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Lin Gosman fined \$1,200 for delaying release of documents

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MIAMI — Lin Gosman, the wife of former health-care magnate Abe Gosman, didn't believe what she was hearing Friday.

As the trustee's lawyer in Abe Gosman's Chapter 7 bankruptcy case repeatedly told a judge that she couldn't be trusted to produce assets and documents, Lin Gosman turned to the woman sitting next to her.

"I've given him everything I have," she whispered.

But U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Friedman didn't agree.

Friedman ordered Gosman to pay \$1,200 for failing to produce documents in a timely manner. He told her the sanctions could have been worse.

The hearing in downtown Miami came a month to the day after Friedman admonished Gosman, 56, during court proceedings in West Palm Beach.

The judge ruled June 29 that she was in contempt of court and ordered her to pay \$35,000 and cooperate with trustee Joe Luzinski. She also had to surrender her passport on the spot.

Friedman declined Friday to lift the contempt motion. Gosman's lawyer, Stephen Rakusin, had argued that it was overly broad and restricted her from paying living expenses and attorneys' fees.

At the West Palm Beach hearing, Gosman was in tears and repeatedly invoked her Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. She appeared more irritated Friday, crossing her arms and shaking her head defiantly at the trustee's lawyer, Luis Salazar.

She was ordered to turn over assets in March when U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Larry Lessen ruled that she must repay \$66.5 million to the trustee.

Lessen ruled that Abe Gosman, 76, fraudulently transferred ownership in the assets to Lin Gosman to avoid losing them in bankruptcy.

Lessen's ruling essentially allowed the trustee to assume Abe Gosman's interest in the assets. But recovering Lin's stake hasn't been as easy.

"It's like climbing Mount Everest," Salazar told Friedman.

Friedman held up earrings and necklaces in court Friday, saying officials had retrieved them from Lin Gosman's possession after she had told them she didn't have any more jewelry.

The trustee also has accused Gosman of lying under oath and concealing artwork and furnishings worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"She doesn't play by the rules," Salazar said. "She's just not credible."

Countered Rakusin: "We believe Lin Gosman is playing by the rules. . . . The trustee is not."

Friedman postponed until September a hearing that will focus on the assets Lin Gosman has been ordered to turn over to Luzinski.

Last year, Luzinski auctioned the Gosmans' Palm Beach mansion. Developer Donald Trump was the winning bidder, at \$41.35 million.

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