

Home » Hot Topics » New York » News » U.S. District Court »

Donziger files motion for new representation ahead of bench trial

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By JESSICA M. KARMASEK

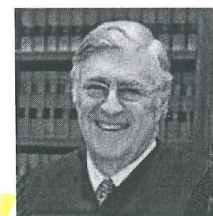
NEW YORK (Legal Newsline) — New York attorney Steven Donziger, who is being sued by Chevron Corp. in a federal court for fraud, has filed a motion for new representation.

On Tuesday, Donziger filed his motion in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, asking Judge Lewis Kaplan to allow him to be represented by two new lawyers.

Kaplan ruled Monday that the trial, scheduled to begin Oct. 15, will no longer be a jury trial.

Donziger and the Ecuadorians now must plead their case before Kaplan.

Donziger's new lawyers are Richard Friedman of Friedman Ruben in Seattle and **Zoe Littlepage of Littlepage Booth** in Houston.



Kaplan

"I am gratified that two highly skilled lawyers have agreed to represent me in this critical case, where I believe my due process rights have been violated by the court's rush to judgment in favor of Chevron," Donziger said in a statement Tuesday.

Donziger's previous counsel, John Kecker of San Francisco-based Kecker & Van Nest, withdrew from the case in May.

Kecker was the attorney for prominent Mississippi attorney Richard "Dickie" Scruggs during two judicial bribery cases.

Also Tuesday, Donziger's new website, which provides the attorney's perspective on the RICO case and the upcoming trial, went live.

From Legal Newsline: Reach Jessica Karmasek by email at jessica@legalnewsline.com.

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