for racist claim

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Justice Department attorney responsible for recommending presidential pardons has been transferred out of his office following accusations of mismanagement and racism.

Roger Adams, who served as the government's pardon attorney for over a decade, told internal Justice Department investigators he probably has "some faults, but racial prejudice is not one of them."

But the department's inspector general concluded otherwise, finding that Adams acted improperly in describing a drug convict applying for a pardon as "about as honest as you could expect for a Nigerian."

"Unfortunately, that's not very honest," Adams allegedly told a co-worker, according to the inspector general's December 2007 report.

The inspector general's office said it did not find reason to doubt the accuracy of the statement after its own interview with Adams.

"We believe that Adams' comments — and his use of nationality in the decision-making process — were in-

appropriate," the report concluded. "We were extremely troubled by Adams' belief that an applicant's 'ethnic background' was something that should be an 'important consideration' in a pardon decision."

The investigation also concluded that Adams threatened to transfer or otherwise retaliate against staffers who complained about his management style to the inspector general, which is the Justice Department's internal watchdog. Among their complaints, dating back to 2001, were claims that Adams allowed at least one employee to take extended breaks while denying the same to others, and that he improperly framed and displayed historical documents in his office that should have been safeguarded in government archives.

The pardon attorney's office reviews more than 1,000 applications for clemency each year and prepares a recommendation on each for the president. It had an estimated backlog of 3,055 applications as of Oct. 1, up from 2,255 a year earlier, according to data included in the Bush administration's 2009

budget request that was issued this week.

Adams recently left his post as pardon attorney voluntarily and now works in the general counsel's office at the Justice Department's management division, agency spokesman Erik Ablin said Tuesday in a statement.

"After serving as pardon attorney for over 10 years, Roger Adams concluded that he was ready for a new assignment within the Department of Justice to complement his 35-year DOJ ca-

reer," Ablin said.

The inspector general's report describes a poisonous work environment — apparently felt by both Adams and his staff — in the pardon attorney's office. The heavily edited report was spurred by complaints in June 2007 from unnamed Justice employees, some of whom apparently kept notes over the years detailing conversations they had with Adams.

In a 22-page response that was almost as long as the report, Ablin said.

(See Remark, Page 4)

Historical Society to honor late pioneers

Special to Sentinel-Voice

In what will become an annual event, Las Vegas Black Historical Society, Inc., will honor local Black leaders of years past in a program titled "Reflections and Remembrances." The commemoration will take place 2 p.m. Sunday, at Nevada Partners, 710 W. Lake Mead Blvd. Honorees are selected based on their contributions to the Black community and to the Las

Vegas Valley. This year's honorees are Stella Fears, James Gay, J. David Hoggard, Lubertha Johnson and Woodrow Wilson. Event chair, Ida Gaines, said the community needs to be made aware of the historic and ongoing contributions of Blacks in Southern Nevada. Tickets for the event are \$25. A buffet will be served. The society is a 501c3 nonprofit group.

Black school idea causes problems

TORONTO - Toronto police were investigating threats shouted at city school board members debating the recently proposed creation of a school program for Blacks.

At the raucous meeting this week, the board voted 11-9 in favor of creating the province's first publicly funded "Africentric" school, the *Toronto Sun* reported.

One of the members who voted against the plan, Stephnie Payne, is Black, and was heckled from the public seats, reportedly. One person shouted Payne had been "whitewashed," and another yelled she "should be shot" for turning her back on her own community.

The board commissioned a study on the \$820,000 project due for review in May, although provincial Premier Dalton McGuinty said the Ontario government would fund it, the *National Post* said.

Meanwhile, school board Chairman John Campbell told the *Star* the media hadn't reported the issue fairly.

"It could be an alternative school within an existing school," said Campbell. "The board didn't say it had to be a separate school, and there was nothing in the motion about a stand-alone nature," he said.

Officer

(Continued from Page 2)

White Plains has squabbled with the county over homeless people at the government building, especially since a homeless man, bused in by the county from an airport shelter, later stabbed a woman to death in a nearby mall's parking garage in 2005. The county agreed last year to move a homeless shelter from the building.

Jacobs, the 39-year-old homeless man with whom Ridley was struggling, has been charged with assault and weapon possession. The 56-year-old man he is accused of attacking, whose name has not been made public, suffered broken wrists and ribs.

Why Not a 42" flat screen instead of a 36". Why Not leather upholstery instead of that plaid. Why Not Bora Bora instead of the backyard. Why Not the fifty yard line instead of a nosebleed. Why Not a room with a view instead of a room. Why Not the sirloin instead of the chuck. Why Not sleepaway camp instead of day camp. Why Not a ski week instead of a ski weekend. Why Not a new wardrobe instead of a new suit. Why Not first class instead of coach. Why Not surround sound instead of 'what'd he say?'. Why Not April in Paris, Paris, Texas. Why Not well as the horses. Why Not a private video tape. Why Not to go with the clubs. Why Not a club membership instead of a row center instead of a great wine cellar instead of a rack. Why Not third of the balcony. Why Not a DJ instead of a party mix. Why Not of the regular. Why Not the sapling. Why Not 80 gigs instead of 20. Why Not the yacht instead of the dinghy. Why Not the castle instead of the cottage. Why Not the antique instead of the repro. Why Not season tickets instead of scalping. Why Not the sloop instead of the sunfish. Why Not the signed print instead of the print. Why Not a house on the beach instead of the bay. Why Not 'I'll take it' instead of 'I'll think about it'. Why Not the autographed jersey instead of the jersey. Why Not Rome, Italy instead of Rome, New York. Why Not a 3-carat solitaire instead of 2. Why Not the gold instead of the silver. Why Not go to the playoffs instead of watching them. Why Not have your cake and eat it too, in Venice. Why Not five acres instead of two. Why Not the coupe over the sedan. Why Not the cruise instead of the jaunt. Why Not a limo instead of a taxi. Why Not a safari instead of a zoo. Why Not the mags instead of the radials. Why Not a new deck and a pool instead of a new deck or a pool. That's right. Why Not ?

WHY NOT MAKE MORE MONEY ON YOUR MONEY?

INTRODUCING THE U.S. BANK ELITE MONEY MARKET


ELITE MONEY MARKET

2.85% APY*

On balances of \$25,000 or more with a 12-month bonus

Start earning now. With this great rate of return, why not? Visit your local U.S. Bank branch or call 800-720-BANK (2265) to get one of the most competitive money market rates in the market.

How many stars does *your* bank have?



usbank.com | 800-720-BANK (2265)

*\$25,000 from a source outside of U.S. Bank required to open. For a limited time only, introductory bonus interest of .25% will be applied to new Elite Money Market accounts with balances of \$25,000 and greater and will be applied to the standard variable interest rate and Annual Percentage Yields (APYs) in effect at that time for a 12 month period. APYs are accurate as of 1/31/08. Standard variable interest rate and APYs subject to change at the bank's discretion and may change daily. APYs disclosed include introductory bonus interest applied to the current standard variable interest rate. In order to earn the stated APY, the minimum balances for each tier must be maintained. \$0 - \$9,999 is .10% APY; \$10,000 - \$24,999 is 2.00% APY; \$25,000 - \$49,999 is 2.85% APY; \$50,000 - \$99,999 is 2.85% APY; \$100,000 - \$249,999 is 2.85% APY; \$250,000 and above is 2.85% APY. Fees may reduce earnings. Consumer accounts only. Subject to U.S. Bank deposit account terms and conditions. Member FDIC.