

Chris D. Carlson prepared statement delivered during testimony before United States District Judge Paul Brown during sentencing hearing for Nick Chenoweth, November 9, 2001.

Nick Chenoweth was my friend, teammate, and the captain of the Team EDS, the cycling team on which I spent almost all of my competitive cycling career. In 1994, with the Corey case (another case Judge Brown handled involving fraud by an EDS employee), part of my job as a lawyer for EDS became investigating employees suspected of wrongdoing, and where wrongdoing was found, at times initiating and prosecuting civil actions against those employees, and where it occurred, working with law enforcement on criminal actions brought against those employees.

From a professional standpoint, my work on this case, how I did the work and its difficulty for me, has been no different from any other case like this one that I have worked on while an EDS attorney. From a purely personal standpoint, it has been very difficult for me to work on this case. I have worked on this case, and am working on, it because I was asked by EDS to do so, because working on cases like this is part of my job, and because this case involves cycling, Team EDS, USA Cycling, Marty Nothstein, and Nick Chenoweth, things and people about which I know a great deal - and that made me probably the most qualified lawyer in EDS Legal Affairs to work on this case.

In 1992, when I was nearly 30 years old working in a large downtown law firm in Houston, when I and most other people thought there was no feasible way for me to pursue my cycling potential and my dream of being on a United States Olympic team, Nick Chenoweth brought me an opportunity to interview for a lawyer position in EDS Legal Affairs, an interview he arranged, and if I got the position, the opportunity to be a member of Team EDS, a team he envisioned and made happen, and to be supported in my dream of being a member of a United States Olympic team. I owe Nick Chenoweth a debt of gratitude for the opportunity he brought me, but I owe a much greater debt to EDS, this court, and to justice. It is these debts that I have tried to keep in the forefront of my mind in my work on this case, and I tend for that to continue today.

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