

Baltimore attorneys obtain order to unseal report on Starr Commission leaks

BY HEATHER COBUN

Attorneys from Brown, Goldstein & Levy LLP in Baltimore waded into the battle over Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's record and succeeded late Wednesday in having unsealed a confidential 1999 report on alleged improper leaks from the Starr Commission.

Andrew Freeman and Neel Lalchandani litigated the case on an expedited basis on behalf of American Oversight, a watchdog group focused on the executive branch.

American Oversight was requesting access to a report into leaks from Kenneth Starr's office, where Kavanaugh worked as a prosecutor. The group filed an action in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, and Judge Royce C. Lamberth ordered the report to be unsealed and released by 3 p.m. Friday.

"There have been 20 years of rumors and speculation about who was doing the leaking on the Starr commission, and just a week after American Oversight asked for this report to be unsealed, we may finally get



Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh glances at reporters during a meeting with Sen. James Lankford, R-Okla., on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, July 19, 2018. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

an answer," American Oversight Executive Director Austin Evers said in a prepared statement. "If Judge Kavanaugh was involved in improper leaking of confidential information, the Senate Judiciary Committee and the American people have a right to know before he is confirmed to a lifetime position on the Supreme Court."

The report was submitted by a special master appointed to

investigate allegations that the Starr Commission was leaking grand jury material, according to the American Oversight website. Recent reports have suggested Kavanaugh was in touch with reporters during his time in the Office of Independent Counsel.

American Oversight is also seeking access to records stemming from Kavanaugh's time with the OIC and in the White House.