

1 a friendly one or sometimes an unfriendly 'cause I
2 did some of those too and of course, more stressful
3 to do those when you're dealing with somebody like
4 Megyn Kelly, she can be a little bit forceful --

5 Q. Um-hmm.

6 A. -- if you ever watched -- so --

7 Q. Dick Cheney discovered that recently.

8 A. What's that?

9 Q. I think Dick Cheney discovered that
10 recently as well from what I read but --

11 A. Anyway, so what -- what Brett was trying to
12 help me do is to be able to -- to keep everything
13 together, keep my mind functioning properly, so
14 that when I made my first statement, I was making
15 my point and then I would build the -- the case for
16 that point and then end up basically restating that
17 point. So --

18 Q. Um-hmm.

19 A. -- we would -- we would talk about what
20 that interview was all about. Sometimes he would
21 help me as far as if it was an issue that -- that
22 he needed to help research a little bit to give me
23 some more background. He would do that for me --

24 Q. Okay.

1 A. -- on the outside. So he was -- we were
2 talking about issues and a whole raft of issues.
3 In fact, he even prepared an issue book for me to
4 -- to look at various issues, so that I would have
5 it available to study as -- as we went along and we
6 --

7 Q. Where was -- would David Bowser typically
8 participate in those sessions?

9 A. Sometimes he would. Sometimes he wouldn't.

10 Q. And Meredith and Christine, would they --
11 would they sit it on those as well?

12 A. The -- I'm not sure where Meredith came. I
13 guess she followed --

14 Q. It appears to us from the -- that she
15 overlapped with Brett O'Donnell's role with the
16 office for about a year --

17 A. And then --

18 Q. -- and then it was I think June or July of
19 2013 when Christine came on.

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. But do you recall Meredith, Christine or
22 whoever was in that --

23 A. Whoever was in on communications job 'cause
24 there were -- he was helping to develop my

1 messaging too that we would do when we would put
2 out press releases and things like that --

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. And so he was --he just part of our
5 communications team.

6 Q. Okay. As you were preparing for the
7 upcoming interviews and these sessions, would some
8 of those interviews or some of the things you were
9 preparing for be campaign related --

10 A. No.

11 Q. -- as opposed to official?

12 A. No.

13 Q. No?

14 A. Un-uh.

15 Q. If you had an upcoming campaign related
16 speech or appearance or something like that, would
17 it just not be addressed at all in the session?

18 A. Well, we didn't -- like I said, when he was
19 hired, it was toward the tail end of the -- of the
20 primary process --

21 Q. Um-hmm.

22 A. -- we didn't have an opponent that I was
23 concerned about too much. Did not have a general
24 election opponent. So there's -- campaign issues

1 were just not even discussed or even part of
2 anything --

3 Q. We're going into --

4 A. -- so --

5 Q. -- you know, 2013 --

6 A. Okay.

7 Q. -- and then into, you know, 2014 --

8 A. Right.

9 Q. -- when you were having these weekly
10 sessions and there was -- was more campaign related
11 things happening in your life. Would you discuss
12 campaign media appearances or campaign speeches or
13 -- or debates in this weekly sessions?

14 A. Not much if any. It was -- he and I had
15 more of those discussions by phone than anything
16 else --

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. We -- I wrote my own campaign speeches. He
19 helped tweak them a little bit but actually, my
20 wife was more my campaign media consultant than --
21 until we hired a media person --

22 BY MR. SOLIS:

23 Q. Would you review videos of your past
24 campaign appearances either on, you know,

1 interview, on TV? Would you sometimes review those
2 here during --

3 A. Oh, we did that, yes.

4 Q. Um-hmm.

5 MR. MORGAN: I want to --

6 MR. BROUN: In fact, it wasn't every time
7 but I tried to look at those TV interviews and --
8 and critique it myself and listen to his critique
9 and we would try -- again, it was -- the purpose
10 for having him was to help me be a better
11 communicator and so we -- we would -- you know, we
12 did that.

13 BY. MORGAN:

14 Q. You said he -- Brett O'Donnell prepared an
15 issue book for you to study. Do you recall him
16 briefing you or providing you with talking points
17 or research on any -- any specific issues?

18 A. No. I asked him to help put the issue book
19 together, just so that when we ever had an
20 interview, that I would have it available to -- to
21 look at -- at -- at the issues that were in the
22 current news cycle and so --

23 Q. We --

24 A. -- there are a lot of issues that of course

1 all of us have to deal with and -- and so --

2 Q. We didn't see a copy of that issue book in
3 the documents provided to us --

4 A. I don't have a copy.

5 Q. But --

6 A. I don't know if there is another copy --

7 Q. Okay. I want to just show you this
8 PBDB151. This -- this was not sent to you but this
9 is from Brett O'Donnell to David Bowser. Subject
10 if "FAA material." So it was on April 29, 2013,
11 and my question is just if this was typical of the
12 type of an issue briefing or issue research that
13 Brett O'Donnell would do? Appears to be you know,
14 what four, five pages of material on FAA and then
15 how it was perhaps impacted by the sequester.

16 A. Without studying this, I can't make a
17 comment about the content --

18 Q. Right --

19 A. -- but this is the kind of thing that yes,
20 that he prepared, so that I would know background
21 history and -- and the -- the -- any issue that we
22 may deal with. I didn't -- I've never seen that --

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. -- that I know of.

1 Q. But that's typical of the type of issue
2 research he would provide --

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. Okay. Did he have any role in drafting
5 speeches on the official side? I think you said
6 you wrote of your own speeches. He would maybe
7 edit them. Floor speeches --

8 A. Most of those, I -- I do those myself or I
9 did it along with my communications director or
10 press secretary. We -- a lot of times those things
11 occurred very rapidly. So we didn't have a lot of
12 time to -- to really tweak them or edit them or
13 anything else.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. So it was -- it as more a spontaneous type
16 of -- of situation.

17 Q. One of the -- you know, of the newspaper
18 articles this spring mentioned -- I think it
19 attributed to you a comment that Brett had helped
20 you prepare a floor speech about the VA after
21 visiting a VA hospital down in Georgia. Does that
22 ring a bell?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Do you recall making that statement?

1 A. No.

2 Q. It was a statement that was not in
3 quotation marks but it was nevertheless attributed
4 to you but you don't recall Brett working on a VA
5 speech?

6 A. I do not, no.

7 BY MR. SOLIS:

8 Q. What about your Patient Option Act, did he
9 draft any speeches, any floor speeches?

10 A. No. We talked about it. Just the same way
11 we talked about any issue but no. Most of my
12 speeches, the -- the one that I can remember that
13 we talked about more than anything else, I did a
14 special order on the Commerce Clause, and we had
15 some conversation about that. He really didn't do
16 a lot for that either, but we did talk about that
17 one and that's the only one I can remember off the
18 top of my head that -- that he actually -- he and I
19 had any discussions about, so. And that was very
20 limited, even at that.

21 Q. If he had been involved in working on
22 drafts of speeches, would you have known about it?

23 A. I don't know. I don't know about any.
24 Again, what -- normally what I do is I do my own

1 speeches --

2 Q. Um-hmm.

3 A. -- or I'll tell my press secretary,
4 communications director, whatever, of what I want
5 to say --

6 Q. Um-hmm.

7 A. And ask them to get some bullet points for me
8 and I do more extemporaneously than -- than read a
9 speech. I have a hard time just sitting and
10 reading a speech and doing it effectively. So I
11 feel more comfortable actually just doing it out of
12 my head.

13 Q. Yeah.

14 A. And so that's generally the way we do it.
15 Now, they have prepared some speeches that I have
16 read and I've tried to learn to do that better by
17 doing some one minute speeches. Most of those are
18 prepared very quickly. We'll just talk when I come
19 up. For our first day, we'll have a staff meeting,
20 say, "Well, maybe tomorrow we're going to do a
21 speech," or I'll tell my communications staff, "I
22 want to do a one minute on this and this is what I
23 want to say," and they'll put some talking points
24 for me -- page and I'll go down the floor and give

1 them.

2 Q. Okay. Do you recall Brett O'Donnell ever
3 providing you or your staff with any training?

4 A. This was an ongoing process.

5 Q. Um-hmm.

6 A. So I considered it all training 'cause
7 that's what I hired him to do, help train me to be
8 a better communicator. That's the purpose of him
9 coming on board.

10 Q. We -- we talked to -- to Brett and he -- he
11 mentioned that he does it like a -- at least when
12 he's brought on by somebody during those first
13 initial sessions, he has a little training thing
14 that he does on more -- you know, talking about
15 communication skills in -- in general. Do you
16 recall anything like that, like an initial round of
17 training that he did or --

18 MR. CORTAZAR: Video.

19 BY MR. SOLIS:

20 Q. -- video that he may have showed you?

21 A. We looked at some videos. He -- most of
22 the videos we looked at were just a critique of
23 what I've done on TV interview or floor speech but
24 I don't recall a training video as such.

1 Q. Okay. I do -- I want to ask you some
2 questions now about the work that Brett O'Donnell
3 did on your campaigns, both in 2012 --

4 A. Um-hmm.

5 Q. -- Congressional campaign and then the 2014
6 Senate campaign. So how -- how would you describe
7 Brett's role with -- with your campaigns?

8 A. He was always in a volunteer status. I
9 made that crystal clear to him and to my staff that
10 anything that he helped us with -- I don't recall
11 him being engaged in the 2012 election at all --

12 Q. I do have -- I do have some documents I'll
13 show you along those lines but you said you made it
14 clear to your -- to him, to your staff?

15 A. Like I said, I don't recall -- I don't
16 recall him being involved in that at all --

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. -- and then I made it crystal clear to
19 Brett as I do my staff when they volunteer for our
20 campaign to do -- campaign type functions that --

21 Q. Do you recall when that was that you made
22 it clear to Brett?

23 A. I had all along.

24 Q. All along?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. Recall any specific conversation?

3 A. No, because I do this quite frequently.

4 Whenever I asked him to do something, I'd say to
5 him, "I can't require you to do this. If you -- if
6 you'd like to, I'd like for you to do this for me,"
7 and it's something that I've been very diligent
8 about telling all my staff, no matter they do is
9 that it's all -- whatever they do on the campaign
10 side, it has to be on a volunteer basis --

11 BY MR. CORTAZAR:

12 Q. And do --

13 MR. BROUN: -- and that they're not
14 required...

15 BY MR. CORTAZAR:

16 Q. Excuse me. And do you think that when he
17 first began volunteering, would have come up
18 through his -- his coming to you or was that
19 something that you would normally do -- propose to
20 him?

21 A. I don't remember --

22 Q. The first instance?

23 A. No.

24 BY MR. MORGAN:

1 Q. Do you recall if you ever had a discussion
2 with Brett about how if your senate campaign
3 fundraising started kicking up or if you made it
4 through the primary that you would then pay him out
5 of the campaign?

6 A. Never.

7 Q. Do you recall if he ever was paid out of
8 the campaign --

9 A. Never --

10 Q. -- for any services?

11 A. As -- never as far as I now. We paid a --
12 the campaign paid for him to come to Georgia --

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. -- to -- we had a staff retreat down there
15 and the -- we just felt --

16 Q. Is that a congressional -- congressional...

17 A. Yeah. We had the staff in Georgia as well
18 as the whole Washington staff came down. We --
19 we've tried to -- I've tried to do that on a yearly
20 basis to just kind of lay out the plan for the full
21 year. We -- Dave and I talked about it. We felt
22 that it was best to -- to -- since he was an
23 official employee, that he ought to be there
24 because we were talking about what we're going to

1 be dealing with but we paid for his expenses down
2 there out of the campaign just to -- that was what
3 David thought was the best and clearest way to keep
4 from having any kind of a -- of a problem from an
5 ethics perspective.

6 Q. I want to -- I want to discuss with you in
7 some level of detail the different types of work
8 that -- that Brett O'Donnell did for the campaign
9 and first being you know, campaign speeches,
10 campaign media appearances. I think you -- you
11 mentioned that in these weekly sessions, did you
12 review past campaign speeches or campaign media
13 appearances with Brett in those weekly sessions?

14 A. I don't recall doing so. It --

15 BY MR. SOLIS:

16 Q. Congressman, I just want to be clear. You
17 know, I had asked -- I had asked that same question
18 about 10 minutes ago and you said you recall that
19 you had reviewed and the whole package of things
20 that Brett -- services Brett provided --

21 A. Right.

22 Q. -- you know, media appearances, even if
23 it's on your campaign, I asked you if you reviewed
24 those here on video or something and you -- you

1 said that you had. So I just want to be clear.

2 A. Well, let me make that clear. My answer
3 was that we have looked at things not from a
4 campaign perspective but from the official side.
5 So I apologize for the confusion --

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. -- there but I thought you were talking
8 about all inclusive, "Has he done any of those?"
9 And -- and so we -- we looked at --

10 BY MR. MORGAN:

11 Q. So let me make sure --

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. Let me make sure we're clear. When you say
14 from an official perspective --

15 A. Right.

16 Q. -- were there instances in which you know,
17 in those weekly sessions the videos or the
18 appearances that you reviewed were campaign
19 interviews or appearances?

20 A. I don't remember doing any campaign
21 appearances during those weekly sessions, no.

22 Q. Reviewing those? Okay.

23 A. Yeah.

24 BY MR. SOLIS:

1 Q. You know, David had recalled that -- that
2 you had done that a couple of times and I think
3 Christine had recalled that that occurred a couple
4 a couple of times.

5 A. I'd defer to them. I don't remember it.

6 Q. Okay.

7 MR. SOLIS: Okay.

8 MR. BROUN: So.

9 MR. MORGAN: Okay.

10 MR. BROUN: What I do remember is those
11 times that we've looked at -- at TV interviews and
12 those types of -- of reviewing --

13 MR. SOLIS: Um-hmm.

14 MR. BROUN: -- the -- the appearance on one
15 of the TV networks and I don't recall the campaign.

16 BY MR. MORGAN:

17 Q. Show you -- show you a document here. This
18 is BOD00193 and this is -- now want to ask you some
19 questions about Brett's involvement in campaign
20 speeches. This document is an email from Brett
21 O'Donnell to -- well, to himself but CC-ing David
22 Bowser, Brian Tringali, Bob Bibee, Meredith
23 Griffanti where he says, "Attached is the 10 minute
24 stump that Dr. Broun asked me to write. Wanted to

1 sent it around to your edits -- approve before
2 sending it to Dr. Broun." Do you recall asking
3 Brett to prepare a 10 minute stump speech for you?

4 A. What -- as I mentioned earlier, I basically
5 write all my speeches and have the ideas of what I
6 want to do --

7 Q. Um-hmm.

8 A. -- I talk to him about what should be
9 included or not included. So it's -- basically, my
10 speeches were my speeches --

11 Q. Um-hmm.

12 A. -- and he did help tweak them some and that
13 sort of thing. So we were --

14 Q. So would you -- would you tell him in
15 person or over the phone the types of things you
16 wanted to talk about and then would he then
17 actually put it to paper? Is that --

18 A. No.

19 Q. No?

20 A. What -- what I -- what I did is talk to him
21 about taking my whole 20 minute stump speech --

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. -- and helping me to pare it down to 10
24 minute or 3 minute speech, what he thought was most

1 important to help me in that. This was all done on
2 a volunteer basis.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. Was not done out of what we were doing from
5 the "MRA."

6 Q. Okay. Do you recall if he had any role in
7 -- in your 2013 Georgia GOP convention speech?

8 A. He -- yes, he did and again, it was to help
9 me basically put -- he made some suggestions about
10 what -- what I needed to say and that sort of
11 thing. So he did help in that process, yes.

12 Q. Did you rehearse that speech with him?

13 A. No.

14 Q. No. Do you recall if -- if that speech was
15 filmed and he provided you feedback on that
16 delivery?

17 A. I don't know. I don't remember him doing
18 so.

19 Q. Okay. What about your -- your speech when
20 you announced your candidacy for the Senate? Do
21 you recall if he had any role in that speech?

22 A. I don't remember that.

23 Q. Show you one email here. This is BOD01551.
24 I'll sort of point out the part I want to ask you

1 about. Take your time to review that. It's an
2 email from David Bowser to -- to Brett O'Donnell,
3 CC-ing Bob Bibee, yourself, Meredith Griffanti and
4 Jordan Chinouth on February 5th, 2013. David
5 writes, "For the sake of brevity, I will get to the
6 point. There are two -- two things only that we
7 care about with this announcement. One, it is
8 delivered well and looks like it. Two, what is the
9 story and main theme we want printed?" And then he
10 says, "The first is Brett and Meredith's job." So
11 referring to it being Brett and Meredith's job to
12 make sure the speech is delivered well and looks
13 like it. Was -- was Brett involved in preparing
14 you for that announcement speech?

15 A. Only the point that -- just talked to him
16 about trying to -- to make a very short speech and
17 have some -- some sound bites in it.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. Other than that, I don't recall any -- any
20 other type of function in that.

21 Q. Okay. Would Brett draft talking points,
22 bullet points or -- or one liners or things like
23 that for you to add your speeches or add to your --
24 your media appearances? Was he involved in -- in

1 helping you come up with that type of content?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. Do you recall any specific issues --

4 A. Well, you're asking about on the campaign
5 side?

6 Q. On the campaign side.

7 A. Oh --

8 Q. Yeah.

9 A. He did more of that on trying to get that
10 sound bite -- that first sentence from the official
11 side --

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. -- and the -- as far as -- as what he did
14 from the campaign side, most of what -- all of our
15 contact was more -- had to do with TV interview and
16 radio interviews, so --

17 Q. I want --

18 A. I don't remember him trying to give me
19 bullet points. He may have helped me look at -- I
20 don't know how to answer your question --

21 Q. Let me see. This email might --

22 A. Okay, so.

23 Q. -- help a little bit --

24 A. Okay.

1 Q. -- so. This is PBCH22 --

2 A. Um-hmm.

3 Q. You know, this is going to be another one
4 of those instances where I ask you if this was
5 typical of Brett's work for the campaign. He
6 emailed you on August 13, 2013, writing, "Dr.
7 Broun, so we know now that Obamacare is a winning
8 message. Here's the one you need to be a little
9 sharper on, strikes a populist message that will hit
10 the voters we need," and then he provides you with
11 a few lines of -- of you know, text --

12 A. Um-hmm.

13 Q. -- on -- on Obamacare.

14 A. Um-hmm.

15 Q. Was it typical for -- for Brett to provide
16 you talking points or messaging like this?

17 A. Well, I did get these kind of things
18 occasionally --

19 Q. Um-hmm.

20 A. Would read them and that was the end of
21 that, so again, I can't remember this.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. I can't remember how to do this, and I
24 can't just regurgitate that without sounding as if

1 I'm just trying to go through the memorization
2 point. That's not the way my brain works. So
3 whenever I would get something like this, I'd read
4 what he has to say and -- and then I'd think about
5 it a bit and that's -- that would be the end of it.

6 Q. Okay. Well, do you recall -- was in
7 December of 2013. Do you recall there being a
8 "Georgia Public Broadcasting Get to Know the
9 Candidates" piece that you filmed in December of
10 2013 down in Atlanta?

11 A. I do.

12 Q. Do you recall if Brett was involved in --
13 in helping you with that piece at all?

14 A. I don't remember him being involved in
15 that, no. Whether he was or not, I don't remember,
16 but I don't recall him being a part of that.

17 Q. Okay. Was it -- do you recall before you
18 would do a speaking engagement on the campaign
19 trail would you sometimes have a brief messaging
20 call with Brett before -- before a speaking event?

21 A. I may but that was not a routine --

22 Q. Wasn't a routine thing. Do you -- how
23 frequently would that happen during the Senate
24 campaign?

1 A. Not very frequently. I can't give you --

2 Q. Be --

3 A. -- data --

4 Q. -- weekly basis --

5 A. Oh, no, no, no --

6 Q. -- or monthly --

7 A. No. I can't give you a time --

8 Q. Okay. But you recall --

9 A. And so it would be occasionally and it was
10 just when I had a question, I'd give him a call.
11 As I've already mentioned, he told me all along
12 that he was available anytime but I seldom called
13 him and he seldom called me. By the way, got
14 another appointment at 3:00, so.

15 Q. I will try to be as quick as possible here.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. I do want to give you the opportunity to
18 chime in on some other documents --

19 A. Oh, sure --

20 Q. -- and ask you questions. It's important
21 we get your --

22 A. Sure --

23 Q. -- your side of the story --

24 A. -- I'm trying to be helpful --

1 Q. Do you recall if Brett was involved at all
2 in negotiating campaign debate formats?

3 A. I don't know.

4 Q. You don't know. Want to talk to you now
5 about Brett's role in -- in preparing you for
6 campaign debates and reviewing debate performances.
7 Think -- see here. Show you this document which is
8 BOD681. It's the second email there I want to ask
9 you about which is from Brett O'Donnell to David
10 Bowser, CC-ing Bob Bibee, Jordan Chinouth, Meredith
11 Griffanti and yourself on June 22nd, 2012. He
12 writes, "Dr. Broun, below are the reminders from
13 the prep session today." So I'll tell you. It
14 appears from the documents reviewed -- we've
15 reviewed that you had a primary debate on June
16 22nd, 2012 with Mr. Simpson, and it was the day
17 before that on the 21st that you had a prep session
18 with Brett O'Donnell. Do you recall that prep
19 session?

20 A. I do not.

21 Q. Not. There was also a 10th District Debate
22 on Athens radio, WGAU on July 2nd, 2012. Do you
23 recall that debate?

24 A. No, I don't.

1 Q. Do you recall --

2 A. I don't remember doing any debates with
3 Simpson except for seems like we did one forum.

4 Q. Okay. Do recall if Brett O'Donnell was
5 involved in preparing you for that forum that you
6 do recall?

7 A. I don't recall.

8 Q. Do you recall -- show you this -- PBTN10
9 through 11. It's the -- on the second page is what
10 I wanted to ask you about an email from Teddie
11 Norton to Brett O'Donnell on July 3rd, 2012 --

12 A. Um-hmm.

13 Q. She writes, "Hey, Brett. Dr. Broun wants
14 to set up about 90 minutes next week to go over
15 both debates." You know, and then it appears like
16 that was -- that was set up to occur -- Teddie
17 requested a room at the NRCC --

18 A. Um-hmm.

19 Q. Do you recall a session with Brett to go
20 over those 2012 primary debates?

21 A. I don't.

22 Q. Don't recall that.

23 A. Like I said, we -- we made a decision that
24 we weren't going to do debates with him and I don't

1 really remember any -- any forum or debates.

2 Obviously, there was --

3 Q. When you say you made a decision not to do
4 debates with him, you mean with Mr. Simpson?

5 A. Yeah, from the campaign side, we -- we just
6 wanted the -- the radio broadcast. WGAU was very
7 upset with me for a long period of time -- wouldn't
8 even talk to me because we did not do a forum that
9 he wanted us to do -- that he wanted to host.

10 Q. Okay. I want to move right along --

11 A. Sure.

12 Q. -- be respectful of your time. Now,
13 looking at the 2014 senate campaign --

14 A. Um-hmm.

15 Q. -- I have a series of calender items and
16 documents I need to go through with you.

17 A. Sure.

18 Q. But do you recall the Charge Senate Forum?
19 It appears that it occurred in July of 2013 at Lake
20 Prads Marina -- at Lake --

21 A. La Prades --

22 Q. La Prad?

23 A. La Prades.

24 Q. Do you recall that --

1 A. I do --

2 Q. -- that forum?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. Do you recall if Brett was involved in
5 preparing you for that?

6 A. We talked about it. It's -- when -- we
7 never had what I would consider a sit down practice
8 debate or anything like that 'cause these were
9 forums where they ask questions and he and I would
10 talk about questions that might be asked and what
11 my answer would be and that was basically --

12 Q. And that's what you did leading up to the
13 Charge Forum?

14 A. Well, I'm just talking about in general.

15 Q. In general? Okay.

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. I want to --

18 A. With any -- with any --

19 Q. -- make sure --

20 A. -- with -- and I don't remember any
21 specific event. I don't remember talking to him
22 about that particular event or any others but
23 that's how we worked basically.

24 Q. So there were it appears a number of

1 debates in that senate campaign.

2 A. Right.

3 Q. Quite a few actually --

4 A. None were true debates. They were all
5 forums.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. Just answer questions.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. There's was back and forth. There was no
10 -- really no opportunity or very little opportunity
11 for rebuttal or anything else. So they were --
12 they were not true debates. Just forums. Ask a
13 question about an issue. We'd answer the question
14 and they're basically the same questions of
15 virtually everyone --

16 Q. Okay. So we can refer to them as forums.

17 A. Okay.

18 Q. Would you typically discuss an upcoming
19 forum with Brett? Would you do a preparation
20 session with him for -- for each of the forums or
21 most of those forums?

22 A. We would probably talk more by phone than
23 anything else about what went on. We might mention
24 it during a period of time that he would be here

1 where we're working on the -- the -- I don't recall
2 any specific instance but we may or may not have
3 talked about -- about what might be upcoming when
4 he was here --

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. -- to -- to help with the TV interviews and
7 radio interviews I was doing on the official side.

8 Q. Do you recall Brett O'Donnell preparing for
9 you a debate attack grid? Does that sound familiar
10 at all? This is BOD1956, the second -- the email
11 at the bottom there. On December 26th, 2013, Brett
12 writes, "Attached is the attack grid for Dr. Broun
13 --

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. -- to use against PG and KH in the
16 debates."

17 A. Um-hmm.

18 Q. Do you recall him preparing an attack grid
19 for you?

20 A. He did this. Yeah, I remember that.

21 Q. Okay. Is that something you requested him
22 to do?

23 A. No.

24 Q. I want --

1 A. In fact, I would not have asked for that
2 'cause I've always run a positive campaign. In
3 fact, I've told my staff through every campaign,
4 "We will always run a high, high road campaign, and
5 we're not going to be doing any attacking." It was
6 going to be basically about me and my policies and
7 where I stand on issues and that's -- would show
8 maybe a delineation between me and my opponents in
9 that regard and that one opponent would have a
10 position on an issue here. I'd have one there. So
11 comparison I think is fair, but I've never run an
12 attack campaign.

13 Q. Okay. I do want to give you the
14 opportunity to -- to tell us if you recall any
15 specific prep sessions that are reflected in some
16 of the documents we have.

17 A. Okay.

18 Q. This is BOD2268, email from Teddie Norton
19 to Brett O'Donnell saying, "David's" -- on January
20 8, 2014 saying, "David has arranged for you all to
21 prep for the debate at Jamestown Associates
22 townhouse" --

23 A. Um-hmm.

24 Q. Subject of the email is, "This morning."

1 It appears that this session occurred on January 8,
2 2014. Do you recall that?

3 A. I do, yes.

4 Q. Okay. Do you recall which debate this was
5 --

6 A. I do not --

7 Q. -- referencing? Okay --

8 A. Would've been one shortly after this --

9 Q. Okay. Would that have perhaps been the
10 Adel debate? 'Cause I'll show you this document,
11 BOD --

12 A. It's Adel.

13 Q. Adel -- 638, all right. Says, "Brett," --
14 on January 9" -- so the following day 2014 emailing
15 David Bowser and CC-ing a number of people saying
16 "Attached is the proposed open for the Adel
17 debate." Do you recall if Brett was involved in
18 putting together your opening statement for -- for
19 that debate?

20 A. Probably was involved in -- in talking
21 about what I was going to do to -- 'cause opening
22 statements and closing statements were very short
23 --

24 Q. Um-hmm.

1 A. It says 1/2 to 2 minutes and just -- we --
2 I'm sure I talked to him about how do I get the
3 point across? What do I say in that 1 or 2
4 minutes? 'Cause that's not a long period of time
5 to try to get a point across, and so, we had
6 discussions about what I needed to say during that
7 1 or 2 minutes.

8 Q. Okay. It also appears, you know, based on
9 these couple of documents here, PBTN133 and DB --
10 PBDB25 that there was a debate session on January
11 10, 2014 at Jamestown Associates conference room.

12 A. Is this the same one or?

13 Q. It appears like a separate one and the --
14 the next page, there's some reference -- there's an
15 email from Brett O'Donnell where he -- he says --

16 A. This is dated January 9th here, there and
17 this is --

18 Q. This is the 10th.

19 A. -- January 10th. So --

20 Q. Right.

21 A. -- assume this is the same -- the same
22 event.

23 Q. You know, you tell me? If you recall it
24 being two separate preps, one on the 8th and then

1 one on the 10th or if you recall it being the same?

2 Do you specifically remember there being just one

3 or two?

4 A. I don't --

5 Q. Okay. Appears --

6 A. -- anyway, I don't remember.

7 Q. What's referenced in the emails on the 10th
8 is Brett asking you some tough questions about gay
9 marriage. I don't know if that jogs your memory of
10 the debate session in which Brett helped you with
11 back and forth on -- on some potential questions
12 about gay marriage. That being a hot button issue
13 at the time --

14 A. Um-hmm.

15 Q. -- given the attorney general's recognition
16 of the Utah same sex marriage. Do you recall that?

17 A. Yeah, I do.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. We did have -- he just asked how I would
20 answer a question and we -- I'd sit there and think
21 about it and answer it and he'd say, "Well, maybe
22 you ought to do this?" And that was -- we'd --
23 we'd go on to the next issue.

24 Q. Do you recall there being -- I'll show you

1 these two documents, PBTN134 and PBTN135, couple of
2 calender items from Teddie Norton's calender
3 listing "Prep for debate with Michael Hall in D.C.
4 on January 16 and January 17, 2014." Do you recall
5 one or more prep sessions with Michael Hall?

6 A. I do.

7 Q. Okay. Do you recall if it was one session
8 or if it was two?

9 A. One.

10 Q. One session. Who -- Michael Hall --

11 A. I do remember meeting him --

12 Q. Yeah.

13 A. -- and -- and had one session. We had it
14 again at Jamestown.

15 Q. Okay. That was at Jamestown?

16 A. Right.

17 Q. Who is Michael Hall?

18 A. He I think works with -- with Brett.

19 Q. Okay. Had he previously done any work on
20 your campaign?

21 A. Negative.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. This was the one and only time I met with
24 him.

1 Q. And Brett wasn't there for those?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. For that? Okay. So was Michael Hall
4 substituting for Brett?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Okay. Do you recall there being I think
7 RJC Senator job interview? I think RJC is
8 Republican Jewish Committee or Coalition or
9 somewhere along those lines. Do you -- do you
10 recall there being a forum or --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- interview with them? And do you recall
13 Brett being involved in preparing you for that?

14 A. I don't recall that either.

15 Q. Don't recall that?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Okay. And what about a Georgia Municipal
18 Association debate or forum? Do you recall that?

19 A. I do recall that, yes, and I don't recall
20 him being involved in that. What I was --

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. -- with all these types of events like
23 that, basically, I was saying the same thing and it
24 was -- basic stump speech I'd guess you'd say and

1 -- and -- and maybe I'd alter it a little bit
2 depending upon what -- what the audience was like
3 but I varied it, not much.

4 Q. Okay. Just want to take you to -- through
5 a few --

6 A. Sure.

7 Q. -- calender items here. This is PBTN137.
8 It's January 29, 2014, listed as "Debate prep with
9 Brett at Jamestown Associates."

10 A. Um-hmm.

11 Q. There's also PBTN141. This is January
12 31st, 2014 --

13 A. Um-hmm.

14 Q. -- a couple of -- another instance --
15 debate prep -- Jordan's office. Do you recall
16 either of these sessions? So the first one
17 would've been it looks like at Jamestown Associates
18 here in D.C. on a Wednesday. Next one would've
19 been on a Friday. Says Jordan's office. We
20 understand that's perhaps J. Russell Associates
21 down in Athens. Is that -- do you recall these --
22 these prep sessions?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Do you recall there being a prep session

1 down at J. Russell Associates?

2 A. I don't.

3 Q. Okay.

4 BY MR. CORTAZAR:

5 Q. Is J. Russell Associates the office space
6 -- their headquarters for your campaign?

7 A. We operate out of there. It's actually the
8 office of Jordan Chinouth who was my district
9 director. He took a leave of absence from being
10 district director. He worked as our grassroots
11 coordinator -- coalition's coordinator for our
12 campaign and he just let us use his office. He has
13 his own office down there. He's gone into
14 political consulting business and so, he -- he has
15 another candidate or two. I don't know. I think
16 -- I know of one. I'm not sure. Know he
17 interviewed others. I'm not sure who all he did
18 'cause we didn't talk about what he was doing
19 outside the --

20 BY MR. MORGAN:

21 Q. So is that space your Georgia campaign
22 headquarters?

23 A. We really didn't have a Georgia campaign
24 headquarters. You could say that, I guess. We

1 just used his office whenever I needed to have a
2 place --

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. So we didn't -- we had no specific campaign
5 office. It was his office. He very graciously let
6 us use it whenever we needed to have a spot.

7 Q. Okay. So is that where you store your
8 campaign materials?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Is that where your campaign staff had work
11 spaces?

12 A. We didn't have -- the only campaign staff
13 we had was very limited and they did work out of
14 that office, yes.

15 Q. Okay.

16 BY MR. CORTAZAR:

17 Q. Do you know if your senate campaign paid
18 rent to --

19 A. I don't know --

20 BY MR. MORGAN:

21 Q. Next document is PBTN145, show that. Says,
22 "Call with Brett for debate prep on Tuesday,
23 February 18th." I can -- I can tell you that it
24 appears that on the same day of February 18, there

1 was an NFIB Senate Candidate Forum. I don't know
2 if that refreshes your recollection. Do you recall
3 that forum, NFIB?

4 A. I remember we had one --

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. What we would do with -- I think on a
7 routine basis, he and I would talk prior to -- to
8 an event where we had these forums and he'd say,
9 "Are there any questions? Is there anything I
10 can?" Just have a very short conversation. It was
11 not an ongoing discussion for any long period of
12 time --

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. -- usually, it was a very short phone call.

15 Q. Do you recall if while you were down in
16 Georgia you ever Skyped or conferenced called Brett
17 in to those -- those prep session?

18 A. We did one, yes.

19 Q. One? Okay.

20 A. I remember one. Maybe two --

21 Q. Recall this date here, February 21st, 2014?
22 It lists, "Debate prep, Skyping with Brett."

23 A. Um-hmm.

24 Q. Would that perhaps had been the session in

1 which Brett Skyped in?

2 A. Assume.

3 Q. Okay. Okay. Do you recall the debate in
4 Macon, Georgia?

5 A. Yes.

6 UNIDENTIFIED: Your next appointment is
7 here Dr. Broun. About how much longer?

8 MR. MORGAN: I think three to five minutes.

9 UNIDENTIFIED: Okay.

10 MR. MORGAN: Apologize for that.

11 MR. BROUN: That's okay. Want to answer
12 all of your questions and be as helpful as I can
13 be.

14 BY MR. MORGAN:

15 Q. Certainly. The Macon debate, March 8, do
16 you recall that debate or forum --

17 A. Yeah, sure.

18 Q. Do you recall if Brett was involved in
19 preparing for you for that at all?

20 A. Again, we would have a conversation by
21 phone about anything -- if I had any questions or
22 anything. So we would have routine phone calls but
23 --

24 Q. Okay.

1 A. -- I don't recall anything specifically,
2 you know, recall any type of prolonged conversation
3 --

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. -- about any of these forums.

6 Q. We're almost done here.

7 A. No problem.

8 Q. Want to show you this document. This is
9 JC0 --

10 A. Sorry. Then we have --

11 Q. -- 190. This is a very long email that
12 Brett O'Donnell wrote on February 24, 2014 to Bob
13 Bibee, CC'ing yourself, David Bowser, Christine
14 Hardman, Jordan Chinouth, █████@paulbroun who I
15 understand is Josh Findlay --

16 A. Um-hmm.

17 Q. -- and then Brian Tringali. I want to --
18 take your time to review that. I want to ask you
19 about the last couple of -- of lines in this email.
20 So, so let me know when you --

21 A. Which lines are you talking about?

22 Q. Near the bottom. So if you go sort of
23 third to last line. Says, "And most of all, we
24 have to stop having campaign panic after every

1 debate unless he made a significant mistake or
2 didn't drive the message, then we are on course,"
3 and then Brett writes, "You hired me to coach the
4 candidate. I won't make ads, write mail pieces,
5 manage the on-line program or the campaign but
6 let's trust each other to play the roles we were
7 hired to do."

8 So my question, why would -- if Brett was
9 volunteering for the campaign, why would he here
10 refer to himself as being hired --

11 A. Beats me --

12 Q. -- to coach you as a candidate?

13 A. 'Cause we never hired him.

14 Q. Okay. And you said it before but I want to
15 make sure it's absolutely clear for the record.
16 Your understanding is that all of his work for the
17 campaign was as a volunteer?

18 A. Absolutely.

19 Q. Okay. And you recall specific -- having
20 specific discussions with Brett where you discussed
21 that his role with the campaign was as a volunteer?

22 A. Absolutely.

23 Q. Is there any specifics or anything else you
24 can tell us about those conversations with Brett,

1 when they might've occurred, context --

2 A. Occur periodically through the whole time
3 that he was helping us. I would remind him that
4 this -- that whatever he was doing on the campaign
5 was whether these -- get together's, when we went
6 down to Jamestown or anytime we talked about any
7 campaign issue -- wasn't every single time. I'd
8 say, "I'll remind you, this is -- you're
9 volunteering for this, so."

10 Q. Okay. Were you involved in putting
11 together the office's statement in response to the
12 newspaper articles this -- this spring questioning
13 Mr. O'Donnell's role with the office? This is an
14 email from Christine Hardman to Brett, subject,
15 "Statement on March 13, 2014," and we, you know,
16 we've confirmed with Christine that this was in
17 fact the statement issued by the office.

18 A. Yes. And this -- I wasn't involved in this
19 statement at all.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. But this is exactly what he was hired to
22 do. This is exactly what we paid him to do and any
23 other thing outside of this was totally volunteer
24 on his part.

1 Q. So this statements says at the end -- says,
2 "As stated by the House Administration Committee,
3 O'Donnell's communication training is in compliance
4 with all House rules."

5 A. Um-hmm.

6 Q. Were you involved any discussions with the
7 House Administration Committee or with the Ethics
8 Committee about Mr. O'Donnell's role with the
9 office?

10 A. I was not myself. As I already mentioned
11 earlier on is I wanted to be absolutely clear with
12 everybody that we were absolutely clear with The
13 House Administration and rules of the House. So
14 was very adamant about making sure that we didn't
15 even get to the line -- close to the line.

16 Q. Okay. And who do you recall telling --
17 telling that to in your office?

18 A. Primarily to David Bowser but I would -- I
19 don't remember any specific conversations but it's
20 just something that I've been very adamant about
21 making sure that we delineated the functions of all
22 my staff including Brett.

23 Q. I'm going to review my notes, see if I have
24 any other questions. I'll let --

1 BY MR. SOLIS:

2 Q. Last question for me: Did you talk to Mr.
3 O'Donnell at all about your review?

4 A. I have not, no.

5 Q. Okay. Have you talked to David or
6 Christine about over conversations with them?

7 A. Briefly. Just stated it occurred and we
8 didn't get into -- I don't remember even talking to
9 Christine. Asked David yesterday after y'all
10 talked to him about how did it go and he said it
11 was long and that -- that's about all he said.

12 BY MR. MORGAN:

13 Q. Okay. I think you have a good sense of the
14 types of questions we're asking and what we're
15 looking at. Is there anything else you think would
16 be helpful for us to -- to know?

17 A. The only thing is that I've been adamant
18 all along that any function that Brett had on the
19 campaign side was totally voluntary. He was hired
20 to come and just help me with my communications.
21 He's part of our communications team --

22 Q. Um-hmm.

23 A. I considered him as an integral part of
24 what we're doing, trying to communicate to America

1 about the issues that we were dealing with here in
2 this office and that's why we hired him and that's
3 what we paid him to do and that's all we paid him
4 to do.

5 MR. MORGAN: Okay. All right. Well, we
6 appreciate your time.

7 MR. BROUN: Thank you. I appreciate
8 y'all's.

9 (END OF PROCEEDING)

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1 I, Blanca Wier, do hereby certify or affirm
2 that I have impartially transcribed the foregoing
3 from an audiotape record of the above-captioned
4 proceedings to the best of my ability.

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Blanca Wier

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<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p>ability 66:4 able 2:13 20:12 about 2:3,8 4:14 6:18 9:10,11,13,14 10:1,8 10:12 12:7 13:20 14:12,21 15:9,11,12 15:16,20 16:17,20 17:2,20 18:1,5,8,9 19:8,20 20:19,20 21:2 21:16 22:23 25:17 26:20 27:8,10,11,13 27:15,16,19,22,23 29:14 30:2 31:8 32:2 32:21,24 33:18 34:8 35:19 36:8,16,21 37:9 37:19 38:1,7,16 39:4 41:4 43:5,9 44:10,14 46:6,10,14,22 47:13 47:23 48:3,3 49:6 50:21 51:2,6 52:8,12 52:21 54:17 56:18 59:7,21 60:5,19,21 61:24 62:6 63:8,14,20 64:3,6,10,11 65:1 above-captioned 66:3 absence 56:9 absolutely 61:15,18,22 63:11,12 account 5:19 acquainted 1:14 across 5:11 51:3,5 Act 1:9 27:8 action 16:15 activities 7:18 actually 1:20 4:3 7:11 23:19 27:18 28:11 36:17 47:3 56:7 adamant 63:14,20 64:17 add 38:23,23 addition 11:19 address 5:18,21 10:7 addressed 22:17 Adel 50:10,12,13,16 Administration 63:2,7 63:13 ads 61:4 advantageous 14:9 advisors 5:1 affirm 66:1 after 14:15 26:20 50:8 60:24 64:9 again 24:9 27:24 37:8 40:21 53:14 59:20 against 48:15 ago 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Exhibit 5

1 MR. MORGAN: Speaking is Bryson Morgan,
2 Investigative Counsel with the Office of
3 Congressional Ethics. I'm joined by Paul Solis,
4 Investigative Counsel with the Office of
5 Congressional Ethics, and we are here with [REDACTED]
6 [REDACTED] on June 23rd, 2014.

7 BY MR. MORGAN:

8 Q. And Mr. [REDACTED], we -- we covered the
9 application of the False Statements Act to this
10 interview. So I think we'll go ahead and begin
11 with our questions. First, we'd like to ask you
12 some general background information, so we'll begin
13 there. How are you currently employed?

14 A. I'm self employed with O'Donnell and
15 Associates, which is a communications consulting
16 firm.

17 Q. What types of services does your firm
18 provide?

19 A. Range of communication services to both
20 corporate, non-profit and political clients.

21 Q. You said you provide services to political
22 clients?

23 A. And corporate and non-profit.

24 Q. And non-profit. On the -- on the political

1 side, do you provide services to both state and
2 federal political clients?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. When you say political clients --

5 A. Or elected officials.

6 Q. -- what do you mean? Elected officials?

7 A. Elected offices or candidates for public
8 office.

9 Q. Okay. Approximately how many political
10 clients does your firm have at this time?

11 A. I'm not going to reveal that --

12 Q. Okay. Do you have --

13 A. I've had multiple clients.

14 Q. Multiple clients?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. More than one?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. And you have clients at both the federal
19 and state level --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- local -- local level as well?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Okay. Do some of your current clients
24 include election campaigns?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Okay. Are some of those election campaigns
3 federal election campaigns?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. And are you paid for the services
6 you provide to those federal election campaigns?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Have you ever provided these communication
9 type services or the types of services you provide
10 to federal elections on a volunteer basis?

11 A. I have.

12 Q. On how many occasions would you say you've
13 done that?

14 A. Multiple occasions.

15 Q. Have you ever provided volunteer -- those
16 types of volunteer services to Representative Paul
17 Broun's political campaigns?

18 A. I have.

19 Q. When did you do that?

20 A. This part year, both in 2014 and some in
21 2013.

22 Q. And what about in 2012?

23 A. Um, you know what? I don't remember. I
24 think we may have talked about he -- his House

1 debate for like 10 -- you know, off -- out of the
2 context of my work with him but I don't believe I
3 did provide anything in 2012.

4 Q. When did you first become acquainted with
5 Representative Broun?

6 A. Okay. You got the email and I should've
7 looked at the date again, but it was in 2012. His
8 chief of staff reached out to me and asked if I
9 would submit a proposal to provide communication
10 services to the Congressman, something that I've
11 done for other members of Congress as well.

12 Q. I think I do have a few documents I want to
13 show you that may reflect that. Show you this
14 document which is PBTN0005.

15 A. Yeah, yeah. So it was -- I think we
16 started like in the summer of 2012.

17 Q. Other document I want to show you is PBT --
18 DB120 through 130. This first document I showed
19 you number PBTN05 is -- appears to be a calendar
20 item from Thursday, May 31st, 2012. The subject is
21 "Meeting with [REDACTED], Bachmann's debate
22 coach, attending David Bowser, Meredith Griffanti
23 and organized by Paul Broun," and then the second
24 document I showed you, PBDB120 through 130 is an

1 email from you it appears --

2 A. Um-hmm.

3 Q. -- to drpbroun5 and that email address, it
4 appears belong to Representative Broun, CC-ing
5 David Bowser and Meredith Griffanti in which you
6 write, "Thank you for meeting with me yesterday,"
7 and then skipping a sentence, "Attached is my
8 proposal to assist you with that goal by helping
9 you sharpen your communication skills," and then
10 there is a proposal attached to that email.

11 A. Right.

12 Q. What -- that May 31st, 2012 meeting, do you
13 recall that meeting?

14 A. I recall we actually had, I think a couple
15 of meetings --

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. -- at the NRCC where we just sort of met
18 initially and then I submitted this proposal and
19 then we met again to discuss it. So I believe --

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. -- that's correct.

22 Q. Do you recall who was in that meeting?

23 A. I think Meredith and David and Dr. Broun.

24 Q. And what was discussed?

1 A. Assisting him in doing better with media
2 interviews, speeches, things related to this
3 official duties as a Congressman, floor speeches.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. The proposal I submitted is kind of a
6 boilerplate. You know, it lists all of the range
7 of services and then they can pick what they want.
8 So it's not -- you know, it's not a "Here's
9 everything I will deliver." It's "What I could
10 deliver."

11 Q. So this proposal was not customized for
12 Representative Broun?

13 A. Not very much. Un-uh, no. Most of it is
14 standard language that I use in most of my
15 proposals for you know, elected officials or -- or
16 candidates, so.

17 Q. It's the same proposal you use for both
18 elected officials and candidates?

19 A. Um-hmm.

20 Q. During that meeting, that May 31st meeting
21 or the second meeting that you recalled --

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. -- did you discuss Representative Broun's
24 campaign --

1 A. Not at all --

2 Q. -- campaigns?

3 A. I had no idea that he was even considering
4 running for the Senate when I met with him in 2012.

5 Q. Did you discuss his 2012 congressional
6 campaign?

7 A. Not at all.

8 Q. I will note that the proposal does include
9 -- first paragraph of it, "The method of media prep
10 and the materials I provide are essential in
11 preparing for media interviews and speeches as well
12 as debates." Debates are mentioned throughout.

13 A. Yeah --

14 Q. On page three, there's a section on media
15 public speaking debate preparation. Page four,
16 several bullet points under debate preparation.

17 A. Right, right. And I would point out that
18 in their official activities, members of Congress
19 do debate. That's what they do on the floor of the
20 House.

21 Q. So when you're --

22 A. The debate bills, things like that.

23 Q. -- proposal referencing debates here,
24 you're --

1 A. It can either --

2 Q. -- referencing it?

3 A. -- either candidate debates or official
4 debates.

5 Q. Okay. So on page four, where it says
6 "Debate preparation," this is referring to both
7 candidate debates and --

8 A. Some of those bullets --

9 Q. -- floor debates?

10 A. -- can refer to official debates. Sure,
11 absolutely. Some of them do refer to candidate
12 debates as well -- refers to both.

13 Q. But in your meetings --

14 A. It was not discussed in terms --

15 Q. -- campaign debates were not discussed?

16 A. Not at all.

17 Q. You have any idea why the subject of the
18 meeting on the 31st would've been identified as
19 "Meeting with [REDACTED], Bachmann's debate
20 coach"?

21 A. Um.

22 Q. That didn't refer to any -- any subject
23 matter to be discussed?

24 A. Just it was an identifying feature, who I

1 was.

2 Q. Okay.

3 BY MR. SOLIS:

4 Q. When Representative Broun's chief of staff
5 reached out to you in 2012 to kind of get the
6 discussions started --

7 A. Um-hmm.

8 Q. -- about bringing you on, did you talk
9 about debate issues with the campaign or --
10 candidacy for --

11 A. Not at all.

12 Q. -- office at all?

13 A. No. His -- his reach was specifically
14 targeted to Dr. Broun doing better with media
15 interviews, doing better with floor speeches, doing
16 better with his official duties.

17 BY MR. MORGAN:

18 Q. Want to show you now document identified as
19 PBDB114. This is an email from you to David
20 Bowser. The subject is, "Consulting agreement,"
21 sent on Tuesday, June 19, 2012. You write, "Hi
22 David. Attached is my consulting agreement. I
23 wasn't sure that you settled on how I would be
24 paid, so I left the address blank," and then

1 attached to that is a consulting agreement. Is --

2 A. And this is kind of a boilerplate
3 consulting agreement that I use.

4 Q. This is a boilerplate consulting agreement?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. What was -- was there a discussion in those
7 meetings of how you would be paid?

8 A. Not in the first couple of meetings, and
9 David had kind of just left it open. So that's why
10 it's referenced in that email.

11 Q. Was there a discussion of options for how
12 you would be paid?

13 A. We had talked about either through the
14 official office or through the campaign, depending
15 on what it was they wanted but it seemed like they
16 wanted, you know, official duty stuff, so.

17 Q. Okay. So there was a discussion of -- of
18 perhaps paying you from the campaign?

19 A. I just gave them a range of how people pay
20 me --

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. -- so that was where that left and then
23 David was the one who settled on, "This is how
24 we're going to pay you 'cause this is what we

1 want."

2 Q. Is -- is how you are paid something that
3 you typically have a lot of input --

4 A. No.

5 Q. -- in?

6 A. Un-uh. No, no, no. I just told him. He
7 asked me how people pay me, and I asked -- and I
8 answered that question.

9 Q. And the way you answered is...

10 A. Some people pay through the campaign, some
11 people pay through their offices, depending on what
12 they want done.

13 Q. So you said this is boilerplate. Does this
14 consulting agreement accurately describe the
15 services you were to provide Representative Broun?

16 A. Yeah, I think it did actually: Public
17 speaking, debate, message media, strategy, media
18 interview preparation.

19 Q. It appears that a -- this agreement lasted
20 for a short period --

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. -- and then a new agreement was entered
23 into --

24 A. Correct, which is essentially the same --

1 Q. -- about September of 2012?

2 A. The terms are just changed.

3 Q. And then again in believe in January 2013?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. And -- and it appears that the relationship
6 maybe extended month to month thereon?

7 A. Right, right, exactly.

8 Q. The monthly retainer being \$2500 from --
9 from that point forward I believe --

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. When did your consulting agreement with
12 Representative Broun end?

13 A. Let's see. In March of this year -- March
14 of 2014.

15 Q. Why did it end?

16 A. We just mutually agreed that he no longer
17 needed my services.

18 BY MR. SOLIS:

19 Q. Why did he no longer need your services?

20 A. I mean, what I do is instruction and then
21 you know, I teach them based on specific interviews
22 how to approach things and both of us agreed that
23 he had sort of gotten the max out of what -- what I
24 provide.

1 BY MORGAN:

2 Q. I want to ask you some questions about your
3 interactions with and you work for Representative
4 Broun's congressional office.

5 A. Um-hmm.

6 Q. How would you describe your role in
7 Representative Broun's congressional office?

8 A. As a consultant, both as an instructor in
9 terms of teaching him communication skills at a
10 general level in terms of media interview, prep
11 messaging, floor speeches, both delivery and
12 substance and then I'd be consulted on to help
13 write floor speeches or to prep him for specific
14 interviews, or if he was doing a, you know, tell --
15 town hall that he would do frequently to speak to
16 his district, I'd prep him for those, so.

17 Q. Okay. How frequently were you in
18 communication with the Congressional Office?

19 A. I met with him once a week.

20 Q. Okay. I think we saw some reference to
21 weekly sessions?

22 A. Yeah. So I met with him once a week, but
23 you know, we didn't have -- his communications
24 person would maybe call me every now and then or

1 email me or you know, and I've provided most of
2 those emails or all of those emails actually --

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. -- and he would -- he would not contact me
5 outside of those meetings.

6 Q. Okay. Who in the Congressional Office did
7 you interact with?

8 A. Um, David Bowser, Meredith --

9 Q. Griffanti?

10 A. -- and then -- Griffanti and then when his
11 communications director changed, Christine Hardman
12 and then Teddie Norton just to schedule times.

13 Q. Okay. So I want to break that down a
14 little bit the type -- the types of things --

15 A. Sure.

16 Q. -- you did for Representative Broun. These
17 weekly sessions, what -- what was done in the
18 weekly sessions?

19 A. It would vary. Initially, it was sort of
20 generic, "Here's some communication principles you
21 need to start," based on evaluation of tapes of
22 him, former interviews, things like that. So it
23 would vary from week to week, but most of the time
24 it would be evaluating media that he had done,

1 talking about how to improve and then if he had
2 interviews upcoming, prepping him for those or if
3 he was doing official speeches or floor speeches,
4 things like that, prepping for that and then giving
5 advice on -- on how to message on some of his
6 positions.

7 For instance, you know, one of his big
8 pieces of legislation is his Patient Option Act,
9 talking about how to message around that or
10 different things, different votes that he was going
11 to be taking, how to message those.

12 Q. How to message around those?

13 A. Yeah. And -- and then on the side, working
14 with his communications team to help them as they
15 wrote op-eds or releases from the office, those
16 things too.

17 Q. When you say prepping, what -- what is
18 generally involved in -- in preparing for a speech
19 or for a media appearance?

20 A. Well, they're different.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. I mean, the speech, it's writing the speech
23 and then talking, you know, going back and forth on
24 what he wants in it, what he doesn't want in it and

1 --

2 Q. Were you involved in -- in writing speeches
3 then?

4 A. Um-hmm.

5 Q. Would you -- what was your role? Would you
6 do a first draft?

7 A. It depended. Sometimes Meredith or
8 Christine would write the initial draft and then I
9 would look at it and edit it, or sometimes I'd
10 write the initial draft and we'd go back and forth
11 in the session and work on -- work on the final
12 details for it and then media interviews, it's
13 just, you know, thinking through the potential
14 questions he'd get asked in the media interviews
15 and what the message would be for those interviews
16 and how to answer questions.

17 Q. Show you a document here. This is PBTN...
18 Take your time to review this series of email
19 exchanges between you and Meredith Griffanti. The
20 question I have is it appears to us that some of
21 these weekly sessions were held in the
22 Congressional Office, and on occasion, they were
23 held at the NRCC. Is that correct?

24 A. Yeah. And I -- I -- you know, initially, I

1 think it was just convenience, if he was going to
2 be making calls or stuff like that, so.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. I don't think there was any.

5 Q. So here, at the top of page one, Meredith
6 Griffanti writes to Teddie Norton and David Bowser,
7 "We could just have it be official today and do
8 NRCC stuff next week." Was there -- if you were
9 discussing official matters, would you meet in the
10 Congressional Office? If you were discussing
11 campaign or political matters, would you meet in
12 the NRCC?

13 A. Yeah. And we very rarely discussed
14 campaign matters. So we very rarely met at the
15 NRCC. We met there a couple of times in the
16 beginning. I think we met there -- like I said one
17 time we may have talked about debate stuff, and so
18 he wanted to meet there and asked me if I would
19 just give him a few tips about an upcoming debate
20 and then sometimes I -- you know, but I -- very
21 rarely did we meet there. Most of the time, we met
22 in his office.

23 BY MR. SOLIS:

24 Q. When you say an upcoming debate, do you

1 mean?

2 A. When -- when he was running for Congress.
3 I think he said, "You know, hey, I've got a debate
4 coming up. Will you give me a couple of tips," and
5 I never went to Georgia or anything like that. I
6 went -- I went to Georgia one time. That was last
7 year but --

8 MR. MORGAN: Think we'll ask you some
9 questions about that.

10 MR. [REDACTED]: But -- but -- yeah, at any
11 rate, it was just -- you know, "Will you give me a
12 couple of pointers?" So.

13 BY MR. SOLIS:

14 Q. And you mentioned it was on convenience,
15 the office you would select at times?

16 A. I think sometimes. I think it was based
17 on, you know, if he was making calls or whatever --
18 would I meet him there as opposed to his
19 congressional office.

20 Q. And by calls, you mean fund raising calls?

21 A. I think.

22 BY MR. MORGAN:

23 Q. Show you an email. This is from your
24 document productions, BOD155. This is an email

1 from Christine Hardman to you August 11, 2013 in
2 response to an email you sent on August 11. At the
3 bottom of the page there in which you -- you say,
4 "Christine, please send me media interviews on Dr.
5 Broun's schedule for this week, also, any other
6 events -- need to discuss on the call tomorrow
7 morning and also, send clips from media done in the
8 past week," and then her response includes a list
9 of several different events and speeches, town
10 hall. Was this typical --

11 A. Yeah --

12 Q. Were you given a list of upcoming
13 appearances --

14 A. Yeah, absolutely.

15 Q. -- in your weekly session or it appears
16 sometimes that that session took place over the
17 phone?

18 A. Yeah. Sometimes, it was via phone.

19 Q. And then would you also -- so in those
20 sessions, you would discuss the upcoming events and
21 do preparation for those specific events? Is that
22 correct?

23 A. Yeah. And evaluate past media which is
24 exactly what I asked for.

1 Q. Okay. You mentioned speeches that
2 Representative Broun gave in his official capacity.

3 A. Um-hmm.

4 Q. You sometimes edited those. Sometimes
5 you'd write them. You mentioned Dr. Broun's Option
6 Act. Do you recall if you drafted a speech for Dr.
7 Broun on that?

8 A. I think I drafted a couple of floor
9 speeches on that and an op-ed actually but I don't
10 remember the -- I mean, he -- that's been his big
11 thing, so there were several things that we -- we
12 did interviews around that, so.

13 BY MR. SOLIS:

14 Q. Do you know what op-ed -- what newspaper
15 that appeared in?

16 A. I don't. I do think it was -- think it
17 might've been Wall Street Journal or something like
18 that but it was -- it was a relatively big
19 placement.

20 BY MR. MORGAN:

21 Q. Show you this document here. This is
22 PBDB170.

23 A. Um-hmm.

24 Q. Take your time to look at that. What I

1 want to ask you about is the email, the second half
2 of this first page from David Bowser to Teddie
3 Norton, Gov Bob, you and Christine Hardman in which
4 he -- he asked -- second line of that email,
5 "██████, do we have an updated five minute on big
6 government spending?" You, you know, respond 40
7 minutes later writing, "I'll get something done by
8 late tonight/early in the morning."

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. Do you recall -- is that another speech --

11 A. It's like a five minute, you know, the one
12 minute, five minute speeches that they give on the
13 floor of the House, absolutely.

14 Q. Okay. Do you recall drafting a floor
15 speech that Dr. Broun gave shortly after visiting a
16 VA hospital to discuss a speech in which he
17 discussed veterans' issues?

18 A. No, I do not actually, but that doesn't
19 mean, I didn't. I write a lot of speeches.

20 Q. Would you draft talking points --

21 A. Sure.

22 Q. -- for Representative Broun as well to be

23 --

24 A. Yeah.

1 Q. -- used either by him or perhaps at press
2 releases?

3 A. Yep, absolutely.

4 Q. Do you recall any specific instances of
5 that?

6 A. Truckload of them. I mean, pretty much if
7 he was doing radio, we would draft talking points.
8 Meredith and I would go back and forth on those.
9 There were many, many times where we drafted
10 talking points for media interviews that he was
11 doing.

12 BY MR. SOLIS:

13 Q. Concerning?

14 A. That was a regular occurrence. What's
15 that?

16 Q. Concerning his official duties?

17 A. Sure, yeah.

18 BY MR. MORGAN:

19 Q. Do you recall -- let me show you one
20 document. This is PBDB151.

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. This appears to be some talking points you
23 drafted for David Bowser on the FAA?

24 A. Yeah. This was in the middle of the

1 sequester and you know, it was stuff that he could
2 use in media interviews or even on the floor
3 talking about this issue, absolutely.

4 Q. So was this -- was this typical for you to
5 do --

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. -- draft talking points?

8 A. Absolutely.

9 Q. How many -- how many times during your
10 consulting agreement do you believe you did --

11 A. Oh my gosh --

12 Q. -- did work like this?

13 A. It took -- for me to venture a guess, would
14 be inaccurate because --

15 Q. Would it be on a weekly basis?

16 A. Oh, maybe not on a weekly basis but on a
17 regular basis I would say.

18 Q. More than once a month?

19 A. Yeah, absolutely. Sometimes it was more
20 than once a week if there were big issues going
21 through Congress that he needed help with.

22 Q. What -- what big issues do you recall?

23 A. Well, sequester for sure. We -- we did
24 several things through the period of sequester,

1 shut down. I mean, he was out in front talking
2 about that a good bit. Definitely, the healthcare
3 debate and that was ongoing. So, you know, there
4 were multiple things that came up during the
5 healthcare debate that called for different talking
6 points, whether it was when he was re-introducing
7 the Patient Option Act or if there was something
8 happening like the shutdown or some other bill.
9 Congress has taken up -- the House has taken up
10 Obamacare many, many times.

11 Q. Um-hmm.

12 A. So through -- and -- and each one of those
13 times, I might've drafted some talking points based
14 on the specific goals -- going to be taken.

15 Q. Do you recall doing any work on
16 Representative Broun's continuing resolution vote?

17 A. Not specifically, but I'm sure I did.

18 Q. What about gun rights issues --

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. -- universal background checks --

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. -- do you recall --

23 A. Yeah, yeah, absolutely.

24 Q. -- that being a major issue?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. Were you -- I think you may have mentioned
3 this but can you give me a sense of what extent you
4 were involved in discussions of communication
5 strategy, if you were involved in those? Were you
6 involved in those types of discussions?

7 A. Yeah. I would talk to Meredith and
8 Christine about what media we wanted to do and even
9 helped them from time to time reach out to
10 different folks. Yeah, I was -- and then what we
11 wanted to say in that -- in those interviews. I
12 was reasonably integrated into that process.

13 Q. Were you involved in legislative strategy,
14 discussions of legislative strategy?

15 A. Only as it related to the communication
16 side. You know, Dr. Broun worked with his policy
17 -- policy folks and to be honest with you, I have
18 seen them but I couldn't even tell you their names.
19 I remember Austin who was in that office, but you
20 know, I never really did anything with the policy
21 folks. So he would usually meet with them
22 separately and he's -- you know, he's -- he doesn't
23 change his positions based on communications. He
24 wants to develop the communication strategy off of

1 his positions.

2 Q. Did you ever provide any training to the
3 congressional staff?

4 A. To -- Meredith and Christine went through
5 the training that I gave Dr. Broun initially with
6 me. I have like a message video that I show them
7 and -- and they sort of went through how I approach
8 prepping a candidate for interviews. So both of
9 them were trained, yeah.

10 BY MR. SOLIS:

11 Q. How many times that occurred, just the one
12 time?

13 A. No, no. There -- you know, I mean, there
14 were lots of times where I would -- especially at
15 the beginning when I was working with Dr. Broun,
16 pulled Meredith aside and say, "Here's, you know,
17 how I'm thinking through this. Here's how you want
18 him to think through it." So it -- it might not
19 have been like, "Okay, today, we're going to do a
20 training session for Meredith." It may have been
21 -- now, when I first took Dr. Broun through my
22 initial training, she sat in through all of that.
23 So there were probably four or five sessions that
24 she sat in on where it was just sort of generic,

1 "Here's how you approach media interviews. Here's
2 how you approach speeches."

3 Q. Did he ask her -- for you to train her?

4 A. I think so, yeah, yeah.

5 Well, I volunteered actually. I mean, I
6 think that's healthy, so that the communications
7 staff eventually takes over for doing this. The
8 goal is to do the training, be with them for awhile
9 and -- and then watch them grow and then have a
10 communications staff take over and be able to do it
11 without me.

12 BY MR. MORGAN:

13 Q. The training -- this initial training you
14 give you said was four to five sessions?

15 A. Probably so, yeah.

16 Q. Were those with Meredith separately or --

17 A. No, no. Meredith --

18 Q. -- were you giving it to Dr. Broun --

19 A. -- would've been --

20 Q. -- and then she was present?

21 A. Yeah, she was present. Yeah.

22 Q. Okay. What about with Christine?

23 A. Um, well, since they -- you know, they
24 changed in the middle. I kind of talked to

1 Christine on the side, just told her how I approach
2 media interviews.

3 Q. Did she go through those four to five
4 sessions?

5 A. No, no.

6 Q. All right. Now want to talk a little bit
7 about your role with Representative Broun's
8 congressional campaigns. Show you a document here.
9 This is BOD00234. This is an email from David
10 Bowser to several individuals including yourself
11 where he writes, "Good afternoon, Team Broun. Just
12 wanted to do a quick intro of two additions brought
13 on today by Dr. Broun to our political efforts."
14 He introduces those two people and then he says by
15 way of introductions to everyone involved and then
16 lists each person who's involved in the political
17 efforts and -- and a short statement of what they
18 do --

19 A. Um-hmm.

20 Q. -- and at the bottom of that page it
21 says, "[REDACTED] is Congressman's Broun's
22 messaging consultant and media prep advisor."

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. Does that accurately describe your role

1 with his campaigns?

2 A. Yeah, I think so. Well, not -- with his
3 campaigns? No, I had no official role with his
4 campaign.

5 Q. So this is December 19 of 2012.

6 A. Yeah. I mean, I --

7 Q. So this is referring to his 2000 -- his
8 senate run, 2013 --

9 A. Well, I think -- yeah. And I think what he
10 is doing is introducing everyone who's on his team
11 and the way I take this is, you know, I mean, you
12 can't have a guy going out in a campaign and doing
13 exactly opposite of what he's doing on his official
14 side. They're not two people. They're the same
15 person, and so I think he's just introducing
16 everyone who's on Dr. Broun's team, whether it's
17 one side or the other in terms of things that might
18 impact the -- what they're doing politically.

19 Q. So this reference to you here is -- I want
20 to be clear here -- is a reference to your role in
21 the official capacity --

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. -- or?

24 A. Official side. I had no -- you know, I had

1 no official role. I wasn't paid by the campaign.
2 So I had no official role on his senate campaign.
3 I did volunteer stuff for him but I had no official
4 role. I was -- officially, I was his messaging and
5 media prep advisor --

6 Q. Um-hmm.

7 A. -- but I had no official role in his
8 campaign.

9 BY MR. MORGAN:

10 Q. Did you do those same types of duties for
11 the campaign?

12 A. Some on a volunteer basis, yeah.

13 BY MR. MORGAN:

14 Q. When was the last time you did any
15 volunteer activity for the campaign?

16 A. March.

17 Q. In March?

18 A. Yeah, of 2014.

19 Q. Of 2014. Okay. I want to go through the
20 various types of services you may have provided to
21 the campaign.

22 A. Um-hmm.

23 Q. So, did you discuss campaign speeches,
24 media appearances, campaign debates, those types of

1 campaign related media or engagements in your
2 weekly sessions with Dr. Broun?

3 A. Not in our official weekly sessions, no.

4 Q. Not in your official...

5 A. No, no, but we did discuss them, so.

6 Q. When would you discuss them?

7 A. On the phone. Occasionally, we met down --
8 Jamestown Associates. We'd use their conference
9 room to meet.

10 Q. Okay. Did you draft or provide feedback on
11 campaign speeches?

12 A. I did, yeah.

13 Q. Would you also prepare Representative Broun
14 for campaign speeches and events?

15 A. Yes. Well, yes, yes.

16 Q. Okay. What was your role in the
17 announcement speech that Representative Broun gave
18 kicking off his senate campaign?

19 A. I helped draft it.

20 Q. Help draft it.

21 BY MR. MORGAN:

22 Q. Did you help --

23 A. Think Meredith and --

24 Q. -- Dr. Broun rehearse for that speech?

1 A. No. Meredith and I went back and forth via
2 email drafting it, but we did not. He -- I think
3 he -- he did that in Georgia and I wasn't with him.

4 BY MR. MORGAN:

5 Q. Want to show you a document here. This is
6 BOD0 -- 0193. This is an email from you to
7 yourself, CC-ing David Bowser, Brian Tringali, Bob
8 Bibee and Meredith Griffanti where you write,
9 "Attached is the 10 minute stump that Dr. Broun
10 asked me to write."

11 A. Um-hmm.

12 Q. What -- what can you tell me about the
13 speech?

14 A. It's a stump speech, and Dr. Broun asked if
15 I -- he respected my writing ability, and he asked
16 me if I would write a stump speech for him to which
17 I said, "Yes."

18 Q. Campaign speech?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. What role did you play in -- in preparing
21 Representative Broun for the Georgia Republican
22 Convention that was held in mid-May of 2013?

23 A. Well, I think he used this speech -- parts
24 of that speech for it, so you know, I helped kind

1 of craft the final speech for that as well.

2 Q. Show you the same -- this is PBTN62.
3 Middle of the page, there's an email on May 1st,
4 2013 from Teddie Norton to you where he writes, "Hi
5 [REDACTED]. We are looking ahead for the next few weeks
6 before convention, and I wanted to know if you
7 could meet with Dr. Broun the following times?"

8 A. Um-hmm.

9 Q. "Tuesday, May 7, 2:00 p.m., Thursday, May
10 16, 3:00 p.m. Just let me know." You responded
11 saying both were fine. Did you meet with
12 Representative Broun leading up to the convention
13 to prepare for his speech?

14 A. I did.

15 Q. What -- what occurred in those prep
16 sessions?

17 A. We went back and forth on what he wanted to
18 do in the speech and say. So we just kind of
19 worked through drafts of the speech.

20 BY MR. SOLIS:

21 Q. About how many times would you meet with
22 him about that issue?

23 A. Oh, not very many.

24 BY MR. MORGAN:

1 Q. You think these two meetings occurred?

2 A. I believe they may have.

3 Q. And those both would have been to prepare
4 for the convention speech?

5 A. I think, yeah.

6 Q. Okay. Show you another document. This is
7 BOD01311.

8 A. Um-hmm.

9 Q. This is an email from Christine Hardman to
10 you, subject is "Intro," dated January 29, 2014.
11 She writes, "Hey, [REDACTED]. Dr. Broun was trying to
12 figure out which flight to take today and was
13 wanting to practice his new intro before leaving.
14 When do you expect to have it done?" What does
15 this email -- what intro is this referring to?

16 A. It refers to his debate opening statement.

17 Q. Campaign debate?

18 A. Um-hmm.

19 Q. This document is BOD00365. This is an
20 email from you to Representative Broun. You write
21 -- or on February 12, 2014. You write, "Dr. Broun,
22 attached are your announcement, convention
23 speeches. These were two of your best, and as I
24 said yesterday, all you would have to do is

1 substitute governments for spending announcement,
2 and you have a great speech." Tell me about this
3 email?

4 A. It was just -- actually, this was meant as
5 an inspirational message. He was lacking
6 confidence in some of the things that he was doing,
7 and so I just sent him an email with some videos to
8 say, "Hey, you gave -- here's a couple of good
9 speeches you gave. You can do it." That's
10 basically it.

11 Q. Did you work on talking points for the
12 campaign in addition to actually working on
13 speeches? Did you -- did you work on talking
14 points?

15 A. I may have. I don't remember working on
16 specific talking points with the campaign, but if
17 you have a document?

18 Q. Show you an email. Yeah...

19 A. Maybe...

20 Q. This is BOD00082. These are emails. It
21 appears to be referencing a -- some talking points
22 that you sent to Representative Broun. You write,
23 "Can someone send me a link? I sent him talking
24 points last night." Appears to be in relation to