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HEADLINE: Dumond dismisses jailed lawyer in suit against LR attorney

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BODY:

Convicted rapist Wayne Dumond has fired Fayetteville attorney Dan Ivy because of what Dumond described as Ivy's "inability to practice effective law" from a jail cell.

In a motion Ivy filed Wednesday seeking to withdraw as Dumond's attorney in a civil lawsuit against another attorney, Ivy included a handwritten note dated Feb. 25 that Dumond sent him from prison.

The note reads: "Dear Mr. Ivy: There is little doubt that, due to your present circumstances, you are under an extreme amount of stress not to mention your inability to practice effective law.

"Should your condition change in the near future please, please let me know, but as of this date I am no longer in need of your services," Dumond wrote.

On Feb. 10, Ivy began serving a nine-month sentence at the Washington County jail in Fayetteville on a third-degree battery conviction for beating his then-wife, Sarah Ivy, in 1994.

At the time the charge was filed, Dan Ivy was a Republican candidate for attorney general. His bid was unsuccessful.

Ivy's jail sentence followed several unsuccessful appeals. A spokesman for the jail confirmed Thursday that Ivy is still behind bars.

Ivy was representing Dumond in a lawsuit filed Dec. 20 in Pulaski County Circuit Court alleging that Little Rock lawyer John Wesley Hall Jr. misused Dumond's trust fund, which contained \$ 110,000 that Dumond won in a lawsuit.

Hall denies the allegations and has filed a countersuit against Dumond. He won the trust-fund money for Dumond in a suit filed years ago against former St. Francis County Sheriff Coolidge Conlee for displaying Dumond's severed testicles in a jar in the sheriff's office.

Dumond has said that, while awaiting trial on a 1984 rape charge, two masked men broke into his home and castrated him. Dumond was convicted in 1985 of the rape of a Forrest City woman. He got a life sentence and has repeatedly sought parole.

The case attracted renewed attention last year when Gov. Mike Huckabee said he would consider granting

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executive clemency to Dumond, now 47.

The Arkansas Post Prison Transfer Board voted in January to grant Dumond parole only if he moved to Texas. Dumond is still in prison, however, because Texas officials turned down that plan.

Ivy, who has had his own share of troubles, said in the motion filed Thursday in Pulaski County Circuit Court that he doesn't owe Dumond any refund for services he agreed to provide.

The Internal Revenue Service earlier put a lien on any money Ivy made while representing Dumond.

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