



Judge Stuart Namm at his home in Hampstead, N.C. Namm worked as a judge for 16 years in Suffolk County.

RETIRED LI JUDGE THROWS THE BOOK AT SUFFOLK PROSECUTORS

Once called 'Maximum Stu' for tough sentencing, Namm writes memoir and tells how he became a bitter foe of the DA's office

BY ANDREW SMITH
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It has been 21 years since Stuart Namm left Long Island, abandoned by his own party and turned out from his job as a Suffolk County Court judge.

His ouster came after he exposed fabricated police testimony in several murder cases — a role that earned him both respect and derision from different factions in the county's criminal justice system.

But now he's back, with a book about what he saw, what he did and what happened to

stay quiet.

Namm, 80, said he began the book while he was still on the bench in Riverhead, but resurrected it only last year after a scare with non-Hodgkins lymphoma. "I can't die without this story being told," he said.

The book, "A Whistleblower's Lament: The Perverted Pursuit of Justice in the State of New York," published by Hellgate Press, comes out today. In it, Namm describes his swift evolution in 1985 from a law-and-order judge known as "Maximum Stu" to a judge so skeptical of law en-

tract attorney's office filed motions seeking to remove him from cases, accusing him of "animosity and bias."

His identification of perjured testimony in cases he heard led him to ask then-Gov. Mario Cuomo to investigate county law enforcement, and the State Commission of Investigation did so. It ultimately released a blistering report, condemning Suffolk homicide and narcotics detectives and prosecutors for engaging in misconduct and showing no interest in rooting it out.

In the wake of that investigation, then-Suffolk District At-

of the Suffolk Police Department's leadership turned over.

But many of the people Namm identified as his adversaries have become fixtures in the criminal justice system. Thomas Spota, a former homicide prosecutor under Henry and then the former attorney for the Superior Officers Association, is in his fourth term as district attorney. Former prosecutors William Keahon, Steven Wilutis, Ray Perini and Timothy Mazzei are successful defense attorneys, and Mazzei is a Brookhaven Town Board member. Mark Cohen, chief of the appeals bureau under Henry and chief assistant district attorney under Henry's successor, James Catterson Jr., is now an acting

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