Do you remember this receipt or -- or can you give me some context about why you had it and why you produced it to us?

A I helped prepare the document. Sorry. For the original RFI, I helped prepare the documents and I just gave you -- I just honestly just gave you everything I -- that I had possession of in regards to this investigation.

So I have -- I just provided what I had and what I knew --

Q Got you.

A -- gave to you.

Q Do you remember anything else specifically about this receipt? Like, was it ever discussed when you were collecting documents or --

A Oh, gosh, I don't. There were so many. I honestly do not recall a specific one. There's so many.

Q Yeah. I'm sure. And while we're on the groceries point, do you recall anybody else picking up groceries for -- for the Mooneys?
A Not that I can think of. Usually I was the main person to do so just because I was, like, so close.

Q So another topic I wanted to talk about is another employee, who, I believe, may have predated you in the office. But do you know who Stephanie Cooper is?

A Yes. I do know her. I never personally ever spoke with her. I know of her.

Q Okay. And can you tell me what -- tell me what you know about her, I guess.

A I know she helped file FEC reports. Like, she was the original accountant type person. I know there was, like, a -- I want to say back in 2018, there was a discrepancy with her and she ended up leaving the office. But, yeah. She was like the original -- she would help with -- file FEC reports, prepare FE -- FEC reports, go to expenditures, pick up checks. I'm -- I'm pretty certain she lived pretty close to the congressman, too. So she was, like, easy to get in contact with in regards to campaign work.
Q    And what is -- what do you know about this discrepancy that you mentioned?

A    There was an issue she may have took money from the campaign, wrongfully took money from the campaign. Because she had her own debit card, would use it for personal -- for the -- go to the liquor store, grocery store, like, her own personal items. So but I don't know --

Q    So she was -- so she -- sorry. Go ahead if you were finishing.

A    Oddly, I don't know many of the details, because she was kind of -- she was dated, but yeah I do know she -- and then she ended up leaving the office and is now working in Maryland, but, yeah.

Q    And so you believe the way that she was taking campaign money was with the -- the debit card campaign debit card that she had been assigned?

A    Yeah. And which is one of the reasons why we went the gift card route just to avoid that from happening again because she just was able to just swipe whatever it's -- and then she also
handled that DC reports, so she kind of was able
to mitigate that, but, yeah.

Q  Okay. And who did you -- how do you
know this? How do -- how did you come to learn
about that?

A  It just came up in conversation. I -- I
with the other staffers -- I honestly don't know
the -- like specific details, but it just came up
in conversation.

Q  Okay. And do you remember who those
conversations were with?

A  I don't -- I don't.

Q  Was this pretty widely known?

A  Yeah, it was kind of, like, you know, we
don't really talk about it. It was sort of a dark
little piece of campaign history, but, yeah, I was
kind of just a so talked to heavily about it.

Q  Did -- did you ever hear, like, what the
total was that she had taken from the campaign or
--

A  Like an upwards of -- I do not know the
specific amount but definitely an upwards of like
$20,000 or so.

Q  Okay. And then do you know anything about else about how -- how when she left. Do you remember or did you ever hear more of an exact date of when she left?

A  No. I do not know the exact date. I just knew -- I knew she got another job in Maryland, so then she left the campaign for a little bit higher paying --

Q  Was it 2017 or 2018 --

A  Oh, sorry.

Q  -- that she left?

A  I know she worked during those years. I want to say 2018, was the year she left. From what I can understand.

Q  Did you ever hear anything about, like, a severance package or any sort of payment to her to not speak about this issue?

A  No. That I do not know about. Yeah, but I do know she was -- she was questionable in her actions, but no I do not know about a severance package.
Q  Who do you think would be the most knowledgeable about this situation other than the congressman?

A  Probably Mike -- Mike or Kelly.

Q  Do you know when she started working for the congressman?

A  Oh, gosh, she's been with him for years. I know he -- I believe he's just checked second chiefs. So and -- yeah, the second chief. I -- I only knew him back when he was like my age, Mike was like my age. So they've known each other for a while. I'm not -- I'm not sure of his specific start date though with the (inaudible) yeah. But you know he's (inaudible) --

Q  And. Got you. And, let's talk about the first review and the first request for information --

A  Okay.

Q  -- and the work that you -- the work that you did to help the congressman respond to that. Can you just first just generally describe what your involvement was in that first review?
I was helping, because I knew, like, the receipts were (indiscernible) location, so I was just helping produce. Because I knew you guys were asking for specific receipts like, do you have the receipt for this amount, on this date, to this place? So I would help find them in our filing cabinet and -- scan them and prepare the documents.

Q Did you help other than just finding the receipts, did you help figure out the purpose of the expenditures? So when -- when you all produced those documents to us, you had listed like maybe description of the expenditure and the purpose behind it. Did you --

A Yes.

Q -- help with those also?

A Yeah, just because I knew where the receipt may have happened and like the reasoning behind it, so I would help them identify the purpose. And since I was working there at the time.

Q And when you were working on that
process, did you notice any irregularities or things that concern you about the completeness or accuracy of the congressman's disclosures to my office?

A For what -- the only thing I can think of is that if we couldn't find a receipt, I know that would be worrisome, because I know you obviously wanted those documents. So if we couldn't find a receipt, that would be probably the discrepancy I could think of -- the only one. Just -- just due to --

Q Did you ever --

A -- human error.

Q Okay. Yeah. Did you ever hear of or ever see anybody either altering a document or changing a document in some way before it was given to us?

A Not me personally, no.

Q Okay. There was an issue of -- I guess you guys were using the congressman's calendar as one way to match --

A Yeah.
Q  -- receipts and the purpose of the expenditure; is that right?
A  Yes -- yes. We used his Google calendar
Q  Okay. Did you ever notice changes being made to the calendar as you were referring to for the investigation?
A  No, not particularly. Of course, it was like a long calendar. So I, honestly, may have missed it. Was changed to it to the like a certain purpose. But no, I did not directly see a change being made that would violate the investigation. Okay. It is raining, and my cat is outside. Hold on.
Q  We can take a -- we can take a five-minute break if you need to go --
A  No. All good. I'm okay.
Q  Are you all right? Okay.
A  Yeah. Okay.
Q  No worries. I wanted to ask you about some specific charges that showed up on Representative Mooney's bank account -- or --
sorry, not his bank account, the campaign bank
account. And maybe you can tell me if you know anything about these. Sean, can you pull up tab four and you can mark that as Exhibit D. Okay. So if we scroll down, Sean, are you controlling the screen? Okay. Can you scroll down to -- there's dates on the left. I think it's the fourth page. That's 130. Yeah, that's great. You can zoom in a little bit. Can you see that, Former Staffer 3?

(Exhibit D was marked.)

A  Yeah.

Q  Okay. So this exhibit is a printout of some of the charges to the campaign card. Have you seen this sort of document before? This is from the Bank of Charles Town?

A  Yes -- yes.

Q  Okay. And these are for expenditures in late January. Sean, can you scroll up a little bit so I can see the year 20 -- I think these ones are 2017. But throughout and over the years, if you scroll down again a little Sean, there's these charges for West Virginia Park. $20 on 130 and
then on 131, there's another one, West Virginia Park, $40. Do you have any idea what those expenditures are for?

A  I do not know what that is.

Q  Okay. Was there a -- was -- was there, like, a state park or -- and when I say that, you know, like, a natural park, like -- like --

A  Like you pay to (inaudible.)

Q  -- like to get into a park, yeah, nearby?

A  I -- I mean, yes, I can assume so, but not one where I could match that charge with.

Q  Okay.

A  I know the park he would go to but he would go to, but I don't think you had to pay it again into that one.

Q  Okay. Got you. Another witness that said that potentially it was a park that either Grace or the congressman and Grace took Tammy to?

Was there --

A  Okay.

Q  -- like a state park that they
frequently took your daughter to?

A  No, that I know of. I know there's this one park he would go to with the younger one, but that wasn't -- you don't pay it again to that one. That would overlook Harpers -- not Harpers Ferry, but, like, the Potomac. But, yeah, no.

Q  Okay. I also wanted to ask you a little bit about -- so there were some in the first review where were some leaks to the press about specific aspects of -- of things that my office was asking about and then later of the report that my office wrote?

A  Yes.

Q  Do you know -- do you know anything about those or know who --

A  I do know that.

Q  -- any officer that was speaking to the press.

A  Yes. I came to find out it was -- [Former Staffer 6]. He's our former legislative course. But yes. I do know there about those leakings after they happened and were found out.
Q  Okay. And do you know if anybody else
was speaking to the press around that time?
A  No -- no. And, actually, now that I'm
thinking about one of my answers, for the
Stephanie Cooper issue, I honestly, I think Ted
Dacey. Do you know Ted Dacey?
Q  I know who that is. Excuse me.
A  He probably -- yes, he probably be the
best person for that one. Because I remember he
brought it -- he was the one that brought it up
like briefly when we were just going through like
an FEC report. But that would probably be the
best person because he like directly handled these
reports. Mike was more like a supervisor, but he,
like, directly handled those.
Q  Okay. And do you know if Ted -- was Ted
around at the time when Stephanie was working?
A  Yeah.
Q  For the record.
A  Yes, he was.
Q  Okay. That's helpful. Thank you. I
can't remember, is Ted still employed by the
Congressman?

A No. He's not. He left on December. He left like right when I got on as an intern.

Q You know where he is now?

A He is at Targeted Victory, which is like a media.

Q Great. Let's take a five-minute break. I'm just going to look over my notes and then I think we're almost done.

A Okay.

MR. QUINN: So let's -- let's go off the record, Ashby. And then let's come back at 11:25 AM.

(Whereupon, a discussion was held off the record.)

BY MR. QUINN:

Q Okay. Yes, I think -- actually, I basically gotten through everything I wanted to talk to you about.

A Okay.

Q I just wanted to give you a second in case there's anything that you were hoping we were
discussed today, or you think that we should
discuss.

A    I think honestly, I think we're good. I
was surprised, I think we -- I think we touched
everything that I can think of, so --

Q    Okay. Well, again, thanks very much for
your time. I think we can be out of your hair now
and well, you won't have to hear from us again.

A    No worries, no worries. You guys have
been nice.

MR. QUINN: Well, okay. I'm glad to
hear it. Yeah. Let's go through spellings real
quick. First off, Former Staffer 3, if you can
stick around for one minute just to make sure that
if you might be able to help us with some spellings.

(Off the record at 11:27 a.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

I, Ashby Everhart, the officer before whom the foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify that said proceedings were electronically recorded by me; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

Notary Registration No.: 7844371
My Commission Expires: 12/31/2023

_________________________
Ashby Everhart, Court Reporter
CERTIFICATION OF TRANSCRIPT

I, Andrew Hatziyannis, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript, to the best of my ability, knowledge, and belief, is a true and correct record of the proceedings; that said proceedings were reduced to typewriting under my supervision; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

Andrew Hatziyannis
Planet Depos, LLC
November 11, 2021
CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

ERRATA SHEET

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This errata sheet is submitted subject to 18 U.S.C. § 1001 (commonly known as the False Statements Act).

Witness Name: [Name deleted]

Witness Signature: [Signature deleted]

Date: 11/22/2020
EXHIBIT 4
Transcript of Interview of Former Staffer 4

Review No. 21-6998
September 24, 2021
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS OF THE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

In re: FORMER STAFFER 4,  ) OCE Review No:
) 21-6998

Interview of FORMER STAFFER 4

Conducted Virtually

Friday, September 24, 2021
10:01 a.m. ET

Job No.: 400471
Pages: 1 - 52
Reported by: Timothy R. Yancey, Notary Public
Interview of FORMER STAFFER 4, conducted virtually.

Pursuant to notice, before Timothy R. Yancey, Notary Public in and for the State of Maryland.
APPEARANCES

ON BEHALF OF OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS:

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ALSO PRESENT:

DELANEY SCHUELER, RVC TECHNICIAN
EXHIBITS

(Attached to the transcript)

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MR. QUINN: For the record, today is September 24th, 2021, and we’re conducting the interview of FORMER STAFFER 4 -- am I pronouncing your last name correctly?


MR. QUINN: -- Former Staffer 4 by Zoom.

Former Staffer 4 is not represented today. Speaking is Sean Quinn, Investigative Counsel at the Office of Congressional Ethics, and I'm here with Annie Cho, who is also at the OCE.

The witness has been given a copy of 18 USC 1001, and has signed the acknowledgment. And, actually, while I'm on that topic, did you have any questions about the False Statements Act acknowledgment or anything?


MR. QUINN: Yes. Pretty straightforward, yes. And then also, like I said earlier but I'll just say one more time, thanks so much for being here today, and for giving us some of your time.
We really appreciate it. And then, as I said before, but I'll just repeat one more time, I'm happy to answer any questions you have throughout this interview. So feel free to stop me at any point for a question, or if you need to go get some water or take a bathroom break, or if a question I ask you isn't clear, I can re-word it, or repeat it for you. Just let me know.

And then as Delaney said, the court reporter will be transcribing everything that we're saying.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: And a lot of times when you're in conversation, you start talking quickly, and speaking over each other. So let's just try to do the best we can to let each other stop the statements, and then not to speak over each other for the transcriptionist.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes.

MR. QUINN: Okay, great. Well, then with that, I'd like to start with just a little bit of background information. So if you could tell me
how you began working for Representative Mooney, that would be great.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So I got hired on as a staff assistant in Congressman Mooney's office. This was 2018, and I think it was, like, March or April-ish, and then I ended up putting in my resignation at the end of June of that same year.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And how did you come to apply for that job?

FORMER STAFFER 4: So I am pretty sure that I applied on ConservativeJobs.com. I think it's a website that the Leadership Institute runs.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And so you didn't have any connection to Representative Mooney before that?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No. No, no, no. I'm not from West Virginia. I'm from New York City, so definitely no connection whatsoever.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then your title was staff assistant you said?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh. Staff
assistant -- (inaudible.)

THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. One more time. I didn't hear that.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Staff assistant/intern coordinator. Sorry.

THE REPORTER: Got it. Thank you.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then did you have any other titles while you were there?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-uh.

MR. QUINN: Okay. If you could just describe your responsibilities in that position.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So, obviously, basic staff assistant duties: Scheduled White House tours, Capitol tours, any other tours. That was, I think, like the FBI. Help with, like, Supreme Court tours. I did help the communications director quite a bit with just social media postings, and updating the Twitter and Facebook page. I did write an op-ed once for the congressman for, I think, the local paper. I don't know if that ever got published or anything. And then other than that, it was pretty much
manage my interns. Yes.

    MR. QUINN: Okay. You mentioned that you
gave tours or helped coordinate tours?

    FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

    MR. QUINN: Do you know who -- or was it
constituents that you were giving tours to?

    FORMER STAFFER 4: So I personally never
gave a tour, but all of the Capitol tours,
obviously, were done through, like, the server
that I -- I can't remember it was literally so
long ago. I would schedule those. So I believe
they were mostly constituents. I know that there
was one time -- I think it was on a weekend, it
was like a Saturday or a Sunday -- that I was
working with the congressman, and the scheduler at
the time to put together this massive Capitol
tour, and I don't remember exactly who it was. I
don't know if they were constituents, or who they
were but, if I recall, it was quite a large group
of, like, 25 to 15 people.

    I had to send my interns out to go, you
know, obviously, to give the tour. I wasn't
available that weekend. Yes.

MR. QUINN: Okay, great. And then who did you report to in your role at Representative Mooney's office?

FORMER STAFFER 4: So, for most of my time there, I reported to the scheduler, and then my last two weeks in the office, I was reporting to the LD.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And who are those two people?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Kate Morgan was the scheduler at the time. I believe she got married, so that's not her last name anymore. And then the legislative director was Scott Roush.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then I presume the interns reported to you. Did anybody else report to you?

FORMER STAFFER 4: So the interns kind of reported to me. They also kind of reported to Kate as well.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then was [Former Staffer 6] one of the interns at that time?
FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then do you recall any of the other interns?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So one, Ashley Christopher. The other two, it was Jonathan -- I'm connected with them on LinkedIn. Do you mind? Can I look up their names for you?

MR. QUINN: No, I don't mind. Yes.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Matthew Harris is one of my other interns, and then -- goodness. I can't remember his last name. It was Jonathan Partamian.

MR. QUINN: Can you spell that real quick?


MR. QUINN: Okay, great. So then other than the interns, and then we talked about Kate Morgan briefly, is there anybody else that you worked closely with in the office?

FORMER STAFFER 4: What do you mean exactly by, Closely?

MR. QUINN: Just somebody that you
interacted with frequently, or maybe you worked on projects with.

FORMER STAFFER 4: So the chief of staff was one. He had me scheduling, like, one-on-one meetings for him. Obviously, the communications director at the time, Ted Dacey. He was also the deputy chief as well, and that was pretty much it. There was the LA, but I didn't really do a lot of legislative work, John Caddock. So it was kind of -- you know, we were just co-workers but not much, like, work-related interactions there.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And the chief of staff at the time was Michael Hough?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Correct.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then so I think you said you started around March or April and then left in June. Can you tell me about why you left?

FORMER STAFFER 4: It was just not a very good environment. I was just not happy with how I was being treated specifically, actually, by the scheduler. There was a lot of head-butting, a lot of -- I mean, to be frank, it was a lot of
bullying on behalf of the scheduler and the LA.

MR. QUINN: Is that -- sorry. The scheduler was Kate Morgan at the time?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh. Yeah, Kate and John. So I was just not comfortable working in that office anymore. I was just not. It was just not a good situation for me, so for the sake of my mental health, I just had to put in my two weeks and call it a day.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Can you describe to me what you mean when you say, Bullying?

FORMER STAFFER 4: It was a lot of having my interns send screen shots of conversations in an attempt to, you know, get me in trouble. It was a lot of, you know, sly remarks, a lot of just very passive/aggressive behavior, a lot of -- on top of that, it was also a lot of micro-managing, just a lot of not trusting me to do my job. I had went to the chief of staff, I think, two weeks in, and I said this is a problem, I'm not being treated correctly. And it was temporarily resolved, and then all of a sudden, it got really
bad again. So for the sake of my mental health, I just had to call it quits.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And what sorts of things did you feel like they were trying to get you in trouble for?

FORMER STAFFER 4: So I will say I had a text message with my interns, and I think -- I'm from New York City. I swear like a sailor. And in no way, shape, or form -- I had a very good relationship with all of my interns. I got in trouble for -- in a text message, I think I had written, like -- I think I wrote to them, you all are smart, you all can fucking figure this shit out. And it was in no way -- again, like, I had hung out with my interns. Like, you know, this was like we hung out on the weekends. It was a very casual conversation.

I got a formal reprimand for that screen shot of the text messages. And, at that point, I -- I was kind of already out the door at that point. It was -- like, I explained to the chief, like, okay, I admit it was unprofessional for me
to curse to the interns, but the type of relationship that we had, like, they would swear, I would swear. It was never, like, I was berating them for being incompetent or incapable.

And so once that happened, I realized at that point kind of what was happening. I knew the intern who had sent in the screen shot of those text messages, and I just was not comfortable anymore. There were a lot of conversations that I would have, you know, in private with them as well. And it was like, okay. Well, I could be having a confidential conversation with you, and I'm hoping that you're not going and telling everyone this, that I -- the trust was just lost at that point.

MR. QUINN: Right. Okay. Do you recall who that intern was that had sent the screen shot?

FORMER STAFFER 4: [Former Staffer 6].

MR. QUINN: Okay. And other than that incident, how would you describe your relationship with [Former Staffer 6]?

FORMER STAFFER 4: After that -- I mean,
for the most part, I thought we were fine. Like, again, we would hang out. We would joke around. I would help them with tasks and things like that. It was very cordial, and then up until that moment, I kind of just realized there was just no trust there. So I spent the last week-and-a-half, it would be good morning, good-bye, you know, and come to me if you need anything at work. But, other than that, it was, you know, no more casual fun conversation between the two of us.

MR. QUINN: Right. Okay. And then could you just tell me quickly. What did you do after you left Representative Mooney's office?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So I worked for, like, a campaign company that's based out in Ohio called Strategy Company/Front Porch Strategies. So I had been working there part-time since college, and they -- I actually went to my boss and explained to him the situation in Congressman Mooney office. And he said, well, we need someone for the campaign season, do you want to come on. So that's it.
MR. QUINN: Okay. And is that where you are now?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No, not currently. I'm with a lobbying firm downtown, Mehlman, Castagnetti, Rosen & Thomas.

MR. QUINN: That's right. Okay. And then did you hold any positions between the event firm in Ohio and the lobbying firm now?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So I also worked at FreedomWorks briefly for three months. Oh. And I also worked in Congressman Thompson's office as well for a month as his scheduler.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Great. Let's talk about the birthday party that I think you helped plan in 2018.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh, yeah.

MR. QUINN: Why don't we start with you just kind of generally telling me about that event, and then I'll dig into some more specific questions after you give me kind of an overview.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So the congressman brought me into his office one day,
and he was like, hey, my birthday is coming up, I want to throw a birthday party, I'm going to put you in charge of RSVPs, getting the food, and just kind of, you know, helping me organize all of this. Of course, I said okay. I was given the invite list that was put together by the congressman and chief, Michael Hough.

And so from there, I mean, I sent out the invites, I kept track of the RSVPs. The day of the event, I picked up -- my interns actually helped me as well. We picked up all the food. We picked up the cigars. I can't remember if we served drinks, or if someone brought that. We ordered pizza as well, and got that delivered. And then during the event, we were kind of -- my interns and I were kind of in charge of, like, escorting everyone up to the Speaker's Balcony.

And then from there, I mean, I pretty much just took pictures of the event and hung out with my interns, just kind of getting some food and relaxed.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And was planning that
sort of event part of your regular duties, or was this sort of a stand-out occurrence?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I would say it was a one-time thing. He'd just said -- yeah. That was like the only big event that he ever had me plan was that birthday party.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Let's talk a little bit about the invite list.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: Can you tell me, generally, what sorts of folks were invited to the birthday party?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So I sat in on a conversation, and it seemed like it was comprised of, like, previous donors, and -- I mean, mainly just previous donors. I don't know if he invited friends. I remember the congressman making one quick comment about one individual and who it was. And he was like, oh, he didn't donate to me last cycle so, like, we can put him on our B-list.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And you said you think it was Mr. Hough and Representative Mooney that
kind of came up with the first draft of that list?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: So in addition to donors or past donors, how about other people on the Hill? Do you know if any either staffers or Members were invited.

FORMER STAFFER 4: So Congressman Scalise showed up briefly to say hello.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then how about staffers, either in Representative Mooney's office or other staffers on the Hill?

FORMER STAFFER 4: So I was there. Obviously, the chief was there. My interns were there. Kate was there. John Caddock was there as well. Ted was there. In terms of other Hill staffers, honestly, I can't remember. I don't think so. I spent most of the evening talking to Scott Roush's wife.

MR. QUINN: Okay. All right. And just to kind of go over that one more time. So other than donors, it sounds like, as far as you can recall, Representative Scalise, and then a few folks from
Representative Mooney's office; is that correct?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then I just wanted to ask you. You know, we received documents from you, and I looked through those. I wanted to ask you about one of them.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: Delaney, can you pull up Tab 2?

THE TECHNICIAN: Okay. And what did you want me to mark this as?

MR. QUINN: You can mark this as Exhibit A.


(Former Staffer 4 Interview Exhibit A was marked for identification, and attached to the transcript.)

MR. QUINN: Former Staffer 4, can you see that e-mail?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah.

MR. QUINN: Okay. All right. I think this is probably just a typo, or maybe a
voice-to-text thing. Is ALEC -- A-L-E-C, and then a capital A -- actually a person? This is an e-mail from Michael Hough to you sent on 5/29/2018 at 2:02 p.m., and the subject of the e-mail is ALEC, A-L-E-C, contacts. Is that supposed to Alex? Was that a typo, or is that like a database?

FORMER STAFFER 4: So that's the organization, ALEC.

MR. QUINN: Okay.

FORMER STAFFER 4: I think Michael Hough used to work there, or has some sort of association with them.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Do you know what that stands for?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I don't.

MR. QUINN: Okay.

FORMER STAFFER 4: I can Google it and find out. It's some conservative/libertarian organization.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And do you know -- American Legislative Exchange Council, does that
FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah, I think that's it.

MR. QUINN: -- like that might be it?

Okay. Do you know why he would have been inviting folks from ALEC?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No. I mean, other than, I think -- like I said, I think that he had worked there previously, and just had relationships with folks that still worked there.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And that's Michael Hough had worked there?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: Okay, got you. And then was there some sort of database of ALEC contacts that you had accessed? Do you recall this e-mail, I guess I should ask first?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I mean, yes, because I just saw it when I sent it over to you. I'm not sure what log-in information that he was referring to.

MR. QUINN: All right. Then we can take
that Exhibit off of the screen. Thanks. That's helpful. I thought maybe ALEC was just like a voice-to-text issue.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Totally understandable.

(Laughter.)

MR. QUINN: And then just to have you confirm that I'm understanding this document correctly, can you -- Delaney, can you pull up Tab 4?

THE TECHNICIAN: Okay. And do you want to mark this as Exhibit B?

MR. QUINN: Yes. Let's do that.

THE TECHNICIAN: All right. Standby.

(Former Staffer 4 Interview Exhibit B was marked for identification, and attached to the transcript.)

MR. QUINN: And can you scroll down just a little bit, Delaney? That's it. Yes, cool.

So this is another document that you produced to us. We applied our own Bates Numbering or numbering system to the document, so the Bates Number for this document is AS_0001.
And this looks like, obviously, the flyer or invite for the birthday party?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yep.

MR. QUINN: Okay, great. And so the birthday party was held on the Speaker's Porch; is that right?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Correct.

MR. QUINN: Okay. I guess the Speaker's Balcony, not Speaker's Porch. Okay. Great. And so I'll also confirm. So it was June 7th. It looks like that was a Thursday, and it was held around 6:00 p.m.?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: And do you remember how late the event went?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I don't. Maybe -- I remember it being dark when I left, so maybe like 8:00/9:00.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then did you or other interns help with cleaning up the event?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I'm sorry? Putting up the event?
MR. QUINN: Did you, or the interns, or anybody else help with cleaning up the event.


MR. QUINN: I want to get sort of an understanding of how much time you spent on this event, and sort of when you were working on it. So the first question -- and I know this might be difficult to answer -- but could you guess about how much time you spent, hours, how many hours you spent planning this event?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Honestly, I mean, per week, maybe like an hour or two. Maybe between the time it took to draft the invite, get that approved, and just keep track of everything, anywhere from one to three hours a week, maybe, for like the three weeks leading up to it.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And how about other staff time, so the interns, or Kate's time? Could you just ballpark for me how much time they spent?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I don't know about Kate because all I know was that -- sorry about that. My boss just texted me.
MR. QUINN: Okay.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah. I don't know about Kate. As for the interns, I mean, all they did was the date of the event, I just needed help picking up the food and things like that. So, like, they came with me over to the Harris Teeter that's at Navy Yard. And maybe that's for an hour-and-a-half, I think, to pick everything up. And then I went by myself to go pick up the cigars in Union Station.

So it was -- I mean, I guess it was mostly -- it took the most of my time more than anyone else's.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then do you know how the event was paid for?

FORMER STAFFER 4: So I don't. I was given a credit card, and I don't know if it was a personal credit card, or what account that was hooked up to.

MR. QUINN: Okay. I also want to talk a little bit about how the event was kind of described or categorized. I know you said that
the invite list was mostly donors or prior donors.

Did you consider this a fundraising event?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I mean, I didn't think it was just because with my e-mail language, it was, you know, oh, I'm inviting you as a thanks for your friendship over the years. I mean, it didn't really occur to me that because they was inviting donors that it was a fundraiser of any sort. So I also just -- as someone who was so new to the office, I didn't know what -- I mean, outside of donating, I don't know if the congressman actually did have a relationship or a friendship with these people that he was inviting.

I wasn't necessarily in a position to ask.

MR. QUINN: Right.

FORMER STAFFER 4: You know, I was just kind of given this task. And it just kind of was like, okay. I don't know if you can necessarily say no to a congressman.

MR. QUINN: Right. Okay. So as far as you know, there was no money exchanged in order to attend the event, or in connection with the event?
FORMER STAFFER 4: Correct, yeah.

MR. QUINN: Did anybody ever describe it as a fundraiser or use similar terminology to that?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No, but -- I don't know if I mentioned it to you. I was contacted, like, four or five months ago by a -- I think it was a reporter for The Hill who wanted to run a story on this event. And I think that was the first time that I ever -- like, anyone ever mentioned to me, or that I would have -- you know, that something might have happened at this event.

MR. QUINN: Okay. If you don't mind telling me, who was that reporter?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I honestly don't remember. I think I literally deleted the e-mail because, obviously, in that position, I'm not -- given my relationship with that office, I just wasn't comfortable speaking with that reporter.

MR. QUINN: Right.

FORMER STAFFER 4: I was still living in D.C., and, obviously, these are kind of tough
situations to be in. So I just decided to just
not speak with him. I mean, I can dig through my
e-mails and try to find it.

MR. QUINN: I might be able to give you a
name. Do you think you would recognize his name?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Maybe.

MR. QUINN: Was it Chris Marquette?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Possibly. Maybe.

MR. QUINN: Okay. We don't need to worry
about that. Then just generally on the event,
anything else that we haven't kind of talked about
in connection with the birthday party that either
seemed odd to you, or that you think we should
talk about today?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Great. Then I know you
also -- in our request to you, we asked about use
of staff time for personal errands.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: And you provided me with a
short list of a couple of responsibilities that
you had in your time at the congressman's office,
so I wanted to go through those. We can talk
about those, and then maybe see if there's
anything else to add to the list.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: So in that e-mail, you told me
that one of your responsibilities was to pick up
and drop off the congressman's dry cleaning?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: Can you just describe that
sort of set of responsibilities to me?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah. So it was at the
end of every -- like out-of-session week, he would
have his bag of dirty laundry to bring down to the
dry cleaners. I would bring it down there.
Whenever it was ready -- it was usually that
following Monday or Tuesday -- I would just go
pick up the dry cleaning, and bring it back, and
make sure that it was hung up in that back hallway
at his little kitchen area.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And that's in the
congressional office?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes.
MR. QUINN: Okay. And then where did he send the dry cleaning to?

FORMER STAFFER 4: The dry cleaners that's in Longworth, I think.

MR. QUINN: Did you ever run any other errands related to his clothes, like pick up clothes for him somewhere, and bring them to his office, or anything else along those lines?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I had to bring him his running shoes once when he was at the Member's House gym. I had to run his sneakers down to him once, but that was it.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And you picked up the sneakers where?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I think they were in his office. I think they were in his office.

MR. QUINN: Okay. So you just brought him the sneakers from his congressional office to the gym?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Do you know of anybody else that had any responsibilities, or that you
heard of running errands related to his laundry or clothing?

FORMER STAFFER 4: So when I first got hired on, I got hired over an intern that they currently had who went for the staff assistant's position. And I know he, for a period of time before he left, was -- I don't know. I can't remember if he was doing his dry cleaning temporarily, but I do remember that he was like, oh, I can get the congressman's snacks for him on fly-in days.

So I know he did that, and then the responsibilities got transferred over to me.

MR. QUINN: Say that one more time. Get the congressman's what on fly-in days?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Oh. His snacks on fly-in days.

MR. QUINN: Snacks. Okay.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. I think Kate had to watch the congressman's daughter once, like, briefly, because I think maybe he had to go vote or something.
MR. QUINN: And where did she watch his daughter?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I think she was in the congressman's office.

MR. QUINN: Okay. You just mentioned the snacks. So in that e-mail you sent to me summarizing some of your responsibilities, you said, On fly-in days, I had to purchase snacks for him and have them ready in his fridge; if I didn't handle it, or wasn't able to, an intern would. Can you just go into a little more detail about that set of responsibilities?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So every fly-in day, I go down to Longworth Cafeteria, and if I recall correctly, it was very -- it was like I had to pick up two cartons of milk, like a small, little plastic container of the mixed fruit, I think two to three yogurts, and then maybe a banana or two. So, obviously, I put the all of that in his fridge, and just made sure that it was ready for him for when he arrived, say, around 5:00 he would get into D.C.
MR. QUINN: Okay. And that was his fridge in the congressional office?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Correct.

MR. QUINN: And then the last and third responsibility that you detailed in your e-mail was you said you renewed or returned library books to the Library of Congress for a member of the congressman's family. And you said, I know her name, I just can't remember exactly who she is. Who was that?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Grace.

MR. QUINN: Grace, okay. And just tell me a little bit about that. How often did that occur?

FORMER STAFFER 4: It was every couple of weeks. I mean, she'd want to take out books, so I had to get them ordered. And I'm pretty sure the Library of Congress delivers them to the office, and picks them up from the office. You just have to coordinate all of that. So that's just kind of what I did, and I think there was only two or three times. So I was only there, I think, for
three, three-and-a-half months. It was only two
or three times that I was having books delivered
and had books picked up.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Were there any other
family members that you remember doing tasks for
or being contacted by?

FORMER STAFFER 4: His mother. The
congressman's mother, Lala. I think I had to help
her once. She likes going around the district. I
remember being told this. She really likes going
around the district and making sure that she is,
like, prepared to give contact info or something
like that to constituents because she's really
proud of her son. So I think I had to help her
put together some sort of mini flyer. I don't
know if I ever actually got that task done,
though, but I know it started.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And do you mean contact
info for the congressman?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah. It was like his
office number, things like that, how to schedule a
Capitol tour. So I think I did get it done. It
was like towards the tail end of my time there.

MR. QUINN: So she just toured the
district, and when she met constituents, this was
like a document --

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah.

MR. QUINN: -- or almost like a business
card that she could give to constituents?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Any other family
members that you remember interacting with?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No.

MR. QUINN: I had asked earlier if you
knew of any other staffers that did tasks related
to his dry cleaning or laundry. And I think,
maybe, you gave me an answer that was a little
broader, just other personal errands. That was
when you described Kate Morgan looking after the
congressman's daughter.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: Are there any other personal
errands that you can think of that you heard of
other staff members doing?
FORMER STAFFER 4: I mean, no. Uh-uh. I think that was it. Well, actually -- sorry. Do you only mean during my time there? Because I know -- I think the previous office assistant -- and I do recall this actually when I was interviewing. The previous staff assistant asked me, like, a very oddly specific question about getting car keys. How would I handle a situation if the congressman needs his -- like, his daughter needed car keys that day. It was something very oddly specific.

It was very weirdly specific, but it was John Jacobson who was the staff assistant who I had replaced. When I got hired on, and I was kind of given those tasks -- I mean, I don't know if it's too bold of an assumption to make that John Jacobson did those things as well, and did personal errands for the congressman.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And so the question was about -- well, if you could just repeat that.

FORMER STAFFER 4: It was something about getting car keys to one of the congressman's
daughters, and how would I handle that.

MR. QUINN: And how did the rest of that
question and answer go, if you recall.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Oh, goodness. I think
I said something -- I think I honestly said
something about, like, making sure I had all the
necessary information to contact certain people.
Honestly, it was so long ago, I can't even
remember.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Actually, that's sort
of related. I was going to ask you if you ever
heard about other staffers driving Representative
Mooney, and if you have any recollection of having
folks drive him around?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So there was one
day -- and I didn't have my driver's license at
the time, and it was kind of like a known thing in
the office. I'm from New York City. Like, I had
no need to ever get my driver's license. Kate had
texted me one morning saying, hey, the congressman
needs to be picked up from the University of
Maryland, can you go get him. This was like 7:00
in the morning she texted me. And I responded. 
And I was like, I don't have my license, I can't 
get the congressman. And then I think she ended 
up going to pick him up.

MR. QUINN: Okay. But other than that, 
did he have somebody that was his known driver or 
any other driving-related tasks?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No. He had his own 
car.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Any other conversations 
with other staffers, or anybody else about 
personal errands or, you know, talking through 
whether or not you could do them, or should do 
them, or maybe people complaining about being 
assigned personal errands?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No. No one in the 
office, but I will say once I left, obviously, 
like -- I left and was like, yeah, I had to do 
that. Everyone was like, you know you're 
ethically not supposed to be doing that, right. 
And I'm like, well, I quit, so it doesn't really 
affect me anymore.
MR. QUINN: And that was in reference to what task?

FORMER STAFFER 4: The personal errands, so picking up the dry cleaning, picking up the snacks.

MR. QUINN: Okay. So then other than the birthday party, and the personal errands, I have just a couple of more general questions, and then we're pretty much done.

Annie, did you have anything on the birthday party or the personal errands?

MS. CHO: Sorry. I was trying to find the mute button. No. I think you've covered it.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Great.

Then just generally, Former Staffer 4, is there anybody else -- so, obviously, you know the issues we just talked about, birthday party, personal errands. Is there anybody else that you think we should speak to, or that you think has a lot of kind of firsthand knowledge about any of those topics?

FORMER STAFFER 4: I mean, any of my -- I
mean, I hate to say it, but any of my interns at the time since they kind of helped me with the event. I would say the intern who I worked with for the first, like, week or two that I was the staff assistant, whose name I legitimately cannot remember. I can probably try to find out. He was there for the entire spring semester, if I recall correctly, so he might have -- he might know.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And that was either Ashley Christopher, Jonathan Partamian, or Matthew Harris?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Those are my current interns. There was one more intern who I, obviously, wasn't in charge of because I was so new. He left because I got hired over him. He left, I think, a week or two after I on-boarded.

MR. QUINN: Okay.

FORMER STAFFER 4: So he might. John Jacobson, since he was obviously the previous staff assistant, and I think that would be it.

MR. QUINN: Okay. And then any other issues that we haven't covered today that you
think we should know about?

    FORMER STAFFER 4: No. I think that's it.

    MR. QUINN: Okay. Then just a couple of
more questions. Is there anybody else that you've
talked to about our review, or investigation, or
about this interview?

    FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-uh.

    MR. QUINN: Okay.

    FORMER STAFFER 4: Actually, does my baby
count?

    (Laughter.)

    MR. QUINN: Sure. We'll count that. And
then other than the documents that you produced to
us, have you looked at anything to kind of refresh
your recollection, or anything else that you might
have, document-wise, that you might want to
produce to us?

    FORMER STAFFER 4: I think that's
everything. I mean, I can take one more look, and
see if, by chance, I left anything off. But I
made sure to put in all the attachments that I
had. I did try to find -- at the event, I did
take photos of the congressman with some people.
I tried to see if it was somewhere saved in my
e-mail, and it wasn't.

So I don't know if it's on a server at the
office, or where those could possibly be, but I
know that they are uploaded somewhere. I just
don't have them.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Great. Yes. If you
think of anything else, or find anything else,
just let me know, and you can send those over.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: But it looks like, at least as
far as I can tell from my review, the production
looks pretty complete. So thank you for doing
that work getting that together.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Uh-huh.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Great. And with that,
we should be done. We can take that document off
the screen. And then unless Annie has anything
else for you, that's all I have.

MS. CHO: That's it.

MR. QUINN: Good. Okay. All right,
great.

    Well, we can go off the record now, Tim.

    (Discussion off the record from 10:43 a.m.

    until 10:45 a.m.)

    MR. QUINN: I'm just going to show you two

    more documents real fast while I have you, and you

    can just answer a couple of questions about that.

    Delaney, if you can pull up Tab 1.1.

    THE TECHNICIAN: Okay. And this will be

    marked as Exhibit C; is that correct?

    MR. QUINN: Yes.

    THE TECHNICIAN: Please standby.

    (Former Staffer 4 Interview Exhibit C was

    marked for identification, and attach today the

    transcript.)

    MR. QUINN: So this is a document that was

    attached to one of the e-mails that you sent me,

    and, actually, let's also pull up that e-mail.

    We'll switch back to this in a second, Former Staffer 4.

    Delaney, if you can pull up Tab 1 and mark

    that as Exhibit D.

MR. QUINN: Sure.

(Former Staffer 4 Interview Exhibit D was marked for identification, and attach today the transcript.)

MR. QUINN: Okay. So this is an e-mail from Mike Hough to you and Representative Mooney sent on -- can you scroll it down, Delaney? Do we have a Bates Number on this document?

THE TECHNICIAN: It doesn't. I don't think so.

MR. QUINN: Okay. That's fine. So this is an e-mail from Michael Hough to you and Representative Mooney sent on Wednesday, 5/30/2018 at 1:26 a.m. The subject of the e-mail is, Draft Invite List. And Mr. Hough says, Here's my first draft at it using donors and old contacts. And then there's an attachment. It's titled, Invites docx.

If you could pull up that exhibit. Do you see it now, Delaney, Tab 1.1? Okay.

Also does this look like the invite list for Representative Mooney's birthday party?
FORMER STAFFER 4: Yes. So he did have, like, an A invite list, a B, and I don’t remember if he had a C. It was kind of like you would be sub-in based on who could go and who couldn’t.

MR. QUINN: And I think you produced the B invite list to us, which we’ll look at in one second. If you want to look at this -- and so this is the A invite list, you think?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Maybe. Maybe he pulled a couple of names off of that because some of the names do look familiar.

MR. QUINN: Okay. So it's a first, it looks like, from the e-mail. So Hough's first draft or first attempt at putting together the invite list; is that right?

FORMER STAFFER 4: Yeah.

MR. QUINN: Okay. If you want to look just at this list real quick, and tell me if any of the names jump out at you, if you remember anything about the folks that were invited. You can take your time.

FORMER STAFFER 4: Well, obviously,
Andy Harris. He did not show up at the event. At least I didn't see him there if he did show up. I know that he and the congressman, they go back from back -- you know, obviously, because the congressman is originally from Maryland, so they go way, way back.

MR. QUINN: Yes.

FORMER STAFFER 4: And then, of course, Paul Teller as well is another name that stands out to me. That's another one. I don't remember if he attended or not. And then I think that's it. Those are the only two names. Oh. And Ron Robinson, who was the former -- I think that's supposed to be Ron Robinson, the old president of YAF, Young America's Foundation. I definitely did not see him there.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Do you recognize the name Dirk Haire?

FORMER STAFFER 4: No.

MR. QUINN: Okay. I also know who Andy Harris is. I don't know who Paul Teller is. Who is Paul Teller?
FORMER STAFFER 4: So he used to work in the Trump Administration.

MR. QUINN: Okay.

FORMER STAFFER 4: I know he, like, went -- he worked for, I believe, what used to be -- not the Freedom Caucus -- Republican Conference. So he kind of has like a long, long history working in politics. Don't know what he's doing now.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Let's take down these documents, and if you can pull up Tab 3.

THE TECHNICIAN: Okay. And I think this will be Exhibit E.

MR. QUINN: Correct.

THE TECHNICIAN: All right. Standby.

(Former Staffer 4 Interview Exhibit E was marked for identification, and attached to the transcript.)

MR. QUINN: Okay. And I know you mentioned there was an A list, what I think we just went through, and then a B list. Can you do the same thing for this document? If you want to
take a minute or two to look and tell me if you see any names that jump out at you, or if you can remember anything specifically about any of these B list invitees.

FORMER STAFFER 4: No. I mean, I'm sure I e-mailed some of them, but none of them stand out to me.

MR. QUINN: Okay. All right. Great. Then you can take that document down, Delaney, and then we can go off the record again.

(Off the record at 10:52 a.m. ET)
CERTIFICATE OF INTERVIEWEE

I hereby certify that I have read and examined the foregoing transcript, and the same is a true and accurate record of the interview given by me.

Any additions or corrections that I feel are necessary, I will attach on a separate sheet of paper to the original transcript.

FORMER STAFFER 4

I hereby certify that the individual representing herself to be the above-named individual, appeared before me this __________ day of ____________, 2021, and executed the above certificate in my presence.

________________________________________
NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR

________________________________________
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:

________________________________________
CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER-NOTARY PUBLIC:

I, Timothy R. Yancey, the officer before whom the foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct record of the proceedings; that said proceedings were taken by me stenographically and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that review was requested; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this matter and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 24th day of September, 2021.

TIMOTHY R. YANCEY, Notary Public
Notary Registration No. 2614

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 03/07/23
EXHIBIT 5
Transcript of Interview of Former Staffer 5

Review No. 21-6998
November 5, 2021
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS OF THE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- - - - - - - - - - - - x

In re: FORMER STAFFER 5 : OCE Review Number:
:
: 21-6998

- - - - - - - - - - - - x

Interview of FORMER STAFFER 5
Conducted Virtually
Friday, November 5, 2021
10:34 a.m.

Job No: 411471
Pages 1 - 57
Transcribed by: Barbara Montgomery
Interview of FORMER STAFFER 5:

conducted virtually.

Pursuant to agreement, before Theo Green, Court Reporter in and for the State of Maryland.
APPARENCES

ON BEHALF OF OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS:

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THEO GREEN, REPORTER/NOTARY
CONTENTS

INTERVIEW

By Mr. QUINN

(NO EXHIBITS)
MR. QUINN: So then, I'll just say for the record that today is November 5th, 2021, and we're conducting the interview of [Former Staffer 5] by Zoom. [Former Staffer 5] is not represented today. Speaking is Sean Quinn, investigative counsel of the Office of Congressional Ethics. And I'm here with Annie Cho, also at the OCE. The witness has been given a copy of 18 USC 1001, and she has signed the acknowledgment and will scan and return it to me at her earliest convenience today.

BY COUNSEL FOR THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

BY MR. QUINN:

Q And once again, [Former Staffer 5], thanks very much for your cooperation. I really appreciate you making yourself available on such short notice. And as we were talking about before, feel free to stop me at any point if you have any questions, or if you just need to take a break to get some water or to use the bathroom, that's always fine. We'll try to keep the interview pretty short. I'm hoping about 30 minutes and no
longer than an hour, but you let me know if you need a break.

A Uh-huh.

Q And then also, since we have a court reporter here today that's transcribing everything that we're saying, let's just do our best not to speak over each other. And then also instead of nodding or using sort of nonverbal cues, try to make responses a yes or a no, so they can be picked up by the transcript. Does that make sense?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Great. Then, to begin, I just want to start with a little bit of background information. I understand that you used to be employed by Representative Mooney, both in the campaign and his official office; is that correct?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And can you tell me how you started working for Representative Mooney?

A I started working -- the first time I started working for him? Was --
Q Yeah. Sure.

A -- in 2002, and he was a state senator in Maryland.

Q Okay. And how did you come to work for him in 2002?

A I had friends that knew him, and I interviewed for it as an executive assistant position with him.

Q Okay. And that was in his official office as a state senator?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Could you just take me through maybe your roles with Representative Mooney from 2002 up until the time he started his federal House campaign?

A I worked for him from 2002 to 2008 in his -- as his executive assistant in his State office in Maryland. That's right. And in 2000 -- or 2010, actually, he lost the state senate race, and then I moved on to other jobs. In 2000 -- I guess '11 or something -- I'm not exactly sure when he became chairman of the Maryland Republican Party,
but I went back to work for him in 2000-ish '13 or '14. I'm not really sure. It's been a while.

Q Yeah. And just to let you know, I know a lot of this stuff happened a long time ago, so if dates are approximate or you just need to, you know, ballpark something, that's fine. Just let me know that you're ball-parking a number.

A Okay. I'm ball-parking this. He was chairman of the Maryland Republican Party. I came back, and I was working just part time for the Party and for some delegates in Maryland, and I was finishing a college degree, so there's a lot going on. Anyway, he decides to resign as chairman of the Maryland Republican Party, and he moved to West Virginia and began a campaign for Congress around 2013. The election was in 2014. I'm from that area, so I moved back as well and started helping -- or working on the campaign.

Q Okay. So then --

A Then, that just moved into, he won the election and then was sworn into office, and I became -- my position in the office was assistant
to the Chief of Staff.

Q And at that time, who was the Chief of Staff?

A Brian Chatwin.

Q And how long did you hold that position as assistant to the Chief of Staff?

A December -- till the end of December in 2017.

Q Okay. And was Brian Chatwin the Chief of Staff that whole time or did that change?

A I know it changed. I don't remember exactly when Brian left. But Michael Hough, who is -- I think is still the Chief of Staff now, became the Chief of Staff. And I actually -- actually, you know what? My title did change because I just became, like, a constituent correspondent in the Martinsburg district office, mostly because I had also gotten married and I was -- I was going to leave 'cause my husband's in the Navy, and we knew we were getting moved, so I was just kind of moving out of a role there, and I have a long history of constituent services. I
was the main constituent service person for --
when I worked for him as the state Senator.

Q Okay. And just so I understand, do you
mean that you were moving out of the role of
assistant to the Chief of Staff because you
couldn't do that if you moved, or you are moving
as in all roles?

A Right.

Q Okay.

A Well, and I was moving out of all roles
eventually.

Q Okay. Could you tell me really quickly,
do you know why Brian Chatwin left the
Congressman's office?

A He got a better job? I don't know. You
would have to ask him.

Q Okay. And then from this period of time
that you are -- so in 2015, when you took a role
in the official office, were you also working on
the campaign still at the same time?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And what were your -- let's just go
back to that time period that he started running
for federal office for the House. What were your
roles on the campaign during that time and then up
until --

A Yeah. My main role was helping with the
FEC reporting. Like, I would check the mail, get
the deposits together, send the information to the
people who wanted to know -- you know, Congressman
Mooney. Brian Chatwin was also helping. He was
also a consultant on that campaign. I don't know
if -- I think he was a consultant or a chairman --
you know, our fundraising people, so -- and I did
enter those numbers into a database called
Crimson. So -- and then I also helped volunteer
-- with volunteers. I was like, I guess,
volunteer coordinator. It was a pretty small
operation. There were, like, three -- or two or
three people at the beginning.

Q Okay. And so that's in 2013, 2014
timeframe?

A Yeah.

Q Okay. And then how did your -- if it
developed at all or if your role expanded, how did it -- did it expand through the time that you left?

A  It didn't really expand. I basically just did that -- because I lived in the district, and I would just check the mail, take deposits to the bank, send information, input it in Crimson.

Q  Okay. So everything that you just described was kind of your roles and your duties up until -- I think you said you left in December of 2017?

A  Yeah.

Q  Okay. And then, who else was in the office at the time -- or sorry. Who else was working at the campaign at that time? You said it was a small operation.

A  In 2014, our campaign manager was this young guy, Nick Clemens, Brian Chatwin, myself, Congressman Mooney -- oh, we had a consulting -- some consultants. Mark Harris was one of the consultants, and he has people that work with him. I don't remember the name of his firm or group or
whatever. Dan Hazelwood has always -- was a consultant. But, I mean, they weren't in the office working. They just give advice. Sorry. I think that's all, but there are people coming in and out. We probably had interns.

Q Okay.

A But I don't --

Q Those are the main people?

A Yes.

Q And was Mike Hough involved at that time?

A Not officially. I mean, he would maybe come and help on the weekends, but he was not -- I think he was still a delegate in the House of Delegates at that time in Maryland, and he possibly might have become a senator by then, but I don't know.

Q Okay.

A I don't remember.

Q And then, did you just report directly to Representative Mooney or was there somebody that you reported -- somebody else that you reported to?
A No. I -- I reported to him and Brian Chatwin.

Q Okay. Okay. So then you said -- we'll talk a little bit more about the sorts of things that you did when you were working there, but just to keep on this point, just background information of getting a timeline down. So you said that you left in December of 2017. Can you tell me why you left?

A My husband was -- he is in the U.S. Navy and was reassigned to a language school in Monterey, California, so we moved to California.

Q Okay. So the Defense Language Institute?

A Yes.

Q I was actually born there. Okay. Great. So one of the things that we are interested in and looking into are some allegations concerning Representative Mooney that he was using staff for personal errands and lots of personal tasks, as opposed to just either official work with the House or campaign work. Did you ever experience anything like that, a feeling that you were being
1 asked to do errands that were more personal in
2 nature as opposed to work related?
3    A  Yes.
4    Q  Okay.  Let's -- I'll have some specific
5 questions for you, but first, generally, you just
6 kind of want to tell me your experience in that
7 regard?
8    A  I did personal things for Congressman
9 Mooney.  Some things I was compensated for doing,
10 so I don't see that as a conflict per se because I
11 was paid, as, like, a babysitter.  But that was
12 not during my working hours.  I was also pretty
13 close with his children and wife because I had
14 been around so long.
15    So a lot of things I volunteered to do
16 because I lived nearby, and it was just easy to
17 run by and pick up some milk for my friend,
18 basically, because his wife was like my friend and
19 -- but -- yeah.  So, I would guess I was asked to
20 do some things, but I didn't feel like if I didn't
21 do them, I was going to get punished.
22    Q  Okay.
A  If that makes sense.

Q  Sure. Yeah, that does make sense. And I'll ask you some specific questions so that we can sort of suss that out. First, I just want to ask, so you said that you were compensated. Do you know who you were compensated by? Was it Representative Mooney personally? Was it compensated with campaign funds or like --

A  No.

Q  Okay.

A  Not for the babysitting. I mean, he did personally pay me. That was, like, from his own personal money, or Grace would give me, like, 20 bucks or whatever if I, you know, sat with the kids for an hour or two.

Q  Okay. And so that was personal funds as far as you are aware?

A  Yes. Well, it was cash, so it was not campaign funds because you don't really deal with cash in the campaign.

Q  Okay. And when -- when did these sorts of requests start? I'm interested in -- in the --
just so you know, a couple different time periods. Less interested in the period before he had a federal campaign, and then also interested to know whether or not these tasks were done while you were also a part-time employee at the house. So maybe, let me know when those tasks started, and did they continue through the whole time that you were working for him?

A Yes. They started from the beginning to the end.

Q Okay. And then you also mentioned sometimes you would run errands, like grocery-related errands, picking up groceries for the Mooneys?

A Yes.

Q Okay. How common was that?

A It was pretty common. Maybe -- I mean, if you consider just picking up a gallon of milk, picking up groceries, which I guess you would, it can be once a week.

Q Was it always pretty limited to just one or two items or were there occasions --
A Yes.

Q Okay.

A The only occasion where I would pick up a bunch of things usually was, I would pick up some stuff for them, but I also was buying stuff for the campaign for our office, like toilet paper, things like that, and for events, to feed volunteers, and stuff like that. But that was not for them. It was for our office -- our campaign office.

Q Okay. And when -- were you sometimes doing both of those things at the same time, picking up some personal items and then also campaign items?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And when you -- when you did that, did you -- or how did you split the costs? How did that normally work?

A A lot of times I would pay for the personal items myself and get reimbursed. And I would pay for the campaign stuff with the campaign credit card that we had.
Q Okay.

A Alex would usually give me cash for the personal items.

Q Okay. Did you ever have the feeling or get the impression that Representative Mooney or his wife or any member of his family were putting personal items on the list of items for the campaign, so I mean using campaign funds to purchase groceries that were actually used in the house or for their personal consumption?

A No. Not intentionally.

Q Okay. And what do you mean when say not intentionally?

A So our campaign office for -- at the beginning of the congressional campaign, it was in the basement of his home, and so I -- if I bought toilet paper for our office, inadvertently, you know, I guess they could have used the toilet paper in that bathroom, paper towels in that -- there was a kitchenette, maybe tissues. I mean, you know, it wasn't intentional. It was --

Q Right.
A  It was --

Q  Minor usage?

A  Proximity of, like, house -- the office in the house.

Q  Right. Okay. I'm going to run through a couple other different types of tasks that we've heard from other witnesses that they would have done for Representative Mooney or the Mooneys, and you can tell me if you ever had any similar experiences. I know we talked about babysitting. How about dog sitting or doing tasks related to the dog?

A  Yes. I walked the dog.

Q  Did you say you loved the dog?

A  I loved the dog, and I walked the dog.

Q  What -- what was the dog's name, by the way?

A  Skippy --

Q  Skippy.

A  Skipper, it was. I don't even know if he is still alive. A Beagle dog they had.

Q  So you walked the dog. Any other types of
1 tasks related to the dog?
   A I would -- I stayed at their house and
2 watched the dog overnight. I brought the dog with
3 me places but because I loved the dog.
4 Q Okay. How about driving the dog to
5 Representative Mooney's wife's parents' home?
6 A I don't know if I ever did that.
7 Q Okay.
8 A 'Cause -- wait. Say that -- can you
9 repeat the question?
10 Q Sure.
11 A Did I drive the dog to Grace's parents'
12 house? I don't remember. I may have. I don't
13 remember.
14 Q Okay. How about, like, driving-related
15 tasks? Did you frequently drive the Mooneys or
16 family members places?
17 A Yes.
18 Q Okay. And -- and, again, I want to
19 clarify the difference between driving them to an
20 official event versus driving them for what seemed
21 like a personal errand or appointment.
A  Yes.

Q  Did you take them to personal appointments or for functions that seemed personal in nature?

A  Yes.

Q  Okay. And can you describe that generally for me?

A  Yeah. I would drive the kids to different activities.

Q  Okay. What sorts of activities, if you can remember? I know this was a while ago, but --

A  I drove -- I don't remember exactly. I guess because they didn't go to school -- they were home-schooled -- but they would have extra things like -- I'm trying to think of one of the things. I don't know. Like, I would drive to the library to, like, go to a class or something.

Q  Okay.

A  They have co-op classes with other kids, so I'd drop them off.

Q  Okay. So to and from school-related activities. How about sporting events?
A  An actual sporting event? I don't think so, no.

Q  If -- were they in any sports?

A  I don't really remember. I feel like did some sports, but I don't remember what they were.

Q  Okay. How about taking medicine for the Congressman or his family? Do you ever recall doing that?

A  Yeah.

Q  And can you just tell me about that? Was that a frequent task or --

A  I wouldn't say frequent, but I feel like there was at least one time where they were all pretty sick, and I brought them some medicine. I don't even know what it was. I don't remember what I bought, but I probably volunteered to do that. I'm pretty sure I did, actually. Like, your whole house is sick? Of course, I'm going to bring you some medicine.

Q  Right. Right. Do you know Rainer Kissel -- or Rainer? I may be saying the name wrong.
A  Rainer?  Yes.
Q  Rainer Kissel.  Okay.  Was he also somebody that the family relied on to do these sorts of tasks -- driving tasks, tasks related to the children?
A  Yeah.  I think Rainer did drive the kids --
Q  Okay.
A  -- at some point.
Q  Okay.  Anybody else that you can think of that you know would have done these sorts of personal errands or tasks?
A  Hannah Mansell.  She was an intern and then worked with us at some point.  I don't know when she became an actual official employee, but she started interning with us when she was in high school.  Maybe Nick Clemens.  I'm trying to think of other people that might've been -- I think that's -- there might be others, but I can't really --
Q  Okay.
A  -- say for sure.
Q And -- okay. As we've been talking about this, maybe your memory has been jogged a little bit. Any types of tasks that you remember doing for the family that we haven't talked about?

A Not specifically.

Q Okay. And then I want to talk a little bit about the period of time that you were both a part-time employee in the house and also assisting with the campaign. How did you split your time between your official position and your campaign position?

A It depended. It varied. I would drive Congressman Mooney to Washington. So the days that I drove him, those were kind of like -- those were not official days. If they didn't need me to be in DC for something, like a meeting or to drive him or whatever, I would stay back in the district where I lived and catch up on the campaign duties that I had.

Q Okay. So you didn't have specific assigned days, like Monday, Tuesday, campaign, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday --
A It was usually like -- usually Monday I did work on campaign stuff because they don't have to be in until later -- like session doesn't start until later, so in the mornings, I would work on campaign stuff. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays I could be in DC, and I would stay down there with friends and sometimes -- or come back, it depended. It's about an hour or two-and-a-half-hour drive, depending on traffic. So -- and, usually, I guess Fridays I would try to stay in the district if I could and then work again on the campaign.

Q Okay. And then focusing on the times that you would drive Representative Mooney to DC for session, did you claim mileage for that -- for those when you would drive him like that?

A No.

Q Okay. And did you basically -- were you the one that drove him most of the time or every week into DC?

A No. It was different all the time.

Q Okay. How frequently would you say?
Like, in a given month, how often you would drive him into DC?

A Well, I guess it could be once a week. Either I was driving him in or I was driving him home. But other people -- he would also have -- Rainer, I think, drove him a lot. Ted Dacey, who worked in our office, would drive him some. Sometimes he'd just drive himself.

Q I was just going to ask.

A It was just very depending on what was happening. What was going on during that week --

Q Okay.

A -- and what he had going on in DC.

Q Okay. Understood. How would -- was it rare that he drove himself or was that pretty common?

A No. It was rare.

Q Okay. And do you know if other -- if other people were claiming mileage for driving him to and from DC?

A I don't know.

Q Okay. And just one more time, you said
you never claimed --

   A  Well, I don't remember.

   Q  Okay.

   A  Okay. I don't know if I never claimed it, but I don't think I typically claimed mileage.

   Q  Okay. Great. Yeah, that's all. I wasn't trying to pin you down on that. Just, generally, was it standard for you to claim mileage, and it sounds like it was, no?

   A  No.

   Q  Okay. I guess -- you know, not to hide the ball, I just -- I am interested in asking that because if Representative Mooney was claiming mileage for himself during that time, and it was frequently, I just wanted to know, was it more likely that somebody else was actually driving him to and from DC?

   A  Yeah. I honestly don't really remember, but I don't really think I claimed that much mileage, if I claimed any. Maybe I did, though. I'll be honest, I cannot remember. I feel like, though, Rainer did claim mileage. I don't know
why specifically him, but he -- for a while, he was driving the Congressman quite a bit, like maybe not to DC but in the district.

Q Okay. So let me just make sure that I understand, kind of sum it up and make sure. You can tell me if I'm understanding this correctly. In most cases when the Congressman was traveling to or from DC, somebody else was driving him, but in some kind of rare cases, he would drive himself.

A Yeah.

Q And was it always using your car when you drove him, or would you use one of his cars and drive him?

A I would use my car.

Q Okay. Great. And then just generally on the sort of personal tasks that we were talking about, do you know of anybody that had any difficulty in the office because they didn't want to do these sorts of personal tasks or refused to do them?

A Difficulty in, like, doing, like --
Q As in -- sorry. Go ahead.

A I'm not sure what you mean by difficulty. Like, they felt like they would get fired if they didn't do them?

Q Sure. Yeah. Either were reprimanded or maybe just were disfavored in the office generally because, you know, they were known as somebody who wouldn't do what the Congressman asked them to do, anything like that?

A There could probably -- people -- somebody might have felt that way. I don't actually know.

Q Okay.

A I was pretty close to the Congressman and his family so people might not have been honest with their opinions about them to me because I've been -- I was at their wedding. I was there when every child was born, so I don't know.

Q Okay. And then, in general, kind of our review is just looking into irregularities and how the Congressman ran his official office and the campaign. Are there any other sort of irregularities, either in -- I'll just leave it,
actually, in that general question. Any sort of
irregularities that you noticed when you were
working with the Congressman that you felt might
be potential concerns?

A  Not at the time. I did not --

Q  Okay.

A  -- know or think that it was irregular.

Q  Okay. And now, is there something that
you've realized since you left was an issue or was
irregular?

A  It's a little under (inaudible) now
because I know -- I've read all these articles
about him, and the -- the Chick-fil-A orders and
Taco Bell orders. Most of those orders were
actually for -- I mean, I don't know of all of
them because I didn't have his campaign card. I
wasn't with him all the time, but I would say
90 percent of that actually was for volunteers. I
bought so much pizza, Chick-fil-A, whatever,
Burger King or Roy Rogers or whatever's there in
Charlestown. But I know that that is -- from
reading these articles that that was an issue. At
the time, I did not think that that was anything
that was suspicious, or me driving him was
suspicious, or any of this stuff, but apparently I
guess it is.

Q Okay. So --

A That being said, I was 22-years-old when I
started working for them, so pretty much I did
anything he asked me to, and we had a good
relationship, and I didn't think it was wrong at
the time.

Q Okay. Got you. And so you left in
December 2017 and moved out to California?

A Yes.

Q I understand you're back in Maryland now;
right?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And do you -- are you still in
contact with the Congressman or folks from the
office?

A I actually have not spoken to Alex in a
long time, up to possibly two to three years.
It's unclear. I speak to other people -- other
staff people, like, former staff people but not on
a regular basis. It's like, have a Merry
Christmas kind of deal. It's -- just grew apart.
There's no animosity or anything. Just
everybody's moving on.

Q Okay. And is that the same for the
Congressman? It sounds like at some point you
were pretty close with the family, but that's no
longer the case?

A Yeah. I mean, there's no animosity that
I'm aware of. It just -- like, moving around --
I've moved like five or six times in the last -- I
moved twice in California and back across to
Virginia Beach. It's just moving a lot. It's
being a Navy spouse is more of anything, I think.

Q Okay. And so you haven't worked with his
campaign -- or I guess, obviously not the official
office, but you haven't done any campaign work
since 2017?

A No. I think I did do some stuff in 2018.

In 2018? Was that an election year? Yes.

Q Yes. I think so.
A  I think I did help, but I was in
California. But I came home because my parents
are still -- all my family is on the East coast,
so I would come home. And sometimes I did, like,
help probably. But nothing like -- like, I would
be, like, another volunteer just showing up to
help.

Q  Okay.

A  Like, I wasn't in charge of anything at
that point.

Q  Right. Got you. Okay. So basically, the
last thing that I want to talk to you about is
there were -- from other witnesses that we've
spoken to and folks that were in the office,
allegations about your departure from the campaign
that relate to either you obtaining campaign funds
inappropriately or in a way that either upset
Representative Mooney or obviously was
inappropriate in some way. Are you aware of any
of those allegations?

A  No. This is the first time anyone has
ever said that to me, ever.
Q Okay. That's interesting. And I'll give you a little more detail. But there -- I mean, just to be specific. The allegation from multiple staffers is that it is known in the office that when you left the campaign, you departed with funds that I think were probably -- or the vehicle for the -- for taking the funds was through the campaign debit card that Representative Mooney has discussed and Mike Hough has discussed having to cover this up with FEC reports, and essentially, hiding the trail of the missing money from that time. You've never heard of this before?

A No. Oh, my God.

Q Yeah. Is there -- can we go back to that time, December 2017, or the time that you left? Is there -- were there any other issues, maybe issues around missing funds from the campaign that you can recall?

A Missing funds? Like, no, I don't. No.

Q Okay. And nobody's ever spoken to you about these sorts of allegations? And not to -- you know, not to put too much pressure on you, but
I just want to remind you that we talked about the False Statements Act, you know --

A No one has ever talked to me about this.

Q Okay.

A But, basically, you're saying that they are accusing me of stealing money?

Q Yes. The allegation, essentially, is that you left with something in the order of tens of thousands of dollars --

A Tens of thousands of dollars?

Q The figure I've heard is $40,000, and that it is just generally known in the office that around late 2017 or 2018, one of the reasons for your departure was a controversy over missing campaign funds.

A No. That is not true. That is absolutely not true. No one has ever said this to me at all, and I did not steal any money from them.

Q Was there --

A I left -- they had a big party for me before I left. I came back and helped him on the campaign in '18 -- in 2018. No one ever said
anything to me about this. I took his -- this is not -- this is just a personal thing. It has nothing to do with the campaign, but Grace asked me to take [redacted], their daughter -- this is in 2018 -- like, it might have been in the spring or fall. I can't remember because I went to New York City and it snowed. I can probably look up the dates. But I took her to New York City with her friend to go see Harry Potter.

Q Is there -- is there a possibility, you know -- I mean, it's certainly a possibility that you're a scapegoat in the situation. Do you recall any --

A Yeah. Well, obviously it sounds like that.

Q Do you recall any issues at the time that maybe are related to these allegations? Were there any concerns with other staffers or did you notice -- since you were involved in the FEC filings, did you notice any irregularities in those filings?

A Through -- say that again?
Q I guess, I'm just trying to identify --
maybe since you're not aware of the allegations
and you're denying them, which I understand, I'm
hoping maybe you could give me some information or
details that would put me in the right direction
where what actually was going on. Did you ever
notice any other issues or irregularities in FEC
filings or missing funds that might actually be
the true, you know, reason that these funds
were --

A So missing -- they can't account for some
money because they probably -- we didn't -- look,
I'm not an FEC expert. I never was. I just typed
in the things. And actually, Alex reviewed every
single report. I would have to schedule meetings
for him to go through and look at every single
report I filed because I did file the reports.
But it was basically typing in all of the
information into the Crimson database.

He would look over it and Brian Chatwin
sometimes -- or whoever was there would also look
over it. But like, you know, that -- I don't know
why there would be -- there was no -- there was never money missing they can't account for because they probably just didn't keep the receipts -- or I don't know what's happened. I don't know exactly what time you are looking at. I don't know what's happened since I haven't been there. But I don't know that there was -- so they can't account for the money, so they're like, oh, we think [Former Staffer 5] stole it. What the hell? Sorry. Excuse me.

Q That's okay. There -- maybe, let's approach it this way. Who else had access to the campaign funds around the time that you were leaving, so late 2017?

A Yeah, the girl -- Hannah Mansell took over doing that too. Again, Hannah was just like me. We just -- we're not -- no one ever trained us. I trained her just to have -- this is how you put the stuff in, you know, make sure that you account for all the credit cards, all the checks. We didn't really deal much with cash. You know, you have to have the occupation -- you know, like,
employer stuff and -- but there was no, like, real
running, like, budget or bank account balance.

I mean, we had one. We looked at it all
the time, but none of us were bookkeepers or
accountants, so we didn't really watch it, I
guess, as closely as we should, obviously,
because, like, here we are.

Q So Hannah would have had access to the
funds. Who else at the time was able to spend
money from the campaign accounts?

A Oh, spend money. Well, Alex, me,
depending on the time, like -- I don't remember if
any other -- if other people had credit cards.
The campaign managers maybe had credit cards at
some point, which was -- at the beginning, one of
the campaign managers was Nick Clemens I
mentioned. Ted Dacey was a campaign manager at
one point. I don't think Brian Chatwin ever had
any credit cards or anything like that. Hannah,
as I was leaving -- when I left -- had a credit
card. I mean, I guess you could ask the bank.
Obviously they would know who had debit cards or
credit cards.

Q  But you think the likely people, the main folks, would have been Alex, Ted Dacey, Nick Clemens and yourself would have had access to actually spending money from the account?

A  Yeah, and Hannah.

Q  And Hannah. Okay. When you left, were you paid any sort of severance or receive, like, a severance package or a buyout or anything like that?

A  No.

Q  Have you -- either at the time that you were there or since you've left, have you heard any allegations about anybody else involved in any sort of financial wrongdoing related to the campaign?

A  No. Just the stuff I've read about the allegations towards the Congressman.

Q  You mentioned that other -- that -- you haven't spoken with the Congressman in a while, but there are other folks from the office or the campaign that you stay in touch with for holidays
or birthdays. Can you tell me who those people are?

A  Brian Chatwin, Nick Clemens. I haven't talked to Ted Dacey in a long time, but I do -- his brother works with me. He works at MDOT, and I also work at MDOT, so I do talk to the brother and kind of hear about the family through him. That's pretty much it.

Q  Okay. And then I just want to let you pause for a second and think about it, and then again just remind you of the False Statements Act again. I just want to make sure you can't remember any conversations with anybody having ever spoken to you about your departure being related to any sort of financial misconduct. This is the first you've ever heard of that?

A  Correct.

Q  Okay. If you don't mind giving me just five minutes. I just want to look for my notes real quick and you make sure I don't have anything else to talk to you about. And then also just give you a few minutes. I know that was probably
not the most pleasant thing to speak about or hear about those allegations. So if we can go off the record for five minutes, let's come back on, and I'll ask a couple wrap-up questions.

(A short recess was had.)

Q Last time you talked to the Mooneys was in 2019?

A It looks like. Actually, they invited me to some kind of -- in May -- May 25th of this year, I was invited to his 50th birthday party, so apparently --

Q Well, I guess -- I guess that was one of the things I wanted to ask you about.

A I mean, I didn't talk to him, but I got an invitation. I did not go.

Q One of the things that I wanted to ask you about was, it does -- it seems like you were very close to them. You said you attended their wedding and were there for their children's births, but that don't have any contact with them at this point. Is there anything else that you think could explain that change in the
relationship?

A    Well, I thought it was from moving around

and just like, you know -- I can't really do

anything for them anymore.

Q    You said there was another time in 2019

that you might have spoken to them?

A    Yeah.

Q    I just noticed you turned your camera off.

Do you need a break for a minute? If you need to,

we can take a break.

A    Yeah, just a minute.

Q    Why don't we -- we can talk about

something else a little easier to talk about it,

and we can come back to this later if you need a

second to collect yourself. But I also just

wanted to ask about some of the FEC reporting, and

maybe if you could tell me who else was involved

or who else looked at reports or reviewed reports?

A    Sorry.

Q    No, that's okay. I understand.

A    Who else looked at reports? I mean,

really just Alex. I mean, he had the final, like,
review of it.

Q Who -- did --

A I don't know.

Q When you would put in information into the Crimson system, did it then kick out, like, a filled out FEC report, expenditure report or a receipt report?

A Yeah.

Q Okay. And so what was the process when that would happen? You -- were you the one that had Crimson generate that report?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And then what would happen after that sort of report was generated?

A Well, like the first couple times I would generate reports and go through them and look for -- to make sure that donations were reported correctly. Because sometimes people put credit card donations through, it would put, like -- it would just do it -- if somebody gave -- I forget the limits but, you know, whatever the limit is, it would give, like, one credit card transaction
the entire general and primary amount.
   This is not the amount, but I'm just going
to use it as an example. Say it's $6,000 total.
Well, it comes through as $6,000, but you have to
separate it out. So, $3,000 goes to the primary
and $3,000 goes to the general. Because if you
don't run the primary, you have to give the money
back. So you have to make sure those are reported
correctly, they have the occupation employers. So
it's been, like, four years since I've done one,
and I don't remember all the details. But make
sure the names are spelled right, just the address
is there.

   Q So once you run the report --
   A Stuff like that.
   Q So once you --
   A I would go through and do that, and then
   he would go through and just look at it too to
   make sure I guess I was doing, whatever -- I was
doing it right.
   Q Okay. And do you know who took over the
FEC reporting when you left?
A It was supposed to be Hannah, but I don't know that for sure. I know she did at least one report because I helped her -- I helped, like -- told her, like -- I gave her, like, oh, you should do -- so she knew how to do it. Like, try to help her because she was pretty young.

Q Okay. And then just another person that we haven't talked about that I know might have been around at that time. Do you know John Caddock?

A Oh, yeah, John. Yeah. He worked in our -- the congressional office. I think he was, like -- he was marked as maybe like a legislative correspondent and then moved up to LA at some point. I'm not sure exactly.

Q Okay. And then did he ever work on the campaign?

A I don't remember for sure. He -- we did not work together very long. Like, out of all the people I worked with in Alex's office, he was, like, he came on, like, right before I left, I think, or not far after that I, like, left.
Q Okay. And then when you had a campaign
card, other than groceries that were for the
campaign office or for campaign events, what sort
of items would you frequently charge to the
campaign card?
A Food the volunteers.
Q Okay. Anything else?
A That's probably the main thing. I can't
think of anything now, but it doesn't mean there
weren't other things.
Q Okay. And did you ever have anything that
were personal charged to the campaign card? Did
you ever use the card to purchase anything for
yourself?
A No.
Q Okay. And, honestly, sometimes that just
happens and folks reimburse the campaign. Did
that sort of thing ever happen where maybe you
used the campaign card for something personal that
you later reimbursed the campaign?
A I don't think so, but it could have
happened.
Q Okay.
A I don't remember it happening.
Q All right. Well, with that -- actually, I'll also ask, have you spoken to anybody else about this interview or told anybody that you were interviewing with the OCE?
A Yep, my husband.
Q Okay.
A My bosses because I'm using my boss's office now. My current boss -- my current two bosses.
Q Yep.
A My mother-in-law. Do you want the whole list of people?
Q Anybody that you spoke to connected to Representative Mooney or his constituent, campaign.
A No.
Q Okay.
A No. That isn't true. I talked to Brian Chatwin.
Q Okay. What did you talk to Brian about?
A I saw an article -- I've been seeing the
articles about Alex, and we talked about that.
And we talked about the upcoming election. And,
actually, I asked Brian -- I was going to call him
after this because I asked him if I thought this
was going to happen, and it did, and he told me he
didn't know. And --

Q Thought what was going to happen?
A I thought that someone would contact me
about the campaign stuff and working for Alex
because I saw the news articles that he had been
under some -- under review, and I had talked to
Brian about it. And I asked him if he had been --
anyone had talked to him and he said no. And I
told him that --

Well, at the time, nobody had contacted me
except I got some e-mails from Michael Hough
telling me not to destroy any records, which I
didn't. I got two e-mails from him about it. But
I mean, it wasn't personal -- I mean, they were
personally to me, but they weren't personal in
nature. It was just, like, oh, you're on -- this
is just the proceedings. You probably know. You
probably read the e-mail somehow or gave him the
language of, like, send this out to everybody in
the office --

Q Okay. Got you.

A -- or something like that.

Q When was the conversation with Brian?

A Hold on. 10/28/21.

Q Okay.

A That was when I got the first e-mail from
you. And then I asked him if they had -- if
anyone had contacted him, and he said no. But
then I found out that day that I had cancer, so
that was the rest of the conversation.

Q Got you. I'm sorry to hear that,

[Former Staffer 5].

A It's fine. It's not a big deal. It's
going to be fine. It's something simple but --
and then I wrote to -- I hadn't spoken to Alex in
three years, which isn't true, but I guess I got
e-mails from him.

Q Okay. Yeah. And that's what we had
started talking about. I think you mentioned that
you had some contact with them in 2019 with
Representative Mooney?

A Yeah. I was just going through my
e-mails. Well, the last contact was the
invitation to the party on May 25th, but I didn't
really respond to that. And then in 2019, I wrote
about -- actually, I guess he didn't actually
respond to this, but I told a bunch of people that
I used to work with about getting a new job. It
was, like, January 1st -- or January 7th of 2019,
but he didn't respond to that one.

I guess the last e-mail I have from him is
from 2018, 11/4/2018. But -- and I don't have any
-- I had erased all the text messages a long time
ago because there was -- it was, like, just
clogging up my phone.

Q Okay.

A And it wasn't just him. It was a bunch of
people.

Q Okay. All right. Well, then, we're
basically done except for, I just wanted to give
you one more opportunity. I know those are
upsetting allegations to hear, and so I just
wanted to give you another opportunity to maybe
give us any more details that might help us figure
out what actually was happening there. If you can
think of anything that maybe was a red flag from
that time or any other kind of irregularities that
might point us in the right direction, then that
would be helpful. I'll give you a second to think
about that. But then also, you know, if anything
comes to mind after this interview that you want
to let me know, then feel free to reach out.

A I mean, I know Alex goes on these trips,
like -- but they're for -- the Republican National
Committee has those trips every year to, like --
more than once a year. And I know he uses the
campaign to pay for that. I did not know that
Alex was illegal -- I mean, I don't think it is.
I don't actually know. I don't -- I'm not versed
in the law, which I guess is my own fault. But I
can't think of anything that was obviously illegal
or he shouldn't have been doing at the time, but
apparently -- obviously there was stuff going on, so --

Q Okay. Well, I appreciate that and, you know, like I said --

A I would also just like to say, if they are accusing me of stealing money, why are they sending e-mails still constantly every week? Why wouldn't they take me off their e-mail list? Why are they all still Facebook friends with me? I don't understand -- I don't understand why.

Q Yeah, I understand. That's frustrating and upsetting to hear. Like I said, if you think of anything else that might point us in the right direction or anything comes to mind about any conversations you had before or after you left that might be related to these allegations, then feel free to let me know. But if you can't think of anything else right now, then I think we can finish the interview and conclude things there.

A Okay.

Q Okay. Well, one more time, thanks, [Former Staffer 5]. I appreciate your time this morning.
and your quick response to my e-mail yesterday.

And just be in touch if you have anything else you want to let me know.

(Off the record at 11:49 a.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER - NOTARY PUBLIC

I, Theo Green, the officer before whom the foregoing proceeding was taken, do hereby certify that said proceedings were electronically recorded by me; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 11th day of November, 2021.

Theo Green, Notary Public
for the State of Maryland
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I, Barbara Montgomery, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct record of the recorded proceedings; that said proceedings were transcribed to the best of my ability from the audio recording and supporting information; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

Barbara Montgomery

Barbara Montgomery
November 12, 2021
CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

ERRATA SHEET

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This errata sheet is submitted subject to 18 U.S.C. § 1001 (commonly known as the False Statements Act).

Witness Name: [redacted]

Witness Signature: [redacted]

Date: [redacted]
**CONFIDENTIAL**

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

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**Witness Name:**

**Witness Signature:**

**Date:** 12/7/2021
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**Witness Name:**  

**Witness Signature:**  

**Date:** 12/7/2021
EXHIBIT 6
Transcript of Interview of Current Staffer 1

Review No. 21-6998
October 27, 2021
INTERVIEW OF CURRENT STAFFER 1:

: OCE REVIEW

: NO. 21-6998

-------------------------------x

Interview Of Current Staffer 1
Conducted Virtually
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
10:14 a.m. CST

Job No.: 409497
Pages: 1 - 38
Recorded By: Sue Pybas
Interview of CURRENT STAFFER 1,
conducted virtually.

Pursuant to agreement, before Sue Pybas,
Notary Public in and for the State of Missouri.
APPEARANCES

ON BEHALF OF THE OCE:

SEAN M. QUINN, ESQUIRE
ANNE CHO, ESQUIRE
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS (OCE)
OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
425 3rd Street, S.W.
Suite 1110
Washington, DC 20024
202.225.9739
(Present via videoconference)

Also Present:
SARAH LOILER - TECHNICIAN
EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR THE OFFICE OF
CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS:

BY MR. QUINN:

Q    And then just quickly for the record, on the -- the -- today is October 27th, 2021. And we are conducting the interview of [Current Staffer 1] by Zoom. [Current Staffer 1] is not represented today. Speaking is Sean Quinn, Investigative Counsel at the Office of Congressional Ethics. And I'm here with Annie Cho, also at the OCE. The witness has been given a copy of 18 USC 1001, and has signed the acknowledgment. [Current Staffer 1], first, just thanks very much for your time today. As I said, we appreciate your cooperation and any help that you can give us in -- in conducting this review. So thanks very much. And then also before we get into kind of our discussion and any questions, I just want to say first that I'm happy to answer any questions that you have throughout this interview or the process after the interview.

So if you need to stop to ask me a
question, feel free to let me know, or just stop
to take a break for the bathroom or some water,
I'm happy to -- happy to do that as well for you.
And then also if at any point you don't understand
the question that I asked you or you just need me
to reword it, happy to do that at any time as
well. So with that, let's -- I'd like to start
just with a little bit of background information
about you, [Current Staffer 1]. Can you tell me
how you came to work for Representative Mooney?
A    Sure. I started as a district intern in
January of 2020.
Q    Okay. And what are your -- what's your
current position with the office?
A    Staff assistant.
Q    Staff assistant. And -- and do you also
hold a role on the campaign?
A    Not at this point. No.
Q    Okay. Can you take me from when -- have
you ever had a role on the campaign?
A    Yes.
Q    And -- and was that a paid position?
A    Yes.

Q    Okay. Can you just take me from when you started as an intern in 2020 to now and tell me when you had -- when you had an official role, and what that role was, and then also at the same time when you had a campaign role?

A    Sure. So I started in January 2020 as an intern. I was an intern until the end of July of 2020. So August 2020, I started on the campaign as a campaign assistant, and then I was on the campaign work for the campaign through November, until the end of November. And then beginning of December, I actually went to Georgia to do campaign work until January. And then January 6, I believe, I came back as staff assistant. I'm not for sure on the exact day.

Q    Okay. January 6, 2021. And so -- so then you have not, at any time, held a campaign position and an official position at the same time?

A    Uh-uh.

Q    Okay. So one of the things that I want
to talk to you about today or -- or sort of the primary thing that we're going to discuss relates to the -- the sorts of duties that you have in your position as staff assistant. So if you could just generally describe to me your role in the office, that -- that would be great.

A  Sure. So I assist with lots of office logistics, such as the ordering of supplies and the keeping of logs like when you get packing slips, checking the mail, logging the mail into our correspondence manager. I answer the phone calls and log -- and log those opinions into our system. I work on various projects, like for instance, you know, right now we're doing an academy nomination so I'm helping prepare a package for the review board for that. And then, of course, there's different projects that occur all throughout the session and district projects, like the art competition that I assist staff in those. If there's two events one day and the district rep has to, you know, attend one, I'll cover for the others. It's, you know, a memorial
or, you know, ribbon cutting or something like that. So yeah, it -- it really varies. I just assist with whatever projects are currently happening in the office.

Q Okay. And -- and where is your office?
A Charleston, West Virginia.

Q Do you have an office in DC at all? Are you in Charleston full time?
A I'm in Charleston full time. I've never been to DC for this one.

Q Okay. In -- in your role as staff assistant, do you know who preceded you?
A Yes, it is our current office coordinator, Jean Potter.

Q Okay. Okay. So the -- the -- the -- the duties that you just described to me are -- all sounded generally official in nature related to the congressman's work with constituents or in -- in the house. Do you ever perform any duties or have you been asked to perform any duties that are a little more personal in nature, so either assisting the member with family tasks or
assisting other members of Representative Mooney's family?

A    Not on official resources, no. So in my personal time, if it was a volunteer thing, you know, to assist with the campaign --

Q    Okay.

A    -- but it was on official time.

Q    Okay. So then off of official time, can you describe to me the sorts of tasks that you're doing to either help with the campaign or -- or help Representative Mooney's family?

A    Sure. If it's in the evening, you know, the congressman may be -- may need driven to a county, you know, some sort of event. Or, you know, real -- I don't really do much for the family, but if the congressman is in, I mean, he has any campaign, you know, work that is not during my official time in the office, then I'll just assist in any way that I'm asked to, whether he's setting up for an event, or driving the congressman or, you know, whatever is really asked.
Q Okay. And have you ever driven the congressman to or from a personal event, something that wasn't campaign or official related?
A Not to my knowledge.
Q How about any other members of the family? Have you ever -- let's maybe start with Representative Mooney's children. Have you ever driven Representative Mooney's children anywhere?
A Yes.
Q Okay. And can you tell me about that.
A Sure. That's only happened to my memory on one occasion. And that was when the congressman was doing an official tour of the Clay Center here in Charleston. He met with the president of the Clay Center and then he met with the director of theater to discuss how COVID has affected the operations at the Clay Center and his daughter was with him. And then I just drove them to lunch after. So he did the tour, and then I drove the congressman to lunch after -- after the official event with the daughter in the car, both.
Q Okay. But the congressman was with you
when -- when that happened?

A Yes, sir. Yes, sir. I've never driven them alone, to my knowledge.

Q Okay. How about any other staff members? Do you know if any other staff members have performed those sort of duties, driving either Representative Mooney or members of this family to what seemed like a personal event?

A No, not to my knowledge.

Q Have you ever heard of members of -- or other members of the staff driving Representative Mooney's children to or from school?

A No.

Q I'm just going to go through kind of a laundry list of things that you might have either done yourself or heard of other staff members doing, and you can just kind of stop me and -- and tell me if you have some -- some detail to add. But I'm going to start with just Representative Mooney's mother, Lala. Do you know Lala? Okay. And --

TECHNICIAN: I'm sorry, [Current Staffer 1]
Q -- have you ever been contacted by Lala to help with anything at all, I think, we can start with first?
A Yes.
Q Okay. What kind of tasks or projects have you helped Lala with?
A For one, she was doing -- I think it was -- it was some sort of interview or something that the congressman was meeting with a reporter once and then talking about, I think Cuban relations, of which, of course, the congressman's mother is a Cuban immigrant. So he was like, yeah, I'd love to get, you know, your mom's perspective on this, do an interview, and I just assisted in connecting the two for the interview. You know, I can't really think of much off the top of my head honestly.
Q Okay. If as we're talking you think of anything else that you know, that maybe you forgot previously, just stop me and -- and -- and we can add to those answers. How about Grace
Mooney, the congressman's wife? Do you ever --
are you ever contacted by Grace to help with any
sorts of projects or tasks?

TECHNICIAN: I'm sorry, I have to
interrupt, Mr. Quinn. A lot of your words,
[Current Staffer 1], are not coming through and I
want to make sure that the court reporter is getting
a clean record of today. Do you have headphones by any
chance?

THE WITNESS: No, not in my office, but
I -- I can speak up if that would help.

TECHNICIAN: And it's not when you're
saying a full sentence, it's a quick no or yes.
The Zoom is not pushing the audio through, but we
can see your lips moving so we know what you're
saying. The audio just isn't coming through.

THE WITNESS: Okay. Sorry about that.
I will be more clear.

TECHNICIAN: Not a problem at all,
[Current Staffer 1].

BY MR. QUINN:

Q So sorry, just to ask you one more time.
You said -- I think you said that you haven't been contacted by Representative Mooney's wife to help with any tasks or projects; is that correct?

A  Correct.

Q How about any other members of Representative Mooney's staff? Have you heard anybody talking about doing work, tasks, any sorts of projects for Lala or the Representative's wife?

A Not to my immediate knowledge that I know.

Q Okay. How about watching any of the -- the congressman's children? Have you or have you heard of any other staff members helping the congressman watch the children?

A No. I have never been with the children without the congressman present.

Q Sorry. I'm just going to keep moving through this list. We just got a few things to check through. How about picking up the medicine? Have you ever picked up the congressman's medicine or heard of any other staff members picking up his medicine?
Q Okay. And how about groceries?
A No.

Q Okay. Are -- are you familiar with any of -- any of the work that Representative Mooney's wife does? So I -- I believe she might have a consulting business that's related to her medical practice. Are you aware of that?
A No.

Q Okay. Just another type of task. Have you ever heard of any staff members helping the Mooneys with tasks related to their personal vehicles? So I can be more specific, but if you've got a general idea --
A Could -- could you be more specific?
Q Sure. So some examples could be either helping Representative Mooney or his family get a private vehicle titled in West Virginia, maybe taking the vehicle for inspection, or having repairs done to a private vehicle?
A The only incident that I believe might fit for what you're looking for is a previous
staff member, you know, had helped in a couple of
like, small scale auto repairs that was, you know,
to get him to DC. But that would be the only
instance that I can think of. I mean, no, nobody
has gone to the DMV or anything.

Q    And who -- who's that that would have
helped with that?

A    Rainer, R -- I don't know how to spell
it, but I know it's Rainer.

Q    Okay. I think for the court reporter, I
believe it's R-A-I-N-E-R. And that's Rainer
Kissell; right?

A    Yes, sir.

Q    Okay. And what -- can you just tell me
one more time, what do you know of that -- what
sort of work was Rainer doing on the cars?

A    I know really no specifics at all other
than I've heard him mention that, you know, the
congressman was trying to get to DC. The car had
an issue. So, you know, Rainer staffing him at
the time, just -- he kind of used some West
Virginia ingenuity to get it running again.
Q: Okay. And then I just want to make sure I understood something previously you said. You said your office is in Charleston. You're in Charleston, not Charlestown; correct?


A: Yeah. That's usually --

Q: Yeah. Sometimes I can't hear the difference and -- and people, you know --

A: Yeah.

Q: -- combine the two words. Okay. How about any tasks either that you've completed or heard of staff completing related to the congressman's dog, like, either dog sitting or traveling with the dog from point A to point B?

A: No. You know, I'm coming up two years and I didn't know he had a dog to be honest with you. This is news to me, so --

Q: Okay. And then how about the Congressman's laundry? Have you ever dealt with his laundry or-- or helped other staff deal with the laundry?
THE REPORTER: I'm sorry, I didn't catch that, sir. I couldn't hear you -- your response.

THE WITNESS: No.

THE REPORTER: I got it again. No.

Okay. Thank you.

Q Did you ever work with Former Staffer 3?

A Yes.

Q Okay. In any of the sorts of tasks that we've just talked about, have you ever discussed any of those sorts of tasks with Former Staffer 3 or heard of them doing those sorts of tasks?

A No.

Q Then another thing I want to talk about quickly is just a couple of different trips that I know the Congressman has taken, and I loved to know any details you know about these trips. The first one is a trip to Aruba in March of this year. Are you familiar with that -- that trip?

A No.

Q Okay. And then the other trip I want to ask you about is a -- it was an early August trip of this year, to Blennerhassett Island. I might
not be pronouncing that correctly. Does that ring a bell?

A  Yes.

Q  Okay. What was -- can you tell me the purpose of that -- that trip?

A  I didn't have anything to do with the trip to Blennerhassett Island. That was, I believe, the Congressman's affairs. I was going because he had a media interview with the Parkersburg Times, I believe, or the local newspaper, and he also met with a small business owner in that area.

Q  Maybe let's step back a little bit. I -- I understand it was a -- a multi-day trip where there were a couple events planned back-to-back; is that correct?

A  Yes.

Q  Okay. To the extent you remember, can you tell me when the trip started and then just kind of take me through the events that -- that you can remember.

A  Sure. I drove to Parkersburg. I
believe it was -- I got there around 9:30, I think, because I had some details worked out with the media interview. And then it was my first trip to Parkersburg so I had to orient myself with the area as I would be, you know, taking the Congressman through his destinations. So I drove to Parkersburg, ate breakfast, I went and visited the newspaper, and I drove to the Burger King to pretty much see where it's at, scouted out the location as is commonly done. And then I picked up the Congressman from the island, the parking areas, you know, city property outside of the Island. And we went to the Burger King from the small business meeting first and then to the paper, I believe.

BY MR. QUINN:

Q    And do you recall what day this was?
A    I don't -- I don't.

Q    Sometime in early August, though?
A    Yes.

Q    And then you mentioned that you knew the Congressman had gone to Blennerhassett Island and
you picked him up from there, but you said, I think, and correct me if I'm wrong, you said that you weren't too familiar with that stop because it was the Congressman's affairs. Is that what you said?

A    Yes. I believe I just -- I didn't go on the island or, you know, the boat ride, I didn't -- I don't really know anything about that.

Q    Okay. But did you -- were you aware of any official stops or activities or -- or did you understand that to be a -- a personal stop?

A    I wasn't aware of that portion of the schedule. I was just, you know, given the project of managing the interview stop and the Burger King stop and anything other than that will be the scheduling.

Q    Okay. And then so you staffed him for the Parkersburg Newspaper; is that correct?

A    Yes. There were there was an interview at Burger King, too, and then he also spoke to the employees at the franchise. And then, of course, he met with the owner or manager of the franchise
one, did the interview outside, and then we went
to the Parkersburg Time, had a sit-down interview
with the editor there. And then back.

Q  Okay. Was the -- the interview at the
Burger King was also with the newspaper, the same
newspaper?

A  No. No. So the Parkersburg Times was
the -- the newspaper interview and the one at the
Burger King was whatever the local cable affiliate
is, WKN TV or something like that.

Q  Okay. And is Parkersburg in the
Congressman's current district?

A  No.

Q  Okay. Was that ever discussed or do you
know why the Congressman was leaving his district
for that trip?

A  No, sir.

Q  And do you know who -- who primarily
plans -- let's actually take the -- the -- we'll
take the newspaper and the small business meeting
separately. Do you know who planned the small
business meeting or who had that idea?
A: No. So the person handling scheduling at the time just informed me to add to my planning for that event, that he would be meeting with the gentleman, you know, at the Burger King and that was it.

Q: Okay. And -- and who was this -- this gentleman?

A: I know it was the owner of the Burger King. I can't remember his name or anything or really anything else. Oftentimes --

Q: Was it -- was it Matthew Herage (phonetic). Does that ring a bell?

A: Yes.

Q: Okay. Do you know -- do you know how the Congressman knows Matthew Herage?

A: No, other than Burger King.

Q: And then let's talk about the newspaper interview and -- and that meeting. Do you know anything more about that? Do you know who set that up or whose idea that -- that stop was?

A: No, I do not.

Q: And then lastly, are you aware of any
communications with the Ethics Committee related
to this trip to Parkersburg?

A    No.

Q    Let's talk a little bit about some of
the work that you do or have done for that
campaign. Can you go back to telling me once
again, and I know you already said that, just
refresh my recollection. What was the period of
time that you were working exclusively on the
campaign?

A    At the beginning of August to the end of
November of 2012.

Q    Okay. And then outside of that time or
after November and currently, you said that you
just help in your off time or volunteer in your
off time with whatever campaign tasks come up at
that time?

A    Yes, sir.

Q    Okay. So I may take those two
separately. One, the period of time where you
worked full time for the campaign and then -- and
then currently and just kind of as you do one-off
tasks for the campaign. When you were working full time for the campaign, can you tell me what your primary duties were?

A Door knocking, I guess would be the primary thing that I did. I managed yard signage. So our yard signs, enlarge signs. I place those throughout the four counties that were coordinated. I represented the campaign at political events such as County Republican committee events or things like that. That was primary it -- primarily it, normal. And then again, there will be different, you know, sort of things. So if there's a parade coming up, then I would help kind of do whatever needs done for the parade or if, you know, there was the election day was coming up. I do some sign waiving. I just primary activity -- primary campaign activities.

Q Okay. Talking about the yard signs for a second. Can you tell me where the yard signs are stored?

A During the campaign, the majority were
-- for my area were in my garage. The rest are presumably in nation Panhandle.

Q  Okay. Right. Because you were in Charleston. Got you. And then let's focus on sort of more present during that period of time that you were also employed by the official campaign. Can you describe the sorts of tasks that you do now for the campaign.

A  Really nothing. I haven't really done anything recently that I can even remember. In the evening once, you know, I drove the Congressman to an event that was campaign oriented in the evening following my shift and that's it really.

Q  And then moving on from -- from that topic, I wanted to ask you about a company that the Congressman and his campaign use for direct mailing services. So sending -- sending out mail to fundraising mail or -- or informational mail to constituents. Do you know what company the campaign uses for that -- for that service?

A  No.
Q Have you ever heard of HSP Direct?
A No.
Q I also wanted to ask you about planning for the Congressman's birthday party this past year. Were you involved in that at all?
A In planning for the party?
Q Short planning or how about did you help staff the events or do any sort of work related to the Congressman's birthday party?
A Yes.
Q Okay. Can you tell me what you did?
A I was just there the day of and put up streamers and made sign-in sheets and kind of was just there.
Q Okay. And when was that event?
A June 6th, I want to say, but I'm not for sure.
Q Okay. Do you know if that was a weekday or weekend?
A It was certainly a weekend.
Q Weekend. Okay. It looks like June 6th was Sunday. Does that sound right? I'm sorry,
Transcript of Interview of Current Staffer 1
Conducted on October 27, 2021

maybe I missed your response, I said it looks like
June the 6th was a Sunday. Do -- do that -- does
that sound right?

Q  Okay. No problem. And so did you
consider your assistance with that event to be
volunteer tasks or was that related to your
official duties?

A  100 percent volunteer.

Q  Okay. Was that event also a fundraiser?

A  I believe. Yes, it was.

Q  It was, okay. How did you know that was
a fundraiser?

A  They were collecting money.

Q  Pretty good indication that's a
fundraising, I guess. Do you know who else was
helping staff that event?

A  No. I wouldn't say anyone was staffing
the events.

Q  Or volunteering just to staff the event?

A  I can try. So I was there -- actually
our -- hold on, I'm trying to remember. I'm
Q: It's okay. Take your time.

THE REPORTER: [Current Staffer 1], that --

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. I said --

well, I said that I was thinking. Then I said

Blake. Blake was the district intern at the time.

Is it coming through now audiowise?

THE REPORTER: It is. Thank you.

A: Okay. Yes. So that was Blake. I can't

remember the last name. Susie in our office was

there but left practically after she arrived

because she was ill. She ended up being ill.

Mike was there. But I'm not sure he was

volunteering. I don't -- he might have just kind

of been there, you know, at the party.

Q: Mike Hough?

A: Yes, sir, the chief.

Q: Okay.

A: I mean, who -- is there -- is there like

a certain group of people you're looking for
because like the Congressman's mother was there, the Congressman's siblings were there.

Q    I'm interested in either official staff or campaign staff that were doing work there. Like, so you described that you helped set up the party and I think that you said you were taking down names or -- or checking off guests that had arrived. Who else was doing that sort of work?

A    Myself, Blake, Susie, but she left sick, Mike, that was -- that was it.

Q    Okay. Was Ashley Phillips there?

A    No.

Q    Was she still working for the Congressman at that time?

A    I do not remember.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Okay. Let's, actually, if we can take a break for just a few minutes, this might be a very quick interview. We might be pretty close to done. I just want to take a couple of minutes and go over some notes and see if we have anything else to talk about, but we might be getting pretty close. So let's
take -- let's take five minutes, actually a little more. Let's come back at 10:55. And then hopefully right after that, we can wrap up.

THE WITNESS: Okay.

MR. QUINN: Okay. So we can go off the record.


(Whereupon, there was a discussion off the record.)

THE REPORTER: Back on the record at 10:56.

BY MR. QUINN:

Q Sure. Okay. One thing I did want to ask you about is mileage when you're driving either for the official office or for the campaign. And I want to take the official office or official work first. When you drive either the Congressman when he's in town or drive yourself for official work, how -- or -- or do you claim mileage for that driving?

A Yes, I claim it on my expense
reimbursement form, just by however many miles, you know. I list the to and from destinations and stuff, as well as the mileage and they reimburse me the following month.

Q Okay. And have you ever had the Congressman pay you personally for either gas or miles driven?

A No.

Q Okay. And is that the same for campaign mileage? How do you --

A I just -- I just --

Q -- pay for that?

A -- pay for gas with my card.

Q I'm sorry, say that one more time.

A I just purchase gas with the cards.

Q And like -- and which cards are you referring to?

A Like that's how I -- like if -- like for instance, if I was planning a parade and like any money I needed for the campaign to buy stakes or signs or if I had business cards or gas to get to an event, I just used like -- like a gift card but
for anywhere, I guess, that they just sent --

Q  Like a pre --

A  Yeah. And I just gave receipts --

Q  Go ahead, I'm sorry.

A  -- to Sophia, and I would, like, mark
down everything. So I drove -- where I drove to,
what expenses I used. And then when the card was
gone, like, you know, they usually come in small
increments. I just send the card and the list of
what I used and all the receipts back to Sophia at
the time.

Q  Okay. And that's like a -- like a
prepaid Visa card or -- or something like that?

A  Yeah.

Q  Okay.

A  I just -- I just didn't have a debit
card and to prevent having to, like, deal with
cash and everything, it was just easier, I guess.

Q  Okay. And then were you involved at all
in collecting documents or helping the Congressman
respond to requests that my office had in the
first review that was conducted and started in
March of this year?

   A  No. I mean, other than, I mean, I -- of course, I received things saying not to throw
   anything away, but I didn't help him prepare for anything.

   Q  When was that? When did you receive that notice?

   A  I'm not for sure. Let's say the first was in April, but that -- that's a loose guess.

   Q  Okay. And then, also, do you know or recognize the name

   Former Staffer 5

   Q  Okay. And then, I think we're done with basically the substantive questions. I just want
   to ask you a couple of questions about anything that you did to prepare for the interview today.
   So did you review any documents in order to prepare for our interview today?

   A  No.

   Q  Okay. Did you speak to anybody to prepare for the interview?

   A  No.
Q Okay. So nobody in either the Congressman's office or any attorneys?

A No. I mean, not to prepare, no.

Q Okay. Did you speak to anybody else about this interview?

A I just, you know, made my immediate supervisor aware that that's why I'd be unavailable, but that's it.

MR. QUINN: Okay. All right. Got you.

Then I think we are done here. Annie, unless you have any other questions?

MS. CHO: No, I'm good.

MR. QUINN: Great. Okay. And I'm glad I could make it on my promise to finish in an hour. But with that, we can go off the record.

(Off the record at 11:00 a.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

I, Sue Pybas, the officer before whom the foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify that said proceedings were electronically recorded by me; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

Sue Pybas, Court Reporter
CERTIFICATION OF TRANSCRIPT

I, Bridgette Rast, do hereby certify that
the foregoing transcript, to the best of my ability,
knowledge, and belief, is a true and correct
record of the proceedings; that said proceedings
were reduced to typewriting under my supervision;
and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor
employed by any of the parties to this case and
have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its
outcome.

Bridgette Rast
Planet Depos, LLC
November 8, 2021
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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

ERRATA SHEET

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This errata sheet is submitted subject to 18 U.S.C. § 1001 (commonly known as the False Statements Act).

Witness Name: [Redacted]

Witness Signature: [Redacted]

Date: 11/12/2021
EXHIBIT 7
Transcript of Interview of Current Staffer 2

Review No. 21-6998
October 1, 2021
Interview of CURRENT STAFFER 2, conducted virtually.

Pursuant to agreement, before Kevin Kiser, Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia
Appealances

On behalf of Office of Congressional Ethics:

Sean M. Quinn, Esquire
Annie Cho, Esquire
House of Representatives
425 3rd Street, Southwest, Suite 11100
Washington, DC 20024
202.225.9739

Also present:

Carl Hellandsjo, Technician
MR. QUINN: Great, thanks for all. And then I just have a quick little read on myself just for the record.

So today is October 1st, 2021, and we're conducting the interview of Current Staffer 2 by Zoom. Current Staffer 2 Staffer 2 is not represented today speaking as Sean Quinn, investigative counsel at the Office of Congressional Ethics, and I'm here with Annie Cho, also at the OCE.

The witness has been given a copy of 18 USC 1001, and has signed the acknowledgment, and actually while we're on that point, Current Staffer 2, did you have any questions about the false statements act or that acknowledgment form --

THE WITNESS: No.

MR. QUINN: -- that you sent me?

THE WITNESS: Not really --

MR. QUINN: Okay.

THE WITNESS: It's -- it's for the traditional legislative jargon. It was hard, but it was pretty understandable.
MR. QUINN: Yeah. I'm sure you're familiar with the acts of the basics, just that we have to let everybody know so --

THE WITNESS: Sure.

MR. QUINN: -- that all statements act makes it illegal to -- to lie, or make a material omission to a congressional investigator like myself.

THE WITNESS: And I just wanted to go --

MR. QUINN: So with that being said --

THE WITNESS: I'm -- I'm sorry. I just wanted to point out to I'm here in the office by myself today, so there's nobody else even in the -- in our office suite here, so I'm totally alone.

MR. QUINN: Okay -- okay. Great. That's good to know. And then also I'll say thanks very much for your time this morning. We appreciate it, I'm sure you're -- I'm sure you're busy especially now in Congress, so it's pretty much appreciated. And then also throughout our time talking, if you have any questions for me feel free to stop me or if you don't understand
the question that I've asked you, I can repeat it
or reword it, or if you just need a break for
water or bathroom. Feel free to stop me at
any point.

THE WITNESS: Thank you so much.

MR. QUINN: And then, yeah -- and then,
lastly, since we do have somebody transcribing
everything we're saying, let's just try not to
talk over each other. Makes it very hard to type
when two people are talking at the same time, so I
'll do my best and -- and then also, Kevin, if we
start talking too fast, just -- just let us know
and slow us down.

And -- and I think with that I'll just
ask, normally we start with a couple of questions
just kind of about what you did, if anything, to
prepare to talk to us today, so I don't know if
you spoke to anybody else or maybe looked at some
documents or look back to -- back at any notes.

BY COUNSEL FOR THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

BY MR. QUINN:

Q Was there anything at all that you did
today to, or that you've done recently to prepare
for this interview?

A    No. The only thing that I really --
really did was contact the -- the attorney that
the office had said was available, made a phone
call, but the individual call was never returned
--

Q    Okay.

A    -- so not really, no.

Q    Okay. And was that -- that was Rob
Walker?

A    Yes.

Q    Okay. Great. And then -- and you
haven't talked to anybody else about -- about
those CE interview?

A    The only one I think I've ever talked to
is my fellow District Director. I mentioned it to
her that I was going to be interviewed, Jean
Potter, and then I also mentioned it to my former
boss who you've interviewed before a [Former Staffer 1].

Q    Okay. Great. How about Representative
Mooney or Michael Hough? Have you talked to
either of them about this?

A    I -- I did mention to them that I --
that was being Monday when I first found out about
it, Michael told me that he was actually in the
room with the congressman at the time so I'm
assuming they're both aware of this taking place
today.

Q    Okay. Great. And did Michael say
anything to you about the interview or just noted
that you'd be participating?

A    Yeah. Yeah. I mean, basically it was
just, you know, he resent out to the -- the one
form about keeping our records and everything and
then he also, you know, just said, Hey, be
straightforward kind of thing, you know, pretty
vague, nothing. No -- no questions really at all.
So --

Q    Okay -- okay. Good to know. Great.
Then why don't we talk a little bit just about
your background and -- and what you do for
Representative Mooney.

A    Uh-huh.
Q    Can you tell me when you started working for Representative Mooney?

A    It would have been the end of February 2019, that I came onboard here to be a district representative in the Martinsburg office to kind of work on issues in the eastern part of the Second District of West Virginia. And then as my time here has evolved because of my previous history and work, I was given a title of Economic Development and Outreach to liaison. So that's my -- my role now and since [Former Staffer 1] left in June, Jeanne and I have assumed sort of core District Director roles.

I'm working with the -- the field reps and she's working with the case management stuff that goes on with the office primarily. So that's kind of been the -- the split of duties, of course, with the district this size, the Charleston office, it's six hours away from the Martinsburg office and so sometimes logistics can be a little difficult, but it is what it is.

Q    Right. And I think you said that you
are -- you are in the Martinsburg office; right?

A    That's correct. Yeah. I live in

Jefferson County, West Virginia.

And again, my background, I was involved
with the Appalachian Regional Commission for 17
years in DC, and prior to that, I'm -- I'm
originally from Ohio and worked with the
Appalachian Program in Ohio both at the -- the
regional and state level so, I don't know, full
background was local economic development, rural
development in Appalachian, so that's why I
applied for the job to begin with it kind of -- it
kind of fit some of the things I used to do and
kind of gave me something during my, I guess, semi
retirement.

Q    Right. Okay. Yeah. Sounds like a good

-- like a good fit.

A    Yeah.

Q    Can you -- other than just having that
general background that was kind of a good fit for
the position. Can you tell me how you came to
work for Representative Mooney?
In all honestly, I saw an ad in the Martinsburg Journal, I mean, the old-school stuff and, like, you know, no LinkedIn or any other sort of on -- on-site sort of job recruitment is a traditional old ad and the paper that I responded to and, you know, applied for the job back, it's probably January of '19 and, quite frankly, the reason I decided to work with the congressman because I'm a conservative person myself, we aligned pretty well with views on a whole host of things that tend to be more conservative in nature, so I -- I -- I couldn't see myself working for somebody that didn't agree with on most issues.

Okay. Let's go through just quickly a little bit of the reporting structure in your office --

Uh-huh.

-- who did you report to?

Well, again, since [Former Staffer 1] left the office in June, I really report to Mike -- Michael Hough's and -- and Jean Potter and I try to
coordinate our -- our work together as much as we can, we talk on a fairly regular basis as well.

Q   Okay. And Jeanne is in the -- the Charleston office?

A   That's correct. That's correct.

Q   And then who reports to you?

A   Primarily, Susie Acevedo as a district rep out of the Charleston office and then Rhett Dusenbury is kind of a -- he's out of Elkins and so he's -- he's not on either office, he's sort of operates out of his homes for that central part of the -- and then I guess sort of technically the manager of the Martinsburg office, and Jeanne's the manager at the Charleston office, too. So --

Q   Okay. Great. So -- so that's the official side. Have you ever worked or done any work for the campaign?

A   A couple of minor things. I picked the congressman up last summer, not this summer, but the previous summer on my off time I've done, like, a parade the first year in Ripley and -- and Hurricane and even when I picked up the
congressman that was on, you know, off time, too. So there are a very few campaign activities, quite frankly. Most of it, it's been visits, and there had been very few of those, quite frankly, too, so, you know, stops in the district and stuff.

Q    And when you say picked up the congressman, you just -- you mean you drove him to and from the event?
A    Yeah. Yeah, he was at a --
Q    Okay.
A    -- at a meeting in -- in Southwestern Pennsylvania back in I think it was July of '20 and it was, I think it was a congressional Republican event meeting and the gentleman that usually does that work his mother-in-law passed away and they needed somebody to go pick the congressman up and so I said sure I can do it. And then instead of being paid as a normal process of reimbursement, actually, the congressman paid me with a personal check, so --
Q    Okay.
A    -- for the mileage and everything.
Q  Okay. So in that case, instead of -- instead of submitting a mileage claim to the -- to the campaign the congressman paid you directly for the -- for the mileage to you?
A  That's my recollection.
Q  Okay. Do you know -- do you know if he then submitted a mileage request?
A  I have no --
Q  -- or do you know how that worked?
A  I have -- I have no idea, yeah. I have no idea how that worked.
Q  Okay. And then you -- you had mentioned that the person who would normally do that had a family emergency, who -- who is the person that would normally do that?
A  His name is Ranier Kissel. Ranier has since retired at the end of last year but he typically did at least some of -- of the driving for the congressman, you know, depending upon the circumstances and situation.
Q  Okay. And did he have a title with the campaign or the official office?
A    You know, I'm sure he did. I'm not recalling exactly what it was. He was a part-time employee when I came on board and then also did -- he -- he did more things on the campaign side, too, see, he was kind of split in nature, so I -- I really can't with -- with full extent of any real knowledge sort of say how that worked. I just knew he was an employee.

Q    Okay. Got you. Okay. We can -- we'll start talking about some of the more specific things that we're looking at. One of the things I wanted to ask you about is a trip from this year in early August. I think it was August 2nd to August 5th. Do you -- do you know what trip I'm talking about?

A    I know I met the congressman and his wife and daughter in Moorefield High School for an event there the Governors Art Caravan, I believe it was called and we -- I staffed him at that event and then we had lunch afterwards in Moorefield.

Q    And that was on the -- do you -- do you
recall that day that was the second?

A    I believe it was the second, yeah. In fact I had just submitted my expense report and had that on there. So I could look that up for you real quick if you like.

Q    That's fine I actually I have a document or two we can look out to kind of --

A    Okay.

Q    -- nail down dates if we need -- need to do that. But my impression from other folks that we've talked to and -- and document that I've seen is that it was like a -- it was a couple of day trip maybe or there at least a few things plan, for example, there was a visit to -- I'm not sure I'm saying this correctly Blennerhassett Island. Is that how you say that?

A    Yeah. Yeah. That's how you say it.

Q    Okay. Okay.

A    That -- that was my understanding --

Q    Do you --

A    -- too, Sean -- I'm sorry.

Q    Okay. Go ahead.
A Charleston after that point and goodness, I think the congressman was leaving out of Charleston and his wife and daughter was staying or something like that, but I wasn't sure and I know they were trip up there to Wood County and -- and Blennerhassett Island, this historic site, if you will. I don't know if you -- how much you get into the US history, but it was -- there's a book called The Pioneers that -- that I've read that sort of documents, the settling of the Northwest Territory, and Blennerhasset was part of that discussion. So --

Q -- anyway, I'm going off in other woods a little bit --

A Right.

Q But it's -- it's the right book.

A My lights have just shut off here so I was just trying to --

Q Okay. And Blennerhassett Island just so I can get the geography down in -- in Wood County, is --

A Yeah. It's -- it's on Ohio River.
Q    Okay.

A    I believe it would be considered Wood County, right. Parkers -- Parkersburg Wood County, correct.

Q    Okay. And there was also part of this trip, was a -- was there a meeting with or interview with folks in the -- at the Parkersburg newspaper, do you recall that?

A    That was my understanding that that was going to take place whether it took place or not, I'm not sure, but my understanding was they were -- they were setting something for that to take place.

Q    Okay. So I think we're talking about the same trip or at least we --

A    Yeah.

Q    -- we believe --

A    I believe we --

Q    -- aired that out. Are -- were you involved in planning any of the various stops on that -- that kind of multi-day tour?

A    No, I don't think I did. Like I said,
they had already said I picked up at Governor's
Art Caravan stop and I was just asked to staff him
there at that event, so that was the only role I
really played in that process. Yeah. Typically
when -- when there are visits by the congressman
to the -- to the district in the past, [Former Staffer 1] had
handled those. And since his departure, I would
work on things in this part of the district and
then the Charleston office would work on, you
know, those types of trips as well.

Q    Okay, there were two other stops that
I've seen kind of associated with multi-day today
trip that I wanted to ask you about and see if --

A    Uh-huh.

Q    -- you knew anything about it. If you
don't know anything about it just say so. One was
a meeting with somebody named Matthew Herridge.
Do you know -- are you familiar with that meeting
or do you know who that is?

A    No, I don't believe so.

Q    Okay.

A    Name doesn't ring a bell.
Q    I had -- oh, sorry. Go ahead.

A    No, I just said that -- that name

doesn't -- doesn't sound familiar to me.

Q    Okay. Let's see. I had -- if we can

pull up -- let's see. Carl, if we can pull up tab

2. So I was asking you about it, Current Staffer 2, just

because we had some folks produce some documents

to us and -- and one of them was a calendar invite

with -- or setting up a meeting with this

individual named Matthew Herridge, and it looked

like, from the calendar invite, you were the point

of contact for him, so I'll -- I'll just show that

to real quick and you can --

   A    Yeah, please do. Because maybe I'm just

   Yeah. Let's see. So just for the

   record, so that we can tell where -- oh, and,

   Carl, you can mark this as Exhibit A. And this is

   a calendar notification on Gmail titled, meet with

   Matthew Herridge at -- on Thursday, August 5th,

   2021, 3:30 to 4:30, and it looks like this

   particular update was sent on July 30th, 2021, at
3:05. And I don't know or -- I don't know if this went to you or not, Current Staffer 2. This was from another individual.

(Exhibit A was marked.)

A Yeah. I --

Q But it says, and so you can see that, Current Staffer 2 is --

A Yeah.

Q -- contacting Matt Herridge to set up a time and location.

A I think there was some --

Q Do you recall that or --

A -- there was some going back and forth about some of the meetings, and I kind of bowed out of setting things up like that because I had no idea who these people were, so I think other people kind of picked up the ball. I think that may have been initially their thinking in the office, but I don't recall that e-mail. I can look in my -- my personal Gmail to see if I have it. It's -- I see it's July 30th. Like I say, I -- I did not set up any meetings. I never
contacted Matt --
Q    Okay.
A    -- Herridge, to my recollection, at all.
Is he a reporter --
Q    Okay.
A    -- or do you know?
Q    I think he's just a -- a private individual, not a reporter.
A    Well, I know there was talk about Burger King owner or something like that. Is -- is that that --
Q    That's -- that's who I think it is.
Yeah.
A    Okay. Yeah. That -- [Current Staffer 1] probably is the one who made the -- find -- made the appointment with him, I'm thinking.
Q    Okay.
A    If you go to the Charleston office.
Q    Okay. Got it. Yeah. I'm sure these things are -- are pretty fluid.
A    Yeah.
Q    So I had just seen this, so I thought
you might be the person to ask about it, but we will -- we can move on from that.

A    And that's not -- that was my understanding, that that -- and that he was either an influential Republican or a donor or something, but I had -- I had no -- no clue about that and who set what up when.

Q    Okay.

A    I know they had -- they had talked about me, as I recall, contacting some folks, and it's like, I don't know anybody over there in that part of the states, so, you know.

Q    Right. And -- and then is -- so Blennerhassett Island and Wood County and Parkersburg are -- they are not in Representative Mooney's district; is that right?

A    They -- they -- they are not, no. No.

Q    Okay.

A    Wood County is north of -- of the border.

Q    Okay. Do you recall, as planning for this -- these trips were going on, if there was
any discussion about that, especially about the fact that the -- these stops weren't in Representative Mooney's district?

A    And -- and this is an assumption on my behalf. I know, again, the -- the newspaper has coverage in parts of the district, you know, down into Wirt County, Calhoun County probably, Roane County maybe, also Park -- Parkersburg --

Q    Okay.

A    -- is kind of a more central city for that part of the state. So there would be coverage from that paper, but, you know, the fact of the matter is with redistricting coming up, too, I -- I think there was probably -- and, again, I'm making an assumption here and trying to just understand the politics of it all. Trying to get more exposure in that part of the state would probably be a logical assumption to make.

Q    Okay. And is that -- that's representing McKinley's district; correct?

A    That's correct, yeah.

Q    Okay. Okay. One other stop that looks
like it was on the schedule for this August 2nd to
August 5th period was a trip to The Greenbrier. I
believe there's a dinner at The Greenbrier. Does
-- does that ring any bells for you?

A  Yeah. My understanding was, after the
Moorefield High School event, that they were going
to be going down there for a -- a late -- like,
early dinner, I think, perhaps, and then going to
Charleston that night. That was my recollection
of that day's sort of itinerary.

Q  Okay. Do you know any -- anything about
the purpose for that -- that dinner?

A  Boy, I probably did at the time. I'm
trying to recall exactly what -- you know, who it
was with and why, and I -- I -- I just don't
remember, to be honest.

MR. QUINN: We can -- there's one other
document I can show you, and I can let you kind of
look through it. It's -- and it might refresh
your recollection a little bit. Let's see. Carl,
if you can pull up tab 1 and mark that as Exhibit
B.
(Exhibit B was marked.)

THE WITNESS: And that's the wrong --

MR. QUINN: Yeah. I think we've got the wrong document up, Carl.

THE WITNESS: Yeah.

MR. QUINN: Or we had it for a second.

THE WITNESS: Yeah, we did.

MR. QUINN: And then it was --

A That looks like it's a typical planning document we use on trips and everything.

BY MR. QUINN:

Q Okay. I've seen them referred to as LBLs. Is that -- does that mean --

A Line by lines.

Q -- line by lines?

A Yeah. Yeah, exactly.

Q Okay. So if you want to take -- this is a couple -- or a two-page document. Carl, can you give Current Staffer 2 control of the document? And then if you want to take a minute or two just to look through it. I'll say for the record, this is a -- as Current Staffer 2 said, a line by line, basically agenda or calendar
of events from August 2nd to August 5th, on the
second and third page, and at the bottom, it notes
that it was revised on 8/2/2021. And we -- Current Staffer 2,
just so that you see, at the bottom right, we
apply our own numbering system to documents --

A    Sure. Sure.

Q    -- so that we can identify them later.

So for the record, this document has a Bates Stamp
of WB_0210.

A    All right.

Q    Okay. Yeah. Current Staffer 2, if you want to take a
minute to look at that and then just let me know
when you're -- when you're done scanning it.

A    Yeah. Yeah. I -- I think that's a fair
and accurate depiction of the trip. There may
have been, as I recall, maybe a last-minute
inclusion of some small group. It was -- it was
something Susie had put together. I'm trying to
think what the group would have been even --
that's not listed there. I -- I think it was sort
of a -- a last minute addition, either the evening
of the 3rd or the 4th, but other than that, it's
-- I think it's a pretty accurate description. I
-- the -- the -- as far as The Greenbrier dinner,
I don't know who the Lamptons are.

Q  Okay.
A  I have no idea who they are. No matter
--

Q  Okay. Yeah, that's what I was --
A  -- what (inaudible) occurred, quite
frankly. I'm assuming it did, but I don't even
know whether it actually did or not.

Q  Okay. You said you're not sure if it
occurred?
A  Right. I'm -- I'm not even sure if it
occurred.

Q  Okay.
A  I'm assuming it --

Q  Sorry. It just cut out. Okay. What
I'll -- I'll ask a couple other just kind of
general questions. If you actually scroll back to
that first page.
A  Yeah.

Q  So it looks like -- I can see that
there's a column for who will be staffing Representative Mooney at these events, and it looks like you staffed him at the first event, like you said, that Moorefield art show.

A Right. Right.

Q And then do you have any idea how Representative Mooney got from Moorefield then to The Greenbar -- brier later that afternoon?

A Yeah. They -- they had the family van. Matter of fact, I -- when I -- I met him outside of the high school. That's what they were -- they drove up in that van from their home. They had driven up then, and that was my understanding. They'd be driving that -- to The Greenbrier and then up to Charleston.

Q Okay. Okay. And then it looks like -- right. They went to Charleston that evening to stay in a hotel, and then the next morning, for the first event, which is a meet with Charleston City police officers. [Current Staffer 1] is staffing Representative Mooney. That's [Current Staffer 1]?

A That's correct, yes.
Q  Okay. Okay.
A  Yeah. My -- my understanding --
Q  Okay.
A  -- is [Current Staffer 1] pretty much staffed him the whole time he was there. Once he got to Charleston, he was with him most of the rest of that trip, he and the fam -- he and -- and -- with the congressman and his family.
Q  Okay. All right. And then, if you look at this page that we're on right now, at 11 o'clock on Wednesday the 4th, there's a tour of Gritt's Farm in Buffalo, West Virginia.
A  All right.
Q  That -- now, by Wednesday, we are in Representative Mooney's district; is that -- is that correct? Buffalo, West Virginia?
A  I -- I think it is. Again, even though it says I was -- details from me, actually [Current Staffer 1] took care of all that stuff, is my understanding. Because, like I say --
Q  Okay.
A  -- my familiarity with that part of the
district is very minimal.

Q    Okay. Got you. So you don't know anything about -- or -- or do you know anything about the tour of Gritt's Farm?

A    No. I never -- I never even heard of Gritt's Farm until -- until this event, so I -- I really don't know much about it at all, to be honest.

Q    Okay. Okay. And then I'll ask first:

Specifically for this trip, do you know if -- once they drove down to Charleston with the family car, was -- is that the vehicle they used for the -- the rest of that weekend, or would -- would [Current Staffer 1] have been driving them? Do you know how that -- that would have gone?

A    I -- I don't know for certain. My -- my impression was -- was that they were going to drive separately and that [Current Staffer 1] would -- would follow them, but again, I -- I just don't know if that's what actually occurred or not.

Q    Okay. Great. I think -- I think that's probably all the questions that I have for you on
this document. So, Carl, you can -- you can pull
that down. And then, while we're talking about
driving in general, does -- well, when
Representative Mooney is -- is in the district or
-- or in the state, does he have somebody that
normally drives him? Does he have, like, a driver
or --

A Typically, when -- again, prior to the
end of last year, Rainer would often do -- Rainer
Kissel would often do a lot of the driving. Not
all the time. It was kind of hit and miss, but --
but Rainer would, on occasion, take him to
Washington, given the proximity of the residence
to the -- to the Capitol. So he would sometimes
do that. He would sometimes do things in the
district for the -- for the congressman. Sometime
make runs to airports, you know.

Rainer was sort of a do-all kind of guy,
you know, the type of guy I guess the congressman
likes to have around to -- to -- sort of
multifaceted in nature, so -- but then at the
other times, he would drive. I know on a -- on a
trip I made with him -- I guess it was earlier this year.

We met on the way to -- to Moorefield, and then off into Seneca Rocks in the -- in the district there, too, where he drove because he was going somewhere else after that and I was -- had an intern with me, and so the -- the young guy who was the intern was in my car and the congressman was driving separately, so we make several stops.

But there are other times -- like earlier this year, there was a Saturday event at Jane Lew with the -- the Volunteer Fire Department, and he had been in the district, and this was kind of on the -- on the back end of the -- of a trip where I drove to Jane Lew and then drove he and a -- and a -- I want to say at least a -- one staffer back to the -- back to the eastern part of the state. So that would --

Q    Okay.
A    Say March, maybe. Something like that.
Q    Okay. And then I just want to circle back quickly. I know you talked about that --
that one campaign event where you had either
picked up or dropped off the congressman and --
and he reimbursed you --

A    Yeah.

Q    -- for that mileage personally. Do you
know if he did that with other staffers or if that
-- if that was common?

A    My -- and, again, that time -- because
it was such an unusual event for me, but there had
been originally talk about being paid in gift
cards, and then a determination was made that that
was no longer an appropriate tool to use for such
reimbursements. And so that's where it came back
to him writing a -- a personal check to me for the
mileage that I accrued that day. That --

Q    Okay.

A    -- was my understanding of how that
worked, anyway.

Q    Okay. And do you -- do you recall when
that kind of policy changed happen, when -- when
it was decided that gift cards shouldn't be used
to reimburse staffers?
A: Again, if my memory is correct, that was either, like, July or August of 2020. And so it -- it probably would have been right around that period of time because, again, when that was initially talked about, you know, even after the fact, as I recall, that I was going to get reimbursed with -- with a gift card. And then they decided, no, that was not appropriate. So, again, at the end of the day, it kind of became a personal check being the reimbursement. It was -- they say it was at the Nemacolin Resort there in Southwestern Pennsylvania. I know it was --

Q: Okay.

A: -- it was -- it was an event for Republican members that they had planned on this, like, I guess, on a Friday evening.

Q: Okay. Just on the point of -- of those -- of those gift cards, had -- had you been ever -- had you ever been reimbursed, prior to that policy change, with a gift card?

A: Not that I recall. No.

Q: Okay. Do you know -- do you know of
anybody that was or do you recall any particular
instances of that happening?

A    Specifically, no. It's just my
understanding was -- was that was kind of the --
the policy of the camp, was to use gift cards as a
-- as a tool for reimbursement when things could
not be written off as some sort of work-related
mileage. But as to -- it's specific individuals,
you know, Rainer comes to mind as a possibility.
Again, I don't even know there for sure whether he
was actually ever reimbursed in that way or not.
I just don't know.

Q    Okay. I just want to make sure I
understood what you meant there. So you said the
gift card would be used -- and correct me if I'm
wrong. You said the gift card would be used to
reimburse somebody if it was determined that
mileage or something couldn't be written off as a
-- as a work expense?

A    That's correct. Yeah. That was -- that
was before they changed --

Q    Okay. Had you --
A -- what the policy was, yeah. I never saw it written down --

Q And when you say --

A -- or anything like that, but --

Q Okay. And when you say work event -- sorry, work reason, do you mean like official congressional work --

A Right.

Q -- as opposed to campaign -- as opposed to --

A Exactly.

Q -- campaign work?

A Exactly.

Q Okay. Okay. And then just quickly, on Rainer Kissel, you said that he -- he left -- can you remind me when -- when he stopped working for the -- for the member?

A My understanding was it was the end of last year, so it would have been December of 2020.

Q Okay. And do you know why he left?

A Rainer's, I think, in his seventies, and he had got his five years and so he was eligible
for a modest pension at that point, is my understanding. And -- so, yeah. Yeah. He just --

Q Okay.

A -- wanted to -- to -- and he -- I -- you know, I think he still occasionally does some things for the congressman, you know, just on a personal basis. But he's not an official employee anymore.

Q Okay. I think that's everything I have for that early August trip. Let me just look quickly and then I can move on. One thing I will ask you, just about that trip generally: Do you know -- were you involved in any of the payments for either hotels or meals on that trip, or seeking reimbursement for those?

A Yeah. The only thing that I was seeking reimbursement for was for that lunch in Moorefield. Matter of fact, again, it's on the -- the -- the -- my recently submitted expense report, where I paid for both mine and the congressman's lunch.
Q Okay. And that was -- that was a submission to get reimbursement from the MRA?
A Yeah. My -- as an official function.
Q Not --
A Yeah. Yeah. It's typical --
Q Official. Yup. Yup.
A -- reimbursement process for that trip.
I --
Q Yeah. I just mean I'm -- sorry. Go ahead.
A No. I just -- on that particular visit I -- I claim mileage and that lunch.
Q Okay. Yeah. I just meant -- I wasn't being clear. I just meant it was an official reimbursement as opposed to a campaign reimbursement?
A Correct. Right. That's my -- that's what I understood that to be what you were asking, yes.
Q Okay. And then, lastly, on that trip, are you -- are you aware of any communications with or discussions about addressing the trip with
the ethics committee?

A  I'm not following what you're asking, to be honest, Sean.

Q  I -- I'll give you a little -- I'll give you a little background. There was -- shortly after that trip -- I'm sure you get these updates from the ethics committee about certain issues that they want to address or -- or raise for members and staff. Sometimes they're referred to as pink sheets. And there was an e-mail sent out by the ethics committee shortly after -- it was a few weeks after this trip, that clarified rules about members making official visits to other districts, to other members districts. In particularly it was focusing on this idea of redistricting happening and --

A  Right.

Q  -- visiting districts that may become part of your district. Does that ring any bells? Were there any conversations about -- about that ethics guidance or conversations --

A  With the congressman?
Q -- with the ethics committee --
A With the congressman?
Q -- or -- or with anybody in the office.
A The -- the only thing that we've talked
-- and this really wasn't so much related to that
trip it's just the idea that, like, I attended,
like, a public hearing on redistricting in Keyser,
which is technically outside of the district, but
very close to the district, and it was a regional
meeting and so it was like sort of a justified
thing.

But that -- the person that manages so
-- sort of the fiscal affairs, [Current Staffer 3], was
expressing concern that staff be aware that
out-of-district travel is being scrutinized very
closely and -- and you need to be aware of those
things, and -- and, you know, just, you know, be
-- be mindful of those things. And that is -- you
know, unless there's a really good reason to do
it, it probably should be avoided. That was kind
of a lot, but, yeah --
Q Okay.
A -- the specific things from -- from the ethics committee, no. I -- I -- I really don't know much about that.

Q Okay. Do you remember when that conversation with [Current Staffer 3] was?

A I didn't actually talk to [Current Staffer 3] about it, but this was through Jean. Jean had talked to him about it and she -- she had mentioned it to me several times, you know, between, you know, August and September. You know, that's been kind of a theme for -- for her and the staff to -- to, you know, just be cognizant of those things, and -- and to -- to have good rationale for -- for visits like that.

Q Okay. Got you. Yeah. It sounds like that timing probably matches up with the ethics committee notice so that's --

A Yeah.

Q -- that makes sense. So that's --

A I'm sure that's where [Current Staffer 3] was probably getting that from and recognizing his, you know, sort of cautious red flag, if you will, to those
types of visits and everything. Right.

Q Right. Right. Okay. Great. Then I think we're done talking about that trip. I have sort of a -- I don't want to call it a laundry list because it's not particularly long, but a couple different items that we can hit --

A Sure.

Q -- that I'll ask you about and you may know nothing about them, and that's fine, you can just let me know. But if something rings a bell just -- just let me know and we'll kind of stop and -- and talk about it a little bit more. The first thing I want to ask you about, there was a -- I believe, a trip in March of this year to Aruba that the member took with his family. Are you familiar with that trip or do you know anything about it?

A Not really. No. I -- I may have heard it in conversation that they were taking a vacation, and I don't even recall much of that. So, yeah, very gray, my background on trips to Aruba.
Q  Okay. And then I -- I know you started in February of 2019 so you probably won't be familiar with this, but there was a celebration in 2018 of the congressman's birthday that happened on Capitol grounds, on the speaker's balcony. Do you know -- do know anything about that birthday celebration --
A  No. No. Uh-uh.
Q  -- or ever had any conversations with anybody?
A  No.
Q  Okay. Then we'll move on from that, too. I think you probably will be a little familiar with -- so our -- I think you know our office conducts reviews of members spending and conduct, and there was a previous review of -- of some of Representative Mooney's spending and conduct. And then we are now conducting this -- this second unrelated review. So I wanted to ask you about the -- the first one --
A  Sure.
Q  -- that happened earlier this year.
Were -- were you aware of that review as that was ongoing?

A  I mean, you know, once it -- well, I forget whether it was roll -- I think it was roll call. One of the -- you know, it became public, but, you know, in -- in conversations with [Former Staffer 1], he had mentioned and -- that there was a review going on and everything. This goes back, you know, late winter, spring at the very -- at the very latest, you know, I was aware of it.

Probably a little prior to that even, that there was some conversations taking place probably maybe even in the late last year perhaps. I'm not exactly sure when I first became aware of it, but, yeah, it was probably through [Former Staffer 1].

Q  Okay. And -- and what had -- what had [Former Staffer 1] told you about what was going on as far as you remember?

A  Yeah. My -- my discussions with him and -- they were strictly about, like, the trip. I want to say it was in May of '20, where I set up meetings for both Michael Hough and the
congressman. Although my -- most of my meeting set-ups were for Michael as opposed to the congressman. I think Rainer took care of the congressman's arrangements, as I recall. But I set up a couple of stops for Michael to make that were nearby where they were staying. I was a part of that.

Q    Okay. And what was -- can you just go into a little detail about which trip that was, when it was, and -- and where they were going?
A    That would've been the one to -- to the Smoke Hole Resort.
Q    Okay. Was this a staff -- an all-staff meeting?
A    No. No. No. This was just -- my understanding was -- was that they were going to the congressman and Michael and -- and perhaps family were going to be there for the weekend and -- or a day or two. I'm not sure what -- what the specifics of the itinerary were, but that -- you know, we were setting up meetings to go along with that visit as well.
Q    Okay. And remind me of the time frame
of that trip again.

A    I'm thinking it was May of -- of '20.
It sounds right. I could -- I could certainly
find out and look that up if need be. That was
one of the -- the items, as I recall, with the
initial investigation. That was one of the things
that was talked about.

Q    Okay. I think that I can follow up with
you --

A    Sure.

Q    -- if we need to, but I think -- I think
May 2020 serves our purposes for right now. Okay.
And then you -- so you said that that trip was
planned and you were setting up some meetings
related to that trip.

A    Correct.

Q    Do you -- do you recall what me -- do
you recall what -- what those meetings were, who
they were with?

A    Yeah. Yeah. The one meeting was with
the Hampshire County Economic Development
Authority director, her name is Eileen Johnson --
Ms. Eileen Johnson, and she's out of Romney, West Virginia. And then the second meeting, and the --
again, these are both for Michael. The second meeting that I set up was with Commissioner Gene McConnell from Pendleton County, West Virginia.

Q    Okay. And then back to -- kind of back to our -- our review. You said that you had talked to [Former Staffer 1] about that kind of in the context of he was collecting information about that trip because the OCE had asked about it?

A    Yes. Yeah. Yeah. He asked me to go back through my records to look at e-mails that I'd had, like, with the scheduler, [Former Staffer 2] or -- or Michael, or anybody else in that time frame to -- to kind of corral those, if you will, and forward those back to him. So that he would have those as part of what he was putting together for you-all is --

Q    Okay.

A    -- is my understanding. Yeah.

Q    Right. Yeah. That sounds about right.
We worked closely with [Former Staffer 1] on that so -- I'm sure that was a thankless task for him, collecting all those documents. So --

A I know he put a lot of time into the -- the -- the whole putting things together. Yeah. I don't know -- it's like I said, I know he was very busy in that stretch doing things.

Q Were there any other particular trips or items that -- that my office was inquiring about that you are involved in as far as collecting documents or providing information?

A No. My only -- and, again, this is just my personal sort of observation. It seemed like there may have been some confusion with some of those visits and some of the all-staff -- retreat that we had. I know -- I believe it was in October of -- of '19 that we had a staff retreat at Smoke Hole Ranch, that was indeed an all-staff retreat. And then I want to say -- trying to think when last year's was, it may have been October, a few days before the election. I know that -- in Canaan Valley Resort, and -- and
that was an all-staff meeting as well.

So at least in the reporting that I saw
on -- in the publications it looked like there may
have been some confusion as to, you know, what was
what, you know. Because I know there was a visit
that the Congressman made the Canaan Valley in
December of one year and that was different than
that. Then there was also that Smoke Hole Ranch
event that -- that he and Michael went to. Their
visit was, I believe, in like I say, in May of
'20, and -- and we also use that resort as an
all-staff retreat in the fall of '19, I believe.

Q    Right. Right. So -- great. So
multiple -- multiple stops at the same --
A    Yeah. Yeah.

Q    -- at the same spot? Okay. Any other
-- so -- any other conversations with [Former Staffer 1] or
anybody else in the office that -- that you can
recall about kind of collecting information or
documents that reflect --
A    [Former Staffer 1] would've been in conduit for that
information. And so I was relayed to kind of my
primary funnel, if you will, for any information
that would be forward through [Former Staffer 1]. Michael may
have asked me indirectly a time or two, but I
don't even recall that specifically, to be honest.

Q    Okay. Yeah. I was actually just going
to run through a couple of names real quick and --
A    Yeah.

Q    -- and you can tell me if you recall any
specific conversations.
A    Sure.

Q    So how about -- how about with [Former
Staffer 2]? I know that she was somewhat involved
in that process as well.
A    Yes.

Q    Did you have any conversation with her?
A    No. I would -- no. I just coordinate
with [Former Staffer 2] primarily through e-mail. We would
have a phone call on occasion, just, you know,
making sure that she got the information that I
was providing or, you know, that, hey, I just got
some e-mails from you, got us to chat about this
because as a scheduler of course, she was taking
care of all that stuff and everything. So, yeah.

Q  Okay. And then how about [Former Staffer 3]?

Any conversations --

A  Yes.

Q  -- with her about -- about that process?

A  Just indirect type of things, just an investigation was underway. Of course, she was handling some of the -- she was as -- my understanding is [Former Staffer 3] was both staff and campaign and that she was handling a lot of the expenses of the campaign and trying to keep track of that and it was kind of -- kind of jumbled up a little bit. [Former Staffer 3] was a young lady, kind of really had no -- didn't have a lot of experience doing that kind of thing. And so there was, you know, I guess some issues or problems with that, but I -- I wasn't aware of the specific so much.

I know she was nervous. If you will, just trying to handle all those things and everything. She -- she popped into the office here on occasion when -- because she would work over at the congressman's house on occasion, too,
and -- and that type of thing in the campaign role that she played. She'd -- she'd, you know, like I said be (inaudible) times on occasion in her role as a -- as a staffer as well, but not a whole lot.

Q    Okay. And then how about with Michael Hough? Any particular conversations about the review or -- or collecting documents?

A    Nothing in -- nothing in specific system. He and I that I can recall. I mean, Mike would -- would send out sort of the notifications to, you know, save all the documents, save all the e-mails, you know, be honest, straightforward, be cooperative, you know, just sort of a general sort of, you know, making staff aware and that you may be contacted. And if you are, you know, please follow through accordingly, you know, on a professional, honest, ethical way, you know, that type of thing.

Q    Okay. And then lastly, Representative Mooney. Any -- any conversations with him about the review or -- or the response to the review?

A    No. Nothing that I can recall of any
specific nature.

Q   Okay.  Okay.  And then just kind of
moving on down that laundry list.  One of the
things I want to talk about is the -- is the use
of staff for what potentially could be personal
errands.  If you either ever -- ever seen that or
had any concerns about that.  We can start kind of
generally and -- and then I'll -- I'll ask you
some more specific questions, but I guess a direct
question being -- have -- have you ever had any
cconcerns about staff being used for personal
errands?

A   Yeah.  I mean, there were some sort of
times where people would be like, you know,
running one of their kids to class.  Heard
rumblings that, you know, previous staff members
had sort of babysit the younger child before that
type of thing, you know, I've heard rumblings
about Ranier doing things for the family, you
know, car repairs, that type of thing.  So -- and
in all honesty, yeah, you know, I definitely had
heard sort of, kind of I'm blurring other lines,
if you will.

Q    Okay. We can run through some of those specifics. Let's -- let's take those couple of examples that you gave me just kind of one-by-one quickly. So first you said running -- running kids to class?

A    Yeah. I know the oldest son took some classes at Blue Ridge here in Martinsburg, the -- the community college or the technical and community College here. And my understanding was is that there had been times where perhaps somebody gone to pick one of the kids, you know, pick him up that type of thing. I don't think it was a normal part of the -- of the schedule, but just on occasion when there was need, I think Mrs. Mooney probably did a lot of that. Again, I'm speculating on that -- that type of thing.

Q    When you say Mrs. Mooney did -- did a lot of that, you mean made those requests?

A    No. No. It was just -- would happen on a -- and I don't even know who would make the request quite frankly. I know one time I was with
the -- literally the -- the community college is
like a half-mile off Interstate 81 and sign out
one time I was driving somewhere. It's been a
long time ago, probably back '18 and like, Oh, can
we drop my son off at school?

You know, and like I said, it was a
very, very minor blip off what the normal route
would have been. Certainly seemed very reasonable
thing to do at the time. Now, like I said for
other things where, you know staff had babysat or
picked up one of the kids somewhere, that type of
thing.

Q    I think maybe I misunderstood what you
had said earlier. Did you mean if that normally
was Mrs. Mooney that would pick up the --

A    Yeah. That was my understanding that
she would probably be the one who was doing that
or even -- even (inaudible) Lala possibly. I --
I'm not sure specifics like it probably varied
from day to day and time to time.

Q    Do you remember who told you that they
had picked up the older son from Community
College? Do you know who might have done that.

A    Maybe Rainer, you know, it's possible.

Q    And then you mentioned babysitting
sometimes. Do you recall any specific incidents
or any -- any specifics staffers that might have
done that?

A    Yeah. This -- this goes back to when
Hannah, I think, Mansell -- Hannah Mansell if
you heard that name, that she was part staff, part
campaign and I heard from others, you know, that
sometimes she would take care of the kids, watch
the kids on occasion while she was working in the
house on the campaign staff. But, again, I --
that was second, third-hand information. So
wasn't anything I can specifically attest to. You
know, actually. Did it occur when it occurred or
anything like that?

Q    Okay. And then quickly this on -- on
those first two running kids to classes or baby
sitting. Do you know -- did those happen sort of
during traditional work hours like, you know, 9:00
to 5:00 or 9:00 to 6:00?
A    I'm -- I'm sure they did. I'm sure they did. Yeah.

Q    You also mentioned Rainer doing car repairs. Can you go into a little more detail about that?

A    This is the idea that I know the -- the Mooney's had older vehicles typically, and Rainer would on occasion make sure they were operational, I guess if you trying to make because he's -- he's -- he's very skilled in that regard. And so he was -- I think he was pretty helpful to the Mooney's as far as the maintenance of their vehicles, helping them was in that regard. Not -- not -- not solely him, of course, but -- but just would -- would take care of some things when they needed to be done if they were minor nature, that type of thing.

Q    Okay. And -- and just to make sure I understand, you don't mean that he would take the car into like a car repair shop. You mean he would -- he would actually do the repairs on the car?
A    Probably both, I'm guessing.
Q    Okay.
A    Sometimes it would be to a repair shop, sometimes he would do work himself. That's my understanding.
Q    Okay. I have some kind of examples we could go through or -- or not actual examples, just kind of hypothetical situations. But is there anything before we go through that kind of list? Anything else off the top of your head that -- that you can think of that falls into that category of things that seemed like they might have been personal errands?
A    You know, I -- I -- I can't -- I can't really think of anything. At one time I did a little work for the daughter. She was doing a saying what the daughter was calling a read program for -- for -- for children and it was a nice school project. And I got a couple of contexts for her, you know, but it wasn't anything very time-consuming or anything else, but, no. Other than that, not really, you know.
Q: Just taking that maybe that example of a -- that situation. Just having an example. Do you recall who -- who originally asked you to help her with that project?

A: I think they communicated through [Former Staffer 1] to me and then I exchanged a couple of e-mails with the daughter.

Q: Okay.

A: Yeah.

Q: And then like I said, we can go through a couple sort of hypothetical or sort of typical instances and -- and you can tell me if they ring a bell, or if you think of any new --

A: Okay.

Q: So maybe we can talk about the tasks for particular family members. Do you remember anything that you did for -- let's take Grace Mooney first?


Q: No? Okay. Or how about I think you've mentioned represented Mooney's mother, Lala?
A Yeah. No.
Q Any recall --
A No. I mean, you know, I consider Lala a friend and we communicate on personal e-mails and stuff, but have not really done anything on office time that would sort of go beyond, you know, what would normally take place. You know, like I said, I consider her a friend and somebody that obviously cares a lot of about her son. She's probably -- she's -- she's probably his most ardent supporter and she gets out and about and visits a lot of folks and everything. As -- as, you know, for an 80-year-old woman, she's the sweetest lady. So, yeah.
Q Okay. Any more sort of driving related tasks that you can think of or specific incidents where -- where you think the -- the trip was for a personal purpose as opposed to official or campaign?
A Nothing that involved me. The -- the only time, quite frankly I can recall that I did anything on a personal basis that Jane road trip
earlier this year where it was a Saturday and
congressman, after that trip, instead of going
home, went to her home in Virginia, sort of, I
guess it'd be east of the Winchester area to visit
a friend that they were having a little get
together with folks for UFC or one of them, I
don't know.

Probably UFC type fight thing and you
know, I claim mileage. I forget whether it was to
the district office to my house, but I didn't
claim anything beyond that. Just sort of aid
those costs because I knew they were legitimate
cost to make beyond what I should claim. So --

Q  Okay. Right.
A  Yeah.

Q  Do -- do you recall about how long that
-- that detour to that friend's house was?
A  For me, is probably a round trip of 60
maybe 70 miles from, you know --

Q  In addition -- in addition --
A  -- in addition to what I would have
claimed. I -- I don't know the exact figure --
the exact number, but it was probably something 
1 close to that. And that -- and that would be the 
2 -- the grand total. So 30, 35 miles each 
3 direction.

Q    Great. And then just thinking about 
4 that as an example. How -- how was that request 
5 made to you or -- or described to you?

A    Yeah. I mean, we were -- we were -- we 
6 were driving headed back. He said, Oh, by the 
7 way, could you run me over to this friend's house? 
8 We're going over there and then my understanding 
9 was the son was already there and they were going 
10 to drive back in their personal vehicle, you know, 
11 that type of thing. So --

Q    Did -- was there any recognition from 
12 Representative Mooney that this was a personal 
13 favor or a personal trip as opposed to work or did 
14 it come as kind of just a standard type of work 
15 request that he would make? Can you drive me --

A    It was Saturday and it was Saturday 
16 evening and it was getting late and they -- they 
17 -- they, I guess had that planned and so because
we were getting probably back later than anticipated perhaps, I'm not even sure about that. Can I run them over there? Would that be okay? And I said sure.

Q    Okay.
A    You know, and it was not asked that I not report it or anything. I just took it upon myself to say look, that's not something I can claim officially. So I didn't.

Q    Great. For -- in any discussion that you -- that you have with anybody else, either Rainer or discussions about like Hannah looking after the kids. Did you get an impression from those individuals about -- about how they received those requests? Did they understand them as personal errands that they could turn down or did -- or was this just seen as sort of, you know, understood that this was part of your -- your job as far as -- yeah. Was it -- was it understood that that was, you know, standard or -- or a normal part of their job?
A    I -- I know that such requests probably
-- well, not on a regular basis, were not
infrequent either. I never had a conversation
with Hannah about those things like I said.
Rainer I would talk to on occasion and, you know,
just I think he, [Former Staffer 1], [Former Staffer 2], others kind of
would express concern that, you know, some of
these things were certainly not appropriate, if
you will, and sort of go beyond what should be
asked of a staff person. I can say I don't --

Q    Did --
A    -- regular, but I -- but on the other
hand, I -- they -- they did occur on -- on number
of occasions.

Q    Okay. Did -- did you ever get an
impression from them or have a conversation about
whether or not they felt comfortable saying no to
the congressman?

A    No. I -- I mean, I -- [Former Staffer 2] probably
would be uncomfortable saying no, I would think.

That was my impression. I don't think [Former Staffer 1] would
be uncomfortable saying no, you now, Rainer,
because you'd have to understand who Rainer is and
-- and he's really kind of a very strong supporter of the congressman, felt like it was -- you know, I mean, he -- he would sometimes express concern. But the other hand, he would also willingly do it. It wasn't like -- so I don't know whether he felt uncomfortable saying no or not, but it seemed like he was willingly wanting to do things, just be helpful and supportive over the time that he was with the congressman.

Q    Okay. Understood. Did you ever hear about any tasks related to dry cleaning or -- or laundry -- the personal attire?

A    I mean, vaguely I may recall like fearing like maybe Hannah pickup the laundry or something like that. I -- I have no direct knowledge of that occurring. Just sort of indirect conversations that, you know, hadn't occurred and that would have been a very -- I may have heard that once or twice, you know, during my tenure here. Nothing recently in that regard, but, yeah, I -- I can't say that I've never heard it.
Okay. And then, just generally, you know, you know, I know Rainer retired, and I -- I don't think Hannah spoke to the congressman anymore --

No. She had been throw --

-- so there is -- you know. Okay. In hearing about turnover in the office or -- or people leaving, did you ever get the impression that anybody left or that part of the reason for their departure was because they wouldn't do these sorts of tasks for the congressman?

The only person that I -- that I got the impression left that was encouraged to leave, let me put it that way, maybe would be [Former Staffer 3], just because she was not doing the best of work on tracking the finances and -- and -- and so forth.

Then off course recently there was [Former Staffer 6] who was dismissed for -- I would kind of call it insubordination.

Okay. Yeah, we can come -- one of the laundry list items is -- is [Former Staffer 6] so we can -- we can come back to that in a second. So you said
you -- your impression about [Former Staffer 3] departure was -- was more related to the quality of her work and less to do with --

A Well, I mean --

Q -- agreeing to or not agreeing --

A -- she left to get another job. I'm sorry. I'm -- I'm talking over you. I apologize.

Q No.

A She left to --

Q Go ahead.

A -- get another job on the Hill. I believe it was Congressman Livingston's office in Louisiana is my recollection. It's like I said, I don't think she was fired. I do know there was displeasure with some of her work performance.

Q Okay.

A So it -- it may have been sort of a mutually -- a mutual thing, if you will.

Q Okay. But did -- did you -- I had originally asked the question, you know, did anybody depart basically because they wouldn't do those sorts of personal errands. And -- and you
mentioned [Former Staffer 3] but it sounds like maybe her
departure had more to do with the quality of her
work --

A    Yeah -- yeah --
Q    -- or was it also --
A    -- that -- that --
Q    -- or what -- okay.
A    No. I -- I don't know of anything
specific in that regard for anybody that they were
asked to do something and they didn't do it, and
therefore were -- were kind of forced out. I
don't have any recollection of anything like that.
The only --
Q    Okay.
A    -- staff turnover evident, you know,
within the last three to six months, you know,
there's been a -- a -- a number of folks leaving.
Anything I would say about their departures would
be speculative. I know [Former Staffer 1] situation and he's
got a -- he got a great job at [REDACTED] and I
told him, I -- I thought it was, like, his perfect
job. So I -- I think that was a natural thing for
him. I know he had been kind of looking to leave
at some point and COVID kind of reduced those
opportunities, if you will.

But this seemed like a natural move for
him to make. You know, [Former Staffer 2] departure,
Lynn's departure, Garrett's departure, I mean,
again, they were all going to other folks. So I
think there was probably, even in [Former Staffer 1] case,
concern about sort of the investigations, and
where that was leading, and everything, and that
-- that may have played a role in their decisions.
I -- I can't speak to what their actual rationale
was or not in regard to the ethics issues with the
congressman.

Q Okay. Understood. Let's -- and then
just quickly just to make sure I understood the
full story on [Former Staffer 1]. Other than -- than the

was there -- was there anything else
kind of leading to his departure, any -- any
concerns of either his work or -- or his
willingness to do sorts of -- the sort of personal
errands that we talked about?
A    Yeah. I'll tell you [Former Staffer 1] was held in very high regard by, I think, both Michael and the congressman for the -- the thoroughness and professionalism of his work. And I can attest to that myself that -- that [Former Staffer 1] was a -- was a great district director. And the -- the only thing I can say to -- to -- to [Former Staffer 1] and the -- and the congressman was that there would -- there would be some frustration, you know, primarily him not getting out and -- and being out and about as much as, you know, he would like.

I think there was -- I think probably there was a general consensus amongst most staff that they wish he was out in the field more, meeting with constituents, talking to folks, having events, you know. I know in my life I've been around number of political folks, congressman, even senators, and it feels like they're a little more active than Congressman Mooney.

Q    Okay. All right. So then -- then, generally, he departed on pretty -- on good terms,
I guess?

A    Oh, yeah. Yeah. Without a doubt. I mean, I think they -- both the congressman and Michael would -- would say they really hated to see him go just because he was so professional and so dependable.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Great. We've been going for about an hour and 20 minutes. I hope we'll wrap-up relatively soon, probably in the next 20 minutes or so. But do you need to take a break either for water, or bathroom, or anything?

THE WITNESS: I got a couple of water here. I'm great. I'm fine. If you need to do so, I'm good, too. So whatever you need to do, Sean.

MR. QUINN: Why don't -- why don't we take a quick five-minute break off --

THE WITNESS: Okay.

MR. QUINN: -- the record. I'm just going to look back at my notes and make sure we've covered most things and then I'll try to tighten everything up so that we can get out of here --
THE WITNESS: Sounds good.

MR. QUINN: -- quickly.

THE WITNESS: All right.

MR. QUINN: Okay. So -- so then Kevin, we can go off the record and then I'm just going to mute my video and audio for a few minutes and why don't we -- I'll turn everything back on in about five minutes.

THE WITNESS: Sounds good.


THE REPORTER: Off record --

MR. QUINN: Thanks, Current Staffer 2.

THE REPORTER: -- 11:19 a.m.

(Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

THE REPORTER: Back on the record.

11:24 a.m.

BY MR. QUINN:

Q Okay. The only thing -- I just reviewed my notes almost making sure I'd covered everything. The -- the one thing I did want to ask you about a little more quickly, the issue of the gift card being used as a reimbursement
method. I know you said that policy sort of changed -- changed at one point. Can you remind me when you think that -- that happened?

A    Yeah. Again, it -- it was at July or August of 2020.

Q    Okay. Go.

A    So that -- remember that visit was to Nemacolin. The original conversation primarily with [Former Staffer 3] was that I'd be reimbursed with a gift card. And then --

Q    Right.

A    -- that later -- and it sort of in process of getting that turned around. Said, Oh, we -- we shouldn't do that. So we're going to just -- he ended up giving me a personal check for it.

Q    Okay. And then do you recall -- do you know how that -- how that policy change happened, or who recommended it, or who identified it as an issue?

A    No. [Former Staffer 3] didn't really go into much detail about it. So I don't recall much of the --
the logic. I -- I -- Mike -- Michael may have
said something in passing about the -- the -- the
reasons why, but I don't even recall what those
were to be honest. It was kind of confusing to me
anyway as to why they originally thought it was,
you know, sort of a proper reimbursement tool and
-- and then what it's not.

Q    And then do you recall any other uses
for those gift cards or -- or did you see any
other use for those gift cards?
A    No. Aside from what I saw in the -- in
the report that came out, you know, that they were
used on a -- I guess, on a variety of ways and I'm
-- I'm not even sure specifically how they were
used beyond, you know, like for campaign related
expenses and that type of thing. But yeah.

Q    Okay. Okay. Great. Then let's move on
to talking quickly about [Former Staffer 6]. I know you
mentioned you were aware some of the circumstances
of his departure.
A    Right.
Q    And can you just -- can you just tell me
about that generally?

   A    My impression about what happened there was that he was in a conversation with a gentleman who I had also talked to before too and actually had meetings with Chuck de Caro. And original meetings were to you'd like to meet with a congressman and he had some concerns about international relations affairs. He had a background that, you know, he was a CNN reporter a while back. He had done instruction at military for military officers in the past. He had been a special ops guy himself back when he was much younger.

   So, you know, certainly I took a meeting with the guy and I recommended actually that the -- the congressman meet with him. They didn't want to. I guess that was an irritant to Chuck. And he told me as much and began writing some series of articles in the American Greatness, I guess it's a podcast or something or it's actually on the web, too, written articles that were pretty scathing of the congressman and Michael in
particular. Congressman (inaudible) with him as well. And you know, they -- his wife is the former Headline News anchor for CNN.

And so they live in Harpers Ferry, so they're constituents as well. And I told folks, you know, I don't agree with -- I don't think I told this to Michael or the congressman, but I think I basically felt like, you know, Chuck was kind by of an East Coast kind of guy and kind of had the same mentality that, like, a President Trump would have, that if -- if he wouldn't, you know, if -- if you diss me, I was going to diss you harder kind of thing. And so I think that was kind of the -- the logic of Chuck's motivation in doing some of those articles.

I think from what I understand, [Former Staffer 6] was sort of a mole for him in the office. Chuck never told me that. He never gave me a name. But as putting -- connecting the dots, it appears to [Former Staffer 6] was that individual. And from what my understanding with the investigation they did, they found out that he had had correspondence with
and conversations with Chuck and was divulging internal matters that were -- were very unprofessional in nature and led to his dismissal.

Q Okay. And so you said -- you said that you had had some initial meetings with Mr. de Caro --

A And even conversations --

Q -- when --

A -- after the fact, too. Even after some of the articles had been written he had called me a couple of times, and I'd even met with him a couple of times because I was still trying to encourage them to meet with him. And again, that was, yeah. They just thought he was this crazy guy, and a mean guy, and they didn't want anything to do with him. Everything. And my final conversation with him was probably maybe two months ago.

And I said, pretty much, Chuck, you know, I understand your frustration. I wish they'd meet with you, too, but they're not. And, you know, you know, you're doing a lot of harm to
the -- the most conservative guy in the state as far as members of Congress, and is that what you really want? Because Chuck always portrayed himself as very a conservative guy. And so -- excuse me, I got a --

MR. QUINN: Hope no complaints if you need to take a break.

A You know -- you know, look at where you're headed with this and is this what you're really want to do just because he won't meet with you? And so I don't know how much influence, if any, that had with Chuck, but I've -- there have not been any articles since then.

So like I say, I was trying to kind of look out for the congressman's mom in the process and just kind of have conversations with her about her meetings with Chuck. And, again, those were all sort of not -- not on any official capacity, but just sort of off the record stuff that I and her and I had private conversations about with Chuck -- about Chuck, if you will, and I was just kind of looking out for her, too, but -- and that
was the nature of things.

Q    So was -- was Chuck in conversation with
Lala also?

A    They actually he met with -- Lola met
with Chuck and his wife for a lunch one Saturday,
awhile back, I would say probably April, maybe.

Something like that.

Q    April of 2021?

A    Yeah -- yeah. It was this year. It was
April or May, something like that.

Q    I think we'll return to the kind of
specific interactions with -- with Chuck. But I
wanted to ask more generally about policies around
interacting with the press or how staff interact
with the press. Is -- is that part of -- do you
consider that part of your duties --

A    No. As a matter of fact --

Q    -- one of them is to interface with the
press?

No. No. It's not an policies during

clearing the office about that, you know, really

-- the communications director, Chief of Staff,
the congressman, are the only people that should
be talking to the press. And then the Chuck
situation, his original representation was not as
a member of press. It was as a like constituent
-- it's kind of morphed into him writing articles
and becoming a member of the press at that point.

And -- so, yeah, the original thing was
just same as a constituent, and, quite frankly,
you know, his motivation, again, he had some
concerns, he wanted to, you know, be the
congressman about international concerns, China,
you know, Russia, had a really good background and
those types of issues. But then, that also
morphed into more his idea that I really liked to
sit down and helped the congressman do a better
job of -- of standing up for conservative values.

And he's on the same committee as AOC
and Maxine Waters, the Financial Services
Committee and Chuck's idea was he should be going
after those folks all the time and given his
background, you know, as a -- as a Hispanic
himself, you know, he couldn't be -- he could
consider himself a minority, if you will. And so nobody could say he was this white guy going after women of color or other ethnic origin, that type of thing. And his idea was, you know, you got this bully pulpit, you should use it and you should, you know, dress better.

His background in TV, you should make your appearances, you know, he was saying, I went to help him do a better job of doing his job. And they just, you know, turned the deaf ear to all of that stuff. My -- my words to, like, Lynn Hatcher and others, [Former Staffer 1], was, you know, if he would just meet with this guy, I don't think he's a type of guy that would, you know, after you met with him and maybe you might like, you know, I mean, they -- he brings a lot of things to the table that -- some expertise that maybe helpful. He's not wanted to get paid for anything.

I don't want to be paid for anything. I just want be, you know, help this guy do his job, you know. That was his kind of mindset. So whatever reason that never came to fruition and I
could say, my last contact with Chuck was just try
to encourage him to cease and desist, if you will.

Q Okay. So you said last contact was
about two months ago. Can --

A Yeah, give or take. Yeah.

Q Do you recall the -- the first time you
spoke to him?

A I think our first meeting --

Q Like when that was.

A It was like a meeting request and I
think it was March of this year. And I did set
something up for -- for him to also meet with
senator Capito's office as well. So we had a
joint meeting in our offices here in Martinsburg
to have, you know, that again, was more on the
international side of things and that was kind of
the initial point of a conversation, like I say,
then they kind of morphed into this more, I can be
a help to the congressman, help him do a better
job. That's appearance and sort of rhetoric and
everything.

Q And then I think at some point,
obviously Mr. Hough and Representative Mooney became aware of Chuck -- or Mr. de Caro, weren't happy with those interactions and -- and they warned staff off of speaking to Mr. de Caro; is that right?

A    Right -- right.

Q    Okay. And when do you -- do you recall when that happened?

A    That would probably be June of this year. And I did have conversations with Mr. de Caro after that. Quite frankly, I did not contact him. He contacted me on my personal cell phone. And so those conversations were response to him calling me.

Q    Okay. And do -- were Mike -- Mike Hough and Representative Mooney were in those conversations?

A    I don't know about specific -- the specific conversations, but I think in general they were aware that I had talked with him and at some point they -- they came back to me and said, look, like you really just need to quit talking to
this guy. And so I did. You know, and he I
again, like I said my last conversation was more
of Chuck you just need to cease and desist.
You're not -- this is not going to go anywhere.
And, you know, let's -- let's, you know,
hopefully damage has already been done -- done and
-- and anymore damage would not be helpful to the
cause, so to speak. If you're really a
conservative guy and want to see conservative
things happen, you're going after the one true
conservative in the West Virginia delegation that
really sort of stands for conservative values and
so forth. So that was my -- that was my message
to Chuck, in the last time I talked to him.

MR. QUINN: Okay. I want to understand
a little bit. I'll -- I'll preface some of these
questions with saying I understand this can be
sensitive issues, particularly for you since
you're still on Representative Mooney's office.
So if -- if anything we've talked about today --
so I'll preface that with, if anything, we talked
about today is particularly sensitive for you, I
hadn't explained before, but when witnesses cooperate we itemize their names and reports -- actually can -- can we go off the record for one second while I just explained that?

THE REPORTER: Off the record about 11:38 a.m.

(Whereupon, a discussion was held off the record.)

THE REPORTER: Back on the record, 11:40 a.m.

BY MR. QUINN:

Q So I wanted to ask, you know, I know you said that there at some point, was a warning to stop not to talk to Chuck. And that's all of your conversations with Chuck continued after that? It sounds like maybe Mike and Representative Mooney were generally aware that you were in contact with him, but maybe not, you know, appraised of the specifics of your conversation?

A Right.

Q Does that sound about accurate?

A Yeah. I don't know after how much
awareness they had or didn't have, but, you know
my motivation was again, kind of twofold, well,
threefold. I was trying to look out after his
mother a little bit because I knew she was still
in contact with him to some level, or was planning
to be. And so I was trying to be sort of a
guardian of her, if you will, on case she needed
any help, guidance, that type of thing. And then,
again, I was also concerned about the nature of
the articles, that they were hostile in nature and
that they were doing damage.

I was trying to, at the end, like I say,
especially trying to encourage him to kind of just
turn off the spigot it so to speak, You know,
basically asking where it's just going to go. You
know, you -- you had your fun and you -- you kind
of, you know, made light at some things and saying
but at the end of the day, where is this going to
go? What's -- what's your goal here and you
really want to maintain sort of having somebody
with some real solid conservative values, then
you're really kind of going after the wrong guy,
you know, that type of things.

So again, I don't know what really happened to her or what his motivation was to stop and whether he will continue at some point in the future. I don't know. I have no idea. But that was the extent of it.

And I guess, and the third thing, quite frankly, and I was at the August 2nd lunch and we talked about Chuck in Moorfield, and, you know, both the congressman and his wife were both like, Oh, we've seen people like this before, and we just did not even talk with them. And I'd hoped that they would actually -- I thought there was somebody to talk about, except both, just from getting him to be more cooperative, but also there could be some things they could learn from him given his past background and TV and -- and he was a Screen Actors Guild member.

He was a consultant to JAG and NCIS television shows and had some expertise that they kind of overlooked, I think, or didn't want to factor into the equation. I was just trying to be
helpful to the member and -- and I really thought that the end of the day there -- there could be some things that might be some benefits that he could offer, but I cannot -- that was not something they thought and so ultimately that's their call to make.

Q Okay. Do you know was the congressman aware that his mother and Chuck --

A Yeah.

Q -- were having conversations?

A Yeah. And they were both -- him especially, he was very direct to his mother about, you know, not talking to him.

Q Okay. And then we've talked about how you piece together or it's your opinion that Chuck was also talking to [Former Staffer 6] --

A Yeah.

Q And -- and -- and you talked about basically sort of an investigation or an internal investigation that maybe like and the congressman did to figure out who was talking to Chuck. Can you -- can you tell me what you know about that --
that process or that situation?

A    You know, I don't know much about it except that they were -- they were basically going through, you know, staff, official e-mails and -- and -- and sort of correspondence things.

Their original assumption was that they had been hacked, you know, and I -- I doubted that was very much the case because, and I don't know Chuck super well, but I know him well enough to -- to relay thing that -- that was not something in his own way, he's a man of integrity, too, and I would never think he would stoop to that level of -- of -- and I don't know that he had the expertise to do it quite frankly, but, again, I think that was their original assumption.

And then once they started going through and kind of did the internal investigation and found out what [Former Staffer 6] was doing, they realized that, you know, he was the leak, so to speak.

Q    Okay. So I wanted to ask since -- since you were in conversation with Mr. de Caro and some of those conversations were after staff had been
warned not to talk to him. And I guess you
understood that they were sort of doing an
investigation to under -- to figure out where the
leaks were coming from. Did you have any concern
that you were going to be, you know, kind of swept
up in that or -- or that they might say that you
were the source of those leaks.

A    I mean, you know, that crosses your
mind. I mean, I know I had nothing -- I didn't
feel like I had anything to hide that's why I
think I'm with you today, too, quite frankly, I --
I don't -- my motives in this whole process to try
and be of help to the congressman, not to harm
him. And so -- and -- and to help his mother as
well as who I genuinely like and who, I think an
awful a lot of, you know, so like I say my -- my
motivations I -- I guess they were multiple
motivations, if you will, in the whole process.

In that dialogue. I don't -- I don't
know that I talked to Chuck Mr. de Caro after I
knew there was an internal investigation going on,
I just -- those time frames were very close
together. That internal investigation didn't
start until in the late July, the earliest would
be my guess. I'd have to look back and see
precisely, but that sounds about right.

Q Okay. And I don't want you to speculate
too much, so just let me know if you don't have an
answer to this, but you -- you described that you
weren't too concerned about the investigation
because you knew your motivations and -- and felt
like your conversations with Mr. de Caro were kind
of in Representative Mooney's interest
understanding that it appears [Former Staffer 6] was let go
because of his communications with Chuck, how do
you think they were different? Do you think his
-- his motivation was different or --

A Oh, yeah. No -- no. I think there was a
purposeful intent on his part to -- to feed
information to Mr. de Caro that was used in those
articles to, I guess, inflict pain/damage on the
congressman and Mike and everybody else, you know,
so in that, his motivation I would think is -- is
almost a 180 from mine as to -- and why he
wanted to -- why he did that, I -- I have no clue.

[Former Staffer 6] was -- is a bright young man. I think the congressman genuinely liked him. I think Michael genuinely liked him.

And why he saw fit to kind of, sort of feed that process is beyond my ability to comprehend that, if you will. You know, And I would -- I would offer that there's two shots. I -- there was -- I had a legitimate concern, you know, I mean, I -- I -- I know my -- in my own heart what it was, but their interpretation of what I was doing at some point I, you know, I said, you know, who knows, you know, at the end of the day I can, you know, if it came -- came to, like, was my head held -- help -- head-held high, so to speak.

But I certainly didn't know the interpretation Michael or the congressman might make in that regard as well so --

Q Okay. Did -- did you end up ever having, as a result of that investigation, did you ever end up having a conversation with Mike or the
representative that was sort of, you know, like

Come to Jesus moment about communications with
Chuck, did they say like, Hey, you need a cut --
you need to cut communication --

A Yeah. No. Yeah, I mean, I tried to be

upfront with them. I'm sorry. I talk over you

again, I apologize. I -- I tried to be upfront

with them as much as I could. Like I say, at that

-- at that August 2nd lunch, you know, we did talk

about some -- to some degree, and I -- I -- I'm

almost a hundred percent sure I have not talk with

Chuck after that lunch. And so, yeah, I mean, no,

they -- they just had a different interpretation

of him and who he was and, you know, at -- at the

end of day it was all who made their call as to

whether or not to -- to use him.

Like I said, my attitude was you could

have avoided all of these issues and problems with

him had you just taken the time to -- to meet with

him and -- and perhaps and -- and again, whether

or not they would have ever taken him up on his

offer to help I'd have no idea, probably not. But
at least meeting with the guy and giving him a
sort of chance to offer some guidance and
direction I think whether, you know, spend a half
hour, go have coffee with him in Harpers Ferry or
something, you know, but --

Q Right.
A -- they didn't see fit to do that.

Q Okay. And -- and then focusing again a
little bit on -- on [Former Staffer 6], we, as I sort of just
explained to you, keep witnesses anonymous and --
and don't disclose who we talk to and -- and don't
talk to.

So I'm not making any representations
about whether or not we have talked to [Former Staffer 6] but
of our understanding from Representative Mooney
and his counsel is that they are concerned about
our perception of -- of [Former Staffer 6] firing and have
explained to us why -- why [Former Staffer 6] was let go and
-- and in that process, have -- have essentially
made the argument to the -- the OCE that they
believed [Former Staffer 6] spoke to the OCE and that that is
not the reason that they -- that they let him go.
Have you heard anything about those sorts of concerns that part of the [Former Staffer 6] departure had to do --

Q    No.
A    -- with his involvement with OCE?

A    No. I -- they -- really until your request to interview me, I never even made the connection that [Former Staffer 6] and you already had talked or may have talked and that I certainly had no inclination or -- or that even the slightest motivation in his dismissal had to do with any conversations he had with your all's office. No.

Q    Okay. Are there -- are there any other members of the press that -- that you've had communications with other than to Chuck de Caro to the extent that we're going to call -- try to call a member of the press?

A    Right. Exactly, I know. It's kind of a --

Q    Any -- any --
A    -- I have not that I can -- that I can recall. I mean, I've been to a few events where
I've had a photograph taken and, you know, or had
some remarks said at an event where maybe some
things talked about that I said like in a letter
or something from the congressman but had as to
being interviewed or having conversations with or
anything like that, no.

Q    Okay. And then how about in the process
of that internal investigation, did you hear about
either [Former Staffer 6] or any other staffers speaking to
any other members of the press?

A    No. No.

Q    And then how about anybody else talking
to Mr. de Caro? Any other staff members other
than you and [Former Staffer 6]?

A    Not -- let me think. I did not -- I
mean, [Former Staffer 2] talked to him initially, I believe as
far as the scheduling requests and I don't even
know if that's accurate or not, but I think that's
true. But aside from that, I -- I don't know of
anybody else on-staff that aside from answering a
phone call or something like that would have --

[Current Staffer 1] may have. No, but I think [Current Staffer 1] may have
-- he may have contacted [Current Staffer 1] or something, but
I think that was very minimal --

Q     Yes.
A     -- but going to say other than that, I
don't know of anybody.

Q     Okay. I think we're almost done, just
looking through some of my notes. I'm making sure
I didn't miss anything.

One thing I'll ask you, going back to
talking about the first review and collecting
documents and information, I -- I know we talked
about [Former Staffer 1] involvement in that process and
[Former Staffer 2] and I think [Former Staffer 3] to some extent, and did
-- did you ever have any conversations with them
or concerns on your own about whether documents
were being collected thoroughly or whether
documents were being deleted or withheld from the
OCE or tampered with in any way?

A     Not whatsoever. No.

Q     Okay. Then last couple of questions for
you are just kind of more general questions. Is
-- is there anything that we haven't talked about
today that you see as a concern that you would want us to be aware of? You know, we've talked about some various trips and using staff for personal errands. Any other issues that -- that you've noticed in your time at Representative Mooney's office that -- that you think we should be aware of?

A: You know, I -- I think some of those things you're -- you're already aware of, you know. I think staff has always, you know, that I've been around, you know, this place express a little bit of concern of, you know, him just being a little -- I'm trying to think of the right words. I don't -- I don't think it's intentional sort of thing. Just not being thorough and thinking it through how what should be considered an expenditure.

I know a couple of times I've ended up eating costs just because he bought some things and I put on -- on my card and he said, Well, just write those off, and I never felt comfortable writing them off, because they seemed more
personal in nature than they were sort of legitimate. Like, it was beyond just, you know, buying a loaf of bread at a -- at the -- at the garden market or something that wasn't just for lunch right then that was going to be taken home, you know, that type of thing.

You know, it's just kind of gray areas and things, but I just, you know, I -- I -- I always erred on the side of caution on those things and I don't think he necessarily does. I'll just put it that way.

Q  Okay. Do -- do you have any specific recollections about those sorts of things, that -- costs you might have eaten that -- that you think the congressman considered official, but -- but you weren't comfortable with?

A  Yeah. I mean, I can say I just -- the one thing that always came to my mind was that the Wardensville garden market, this would have been -- it's been a while ago. It was probably -- I don't know whether it was in 2020 or 20 -- it's probably in 2019, maybe. I'm not even remembering
when, but it was just -- he bought several items
that clearly were for -- I thought for family use
and I just wasn't comfortable putting them on my
expense report, you know. I can't say I --

Q    Okay. So -- so you were at -- you were
at a grocery store and -- and you had purchased
them on your card, but he was taking them --

A    Yeah, it was actually a --

Q    -- taking them home?

A    -- a garden market kind of sort of a
thing where they grew there things and they made
-- it was like a bakery and, you know, that type
of thing and -- and it was a good stop for him to
make him say hello to folks and -- and you know,
the -- the congressman I mean, you know, the
initial report talked about him going to lunch and
shaking hands and then claiming that as a campaign
expense and -- and, you know, I've seen him do
that as far as lunches and stuff.

But I've also stopped at the other
places spur of the moment. We'll be going
somewhere else and, Hey, let's stop here for a
second. I want to say hi to folks. And I think he generally enjoys sort of the impromptu visits and likes to -- to get out and sort of take people's temperature as to what's going on and it's, you know, it's not just to write-off for lunch, you know, it's actually, you know, he legitimately likes to hear from folks and just everyday folks. Somebody has to call the office or have a -- have a need, so somebody that's a constituent, Hey, I'm your congressman. What's going on? You know, that type of thing. So I've seen him do that on a number of occasions, so.

Q     Okay. Just at that -- that line -- the line gets blurred sometimes between the --

A     Yeah.

Q     -- official expenditure and personal expenditure?


Q     Okay. And then besides any -- I didn't want to stop you. Was -- were there any other issues that you had in mind?
A No, not that comes to mind. I mean, you know, like I say, it's -- at times, I just think there's a general sort of frustration with sometimes how -- he can be a little be little lackadaisical about issues like that and, you know, that's -- at those concerns before.

Q Actually you know one thing that -- that has just jogged my -- my memory or something that we -- that I asked you about we looked into in the first review was related to a shed that -- that's at his house that was built with --

A Yeah.

Q -- with campaign money. Do you know anything about that shed or -- or how that's used?

A No. No.

Q No?

A Yeah.

Q Okay. And then aside from any particular issues, are there any individual that you think would be particularly knowledgeable about the stuff that we talked about today that you think that we should -- we should talk to?
A Yeah, I mean, you know, I -- I have mentioned Rainer's name before, and I hate to bring him into it, because I know he's an older gentleman and this is going to -- it -- it'll be hard -- it's hard on him, you know, just emotionally, I think, to have to go through something like this, but obviously he's done a lot of work for the congressman in the past and has -- has been a friend as well as an employee, you know, and.

You know, [Current Staffer 1], in the Charleston office is somebody that's helped the congressman on occasion with -- with staffing him and stuff, you know, but other than that, really can't think of anybody that would be beyond who we've talked about and everything already so.

Q Okay. Okay and so you think Rainer and [Current Staffer 1] would be knowledgeable on the issue of -- of personal errands?

A I don't know about [Current Staffer 1] so much in the personal side of things, you know, but just knowing that [Current Staffer 1] has been with the congressman
on several occasions, he may be somebody that can offer some insight.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Then I think with that, I'm sorry that we went longer than we originally anticipated, but I think with that, that's all the questions that I have.

THE WITNESS: Okay.

MR. QUINN: Unless, Annie, are you -- Annie, are you thinking of anything else that I might have missed and that we should talk about?

MS. CHO: I think you covered it all.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Great. Well then, I'll reiterate. Thank you very much for -- for your time. I'm sure you're busy and so we really appreciate you taking the time to answer our questions and I think we will be out of your hair now. So if -- if you don't have anything else for me or any questions, then we can go ahead and go off the record.

THE WITNESS: Yeah. Not -- not at this moment, Sean. I appreciate it. Thanks for your -- I know you're doing your job and being a
professional but I also appreciate that.

MR. QUINN: Okay. Great. Thank you very much, Current Staffer 2. Kevin, we can go ahead and go off the record.

THE REPORTER: Off the record 12:03 p.m.

(Off the record at 12:03 p.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER - NOTARY PUBLIC

I, KEVIN KISER, the officer before whom the foregoing deposition was taken, do hereby certify that said proceedings were electronically recorded by me; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 8th day of October, 2021.

Notary Registration No.: 7637508
My Commission Expires: 9/30/2024

_______________________________
KEVIN KISER, NOTARY PUBLIC,
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
CERTIFICATION OF TRANSCRIPT

I, Andrew Hatziyannis, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript, to the best of my ability, knowledge, and belief, is a true and correct record of the proceedings; that said proceedings were reduced to typewriting under my supervision; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

Andrew Hatziyannis
Planet Depos, LLC
October 8, 2021
CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

ERRATA SHEET

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This errata sheet is submitted subject to 18 U.S.C. § 1001 (commonly known as the False Statements Act).

Witness Name: [redacted]

Witness Signature: [redacted]

Date: 11-19-21
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Witness Name: [Redacted]

Witness Signature: [Redacted]

Date: 11-19-21
EXHIBIT 8
Transcript of Interview of Current Staffer 3

Review No. 21-6998
October 28, 2021
Interview of CURRENT STAFFER 3, conducted virtually.

Pursuant to agreement, before Shaylah Lynn Kiser, Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia.
APPEARANCES

ON BEHALF OF HOUSE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS:

SEAN T. QUINN, ESQUIRE
HELEN EISNER, ESQUIRE

Office of Congressional Ethics
(OCE) of the
U.S. House of Representatives
425 3rd Street, S.W.
Suite 1110
Washington, D.C. 20024
Telephone: (202) 225-9739

ALSO PRESENT:

CARLOS HENLEY, Technician
SHAYLAH LYNN KISER, Reporter
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## EXHIBITS

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MR. HENLEY: Ready to go. Mr. Quinn?

MR. QUINN: Great. Yes, so just quickly for the record first I'll say that today is October 28th, 2021 and we're conducting the interview of Current Staffer 3 by Zoom. [Current Staffer 3]'s not represented today. Speaking is Sean Quinn. I'm investigative counsel at the Office of Congressional Ethics. And I'm also here with Helen Eisner, who's Deputy Chief Counsel at the OCE. The witness has been given a copy of 18 USC 1001 and has also signed the acknowledgment.

And, Current Staffer 3, as I said earlier, thanks a lot for your time this morning, really appreciate it. And then also for all the work and time you spent collecting documents for us. It's extremely helpful.

And as I mentioned also earlier, happy to take a break whenever you want, just let me know. And then also if at any point in the interview you've got any questions or if you don't understand one of my questions or just need me to reword
something, I'm always happy to do that.

CURRENT STAFFER 3: Okay. Thank you.

BY MR. QUINN:

Q    So the first thing I just wanted to start
with, you sent me an e-mail this morning and
mentioned that you were doing some preparation for
the interview. And I just kind of wanted to ask
what sort of documents did you review, what sort of
preparation did you do for today?

A    Okay. I just looked over the -- what do
you call it, the request for information that you'd
sent over back in September. As well as my response
and -- and the thing -- some of the files that I
sent you kind of thing. I just sort of printed some
stuff out because I wasn't sure how this process all
worked and I'm at home and because I was -- I -- I
don't have a -- a place on The Hill that I could do
this and since we're in session, I figured it would
be better to do it at home. So I just printed some
of the documents off, not all of them, of course.
Just to be able to have reference to, because I
don't know how this is all going to, you know, how
we're going to look at things, so.

Q Okay. Great. Well, just to reassure you, anything that we need to look at I'll have and we can pull up on the screen.

A Okay.

Q So that shouldn't be a problem. But then also before we sort of dive -- dive into questions or talking about substantive issues, I just wanted to give you an opportunity. If there's anything in particular that you wanted to talk about today or that you had prepared for in particular, I'm happy to have you flag those issues and -- and -- and make sure that I'm addressing any concerns that -- that you might have independently.

A I don't have any I can think of, Sean. I presume this interview is specifically geared toward the request for information for the -- what you sent me in September, correct?

Q Correct. Yes.

A Because I'm not -- because I -- I knew what the other request for November that you all did and I provided some stuff to the staff for that at
that time. But I was not interviewed for that, so
I'm just trying to keep this straight in my head so
I know where we're going with this -- with all this
kind of thing.

Q    Sure. Yeah, we will mostly talk about
the documents that you've produced over the last
month or so. I might have a few questions for you
just kind of about how you were involved in the
first review.

A    Uh-huh.

Q    But, you know, if -- if there's something
you can't recall or -- or anything like that,
just -- just let me know and we can -- we can deal
with that. But --

A    -- okay. Thanks.

Q    Okay. Well, then if you didn't have
anything for me, I -- I think I'll start with just a
little bit of background information. If you can
tell me what your position with the House is and
then just describe your duties generally.

A    My position with the House is that I'm an
office and financial administrator for eight members
of congress. Mr. Mooney being one of them. And
I've been working there since 1995, been doing
shared offices since 1996, '97, I believe, kind of
thing. I handle -- some offices I just handle
financial things for. Others I do a little bit more
for. Office administration being -- managing the
office sort of interacting more also with the
district office staff. Making sure all of our
systems are working properly and things like that.
Financially, I'm overseeing the budget, processing
invoices, expense reports, payroll stuff, all that
kind of thing, so. And then interact with the
member and chief of staff heavily in regards to the
financial matters.

Q    And for Representative Mooney's office,
do you just handle financial matters or do you have
one of those expanded roles?

A    I have an expanded role now. I was --
back in '17 -- let's see, '17 -- I -- I didn't start
the expanded role till 2020 with them. They had
another person on board who their scheduler, Anita
Itnire (phonetic), I believe at the time, she was