

PAWLOWSKI PRISON SENTENCING

15 YEARS, NO REMORSE

Family weeps as former mayor led off to jail in handcuffs | 46 witnesses praise Pawlowski; judge struck by lack of remorse | U.S. attorney: Sentence sends message, defense vows appeal

"I ask for your compassion for my wife and my children. I ask this humbly."

— Ed Pawlowski

"These are serious offenses, your honor, motivated by ambition and a thirst for status and power."

— U.S. Attorney Anthony Wzorek

"We are trying to put that past us by working hard every day to restore the public's faith in Allentown city government."

— Statement from Allentown Mayor Ray O'Connell



APRIL GAMIZ/THE MORNING CALL
Former Allentown Mayor Ed Pawlowski walks with his wife, Lisa Pawlowski, toward the Edward N. Cahn Federal Courthouse in downtown Allentown on Tuesday, where he was sentenced by Chief U.S. District Judge Juan R. Sanchez.

BY PETER HALL
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Of The Morning Call

Former Allentown Mayor Ed Pawlowski's stunning fall from power ended Tuesday with a judge sentencing him to 15 years in prison — the stark finale of a corruption drama that opened more than three years ago with a raid on City Hall.

Denied bail while the case is appealed, Pawlowski was taken from the courtroom in handcuffs and committed to Lehigh County Jail pending assignment to a federal prison.

Despite Pawlowski's plea for leniency and a parade of character witnesses who praised the longtime mayor for leading the state's third-largest city out of a decadeslong decline, Chief U.S. District Judge Juan R. Sanchez's sentence was at the high end of federal guidelines.

Sanchez said he sensed little remorse in Pawlowski — "no apologies, no contrition" — and that the mayor and his co-defendants acted more like

Please see PAWLOWSKI NEWS 5

COVERAGE INSIDE

- What's next for those involved in pay-to-play scandal?
- How does Pawlowski's sentence compare with other politicians'?
- Timeline: Course of the corruption scandal
- Timeline: Ed Pawlowski's political career

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