

# TUA NEWS RELEASE

## TAXPAYERS UNITED OF AMERICA

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## SPIT ON THE LAW

CHICAGO--Taxpayers United of America (TUA) President Jim Tobin called Tuesday's hearing of his lawsuit against the Illinois Tollway Authority a "spectacle," and labeled Judge Rita Novak's decision yesterday rejecting an attempt to block the 90% percent tollway tax hike scheduled to go into effect Jan. 1 a "callous, politically-driven decision."

"Novak essentially gave tollway customers, as well as the law, no consideration," said Tobin.

Novak dismissed a lawsuit challenging the tollway's authority to raise tolls.

"The hearing was a spectacle," said Tobin. "Tollway users were represented by noted attorney Andrew Spiegel, and State Attorney General Lisa Madigan (D) must have been worried, because she had six -- that's right -- six of her taxpayer paid staff there to represent the Tollway Authority."

Attorney General Lisa Madigan is the daughter of powerful Illinois House Speaker Michael J. Madigan (D-22, Chicago).

"This is a blatant case of capitalist cronyism," said Tobin. "Overpaid tollway bureaucrats collect \$100,000-plus salaries each year from tolls. When they retire, they continue to suck dollars from the floundering State retirement system. Michael Madigan's House Democrats voted for the huge 67% state income tax increase this year, all of which is going into the State retirement system that is making many retired government employees rich."

"The government in Springfield needs a thorough housecleaning. Voters should throw all Springfield incumbents from office, and then pay particular attention to the officeholders who play along or encourage this kind of corruption."