



ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BARBARA FLYNN CURRIE
HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

300 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-8121

25TH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT
EX OFFICIO MEMBER
ALL HOUSE COMMITTEES

February 17, 2009

David McCaffrey
President
Illinois Harness Horsemen's Association
14 Spinning Wheel Road
Suite 432
Hinsdale, IL 60521

Dear Mr. McCaffrey:

I write in response to your letter dated February 4, 2009.

Your letter will be distributed to members of the Committee and will be posted at www.ilga.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Flynn Currie".

Barbara Flynn Currie
Chair of the Special Investigative Committee

cc: Members of the Special Investigative Committee



Illinois Harness Horsemen's Association

15 Spinning Wheel Road
Suite 432
Hinsdale, IL 60521
www.harnessillinois.com

(630) 323-0808
(800) 572-0213 Toll Free In Illinois
(630) 323-0761 Fax
(888) 601-7223 Toll Free Infoline

February 4, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Flynn Currie
Illinois House of Representatives
300 Statehouse
Springfield IL 62706

Dear Representative Currie,

I am the president of the Illinois Harness Horsemen's Association. I write to you today to set the record straight regarding a letter dated January 30, 2009 and sent to you by the National Legal and Policy Center.

While we were mentioned in only three paragraphs of a six page letter, we were nonetheless dismayed by the allegations of impropriety contained in that letter. It is important to us that you know that at no time was the Illinois Harness Horsemen's Association engaged in any unethical or illegal activity. The NLPC is wrong, and could have told the truth had they bothered to call us, which they did not. The IHHA is a long-standing, respected group in Illinois and our operations are open and above-board.

After our initial shock, and since we had never heard of the NLPC, we decided to do some research to find out who this group is and try to find out why a DC Beltway group would be interested in smearing the reputation of an Illinois horsemen's group.

The National Legal and Policy Center is a self-describe conservative "watchdog" group. Their list of "accomplishments" includes attacks on Charles Rangel, Hillary Clinton, Nancy Pelosi, Barack Obama, and several labor unions. If you spend any time on their website www.nlpc.org it becomes clear that they are in the business of attacking groups that they, or the people who fund them, don't like. And, interestingly, while many non-profit groups proudly display the source of their funding so potential funders might feel comfortable contributing, the NLPC hides their sources of funding. There is no mention of who funds them anywhere on the site. So we are at a loss to explain their newfound interest in Illinois politics.

We simply request that before you take this group's "research" into consideration, you question the NLPC as to who is funding their effort.

Thank you for taking our position into consideration.

Respectfully,

David McCaffrey
President - IHHA

cc: Honorable John Cullerton - Senate President
Honorable Michael Madigan -Speaker of the House



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EX OFFICIO MEMBER
ALL HOUSE COMMITTEES

February 17, 2009

Ken Boehm
National Legal and Policy Center
107 Park Washington Court
Falls Church, Virginia 22046

Dear Mr. Boehm:

I write in response to your letter to the Special Investigative Committee dated January 29, 2009.

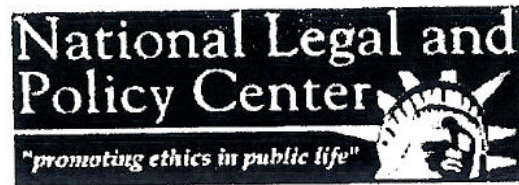
Your letter will be distributed to members of the Committee and will be posted at www.ilga.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Flynn Currie".

Barbara Flynn Currie
Chair of the Special Investigative Committee

cc: Members of the Special Investigative Committee



January 29, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Flynn Currie
Chairwoman, Special Investigative Committee
of the Illinois House of Representatives
300 State House
Springfield, IL 32706

Dear Chairwoman Currie,

The National Legal and Policy Center (NLPC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes a single standard of ethics in public life through research, education and legal action. We are a strong advocate and supporter of ethics and accountability in our nation's political affairs and believe that the key to ensuring the public trust is character, morality and common sense from our nation's elected officials.

We write today to make you aware of additional unreported details regarding the political contributions of Mr. John Johnston, the owner of the Balmoral and Maywood Racetracks, to Governor Rod Blagojevich's campaign committee "Friends of Blagojevich".

As you know, the federal affidavit filed by U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald on December 9th references wiretaps suggesting various "pay-to-play" schemes in which it is alleged Governor Blagojevich attempted to sell his support of legislation in exchange for generous political contributions to Friends of Blagojevich.

According to the federal affidavit, wiretapped phone calls on November 13th between Governor Blagojevich and his brother Rob Blagojevich suggest that Alonzo Monk (Blagojevich's former chief of staff) assured the Governor's brother that Balmoral and Maywood racetrack owner John Johnston would "be good" for a donation of \$100,000 to Friends of Blagojevich, allegedly in exchange for Governor Blagojevich's signature on HB-4758, a bill passed by the Illinois Legislature re-enacting the Horse Racing Equity Trust Fund.

That legislation which Governor Blagojevich signed into law on December 15th, six days after his December 9th arrest, requires the state's four top-earning casinos to give 3% of their gross adjusted annual revenues to the horse racing industry. According to Balmoral Treasurer F. Phillip Langley, Balmoral and Maywood racetracks will receive

\$3.5 million annually as a result of the legislative formula for dispensing the casino tax to the racetracks.¹

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, state campaign-contribution records show that one group of owners in particular made large campaign contributions to Governor Blagojevich from 2002 through 2007. That group, controlled by William H. Johnston Jr. and his sons William III and John, gave \$95,000 to Mr. Blagojevich from 2002 through 2007 according to the story. The tracks' lobbying organization, the Racing Association of Illinois, reportedly contributed \$65,000 during the same period for a total of \$160,000 in campaign contributions.

Johnston-owned/affiliated interests contributing to Friends of Blagojevich

After extensive research, and as documented on the attached spreadsheet, we believe that all previous public accounts of Johnston contributions to Friends of Blagojevich greatly under-report the actual contributions by the Johnston family and Johnston-affiliated interests. Based on our own research, we believe that the actual amounts contributed by Johnston and Johnston-owned/affiliated interests to Friends of Blagojevich during the 2002-2007 time frame far exceed the \$160,000 that has been reported previously and that actual contributions total more than \$343,000.²

Previous reports about Johnston family and Johnston-owned/affiliated business contributions to Friends of Blagojevich suggest that the bulk of the contributions came primarily from the Balmoral Racing Club, the Maywood Park Trotting Association and the Racing Associations of Illinois. However, unreported in these accounts are several significant and large contributions from other Johnston-owned/affiliated interests:

- **Coast to Coast Food Services Ltd.:** Illinois State Board of Elections records show \$60,000 in contributions to Friends of Blagojevich from 2002-2007 from Coast to Coast Food Services Ltd. According to Illinois Secretary of State corporate registration documents, Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd is registered to William H. Johnston III at 8600 W. North Ave. in Melrose Park, IL – the same address as the Maywood Park Racetrack. Jennifer S. Swindal whose address is identified as 1 Steinbrenner Drive in Tampa, FL is listed as the “Secretary” of the company. Swindal is the ex-wife of Stephen Swindal, the chairman of the Maywood Park Trotting Association, a registered lobbyist for the Racing Associations of Illinois and also a general partner of the New York Yankees.³
- **Racing Research:** Election records show \$15,000 in contributions in 2002 to Friends of Blagojevich from Racing Research. Illinois Secretary of State corporate registration records reveal that the Racing Research Corporation is registered to William H. Johnston Jr. at 8600 W. North Ave. in Melrose Park.

¹ Affidavit Alleges Blagojevich Sought Racing Official's Contribution, *Wall Street Journal*, December 24, 2008

² Contribution amounts include all Johnston-owned/affiliated businesses for which we are currently aware. Additional research of Blagojevich contributions cross-referenced with Secretary of State corporate registration documents will likely be necessary to get the full contribution history.

³ George Steinbrenner and the Steinbrenner family are also co-owners of the Balmoral and Maywood racetracks. Election records show contributions on 12/2/02 from Leo Hindery, General Partner of the New York Yankees (\$5000) and on 10/17/02 from George Steinbrenner (\$2000).

- **Egyptian Trotting Association:** Election records show \$45,000 in contributions from 2002-2007 from the Egyptian Trotting Association. Illinois Secretary of State records reveal that the organization is registered to William H. Johnston III at 8600 W. North Ave. in Melrose Park. The Secretary of the organization is listed as Lester McKeever, a managing partner at Washington, Pittman and McKeever, the former chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and also the corporate secretary of the the Maywood Park Trotting Association and Egyptian Trotting Association as well as a board member of Balmoral Park.
- **Associates Racing Association Inc.:** Election records show \$40,000 in contributions from Associates Racing Association. Illinois Secretary of State records reveal that the organization is registered to Lester McKeever and the address for the organization as 819 Wabash Ave. in Chicago. However, other addresses listed for the organization include 8600 W. North Ave. in Maywood, IL.

Large Blocks of Contributions from Johnston-owned/affiliated Interests

Perhaps more significant than the discovery of the additional contributions from sources affiliated with the Johnston family is that the contributions to Friends of Blagojevich seemed to have been made in blocks from several Johnston-owned/affiliated interests on the same day on at least six separate occasions during the 2002-2007 time frame: on at least two occasions contributions totaling \$100,000 or more were received by the Friends of Blagojevich campaign committee on the same day or within days of each other:

- **May 21, 2002:** Illinois election records show that \$100,000 in contributions from Johnston-owned/affiliated interests were made to Friends of Blagojevich over a two week period from May to June 2002, with \$85,000 in political contributions received on May 21, 2002: Balmoral Racing Club - \$20,000; Egyptian Trotting Association - \$25,000; Maywood Park Trotting Association - \$20,000; Racing Association of Illinois - \$20,000. Thirteen days later on June 3, 2002, an additional \$15,000 contribution was made from Johnston-owned Racing Research.⁴
- **August 18, 2003:** Illinois election records show two contributions from Johnston interests to Friends of Blagojevich totaling \$20,000: Racing Associations of Illinois - \$15,000; Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd. - \$5000.
- **June 28, 2004:** Illinois election records show two contributions to Friends of Blagojevich from Johnston interests totaling \$10,000: Balmoral Racing Club Inc. - \$5000; Maywood Park Trotting Association - \$5000.
- **June 29, 2005:** Illinois election records show \$20,000 in contributions to Friends of Blagojevich from three Johnston-owned/affiliated interests: Balmoral Racing Club - \$7500; Maywood Park Trotting Association - \$7500; Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd. - \$5000.

⁴ As a candidate, Mr. Blagojevich pledged in a 2/17/2002 survey from the Il. Church Action on Alcohol Problems that he would not take contributions from gambling interests. Three months later, Blagojevich received \$100,000 from Johnston-affiliated horse racing interests. Mr. Blagojevich stated in 2004 that he drew a distinction between gambling and "the outdoor, pastoral, historic flavor of horse racing." *The Hotline*, November 15, 2004

- **June 27, 2006:** Illinois election records report seven different large contributions totaling \$135,000 to Friends of Blagojevich: Associates Racing Association, Inc. - \$40,000; Balmoral Racing Club Inc. - \$10,000; Egyptian Trotting Association Inc. - \$20,000; Maywood Park Trotting Association - \$10,000; Racing Association of Illinois - \$20,000; Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd. - \$25,000; and the Illinois Harness Horsemen's Assn (IHHA PAC) - \$10,000.
- **December 31, 2007:** Illinois election records report five different contributions totaling \$32,500 to Friends of Blagojevich from Johnston interests: Balmoral Racing Club - \$5000; Maywood Park Trotting Association - \$5000; Racing Associations of Illinois - \$10,000; Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd. - \$5000; Alonzo Monk (lobbyist for Racing Associations of Illinois) - \$7500.

We believe this repeated pattern of large blocks of contributions coming from Johnston family interests is particularly noteworthy given the recent release of the November 13th transcripts of telephone conversations between Governor Blagojevich and his brother Rob by your committee. In the conversation on "Tape 1" released on January 27th, Rob Blagojevich is alleged to have said regarding the expected contribution of \$100,000 from Mr. Johnston to Governor Blagojevich, "He's gonna give you... ya know, he didn't get it. But he said, ya know, I'm good for it. I gotta just decide what, what uh, accounts to get it out of."⁵

This suggests to us that as in the previous circumstances outlined above, Mr. Johnston may have sought to make large campaign contributions to Friends of Blagojevich from several Johnston-owned/affiliated interests in order to either obfuscate the original source of the contributions, cobble together larger aggregate amounts from various Johnston interests that were more acceptable to Governor Blagojevich in exchange for the Governor's support of legislation, or perhaps both.

Relationship Between IHHA PAC and Mr. Johnston

We also believe the \$10,000 IHHA PAC contribution received by Friends of Blagojevich on June 27, 2006 may be worthy of additional investigation by your committee: The Associated Press reported on December 20, 2008 that your committee wished to interview two associates of the IHHA PAC, Steve Brubaker and Jack Kelly. We presume that the Jack Kelly referenced in the December AP story is actually John Kelly, the Executive Director of the IHHA PAC at the time the \$10,000 IHHA PAC contribution was made. As you are aware, Mr. Kelly became a registered lobbyist with the Racing Associations of Illinois after the 2006 legislative session and remains a lobbyist with the organization today according to Secretary of State lobbying records.

We note with particular interest that the \$10,000 contribution to Friends of Blagojevich from the IHHA PAC on June 27, 2006 was made the same day as six other contributions from Johnston-owned/affiliated interests as summarized above. Additionally, an IHHA PAC campaign contribution disclosure report for June 29, 2006 (two days later) includes a \$10,000 loan as being received by the PAC. No other details

⁵ <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,368117,000000.html>

are available about the source of this \$10,000 loan, but given the large amount of contributions made from Johnston-owned/affiliated interests on June 27th and the IHHA PAC contribution of \$10,000 on the same day, the receipt of a \$10,000 loan by IHHA PAC two days later from an undisclosed source raises additional questions and may help shed further light on the extent of the relationship and possible coordination of campaign contributions between IHHA PAC and Johnston-owned/affiliated interests.

According to an IHHA legislative update from May of 2006, the IHHA was instrumental in lobbying for passage of HB-1918 during this period. That legislation amended the Horse Racing Act to establish the original Horse Racing Equity Trust Fund, legislation that – like HB-4758 signed by Governor Blagojevich in December of last year – provided for the horse racing industry to receive 3% of the adjusted gross revenues from four riverboat casinos in Illinois. The May 2006 IHHA update also reported that IHHA was instrumental in crafting a side agreement with the Johnston-owned Balmoral and Maywood tracks and the Hawthorne racetrack in Cicero, IL to pool all revenues received under the new law.⁶ The law included a two year sunset provision in which the tracks would receive the funds before the law expired.

Conclusion

The June 27, 2006 block of contributions from Johnston-owned/affiliated interests was made almost exactly one month after Governor Blagojevich signed HB-1918 on May 26, 2006. As has now been reported extensively, horse racing interests in general and the Johnston family in particular have made substantial contributions to Governor Blagojevich's campaign in the last seven years. By our conservative estimates, these contributions now total more than \$625,000 to Governor Blagojevich's campaign alone. Among all contributions from horse racing interests to Governor Blagojevich, our conservative estimates conclude that almost 55% came directly from Johnston-owned/affiliated interests.

As HB-1918 expired in 2008, horse racing interests and Johnston-family businesses and affiliates were back at the table once again to renew the provisions of the Horse Racing Equity Trust Fund – legislation that was passed by the Illinois Legislature and signed into law by Governor Blagojevich in the closing days of 2008.

The National Legal and Policy Center takes no position on gambling or horse racing, and makes no representations as to the illegality or inappropriateness of contributions from Johnston-owned/affiliated interests to either Governor Blagojevich or other elected officials.

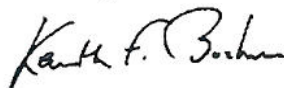
We do however believe that regardless of the outcome of these impeachment hearings, the voting public and citizens of Illinois still deserve a full and complete airing of all facts surrounding these contributions to determine if campaign dollars in exchange for "pay-to-play" politics occurred and, if so, to what extent. When our elected leaders attempt to barter the power of their offices for political or financial gain, only those citizens who are deep-pocketed or connected enough retain the capability to benefit from political favors. The rest of us lose.

⁶ IHHA Legislative Update, May, 2006, Analysis of House Bill 1918 -

By: [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]

As you continue your investigation in the days and weeks ahead, we ask you to pay close attention to these issues, and urge you to continue taking strong and enforceable measures to rein in the corrupting influence of pay-to-play politics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken F. Boehm". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ken Boehm

Attachment: Contributions from Johnston-owned/affiliated interests to Governor Blagojevich

cc:

Patrick J. Fitzgerald, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois
Senator John J. Cullerton, President of the Illinois Senate
Representative Michael J. Madigan, Speaker of the Illinois House

Contributions from Johnston-owned/affiliated interests to Governor Rod Blagojevich 2002-2007 (Highlighted)

Contributor	Date	Amount	Address	City	State	Type	Purpose
Balmoral Racing Club Inc.	5/21/2002	\$ 20,000.00	26435 S. Dixie Highway	Crete	IL	60417 Individual	
Egyptian Trotting Association Inc.	5/21/2002	\$ 25,000.00	8600 W. North Avenue	Maywood	IL	60153 Individual	
Maywood Park Trotting Association	5/21/2002	\$ 20,000.00	8600 W. North Avenue	Maywood	IL	60153 Individual	
Racing Association of Illinois	5/21/2002	\$ 20,000.00	26435 S. Dixie Highway	Crete	IL	60417 Individual	
Racing Research	6/3/2002	\$ 15,000.00	8901 S. County Line Rd	Hinsdale	IL	60521 Individual	
Bidwill	6/21/2002	\$ 1,500.00	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60650 Individual	
Arlington Park	6/25/2002	\$ 2,000.00	P.O. Box 7	Arlington Heights	IL	60006 Individual	
Bidwill	6/29/2002	\$ 250.00	164 Paseo Way	Greenbrae	CA	94904 Individual	
Bidwill	6/29/2002	\$ 250.00	828 Judson No 7	Evanston	IL	60702 Individual	
Bidwill	6/29/2002	\$ 2,500.00	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60650 Individual	
Hawthorne Race Course Inc.	6/29/2002	\$ 2,500.00	3501 South Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 Individual	
National Jockey Club	6/29/2002	\$ 2,500.00	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 Individual	
Bidwill	6/30/2002	\$ 250.00	730 Glenview Road	Glenview	IL	60025 Individual	
Sportsmans Park	8/18/2002	\$ 5,523.73	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	8/23/2002	\$ 8,760.47	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	8/26/2002	\$ 24,711.81	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	9/2/2002	\$ 109.30	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Telephone
Sportsmans Park	9/2/2002	\$ 5,512.44	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	9/4/2002	\$ 10,254.02	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	9/14/2002	\$ 5,202.30	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	9/15/2002	\$ 5,798.77	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	9/16/2002	\$ 4,963.56	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	9/21/2002	\$ 5,162.83	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Private Plane
Sportsmans Park	10/2/2002	\$ 5,000.00	405 Lexington Ave 36	New York	NY	10174 Individual	
Leo Hindery Jr.	10/3/2002	\$ 5,000.00	845 Larch Avenue	Elmhurst	IL	60126 Individual	
Duchossois Industries Inc.	10/4/2002	\$ 11,279.96	PO Box 413	Sparta	IL	62286 In-kind	Postage for Mailer
Illinois Democratic Sportsmen's Alliance	10/6/2002	\$ 20,000.00	PO Box 308	Maywood	IL	60153 Individual	
Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd.	10/17/2002	\$ 1,500.00	1 Steinbrenner Drive	Tampa	FL	33614 Individual	
Stephen Swindal	10/17/2002	\$ 2,000.00	PO Box 25077	Tampa	FL	33623 Individual	
George Steinhbrenner	10/18/2002	\$ 9,709.92	PO Box 413	Sparta	IL	62286 In-kind	Newspaper Ads
Illinois Democratic Sportsmen's Alliance	10/23/2002	\$ 5,332.00	845 Larch Avenue	Elmhurst	IL	60126 In-kind	Use of Plane
Duchossois Industries Inc.	10/25/2002	\$ 25,000.00	700 Central Avenue	Louisville	KY	40208 Individual	
Churchill Downs	10/25/2002	\$ 9,709.92	PO Box 413	Sparta	IL	62286 In-kind	Newspaper Advertisements
Illinois Democratic Sportsmen's Alliance	10/29/2002	\$ 500.00	PO Box 429	Caseyville	IL	62232 Transfer In	
Il Horseman's Benevolent & Protective Assn	10/30/2002	\$ 64.26	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60650 In-kind	postage
Bidwill	10/30/2002	\$ 363.04	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60650 In-kind	Printing for Invites
Bidwill	11/1/2002	\$ 26,458.64	PO Box 413	Sparta	IL	62286 In-kind	mailing
Il Democratic Sportsmen's Alliance	11/1/2002	\$ 26,855.96	PO Box 413	Sparta	IL	62286 In-kind	mailing
Il Democratic Sportsmen's Alliance	11/1/2002	\$ 20,000.00	PO Box 413	Sparta	IL	62286 In-kind	Brochures
Il Democratic Sportsmen's Alliance	11/1/2002	\$ 31,456.20	PO Box 413	Sparta	IL	62286 In-kind	mailing
Il Democratic Sportsmen's Alliance	11/6/2002	\$ 6,267.09	3301 S. Laramie	Cicero	IL	60804 In-kind	Charter

Contributor	Date	Amount	Address	City	Type	Purpose
IL Democratic Sportsmen's Alliance	11/8/2002	\$ 2,256.25	PO Box 413	Sparta	IL 62286 In-kind	printing
John Johnston	6/30/2003	\$ 484.49	915 S. Elm Street	Hinsdale	IL 60521 In-kind	Room rental
Craig Ducossois	7/25/2003	\$ 1,500.00	845 Larch Avenue	Eimhurst	IL 60126 Individual	
Racing Association of Illinois	8/18/2003	\$ 15,000.00	26435 S. Dixie Highway	Crete	IL 60417 Individual	
Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd.	8/18/2003	\$ 5,000.00	PO Box 308	Maywood	IL 60153 Individual	
IL Horseman's Benevolent & Protective Assn	9/19/2003	\$ 2,400.00	P.O. Box 429	Caseyville	IL 62232 Individual	
Southern Illinois Live Racing Coalition	9/19/2003	\$ 200.00	917 Southwind Court	Collinsville	IL 62234 Individual	
Racing Association of Illinois	12/18/2003	\$ 3,033.10	26435 S. Dixie Highway	Crete	IL 60417 In-kind	Hotel Rooms
Alonzo Monk	12/19/2003	\$ 369.00	920 West Sheridan	Chicago	IL 60613 Other Receipt	Sports Event
IL Horseman's Benevolent & Protective Assn	12/23/2003	\$ 1,000.00	P.O. Box 429	Caseyville	IL 62232 Individual	
Duchossois	6/22/2004	\$ 2,500.00	845 Larch Avenue	Eimhurst	IL 60126 Individual	
Balmoral Racing Club Inc.	6/28/2004	\$ 5,000.00	26435 S. Dixie Highway	Crete	IL 60417 Individual	
Maywood Park Trotting Association	6/28/2004	\$ 5,000.00	8600 W. North Avenue	Maywood	IL 60153 Individual	
Racing Association of Illinois	12/16/2004	\$ 4,094.49	26435 S. Dixie Highway	Crete	IL 60417 In-kind	Lodging/Political supporters
Balmoral Racing Club Inc.	6/29/2005	\$ 7,500.00	26435 S. Dixie Highway	Crete	IL 60417 Individual	
Maywood Park Trotting Association	6/29/2005	\$ 7,500.00	8600 W. North Avenue	Maywood	IL 60153 Individual	
Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd.	6/29/2005	\$ 5,000.00	PO Box 308	Maywood	IL 60153 Individual	
Alonzo Monk	5/12/2006	\$ 555.98	405 North Lincoln Ave	Park Ridge	IL 60068 Other Receipt	
Associates Racing Association Inc.	6/27/2006	\$ 40,000.00	819 So. Wabash Ste 600	Chicago	IL 60605 Individual	
Balmoral Racing Club Inc.	6/27/2006	\$ 10,000.00	26435 S Dixie Hwy	Crete	IL 60417 Individual	
Egyptian Trotting Association Inc.	6/27/2006	\$ 20,000.00	PO Box 308	Maywood	IL 60153 Individual	
Maywood Park Trotting Association	6/27/2006	\$ 10,000.00	8600 W. North Avenue	Melrose Park	IL 60160 Individual	
Racing Association of Illinois	6/27/2006	\$ 20,000.00	26435 S Dixie Hwy	Crete	IL 60417 Individual	
Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd.	6/27/2006	\$ 25,000.00	PO Box 308	Maywood	IL 60153 Individual	
Fairmount Park Inc.	9/5/2006	\$ 2,500.00	9301 Collinsville Rd.	Collinsville	IL 62234 Individual	
Hawthorne Race Course Inc	10/12/2007	\$ 1,000.00	3501 S. Laramie Ave	Chicago	IL 60804 Individual	
Balmoral Racing Club Inc.	12/31/2007	\$ 5,000.00	26435 S Dixie Hwy	Crete	IL 60417 Individual	
Maywood Park Trotting Association	12/31/2007	\$ 5,000.00	8600 W. North Avenue	Melrose Park	IL 60160 Individual	
Monk,	12/31/2007	\$ 7,500.00	405 N. Lincoln Ave	Park Ridge	IL 60068 Individual	
Racing Association of Illinois	12/31/2007	\$ 10,000.00	26435 S Dixie Hwy	Crete	IL 60417 Individual	
Coast to Coast Food Service Ltd.	12/31/2007	\$ 5,000.00	8600 W. North Ave	Melrose Park	IL 60160 Individual	
Total Horse Racing Contributions (est.)		\$ 623,639.53				
Total Johnston Contributions (est.)		\$ 343,612.08				



ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**BARBARA FLYNN CURRIE
HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER**

300 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-8121

25TH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT
EX OFFICIO MEMBER
ALL HOUSE COMMITTEES

February 17, 2009

David J. Bradford
Jenner & Block
330 N. Wabash Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Mr. Bradford:

I write in response to your letter dated January 14, 2009 advising the Special Investigative Committee of a misstatement in the Final Report.

This letter serves as confirmation that the phrase "Tribune Owner" was inadvertently substituted for the phrase "Tribune Financial Advisor" on page 18 of the Final Report.

Copies of your correspondence and this letter will be posted at www.ilga.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Flynn Currie".

Barbara Flynn Currie
Chair of the Special Investigative Committee

cc: Members of the Special Investigative Committee

JENNER & BLOCK

January 14, 2009

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
and OVERNIGHT COURIER**

David W. Ellis, Esq.
Office of the Speaker
Illinois House of Representatives
412 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62704

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dbradford@jenner.com

Re: Final Report of the Special Investigative Committee

Dear Mr. Ellis:

I write on behalf of my client, Sam Zell. It has been brought to my attention that the Final Report of the Special Investigative Committee ("House Impeachment Report") contains a misstatement in reference to Mr. Zell (p. 18):

On November 11, 2008, Harris reported to the Governor that he had met with *Tribune Owner* and *Tribune Owner* 'got the message and is very sensitive to the issue.'

That statement appears to track mistakenly a specific allegation in the affidavit of FBI Special Agent Daniel W. Cain, attached to the criminal complaint filed in *United States v. Blagojevich, et al.*, Case No. 06 CJ 1160 (N.D. Ill., Compl. filed 12/09/08) (¶ 79):

HARRIS said that he *met with Tribune Financial Advisor* the prior day (November 10, 2008), and that *Tribune Financial Advisor* *talked* to Tribune Owner and Tribune Owner 'got the message and is very sensitive to the issue.'

It appears that the phrase "Tribune Owner" was inadvertently substituted for the phrase "Tribune Financial Advisor" in the first two places in which the phrase appears. I appreciate your confirming that this correction will be made promptly to conform the House Impeachment Report to the affidavit of FBI Special Agent Daniel W. Cain.

Of course, nothing in this letter should be construed as an acknowledgment of the accuracy of Mr. Harris's statements.

David W. Ellis, Esq.
January 14, 2009
Page 2

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



David J. Bradford

DJB:fms

cc: Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie, Chair, House Impeachment Committee ✓
(via facsimile and overnight courier)
Rep. Jim Durkin, Co-Chair, House Impeachment Committee
(via facsimile and overnight courier)
Anton R. Valukas, Esq.
Charles B. Sklarsky, Esq.



ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BARBARA FLYNN CURRIE
HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

300 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-8121

25TH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT
EX OFFICIO MEMBER
ALL HOUSE COMMITTEES

February 17, 2009

Kevin Malloy
Kevin Forde, Ltd.
111 West Washington Street, Suite 1100
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Mr. Malloy:

I write in response to your letter dated January 14, 2009 advising the Committee of your client's concerns with the Final Report.

Your letter will be distributed to members of the Committee and will be posted at www.ilga.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Flynn Currie".

Barbara Flynn Currie
Chair of the Special Investigative Committee

cc: Members of the Special Investigative Committee

KEVIN M. FORDE, LTD.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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KEVIN M. FORDE
JANICE R. FORDE
KEVIN R. MALLOY
JOANNE R. DRISCOLL
MELISSA G. LAFFERTY

January 12, 2009

By Facsimile & Overnight Delivery

David W. Ellis, Esq.
Office of the Speaker
412 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Re: *Final Report of the Special Investigative Committee,
Issued January 8, 2009*

Dear Mr. Ellis:

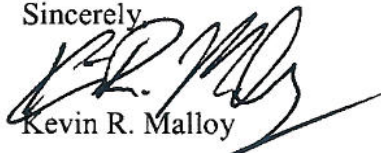
I am writing on behalf of Illinois Property Asset Management, LLC ("IPAM").

The Final Report of the Special Investigative Committee, issued January 8, 2009, makes a number of assertions concerning IPAM. (Final Report at 47-49, citing testimony of Auditor General Holland). IPAM disagrees with the report's characterization of IPAM and its conduct, but particularly the report's statement that IPAM "submitted hundreds of thousands of dollars in questionable expenses." (Final Report at 48).

The amount of purportedly "questioned" expenses set forth in the Auditor General's CMS Compliance Audit (April 2005), which is identified as part of Group Exhibit 6 to the Committee's Final Report, was \$31,221.16 – not "hundreds of thousands of dollars." (Auditor General's CMS Compliance Audit at 44).

IPAM respectfully requests that the Committee correct this clear error in its report. To the extent Auditor General Holland's testimony before the Committee also reflects this error, it too should be corrected or stricken.

Sincerely,



Kevin R. Malloy

Cc: Hon. Barbara Flynn Currie,
Chair of the Special Investigative Committee



ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**BARBARA FLYNN CURRIE
HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER**

300 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-8121

25TH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT
EX OFFICIO MEMBER
ALL HOUSE COMMITTEES

February 17, 2009

Gilbert Villegas
901 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 205
Chicago, IL 60607

Dear Mr. Villegas:

I write in response to your letter to the Special Investigative Committee regarding Exhibit 70, in which you disputed allegations made by Ms. Gold.

Your letter will be distributed to members of the Committee and will be posted at www.ilga.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Flynn Currie".

Barbara Flynn Currie
Chair of the Special Investigative Committee

cc: Members of the Special Investigative Committee

Honorable Members of the Special Investigative Committee,

I am writing you in response to Exhibit 70 of the Special Investigative Committee Documents which were submitted by Rep. Monique Davis.

Ms. Gold's allegation of "racial charged expletives including the N word" being spoken by me are false and an outright lie.

Ms. Gold's statement "Gilbert Villegas was told by a superior that if Villegas lied about the incident (so as to cover it up) he would get Ms. Gold's position at EEO" again is false and an outright lie. Ms. Gold was terminated from EEO and replaced with another African American.

Time had lapsed since her termination and Ms. Gold was reinstated back into the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and was placed into the Civil Rights Chicago Office in Schaumburg as an exempt manager. The Civil Rights Division never reported to me in my capacity as a Deputy Director within IDOT. Ms. Gold never worked for me, consequently, I could not terminate someone who never worked or reported to me.

"Questions were raised about the Rutan interviewing process that Villegas was conducting at the EEO which consisted of giving Caucasians and African Americans inconsistent ratings all while giving Hispanics much higher and favorable ratings." Again, another lie. Once Rutan interviews are conducted, they go to Civil Rights so as to insure that there is parity within the department. Both of the selected candidates for the EEO positions were minority women, 1 Hispanic woman and 1 African American woman. Ms. Gold injected herself into the process in order to cause a cloud surrounding the selection of the two minority woman so that EEO would fail. The positions were critical so personnel had them reposted and I voluntarily withdrew from the interviewing process and again the positions were filled by 2 minority women, 1 of the minority woman had previously been one of the selected candidates.

"Villegas threatened Ms. Gold after this stating that if he became a Deputy Director within IDOT, he would terminate her. Shortly after this Villegas was promoted to a position as a Deputy Director within IDOT and fired Gold from her position as manager of Civil Rights in the Chicago office. This occurred without Gold's direct supervisors or taking the proper channels. Villegas claimed that her position no longer had any work to be done. Both the District Engineer and IDOT Secretary Milton Sees stepped forward in her defense saying that they would take her into their Departments but were told by Villegas that she must have pissed someone off in the Governor's office." This is another lie. Again Ms. Gold never worked for me and never reported to me. After her return to IDOT I never had any conversations with her while she was in Civil Rights. I never had any conversations with the District Engineer or Secretary Milton Sees in reference to her termination.

“Ms. Gold stated that this firing occurred because Villegas went to Victor Roberson who worked for the Governor’s Chief of Staff, John Harris and through that channel, Villegas was told to fire Ms. Gold.” Again another lie, she never worked for me and I never had any conversations with anyone from the Governor’s office relative to Ms. Gold in her Civil Rights exempt manager position or in reference to her termination. Ms. Gold never worked or reported to me during my tenure at IDOT.

I find the allegations and statements in Exhibit 70 troubling. As a Hispanic Veteran who has fought for this country and served his country with honor with Americans from diverse backgrounds. I have always and will always respect my fellow Americans and treat people the way that I would like to be treated.

These allegations and slanderous comments appear to be brought out ahead of a suit that Ms. Gold maybe considering for future gain. These allegations and lies are all hearsay and most of these conversations are one-hundred percent fabricated to position herself for future gains.

I respectfully request that Exhibit 70 be immediately pulled out of the Special Investigative Committee Documents which were submitted by Rep. Monique Davis as these allegations have nothing to do with the impeachment of the Governor and were brought forward to smear my reputation and to strategically gain some sort of false advantage in future legal proceedings. So as to put everyone on notice, I will be seeking legal advice concerning what I believe to be libelous and slanderous statements which were made against me in Exhibit 70.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gilbert Villegas