

# FRIENDS of the BARNES FOUNDATION

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PETITION FILED IN SUPERIOR COURT OVER NEW EVIDENCE ABOUT BARNES FOUNDATION'S ALLEGED FORMER MONEY PROBLEMS

Former President and CEO Kimberly Camp now writes that “bankruptcy was not the reason” for the move, but “saying so made the rescue so much more gallant.”

NORRISTOWN, PA, U.S.A. – (July 2, 2012) West Chester Attorney Samuel C. Stretton has filed a **Petition** in Superior Court, asking that the Barnes Foundation case currently under appeal be remanded back to Judge Stanley Ott of Montgomery County Orphans’ Court. Mr. Stretton’s request is based on newly-discovered evidence that calls into question testimony about the financial status of the Barnes Foundation at the time of earlier hearings. The financial condition and long-term prospects of the Barnes in Merion were at the core of 2003 and 2004 Court hearings before Judge Ott that resulted in a change in board governance and the transfer of the Barnes art collection from its historic setting in Merion, Pennsylvania to a nearby tourism venue in the city of Philadelphia.

In a recently-published **blog post**, Kimberly Camp, President and CEO of the Barnes Foundation from 1998 until 2005 wrote:

“Bankruptcy was not the reason we filed the petition to move the Foundation to the city. At the time the petition was filed, the Barnes Foundation had a cash surplus and we had no debt – none. But, saying so made the rescue so much more gallant.”

In his Petition, Mr. Stretton wrote:

“This statement is shocking because it is absolutely contrary to the position and information presented by the Barnes Foundation during the hearings...Although it is late in the game now with the Barnes Foundation open in Philadelphia, the Court system has to have integrity and if the President and CEO says there was ample funds and that was just a false statement about financial difficulty, then this matter needs to be sent back down to Judge Ott to sort this out.”

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**Friends of the Barnes Foundation** advocates permanent preservation of the Barnes Foundation in Merion, Pennsylvania as an intact, integrated cultural site as bequeathed by Dr. Albert C. Barnes. For more information: [www.barnesfriends.org](http://www.barnesfriends.org)  
**Barnes Watch** is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the Barnes Foundation’s art education program as developed by Dr. Albert C. Barnes and John Dewey. For more information: <http://www.barneswatch.org/>

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