

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 23, 2007

The Honorable Joshua Bolten  
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Bolten,

On January 26, 2007, Deputy White House Political Director J. Scott Jennings joined a lunchtime meeting of political appointees at the General Services Administration (GSA). In a government building, on government time, he presented federal employees with a Powerpoint presentation that outlined Republican political goals for the 2008 election. Other GSA employees joined in from government buildings around the country, via a government-owned videoconferencing system.

Six participants have confirmed that, at the end of the presentation, GSA Administrator Lurita Doan asked all present to consider how they could use GSA "to help our candidates" in 2008.

For more than two weeks, the White House has failed to answer questions from Congress and the media, including:

- Does the White House consider the preparation and delivery of such a presentation to be an appropriate use of taxpayer funds?
- Did the White House Counsel approve of preparing and delivering this presentation on federal property during business hours?
- Did Mr. Jennings or any other White House employee make this or a similar presentation to any other federal employees?
- Why did Mr. Jennings and his staff communicate the presentation materials, which bear the White House seal, via a private e-mail account affiliated with the Republican National Committee?

Ongoing investigations will determine whether Mr. Jennings, Ms. Doan, and other Administration officials violated the Hatch Act, which strictly regulates the use of taxpayer funds for partisan political activity. In the meantime, the White House must condemn their conduct and immediately answer all questions about this matter, including those listed above.

The Executive Branch is not an extension of the Republican National Committee, nor of any political party. Those who treat it as such must be held accountable.

Sincerely,

Ermond Long

Steward Brown

Blanche L. Lynch

Harry Rupp

James Finsterlin

Wm. H. H. H.

Marcus Cantwell

Chl Se

Bill Nelson

Ron Wyden

Frank Landenberg

Am Kohlen

J. Lish

Patty Murray

Robert Menner

Jack Lee

Jack Reed

Patricia Leahy

Robert P. Casey Jr

Ed Feeney

Cathy Lewis

Tom F. King

Dick Deuch

Bud

Tom Harkin