

By Hand

Melanie Ann Pustay
Acting Director
Office of Information and Privacy
Department of Justice
Suite 11050
1425 New York Avenue., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: **Freedom of Information Act Request**

Dear Ms. Pustay:

This letter constitutes a request under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. §552 (“FOIA”), and is submitted by the undersigned individuals who are concerned about the widening scandal involving improper and potentially unlawful attempts, by the Bush White House, Republican Members of Congress and Republican party officials, to influence and interfere in ongoing criminal investigations being conducted by United States Attorneys and to influence the hiring and firing of U.S. Attorneys for partisan political reasons.

In addition to White House interference, and improper contacts from Republican Members of Congress, it was recently reported that a White House Deputy Political Director, using a Republican National Committee e-mail account, communicated with the Department of Justice about appointing a former aide to Karl Rove to be U.S. Attorney in Arkansas. And it was also reported that the then-Washington State Republican Party Chairman Chris Vance contacted then-U.S. Attorney John McKay (who was subsequently fired) about launching investigations of Democrats in connection with the 2004 gubernatorial election in that state.

We therefore request:

- (a) all documents in the possession, custody or control of the Office of Attorney General, Office of the Deputy Attorney General and Office of the Associate Attorney General, prepared on or after November 1, 2004, constituting, reflecting or referring to communications to or from or to any officer or employee of the Republican National Committee or any state or local Republican Party committee, referring, relating to or discussing (1) any prospective or ongoing investigation or prosecution; (2) initiating any

investigation or prosecution; or (3) the appointment or termination of any United States Attorney; or (4) the performance, work or activity of any United States Attorney or Office of United States Attorney; and

- (b) all e-mail messages in the possession custody or control of the Office of Attorney General, Office of the Deputy Attorney General and Office of the Associate Attorney General, sent on or after November 1, 2004, to or from any e-mail address including the domain name "GWB43.com."

The undersigned requestors fall in the category of "other requestors" for purposes of FOIA and the Department's FOIA fee regulations. On behalf of the undersigned requestors, the Democratic National Committee will pay any fees for searching or copying the requested records.

We look forward to your response within twenty (20) working days as the law requires. If you have any questions or need any further information concerning this request, please contact the first signatory below, Governor Howard Dean. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Governor Howard Dean
430 South Capitol Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003