

International Public Notice: The Land of Oz 1.0

By Anna Von Reitz



We have lived in the Land of Oz for so long that we take the existence of witches and flying monkeys for granted.

Will someone please show us "the UN"? Or, for that matter, Pepsico, Inc., or 3M, or Subaru, Inc.? Or "the United States Government, Incorporated"?

What happens when you try to produce these "entities"?

They don't exist.

The evidence that they do exist is circumstantial. We have lists of names of directors sitting on boards of directors, we have names of officers, including a CEO or "President", we have meeting minutes, all sorts of charts, graphs, and ledgers, receipts, projections, stock reports, logos, and we have products bearing trademarks, yes.

But where, exactly, is the corporation itself? Let the court produce it and sit it down in a chair...

You see, corporations don't exist. They impact our lives for better or worse, they make profit or they don't, but in the plodding final analysis, they don't exist. They are what lawyers call "legal fiction entities".

Corporations are "defined" into quasi-existence, and there they remain---- or should remain.

A closer examination reveals that a corporation is nothing but a gang of men and women organized for some purpose, having a mailing address and representatives, a name, and some form of structure imposed by the kind of corporation it claims to be.

That's it. Every corporation on Earth is a projection-- a figment of our imaginations and some arbitrary definitions.

When the Corporation Craze started in the 18th century, men rationalized the quasi-existence of corporations by comparing them to ships. John Hancock famously referred to The United States as a "ship made of paper".

The group of men and women responsible for the existence, operations, care and maintenance of a corporation also tend to remain somewhat in the shadows, defined only by their offices and functions: "Jerilyn Grant, our Personnel Officer....."

Most important from the standpoint of those responsible, if the corporation goes bankrupt, only the corporation's assets are at risk. The shareholders take the loss, the bankruptcy court tidies things up, but the employees, directors, and officers of the corporation are unharmed (and left unaccountable) by "the corporate veil" --- the fact that a corporation doesn't actually exist.

A corporation only appears to exist by "convention" --- we should say, "social convention". We all agree that we'll pretend that corporations exist and act as if they do.

We make up rules and procedures by which to define and govern the behavior of these imaginary things. We set up special courts to enforce these rules and procedures on the men and women who "embody" the corporation -- to the extent that it can be said to exist -- for example, the Administrative Procedures Act of 1946.

As the degree of sentience possessed by Artificial Intelligence has resulted from the computer's ability to define the existence of something called "a cat", let's go back to *Felix familiaris* ourselves.

We have evidence that a specific cat exists: a breathing, living, furry, eating, moving, warm blooded, bewhiskered, clawed, defecating, scratching, meowing cat exists in our experience. We have named him "Felix".

The name, "Felix", is a representation of the cat we experience and have evidence of.

We like Felix and we have learned how to make paintings representing him, drawings representing him, photos representing him, videos representing him, too, and yet, none of these representations of Felix, in all these different mediums, are Felix.

Felix, the actual cat, belongs to a different realm -- a realm that is impervious to all the representations of Felix that we may devise. Try as we might, a photo of a cat is not a cat, and the name of a cat is not a cat, either.

The same circumstance, the same actualities, pertain to a man named John. The name "John" isn't John, the photos, paintings, and videos we create to represent John aren't John.

Now apply this to corporations, where we start with something we created out of thin air, in our imaginations, and then proceed to apply the same process of abstraction and representation of it. We give it a name, for example, "Toyota".

We define what kind of corporation it is: "C Corp, issuing stock shares, traded in public".

We find investors who buy "shares" representing "percentages of ownership interest" in this essentially non-existent thing, and they trade these shares "representing" a percentage of ownership interest dictated by the total number of shares issued.

As a shareholder of one share of Toyota stock, you might actually own one ball bearing in a giant sheet metal machine, but it's impossible to say which ball bearing or which machine or even if it has anything to do with sheet metal or car manufacturing, yet, at the end of the day, we have evidence that Toyota exists, in the form of a truck bearing the "Toyota" name.

Stock certificates representing "shares" of ownership interest in corporations are fungible assets; there is no clear, defined physical thing attached to the "share of ownership interest". A stock share doesn't grant you ownership of a single desk chair. It's a "generalized" ownership interest that goes up and down in value along with all other shares of that kind, depending entirely on how much other investors are willing to pay you for it.

Toyota, C-Corps, and shares in "Toyota" are all nothing but paper and agreed-upon imaginings and representations of reality.

Note: whereas a representation of Felix, say a photo or drawing of Felix, might allow us to recognize and identify the actual cat, all that we have to "actualize" a corporation are representations of it.

After we paw back through the piles of paper, the trademarks, the logos, the ad campaigns, the name, the registration, the lists of officers and personnel, the physical products --- "Toyota" still doesn't exist.

The actual and factual world is already abstracted and "represented" by our process of naming and categorizing and labeling and describing: "Felix, a nine year-old American Short-Hair, breeding male, black and grey striped tortoise-shell, small notch on left ear..." and further represented by paintings, drawings, photos, videos, voice recordings ---- but underlying all of this, there is, in fact. a living breathing cat at the bottom of the pile.

This remains true until Felix dies or disappears the way cats are known to do, and then all we have left are all the representations we made of Felix, including his name, and evidence, like stray cat hairs and well-chewed cat toys.

With corporations, when we sort through the piles of representations, all we find is another representation --- before it goes, "Poof!" -- and vanishes into the thin air from which it sprung.

Felix, by which we mean the living cat, has "substance", but "Toyota" does not.

Corporations and their representations are all airy-fairy and "insubstantial"; for them, there is no true embodiment associated with them at any point of their genesis, and this is why it is impossible to sit Toyota down in a chair and make it listen to your complaints.

At best, you will find a CEO hired by a Board of Directors, and maybe the name and address of an Agent on dusty registration paperwork.

These facts-- once examined-- should give any living man cause to pause and realize that with representations generally, and with corporations specifically, we are treading on the edge of lies and madness.

It has become commonplace for people to "believe in" things that don't exist, and for them to accept representations as actualities -- which is dangerous.

We aren't quite to the point of mistaking a photo of Felix for Felix himself, but we may assume that "Toyota" exists as a result of seeing it blazoned on the tailgate of a truck.

Therein lies the rub.

As we have become sloppier in maintaining our cognitive grid we are losing our overall grasp on reality; by not taking time to sort fact from fiction, by no longer knowing and respecting our own limitations as name-makers, we've slid inexorably into a nightmare world populated by symbolic representations and unaccountable fantasms.

When we start treating our representations of living men "as if" the representations were living men, we have clearly crossed the line and lost our ability to tell the difference between a cat and a photo of a cat --- which gives rise to all sorts of bizarre assumptions and expectations.

If you expect a photo of a cat to purr, you will be waiting a long, long time.

Similarly, if you expect a corporation to grow legs, sit in a chair, and take responsibility for its actions, doomsday will come and go.

As living, breathing, sentient men and women we have a responsibility to discern what is true and untrue, what is fact and what is fantasy; if nothing else, being "substantial" ourselves, we have skin in the game, and reason to impose our actuality over the realm of fiction.

We have the ability, at least circumstantially, to hold the men and women who have created and operated and profited from corporations accountable for their actions.

We can, and must, retain and exercise our role and character as beings of substance, represented by Dorothy's character in The Wizard of Oz.

We have the ability to liquidate evil corporations just as Dorothy liquidated the Wicked Witch of the West, and we must exercise that ability--- not with a bucket of water, but with exposure of their evil deeds and the application of both common sense and those tools we have or can devise to hold corporations and those who operate corporations, accountable.

The ability to create corporations is a privilege, not a right, so we can stem the tide of evil corporations by denying the ability to form corporations to those who have abused the privilege and used corporations to promote harm and criminality. George Soros comes to mind.

Short of liquidation, we can create and pass new Public Laws to prevent corporations that have engaged in harmful unlawful practices from forming

other corporations. We can strip offending parent corporations of their franchises and subsidiaries.

We can enforce already existing Public Laws against monopolies and predatory trusts and interlocking trust directorates.

Once we focus on the clear and present danger posed by rampaging, unaccountable, lawless corporations causing problems for living people and our living planet, we can draw the line between our realm and theirs, closing the borders between actualities and fantasies, representations and facts.

The Land of Oz may exist in a sense, together with all its denizens, but when the Flying Monkeys are armed with hypodermic needles and told to reduce the population of living men, it's time to strip away the "corporate veil" and deal with the very actual and factual men and women who are operating these corporations as a means to profit themselves by harming us.

This Ultimatum from the Factual World goes for "governmental services corporations" and "non-governmental organizations" alike; it applies to all forms of corporations, public and private, for-profit, non-profit, or charity, S-Corp, C-Corp, B-Corp, Cooperative, Foundation, Trusts -- meaning Statutory Trusts, Partnerships, Limited Liability Corporations -- any kind of corporation at all, on land, on sea, or in the air, and to all forms of corporation "bodies" --- Congresses, Councils, Bureaus, Commissions, Tribunals, all their organizational units, districts, municipalities, precincts, parishes, citizenries, shareholders, individual franchises, personnel and officers and political parties included, as well as Boards of Directors and Boards of Governors and any other individuals or groups engaged in organizing and operating any form of registered corporation and any organization receiving the benefit of incorporation.

It may be a "war" made of paper, but it will be short-lived; entities that are made of paper are easily shredded and burned, a fact that many courts that are operating as corporations, and many jurists who are operating as individual corporations, and many attorney firms that are sheltering under Limited Liability Corporations, need to be forcibly reminded of; indeed, it is

a fact that the members of the "U.S. Congress"--- Incorporated, need to be reminded of. Bank "Presidents", too.

They are all engaged in a Grand Illusion, the equivalent of a play, each playing roles that they may or may not be aware of, all protected by the so-called corporate veil from bearing the full weight of their acts and atrocities.... until that veil is stripped away, a house falls on their heads, a bucket of inconvenient water rains down, their lack of both substance and standing is revealed--- and Dorothy lands with a thump, back in Kansas again.

Just as the "creatures of statute" that we deal with in the Land of Oz have no standing in actual Law or Fact, what "represents" money in the Land of Oz is also a photo of a cat, and isn't money at all, a circumstance that is becoming increasingly problematic for the players on stage.

Stay tuned for Land of Oz 2.0.

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