

Gilbert LLP

News

The Unlikely Insurance Lawyer Behind the Release of U.S. Prisoners in Iran and Cuba

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By Jenna Greene, *The American Lawyer*

At first glance, Scott Gilbert seems an unlikely champion to win freedom for Americans held prisoner by hostile foreign governments.

A star insurance litigator known for his penchant for motorcycles and rock and roll, Gilbert has helped blue-chip clients recover more than \$50 billion in coverage disputes with their insurance carriers.

Although he spent more than two decades at big firms—Covington & Burling, then Dickstein Shapiro— before founding his own shop, Gilbert LLP, he's never held a government post or worked as a diplomat.

What Gilbert can do—masterfully—is negotiate settlements. It's a skill he drew on, for example, to co-draft the landmark Wellington agreement creating a special center to handle asbestos claims.

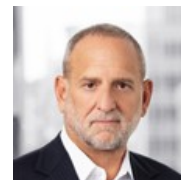
That same talent helped him broker a deal in late 2014 for the release of Alan Gross, a former U.S. AID worker who was held prisoner in Cuba for crimes against the state. And it led the family of Amir Hekmati to hire Gilbert to get the ex-Marine home from Iran, where he was imprisoned as a spy.

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