

**Remarks of Allen Raymond Before U.S. House of Representatives,
Judiciary Committee**

May 14, 2008

Good morning Chairman Conyers, Ranking Member Smith, and Members of the Committee. Your invitation to speak to you today was welcome as it gives me an opportunity to further my goal of bringing transparency to the events now known as the New Hampshire phone jamming of Democratic election day phone lines at the direction of the Republican National Committee, New Hampshire Republican State Committee, and made possible by my efforts as the Republican consultant who arranged for the telemarketing services that conducted the jamming of the phone lines. Such an opportunity is welcome because it allows for the public service of illuminating the worst practices by bad actors within our electoral process and that awareness may dampen similar attempts in the future to taint our electoral process.

Justice Louis Brandeis wrote that “sunlight is the best disinfectant, electric light the most effective policeman.” This was the spirit in which I wrote *How to Rig an Election. Confessions of a Republican Operative*, a book I encourage you all to read. What I hope the book and my appearance before you today to be is a public service. My desire is to shed a ray of sunlight on a process that requires periodic disinfection and

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perhaps evoke from this distinguished committee the electric light that will better patrol our election process and, more importantly, the trade-people within it.

Political campaign management is a big business, boasting master degrees from top tier universities and flaunting riches to political operatives eager for success. Already this election cycle there has been spent in federal elections alone \$900 million dollars, and that is before the big show in the fall when a new President of the United States is elected. This is not to suggest that money is the source for why many Americans are disenchanted with the political campaign process. Money in politics is like water, it will always find a way. As long as money is equated with free speech, the money will flow to campaign coffers. The source of the reason why Americans instinctively know that the system does not work as the Framers intended is that politics has become big business, a cost per vote business. The stakes are great, both money and power, and the temptation can be irresistible for many in the business of running campaigns to try and win at all costs. I know this first hand. As you may know, I pleaded guilty to the charge of phone harassment in the New Hampshire phone jamming case and was incarcerated for three months at a federal correctional institution.

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When confronted with my crime by our government, despite prior confidence that the law had not been transgressed, I did not hesitate to take responsibility for my actions. Unfortunately, I am the exception not the rule by being the only actor in this conspiracy to take responsibility for their conduct without indecision or hesitation. This is not to say new laws that address the symptoms of the problem should be crafted to prevent future abuses. Rather I encourage this committee to seek a new vantage point and confront the origin of the problem.

Politics is populated by political professionals who, when not working on Capitol Hill, are working for either a major political party committee, a political consulting company, a lobbying firm or in government relations for either a corporation or trade association, or for some other instrument like politically oriented non-profit committees – or for all concurrently. Therein is the solution you should consider. Just as lobbyist are required to disclose their activities to comply with the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, and its amendment in 2007, so should it be considered that political consultants be required to conduct themselves under the same transparency. Transparency seems the sunlight that is best for real reform. The protest such a bill would provoke is validation for the idea.

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In fairness to my former colleagues in the Republican Party, and in the spirit to treat them better than they treated me, I cannot link the New Hampshire phone jamming scheme in any way to President George Bush's White House. However, having worked at the Republican National Committee in two capacities – as a regional political director similar to Mr. Tobin's position during the 2002 election cycle, and as chief of staff to a Republican National Committee co-chairman – and at the National Republican Senatorial Committee I have the ability to speak to the processes in place while I was employed there, but not thereafter, and not in the context of a Republican Administration in the White House. Neither of the national Republican campaign committees mentioned above is managed by rogues, nor do they employ them. Knowing first-hand how both committees operate was a key factor to accepting the job of placing the phone jamming program with a telemarketing vendor following Mr. Tobin's inquiry on the matter. My training at both the Republican National Committee and the National Republican Senatorial Committee taught me two main operating procedures; the first being that as an agent of either committee one never instructed another committee on vendor preference unless that committee was financing a program, and the other being that unusual programs never saw the light of day without a thorough vetting by committee attorneys. When approached by Mr. Tobin about being hired to conduct the unusual program of jamming Democratic Party phone lines I made the calculated assumption that both

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criteria had been met. Therefore, knowing Mr. Tobin knew of the program, it would seem to follow that there would be interest during the course of the investigation into this matter as to whether Mr. Tobin's superiors were also aware of the program, unless Mr. Tobin had safely concealed his rogue status during nearly a decade of employment at the Republican National Committee. However, I also must be fair and stress not being privy to every detail of this investigation and therefore the questions raised may well have been satisfied.

I am before you today by invitation and welcome your questions, thank you.