

without due process. Rathke's methods won him national recognition as an "expert" on prosecuting "child abuse," and informed opinion had it that Rathke was slated to move up to the Attorney General's job, if and when Humphrey rose to a higher position.

Graham exposed Rathke's agenda, identical to that of Humphrey's "Task Force on Child Abuse Within the Family," to use concocted allegations of "child abuse" to gradually replace the family with state control of children, while covering up the real crimes of organized, politically connected child sex rings. Rathke was the first to publicly join Humphrey in 1985 in calling for the resignation of Scott County prosecutor Kathleen Morris, in order to destroy her investigation of the Jordan child abuse cases.

Jack Graham's confrontation with, and later victory over, the Humphrey/DFL Minnesota establishment, summarized here, began with a typically outrageous display of police-state methods by the Crow Wing County authorities.

On Sept. 21, 1987, a local citizen, Michael Shockman, had disciplined his 7-year-old son Shane by slapping him, causing minor bruises on his face. When the son's school reported the bruises to county authorities, the police came and seized Shane on Sept. 25, removing him from school and placing him in protective custody, with no notice to the parents and no opportunity for a hearing.

The Shockmans engaged Graham as their attorney, who immediately wrote to county authorities, demanding that the child be returned. After Shane was finally released to his parents on Sept. 28, Graham wrote a letter of political protest to the Crow Wing County Board of Commissioners on the Shockmans' behalf, condemning public officials, including Rathke, for promoting the practice of taking children from parents without due process.

When Graham's letter was read before a Commissioners' meeting on Oct. 6, Rathke became enraged, and issued a criminal complaint against Michael Shockman for fifth-degree assault of his son!

As one astonished 24-year veteran of the county sheriff's office later testified, "This criminal charge is most unusual, inasmuch as, to the best of my recollection, no parent has ever been previously charged in this county with simple assault for spanking or slapping his or her child, even where minor bruising has resulted." (Affidavit of Charles Warnberg, Nov. 14, 1987)

After Shockman pleaded not guilty, Graham filed suit on his behalf in U.S. District Court in Duluth, seeking an injunction against any further prosecution of the case. Graham charged Rathke with prosecutorial vindictiveness, arguing that he used his "legal powers to make a political example of Mr. Shockman, for his own political advantage and to answer his political critics."

Rathke responded by calling a grand jury to indict Shockman, in an effort to protect himself from Graham's charges. However, it later emerged that Rathke, in true fascist style, had also sought a "criminal defamation" indictment against

## Graham tells Humphrey to withdraw from cases

In a strongly worded Oct. 7 letter to Minnesota Attorney General Skip Humphrey made available to *EIR*, Crow Wing County Attorney John Remington Graham demanded that Skip Humphrey immediately withdraw from prosecution of two widely publicized local cases.

On Feb. 4, 1993, Gov. Arne Carlson, upon Humphrey's advice, appointed Humphrey's office to prosecute two alleged child abuse cases in Crow Wing County. Graham had declined to prosecute the cases, due to lack of evidence.

In his Oct. 7 letter, Graham points out "that the pertinent language in Section 8.01 of Minnesota Statutes reads as follows: 'Whenever the governor shall so request, in writing, the attorney general shall prosecute *any person charged with an indictable offense*' " (emphasis added). Neither of the accused had been charged with such an offense on Feb. 4, 1993.

"If my suspicions are borne out," Graham writes, "then I shall know that citizens entrusted to my care were accused upon actions of your office, without any lawful authority, and over my protest as first prosecutor in this county, on fraudulent grounds. I need not expand upon the gravity of this possibility.

"I hereby demand that you withdraw your office from the handling of these matters in this county."

Graham himself, merely for having criticized Rathke in his letter to the County Commissioners.

Graham prevailed in pre-trial motions before the federal court in Duluth, but, as he argued in his case for an injunction, he found the courtroom atmosphere suddenly turn hostile against him, with the judge seemingly in cahoots with the opposing counsel. Representing Rathke in these proceedings was none other than former Cass County Attorney Michael Milligan.

Milligan had resigned from office under pressure less than two years before, in the face of evidence that he had raped a 22-year-old woman who had been an incest victim in her youth. Milligan escaped prosecution after Humphrey's deputy, Tom Fabel, arranged a political cover-up by declining to press charges against him.

On Jan. 22, 1988, not only was Graham's suit dismissed, but it seemed clear that the judge was also going to assess him \$25,000 in attorneys' fees, to be paid to Milligan.

The next day, Graham learned that the word among certain members of the Bar Association was that the case had