

## Dallas Lawyer Succumbs to H1N1 Flu

By Christine Cristiano

Officials from Dallas County have confirmed that one of the city's prominent attorneys, Sidney H. Davis Jr., has passed away from complications of the H1N1 flu. Davis had been an attorney with the law firm Touchstone Bernays since 1979. Before his death, Davis, 54, was advising the Commissioners Court regarding an investigation into the conduct of constables. Last month, the court had hired Davis to act as an adviser for an investigation of constables Derick Evans and Jaime Cortes. Both constables have been accused of "forcing employees to sell raffle tickets for their re-election campaigns and to work unpaid security details."



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District Attorney Craig Watkins, had strongly objected Davis' appointment on the grounds

that "the court did not have the authority to hire an outside attorney." In turn, the court accused Watkins of 'sandbagging' the investigation. Former FBI agent Danny DeFenbaugh is leading the investigation.

According to Peggy Lundy, senior adviser to County Judge Jim Foster, Davis' passing "was a punch in the belly." The County office released a statement confirming Davis' death. According to Lundy, Davis fell ill last week and slipped into coma.

County Judge Jim Foster commented that Davis' death was "a very tragic situation and that "there is no one, that I'm aware of, that was more greatly admired for their legal mind than Sid Davis. He was just, I would say, at the top of the top."

Dallas County health officials had previously announced the passing of a 54 year old person due to the H1N1 flu but had withheld the patient's name because of patient confidentiality.

Sidney H. Davis Jr., leaves behind a wife and three children.

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