

Exhibit 10

**Interview of Former District Director
April 21, 2015**

Mr. Gast: This is Scott Gast, with the Office of Congressional Ethics, with my colleague, Mr. Paul Solis. We're joined by Former District Director, who has agreed to sit with us for an interview. She is accompanied by her attorney, Stan Brand. We've provided Former District Director with a copy of the Federal False Statements Act. After consulting with her attorney, she has declined to sign the Acknowledgement Form.

We want to thank you for being here today. We'll just dive right into the questions. A little bit of background to start, if you could tell us your current position, how long you've been in the position, and what some of your duties are in that position?

Witness: Do I need to look at this?

Mr. Solis: It's pretty ... It will pick it up.

Mr. Gast: We ask you to keep your voice up nonetheless, just to be sure.

Witness: Okay. My name is [REDACTED] Currently, I serve as Chief Education Advisor to Congressman Honda. I've been in that position since the beginning of February 2015.

Mr. Gast: What do you do in that position as Chief Education Advisor?

Witness: I advise the Congressman and our education team as to matters that deal with the Congressman's education policy and gather information from the community as to which education issues are most prominent. I attend meetings and events that are education-issue based within the community. Occasionally, I come out to DC because of education conferences or hearings.

Mr. Gast: You said you have been in that position since February?

Witness: Right.

Mr. Gast: What did you do prior to that?

Witness: Prior to that, I was District Director.

Mr. Gast: How long were you in that position?

Witness: About 14 years, since the Congressman got elected. I started in, I think it was the end of February, in the year 2001.

Mr. Gast: Generally what were your duties as District Director?

Witness: Manage the office staff, be the liaison to the Chief of Staff, operationalize the Congressman's agenda within the District, to serve as the eyes and ears of the Congressman.

Mr. Gast: Who has succeeded you as District Director?

Witness: Edwin Tan.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about your interaction with Representative Honda's campaigns, primarily the last two cycles, the 2012 and 2014 cycles. What kinds of interactions, how would you describe your interactions with his campaign?

Witness: I was a volunteer.

Mr. Gast: What kind of things would you volunteer to do?

Witness: Close to the election, I took vacation time and volunteered, mostly precinct walking. Prior to that, I don't recall specifically how I volunteered. I spent time at the campaign office after hours or when I wasn't working my official job. In advisement.

Mr. Gast: How would you describe the interaction between the campaign and the congressional office, the district office?

Witness: It was an interaction where staff occasionally volunteered, particularly at election times. There was an interaction regarding scheduling.

Mr. Solis: Could you explain that a little more, what scheduling means?

Witness: We were both competing for the Congressman's time, so we needed to know what was on the docket with them versus what was on the docket for us.

Mr. Gast: Would you, beyond scheduling, would there be other kinds of information the two offices would share?

Witness: There were times when issues arose, perhaps at a campaign event, and that information, which would be important to the way we conduct our official business, that issue would be related to our staff. There were times when, at a campaign event, a constituent would ask, and what I can specifically recall, are

immigration issues. Although told to call the official office, the person could be very demanding and say, "I want you to relay my mother's visa problem to the official office."

Mr. Gast: What about, was there any information that would come from the congressional office to the campaign?

Witness: What I remember mostly is scheduling.

Mr. Gast: Anything else?

Witness: Mostly scheduling related, like the logistics of moving the Congressman from one place to the other. There was, not during congressional time, but a request for official staff to volunteer on their own time, in which case we needed to schedule that for vacations so that not everyone was out of the office at the same time. We had a schedule, a specific schedule, as to who would be out when to record vacation time and also to assure that our constituents would be served.

Mr. Gast: Who in the district office would work with the campaign, volunteer with the campaign?

Witness: I think that everyone volunteered at the campaign, close to the election.

Mr. Gast: What kinds of things would they do?

Witness: Phone banking, precinct walking.

Mr. Gast: How would you, you said that you coordinated vacation time. How would you keep track of the time where congressional staff did campaign work versus official work?

Witness: Staff would submit a vacation request to me. I would sign that request. I would check in with our scheduler on a master calendar, again to assure that we had enough people in the office for walk-ins and phone calls to do our regular constituent services. From that, the scheduler would form another schedule so we knew when official staff would be out on vacation to do campaign work.

Mr. Gast: Did staff ever do campaign work during the workday?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: Were time records kept delineating when folks were working in the congressional office or working on official matters versus working on campaign matters?

Witness: Aside from the vacation, I am not aware of staff working on the campaign, unless they worked after hours at a phone bank as volunteers. It was not our practice to have staff, during working hours, do anything for campaign.

Mr. Gast: What about in the case of, I understand Ashley Roybal and Mark Nakamoto were in unique positions at different times when they were 50 percent campaign, 50 percent congressional staff. Is that right?

Witness: I don't recall if it was 50 percent. I do recall they had dual roles.

Mr. Gast: How was that dual role handled?

Witness: It was delineated how many hours they were to be in the official office. I don't recall what the agreement would have been in terms of time for campaign.

Mr. Solis: Who would have made the decision about that delineation?

Witness: Jennifer would have made the ultimate decision, as Chief of Staff. She would have consulted with me to see what hours were needed in order for us to continue our official business within the district office.

Mr. Solis: What about the specific issue of the hours those two individuals would spend on the campaign? Would you and Jennifer also weigh in on that? I understand the official side. Would you weigh in on what was needed for Ashley and Mark in terms of hours on the campaign side?

Witness: I don't recall what hours were needed or what the ... What I do recall is with Ashley was more on an as-needed basis, whereas with Mark, it seemed like more regular hours that he would be at campaign.

Mr. Solis: You recall for Ashley, it was as needed on the campaign and for Mark there were determined hours?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Solis: Okay.

Mr. Gast: How would those hours then be tracked?

Witness: We tracked Mark's attendance in the district.

Mr. Solis: At the district office? The congressional district office?

Witness: Yes, as we do with other employees.

Mr. Gast: Then who would sign off on him meeting his target number of hours per week?

Witness: I don't think there was a sign off. Every day, a schedule would come out. It would have what was expected of Mark. If he were not showing up, then I would ask the scheduler, "Did he call in? Is he absent?" and question it. He's a very diligent, dedicated person. If he was assigned to a certain amount of hours, my expectation was that he would be in the district those hours. If, for some reason, he wasn't, I would ask the scheduler, who keeps track of our records.

Mr. Gast: Was there some check to make sure that he actually worked the number of hours he was supposed to in the official office?

Witness: The check would have been the attendance sheet.

Mr. Gast: What is that attendance sheet?

Witness: It's a record of who showed up to work that day, whether they were sick or taking a vacation day, or present.

Mr. Gast: Who put together that attendance sheet?

Witness: Our scheduler.

Mr. Gast: That was Charlene Loomis?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: At any time during the arrangement with Mark, did Charlene or any other employee bring to your attention that Mark was not meeting his official hours?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: When Ashley and Mark would be doing their campaign roles, where would they do that work?

Witness: To my knowledge, they did it out of the official office. I was not aware of either one of them doing campaign work during the time they were within our office.

Mr. Gast: Do you know where they would have done it if it wasn't in the official office, where they would go?

Witness: Mark would go to the campaign office. Ashley did work from home. I don't recall whether we had an office space. At one point we had an office space rented in the building for campaign to use. I don't recall whether that was during the time that Ashley was doing campaign work.

Mr. Gast: You said that you're not aware of either Ashley or Mark doing any campaign work while they were in the congressional office?

Witness: Right.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever see Mark making campaign phone calls using the congressional office phones?

Witness: No. Our office layout is in a U. I was over here, in an enclosed office. Our scheduler was next to me. Then the Congressman's office and then the field reps were all out here, with the reception out here. For me to see or hear a call out there would have been very difficult. I would not have seen it. That's for sure.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Did anyone bring to your attention any instances of either Ashley or Mark making campaign calls in the congressional district office?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Did anybody bring to your attention any occasions when either Ashley or Mark were doing campaign work in the congressional office?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Using computers to do campaign work, anything like that?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: How involved was Representative Honda in his campaigns?

Witness: Could you define involved?

Mr. Gast: I leave that up to you. Was he an active person running his campaigns? Did he leave it more to staff? How would you characterize his participation running the campaign?

Witness: I would characterize it as something happening to him versus he being really active in campaign.

Mr. Gast: Did you discuss his campaigns with him?

Witness: Yes, upon occasion.

Mr. Gast: What kind of discussions would you have?

Witness: As I recall, it was mostly, "How are you feeling about the campaign? Are you finding time for personal matters?" My recollection, it was more on a personal level.

Mr. Solis: Anything about strategy or events or people who he should be contacting for fundraising opportunities or anything like that?

Witness: I don't recall specifically.

Mr. Gast: Who else would Representative Honda discuss his campaign with?

Witness: I wasn't present when he would discuss his campaign. I recall an instance on Saturdays, when we were all in the meeting, and he would discuss his campaign with his manager and his consultant, a meeting that I was in attendance.

Mr. Gast: Was this a regular meeting?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: You said this was on a Saturday?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Where was this?

Witness: At campaign headquarters.

Mr. Gast: Was this something that was just a one-time deal that you were there or was this on multiple occasions?

Witness: I recall one Saturday meeting and one large meeting with the entire campaign staff.

Mr. Gast: How did you come to be at these meetings?

Witness: I was invited in my district director position.

Mr. Gast: What was the discussion at these meetings?

Witness: The original meeting was campaign strategy.

Mr. Gast: Was that the Saturday meeting or the larger meeting?

Witness: The larger meeting. The Saturday meeting was to resolve some disputes.

Mr. Gast: What kind of disputes?

Witness: It was a dispute with the Congressman and the consultant.

Mr. Gast: Who was the consultant?

Witness: Barry Barnes.

Mr. Gast: You said the campaign manager was also there?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Who was that?

Witness: Doug Greven.

Mr. Solis: Is this in 2012, these meetings?

Witness: I don't recall if it was in ... I think it would have been 2013, versus 2012. He was re-elected in 2012. These meetings took place in 2013.

Mr. Gast: Beyond those two meetings that we just talked about, were you invited to other campaign meetings similar to those?

Witness: Where the Congressman was there?

Mr. Gast: Or general strategy type meetings with the campaign manager, or the consultant or the Congressman were there.

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: How often would those meetings take place?

Witness: A rough estimate would be once a quarter.

Mr. Gast: How often would Representative Honda participate in those meetings?

Witness: I don't recall him being at those meetings.

Mr. Gast: It would be the campaign manager and the consultant?

Witness: Myself and Jennifer.

Mr. Gast: Then Doug Greven?

Witness: Right.

Mr. Gast: And the consultant, Barry?

Witness: It could have been the finance person.

Mr. Gast: Who was that?

Witness: Sudip Dutta.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Was there anyone else?

Witness: Not that I remember. Oh, it may have been the press person, Vivek ... I'm not remembering his last name.

Mr. Gast: Is it Kembaiyan, or something similar?

Witness: Right.

Mr. Gast: Is it safe to say that was a campaign brain trust?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: You would meet on a quarterly basis to-

Witness: That's a rough estimate.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: I don't recall any specific meetings. I do recall meeting with them on occasion.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you briefly about Google Drive and Dropbox. Do you recall those programs, those accounts?

Witness: I need to preface this by saying I am not technologically literate. I am more concerned ... I gave directions, but familiarity with them is not a skill that I have.

Mr. Gast: Did you use them yourself or direct other people to use them?

Witness: I would have asked staff to use them.

Mr. Gast: What are those accounts?

Witness: I think we've had many during the years. I don't recall specific ones.

Mr. Gast: What were they used for?

Witness: It could be used for an invitation list. It could be used to identify stakeholders involved in an issue.

Mr. Solis: By invitation list, invitations for what?

Witness: Any kind of district office event. It could be also used as an RSVP for checklist.

Mr. Solis: You mentioned stakeholders, lists of stakeholders. What do you mean by that?

Witness: People who had an interest in a particular issue.

Mr. Gast: What were those lists used for?

Witness: They were used to assist us in invitations to events that were issue-oriented. They were used to send thank you notes.

Mr. Gast: Who used these accounts, the Google and the Dropbox accounts?

Witness: I recall if there was a specific event, like we did a STEM education event, the person in charge of that event, field representatives, congressional aides, would use those lists. The staff assistant may use those lists if they were helping to keep track of RSVPs for the event.

Mr. Gast: Did campaign staff use materials that were on the Dropbox or Google accounts?

Witness: I don't recall that. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Gast: What about Representative Honda?

Witness: I don't recall him using Google Documents. I recall him asking for briefers to be placed in the Dropbox.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Mr. Solis: Were there ever invitation lists for campaign events, based on those accounts?

Witness: I don't recall that happening.

Mr. Solis: Who developed the lists of either the invitations or the stakeholders?

Witness: The stakeholder list was assigned to the field rep, congressional aide, who was in charge of that issue. The invitation list was also assigned to the field rep and whoever they were partnering with to assist in the production of an event.

Mr. Gast: I want to offer you some specific examples of the interaction between the campaign and the congressional office with this email. Take a minute to look through that.

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about that initial email from Jennifer Van der Heide. Do you recall this email?

Witness: As I see it today, now I remember it.

Mr. Gast: For the record, this is RA-0033. Do you recall receiving this email?

Witness: As I see it today, I recall seeing it.

Mr. Gast: It appears that, other than Lamar Heystek, the recipients on this email are all members of the congressional staff. Is that correct?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: This is an email from Jennifer Van der Heide's personal account to the personal accounts of all of the folks listed there, primarily congressional staff. It's entitled, "Required reading. Entrepreneurial national" -- I think that's nation -- "by Ro Khanna." Would Jennifer typically assign campaign work like this?

Witness: Not typically.

Mr. Gast: What was your reaction when you received this email?

Witness: Honestly? I'm not going to read the book, and I didn't.

Mr. Solis: What would you call this? Would this be a campaign assignment or an official assignment?

Witness: As I read this, it implies both because there is a discussion of issues key to our district. It also mentions a challenge by a political opponent.

Mr. Solis: Is that person Ro Khanna?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: When Jennifer says "required reading" here, is this something that the recipients are free to say no to?

Witness: I can't speak for them. I can speak for myself. I said, "No."

Mr. Gast: Did you have any discussions with any of the other folks on the email, any of the other recipients, about the instruction to read the book?

Witness: I don't recall.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Mr. Solis: Why did you say no to reading the book?

Witness: I wasn't interested. I didn't feel it was a requirement of my job.

Mr. Solis: Why didn't you feel that way?

Witness: I don't recall the why, just a gut reaction.

Mr. Solis: Are there ever instances of strictly official assignments that Jennifer would assign, put out there, where staff could say, "I don't feel like doing that."

Witness: The only ones that I remember were in the confines of discussing the ethics rules, the rules of ethics, in terms of volunteering. Near campaign time, I recall her sending the ethics guidelines. I recall making it clear that it was volunteer, and not expected. That was my interpretation and the way that I tried to express it to my staff. I had no expectations that staff members would volunteer, particularly as we were responsible for maintaining business as usual in the office, during office hours.

Mr. Solis: Was this a surprise to you when you got this email or did you have a prior discussion with Jennifer that she would be sending this email to the staff?

Witness: I was surprised.

Mr. Gast: Why were you surprised?

Witness: I don't recall. I didn't have prior knowledge of it, so it came as a surprise.

Mr. Gast: Were you surprised by some of the language that Jennifer used "required reading?"

Witness: I don't recall how I felt more than what I told you.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Let's jump ahead to this email. This, for the record is THMH 1405.

Mr. Solis: We'll pause for a little bit.

Witness: Okay.

[Break]

Mr. Gast: Do you recall this email?

Witness: Through the process of collecting documents, I saw it and recalled it.

Mr. Gast: What do you recall about the circumstances of this email?

Witness: A lot of frustration. The Congressman asks, "Why? Why? Why?" I get irritated at times and respond sometimes out of frustration, sometimes out of irritation. I do recall this was a moment when I was irritated.

Mr. Gast: What prompted you to send this email?

Witness: He had, here's his question, "Purpose?"

Mr. Gast: Is this something that the congressional office would schedule, campaign events, like this?

Witness: We didn't schedule campaign events, except at the request of campaign that the scheduler put something on the schedule.

Mr. Gast: When you respond here that the purpose of the event is to build momentum for your campaign and certain club members are supporting your opponent, does that suggest that one of the things the district office was doing was seeking out and scheduling events that could be beneficial politically?

Witness: This email was done out of frustration. When I saw it in the collection, I was surprised and understood this was a mistake to send it from an official document.

Mr. Gast: I guess that's my question, is why, given that this appears to be an event with the Sunnyvale Democratic Club and a political event, that you would be discussing it as district director, using an official email, with a number of other congressional staff members included on the email.

Witness: It was done out of irritation and frustration in a moment of pressure. It was not my practice to do this. I do recall this situation.

Mr. Gast: Why didn't this come from the campaign?

Witness: It should have come from the campaign. There was overlap in my duties with scheduling, so something would show up on the campaign and the Congressman would respond to me. I would most often say, "Ask campaign." He would ask questions of me regarding the schedule, not differentiating sometimes what. He was asking, "Where? When? Why am I going here?" In the day, there may have been another event that was official. In his mind, he was laying out, I'm guessing, "What am I doing and what are the purposes?"

Mr. Solis: I had a question based on something that could have preceded Representative Honda's purpose question to you. I assume that by raising that question, there was a preceding conversation or there was something that led Representative Honda to ask that question. Do you know what that would have been?

Witness: He asked why. He responded this way to a multitude of events.

Mr. Solis: Would there have been an email from you or Jennifer or anybody else preceding this question from him?

Witness: Not necessarily.

Mr. Solis: He could have just seen it on the calendar and asked you?

Witness: Right. That was common. It would be one word, purpose, or a question, "Why am I doing this?"

Mr. Solis: Okay.

Mr. Gast: Who set up this particular meeting?

Witness: As I recall, it was campaign.

Mr. Gast: Did you have any input on that decision?

Witness: Not that I remember.

Mr. Solis: When you say campaign, who is that?

Witness: What I see here is Lamar Heystek. He was campaign manager.

Mr. Solis: What about Jennifer?

Witness: Can you...?

Mr. Solis: We asked the question, who would have put this together. You said campaign in speaking about the Sunnyvale Democratic Club event. You said that would have been campaign. I asked you, when you say campaign, who do you mean? You mentioned Lamar. Would Jennifer be considered in that-

Witness: Campaign?

Mr. Solis: ... in that definition of campaign?

Witness: No, it was ... This was Lamar. He was on the ground. It was something he would have done.

Mr. Gast: I want to move onto this email. I apologize for the small font on this. If you want to take a minute to look at that. For the record, this is THMH 1297. Let's walk through a couple of these. First, who is Cathy Ming Hyde?

Witness: She is our constituent services director.

Mr. Gast: How about Tom McEnergy?

Witness: He is a constituent in the district.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall getting a request from Mr. McEnergy at the congressional office?

Witness: When I read this email yes, I did.

Mr. Gast: What was he, why was he contacting the office?

Witness: He was seeking assistance for the Sharks I take it, whom he has some involvement with. I don't recall the exact relationship.

Mr. Gast: Did the office help him with that request?

Witness: When I read this email, yes we did.

Mr. Gast: Then I want to ask you about the email at the top of the page here. It appears to be an email from you to Madalene Mielke, Shari Ruben-Rick and Jennifer Van der Heide. First, who is Madalene Mielke?

Witness: She was our finance director in DC.

Mr. Gast: For the campaign?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Shari Ruben-Rick?

Witness: She was involved in the finance process for the campaign.

Mr. Gast: When you say, "I know we've tried with them before to no avail" what did you mean by that?

Witness: I don't recall specifically, tried with Tom to fulfill his requests. Reading the email, I can now look at it and say it looks like we tried to get Tom or the Sharks to come to a campaign event.

Mr. Gast: That reference to "we've tried with them before but to no avail" is that, you've tried to get them to make campaign contributions to Representative Honda's campaign?

Witness: Yes, to come to a campaign event.

Mr. Gast: What is the birthday event that you reference in that next sentence?

Witness: Congressman Honda has a birthday fundraiser in June.

Speaker 3: That's for his campaign?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Is it fair to say that you were forwarding this email to two of the finance people on the campaign in an attempt to see if they could get campaign contributions from either Tom or some of the Sharks ownership group?

Witness: As I read it now, yes. That's a fair statement.

Mr. Gast: Were there other occasions on which you forwarded names to the campaign as potential campaign contributors?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about, are you familiar with this chart? For the record, this is THMH 253.

Witness: No. I don't recall seeing this, even seeing it right now.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Are you aware of who prepared the chart?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Okay. We'll move on to this email. Take a look at that.

Witness: What is this referring to?

Mr. Gast: This email? I don't know if I understand your question.

Witness: It says, "Can you send me the corrected version?" The version of what?

Mr. Gast: That's what I was going to ask you. It appears that this is discussing what is listed at the bottom as an attachment, "Honda top accomplishments 2-13-2013" document.

Witness: I'm not recalling that specific document.

Mr. Gast: Is there a "Honda accomplishments" document that you're familiar with?

Witness: Not specifically. I remember at the end of the year, we would put our yearly report with his top accomplishments.

Mr. Gast: When you say we, is that the congressional office?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Could that be what's being discussed here in this chain?

Witness: I don't know.

Mr. Gast: Who would have drafted that document?

Witness: Honda top accomplishments? I don't know.

Mr. Gast: Would that have been something drafted by somebody in the congressional office?

Witness: The usual practice was the DC office because they're more directly involved or legislative issue experts. That would be their part in the contribution. Ours would be more events-related.

Mr. Gast: Were those documents used by the campaign as Jennifer seems to suggest here?

Witness: I don't know.

Mr. Gast: Were you ever aware of the campaign using accomplishments docs that were prepared in either the DC or the district congressional office?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: Okay. You don't recall the corrected version that was sent to you, that you asked to be sent to you?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Mr. Solis: Mr. Gast, that was THMH 1452.

Mr. Gast: Thank you. This is, for the record TH-MH 930.

Witness: I recall this.

Mr. Gast: What was that Labor Breakfast that is discussed in the email?

Witness: As I remember it, it was a breakfast of labor leaders to discuss labor issues.

Mr. Gast: Was this a campaign or an official event?

Witness: I don't recall because I was confused when it came to labor as to what was sometimes official and sometimes campaign, in particular with issues. As I read this, he is doing things as a Member of Congress.

Mr. Gast: Does the fact that Lamar Heystek is included in the email suggest that it was a campaign event?

Witness: I don't remember. I remember in my mind being confused with the issue of Labor. Other issues were clear, like education. With labor, he's right now responding to the President's request on trade. He's doing that in his official capacity. Does it impact labor? Yes, so there was confusion in my mind.

Speaker 3: Would Lamar be cc'd or copied on official emails?

Witness: Not as a practice.

Speaker 3: What about every once in a while?

Witness: It could happen, but it wasn't a practice.

Mr. Gast: What would be the reason for including him on such an email about an official event?

Witness: There wouldn't be a reason unless this were a campaign event.

Mr. Gast: Would congressional staff draft background memos or briefings for campaign events?

Witness: That's not my memory. It happened here, in looking at this. That is congressional staff. Lamar's name on this would indicate that it was a Labor campaign event.

Mr. Gast: Are you aware of other instances where congressional staff put together talking points or background memos or briefers for campaign events?

Witness: What I remember is discussions regarding ethics, trying to be aware of issue knowledge for campaign events.

Mr. Gast: Can you explain that a little further?

Witness: In other words, the Congressman is going to a campaign event where it was constituent-related, like a Bangladeshi event, and he would need to know what the stance is with the US government. That would be official. He needed that preparation, but the event could have had a campaign purpose. I don't recall, but this is a hypothesis where I could see questions arising.

Mr. Gast: How would you handle those situations?

Witness: In general, the purpose of the congressional aides in the district is to gather knowledge from the community, not provide the expertise in content.

Mr. Gast: In that hypothetical situation that you gave us of a Bangladeshi event that might have a campaign purpose, but he would need that knowledge, how would those situations be handled generally?

Witness: Our role in district office was mainly the scheduling of the event, the timing, the logistics of who was picking him up, what else did he have on his schedule.

Mr. Gast: Were there occasions when the campaign would reach out to the folks in the district office and ask for background material for events?

Witness: I don't recall specifically.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall that as a general practice?

Witness: No, it was not a general practice to my knowledge.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about "coffee breaks." Are you familiar with the idea of coffee breaks?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: What are these "coffee breaks"?

Witness: It's been an item on the agenda for about 10 years. It's an opportunity to talk about information that's incidental, anecdotal, that wouldn't be captured in our official weekly report, in order to gather information from the community. It was also a personal time to discuss any personal matters. The district office, I liken to a train station where people are coming in and out unexpectedly, the phones are ringing. This was more water cooler kind of discussions.

Mr. Gast: When you say an item on the agenda, what agenda?

Witness: A staff meeting agenda.

Mr. Gast: Who would attend these staff meetings?

Witness: District staff.

Mr. Gast: Was this a mandatory meeting? Were staff required to attend?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Did Representative Honda ever attend these staff meetings?

Witness: Not to my knowledge. We had them most of the time ... We had staff meetings when he was in DC. They weren't weekly because of the congressional calendar. If I had an event that I had to attend, if certain people were sick, if we couldn't cover the office because we didn't have enough interns, there were other factors as to when or where or when we had these meetings.

Mr. Gast: Was the aspiration to have them weekly?

Witness: Yes. I asked people. I call them weekly so that people wouldn't schedule other meetings in the office at that time and that they wouldn't schedule meetings out of the office at that time.

Mr. Gast: Did campaign staff ever attend? Did Lamar ever attend any of these meetings?

Witness: I don't remember him attending any meetings.

Mr. Gast: These were held in the district office?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Was Representative Honda's campaign ever discussed?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: What kinds of conversations would you have about the campaign?

Witness: I don't recall specifically. What I remember is if an editorial would come out or a letter to the editor, then we would discuss the campaign.

Mr. Gast: What about events coming up or?

Witness: Events as part of the schedule. A standing item on the agenda was the Congressman's schedule.

Mr. Gast: When you would say, we're going to have this coffee break now, was that an attempt to, in effect, go off the official clock?

Witness: Yes. I mean just like you're discussing personal things, would you count that as official? No.

Mr. Gast: When you were off the official clock then, was that then considered okay to discuss campaign matters at that point?

Witness: It was okay to discuss the election and personal matters.

Mr. Gast: Did the fact that you were still in the district office factor into that decision about discussing those matters?

Witness: I designated as coffee break because I knew that my staff worked more than 40 hours a week. This was an opportunity to be more private than with constituents in ear shot and interruptions of phone.

Mr. Gast: Let me ask you this. Had you not taken a coffee break, would it have been appropriate to discuss the things you discussed during the coffee break?

Witness: I'm fuzzy on the ethics rules right now if somebody's in the kitchen, can you talk about, "Hey what's going on in the election," when you're obviously preparing lunch, or would you need to go out of the office to say, "What's happening in the election?" I know my practice was I designated places in the building to go to take campaign calls, to take my laptop out.

I had very specific places where I would talk; in front of the elevator pacing, so as not to have, be outside somebody's specific office. I sat on the floor outside the office, with a laptop. I went down to the lobby and found chairs that were not in where most of the traffic was going. There was a coffee shop in the building that had both outside and inside space available. It was my attempt to be conscientious and conform to the rules of ethics.

Mr. Solis: Did you ever talk about fundraising during the coffee breaks?

Witness: It could have happened.

Mr. Solis: What about Representative Honda's challengers, anything they were doing in the district?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Solis: Do you recall specific incidents where a challenger was discussed at a coffee break?

Witness: I recall more the feeling of anguish or anticipation or discouragement than specific situations.

Mr. Solis: Those feelings were based on campaign activities?

Witness: Actions that were ... We were in a fishbowl. We were the ones out in the district and, because it was a nationally profiled race, whether you were a constituent or not, we were constantly being asked about it. Staff needed to be prepared on how to answer. They were instructed, "When you get questions and calls, you refer to campaign."

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about district office staff retreats.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: Let's walk through a couple I've seen of these notes from these retreats.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: The first is a retreat held in February 7th, 2012. For the record, this is JVH-OCE 1351. I want to just ask you about the first couple of pages.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: First, what was your general practice about district office retreats?

Witness: District office retreats were usually held off-site. The purpose of them would be to build the Congressman's action plan to meet his goals for the year. The purpose was always to bond. Perhaps there were new people coming into the office. It was to do a major planning, for example, we were redistricted twice while I was the district director. It may also have involved very heavily the logistics of moving.

Mr. Gast: Who would attend these retreats?

Witness: District staff.

Mr. Gast: Was this a mandatory thing for district staff?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Would Representative Honda attend?

Witness: He didn't attend the district office retreats.

Mr. Gast: Would the DC office ever attend these?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: What about campaign staff?

Witness: I invited campaign staff to attend.

Mr. Gast: Were these official activities?

Witness: The retreat itself was an official activity. The campaign portion, in my mind, was a break from official.

Mr. Gast: On this document, the first page, you see under Summary Notes, the second bullet was "Overview of new district, Lamar." Was that Lamar Heystek?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Was he invited to participate in the staff retreat as we just talked about?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: What was the general thrust of his presentation?

Witness: The thrust of his presentation was to discuss information that he knew regarding the part of the district that was going to be new to us in a new session.

Mr. Gast: Did he discuss campaign plans or strategies or opponents, fundraising, anything like that?

Witness: I don't recall the request, but looking at this, he discussed campaign matters.

Mr. Gast: Do you know who prepared these notes?

Witness: I don't recall.

Mr. Gast: Did you prepare these notes?

Witness: I would not have prepared the notes as it occurred. I may have read them and added notes afterwards, reviewed them.

Mr. Gast: These appear to be edited with track changes. Could those be your edits?

Witness: It's possible.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall whether that is your work?

Witness: I don't recall specifically if it was me or other people too. I would say this is me.

Mr. Gast: Doing the track changes?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I want to ask you about the next topic down, "2012 challenges, impacts and attributes skills, MM." Does that MM refer to you?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Would this have been a part of the program that you were responsible for?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Then it looks, around number 3, it says, "Our voters are primarily in Santa Clara County. Getting MH's name out there (campaign new voters)." What were you discussing there?

Witness: Which number 3 is that?

Mr. Gast: I'm sorry. This 3, those two lines next to it.

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: What was it that you were discussing there?

Witness: We were discussing campaign matters. It was, in my mind, it was an official break. I was discussing campaign matters, how to reach new voters.

Mr. Solis: Did you declare an official break?

Witness: I don't recall specifically but it would be my practice to do so.

Mr. Solis: How would you do that?

Witness: I would say, "Now we're going to discuss campaign." Within that discussion, the rules of ethics would arise. I would tell people, "We are on a break."

Mr. Gast: Were people free to leave at that point?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Did anybody ever exercise that option to opt out of that part of the discussion?

Witness: Not that I remember.

Mr. Solis: When you say the rules of ethics would arise, did you verbally articulate them or they would arise in your mind?

Witness: I would announce to the staff, "As we do these campaign discussions, it is important to keep in mind what is ethically we are bound to ethically as official staff."

Mr. Solis: You said that every time the campaign was discussed?

Witness: In the retreats? I don't recall specifically. I know that would have been my practice. We didn't have that many retreats.

Mr. Solis: Going back to coffee breaks, would you verbally make that same declaration?

Witness: No. What I did was many times is raised my coffee cup as a signal and say, "Coffee break."

Mr. Solis: The ethics statement wouldn't have come during coffee breaks?

Witness: No, not as a matter of general practice.

Mr. Gast: Would the discussion include ways in which district office activities could support the campaign or be beneficial politically?

Witness: During this discussion?

Mr. Gast: During generally those discussions.

Witness: At the retreat, it could be interpreted that way because we wanted to reach all of our constituents. It was both an official obligation and something that the campaign would be doing too.

Mr. Gast: Was that tie ever made explicit, that the district office activities could be beneficial to the campaign?

Witness: I don't recall that specifically, but again, in my mind, this was a break. It's possible.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Let's jump ahead to another retreat. This was held on September 13th, 2010. I'm sorry, 2012. While you look that over, I'm going to run to the restroom.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Solis: Pause again.

[Break]

Mr. Gast: All right, back on the record with [REDACTED]. We had a chance to review the notes from this staff retreat. Does that look like an accurate summary of what was discussed at the retreat?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you, is this similar to the retreat we just discussed, held offsite?

Witness: Right.

Mr. Gast: All district staff?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Did the DC staff attend?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: How about Representative Honda, did he attend?

Witness: He was not there.

Mr. Gast: Okay, and was this considered an official event?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Okay, I want to ask you about a couple of items from these notes. First, under II, on the first page of the notes, the first point there says "New Cities, how to transition info from campaign to," I believe that's "DO," the District Office "(ethically and practically)." What was meant by transitioning info from district office?

Witness: In other words, in my mind, it was if an issue came up at a campaign event that was important for the district office to understand better, that information, in order for us to do our jobs better, would be important that we knew a little more about the constituency or the issue.

Mr. Gast: When that subject was discussed, did the issue of how the campaign's goals or strategies were communicated to the district office, so the district office could help advance those goals or advance those strategies?

Witness: It could have.

Mr. Gast: Were ways in which the district office could kind of help the campaign discussed?

Witness: I don't recall specifically.

Mr. Gast: Let me jump to second page. You will see a heading "A Thousand Crane"?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Right above that, it says, "DO? Chinese Language Outreach Cupertino." You see that?

Witness: Uh-huh [affirmative].

Mr. Gast: What was meant by that point?

Witness: I don't understand it completely now.

Mr. Gast: It looks like coming in a presentation, conversation led by Lamar and Mark, two folks with campaign roles, involving voter identification, voter turnout, that this was a way that the district office might assist with that voter ID, turn out, persuasion.

Witness: It could have been. It's not explicit to me there.

Mr. Gast: I had asked, what are ways in which the district office can help the campaign, was that discussed? Is this an example of something that was away in which the district office can help the campaign?

Witness: It could have been.

Mr. Gast: What about under this "Thousand Crane" fundraising idea which I understand was about getting 1,000 people to donate 1,000 each to raise \$1,000,000?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: There's a line there at the end, the last arrow, "also will likely be transactional, i.e. 'Help me with this visa for my grandma.' Donors are not going to be interested in the public affairs and federal government policy."

Witness: Where is that again? I'm sorry.

Mr. Gast: It's the last paragraph in the "Thousand Crane," yes.

Witness: Okay. Yes, that's right.

Mr. Gast: What was that? What was meant by it's "likely to be transactional"?

Witness: From the campaign perspective, there were times when a constituent would seek help from the official office in return for a donation to the congressman's campaign.

Mr. Gast: Can you think of examples of when that happened?

Witness: Not specifically, but it's my general memory at being at events and people bringing it up to me. I also recall training in terms and staff to expect those kinds of calls coming in to the district office and laying down the rules of ethics.

Mr. Gast: When you say people will bring it up to you in events, what would they bring up? What would they say?

Witness: I'm a big contributor. This is an example. Can you help me get my mother over here for my son's wedding?

Mr. Gast: You said training in terms of others about the appropriate way to handle that?

Witness: Right.

Mr. Gast: What was that?

Witness: To refer to campaign, to state that we are an official office that is not part of the official business, and that we serve all constituents.

Mr. Gast: Was the "transactional" meant in a sense that people who approach the district office for help might be potential campaign contributors?

Witness: That was a possibility.

Mr. Gast: What was the discussion about that?

Witness: From my memory, it was regarding how to handle that as a district office employee in terms of referring a person to campaign.

Mr. Gast: If the district office help somebody with a constituent matter to refer that person to the campaign as a potential donor?

Witness: No, only if the person said, "I am a contributor," or "Thank you, I would like to contribute to the congressman's campaign."

Mr. Gast: Is that similar discussion surrounding that next line? "What about managing those kind of DO handle requests by a crane? What about questionable requests?"

Witness: Request and discussing as to what our role would be concerned about in the expectations that could come from donors.

Mr. Gast: Was there any discussion of people who the district office has helped being the potential source of campaign contributions?

Witness: In general, I would say anybody could be whether they were a constituent or not.

Mr. Gast: Specifically though as to people who the district office had helped, was there any discussion about referring names to the campaign?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I want you to jump to that next subject, "Transitioning info from campaign to official." Was that Mark Nakamoto who led this particular discussion?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: The first line there, "how does official use intel from campaign? Outreach, learning." What was meant by that?

Witness: I don't recall specifically, but again, this was in my mind within the confines of non-official time discussing campaign, that the intel from campaign was something that specifically issue-related, would be important for district staff to be able to do their job. This was again speculative in nature.

Mr. Gast: Can you give me an example of intel from the campaign that would be useful for the district staff to do their job?

Witness: Yes. We had inherited a new district with a larger South Asian population than we had had in the past and an issue came up regarding this head of state of, in India, Mr. Modi, and an issue came up in a campaign related event: what is the congressman's stance on getting Mr. Modi a visa from the state department.

I don't recall who passed on that information to me, but I do recall that it came up in a campaign-related event and it impacted the district office in terms of how we viewed our constituency and how the congressman's and the US's Mr. stance on issuing a visa to Mr. Modi would impact our constituency.

Mr. Brand: Can I ask you about timing because I see you have quite a few more things to go through and I'm turning into a pumpkin at 2 today, I have to teach, and we still have Jennifer.

Mr. Gast: We still have Jennifer.

Mr. Brand: So-

Mr. Gast: We'll try to-

Mr. Brand: I know. I don't want to make you rush or not do things you want to do.

Mr. Gast: Sure, we'll try to move through this a little more quickly. Hopefully, we'll be able to get this done by 2.

Mr. Brand: Witness or both?

Mr. Gast: Both.

Mr. Brand: Oh, okay.

Mr. Gast: Hopefully.

Witness: That's good news.

Mr. Gast: Yes. Would any of that intel from the campaign have to do with the campaign strategy for winning re-election and the ways the district office could help with that?

Witness: It could have. I don't recall specifically.

Mr. Gast: Did you see that as a role of the district office?

Witness: Not an official capacity.

Mr. Gast: Would you discuss ways in which the district office may be able to do things to complement what the campaign was doing?

Witness: In this time period, when we were doing goal setting and my impression was that having a campaign person come to an offsite retreat to discuss the holistic view of the congressmen where campaign activities would impact our official schedule, those matters would be discussed.

I didn't know that having a campaign person come and do, take a break during retreat, was not complying with ethics until we had our office staff retreat recently in March and there was a campaign portion on the all-staff retreat, and so, Jennifer and I said maybe we should call Ethics, and we did, and the person said, "Yeah, you probably shouldn't have someone come to an official event." At that point, it triggered my memory that I had done this for two retreats, and so, I produced these notes.

Mr. Gast: Just going back to your discussion about goal setting and kind of this holistic approach, was re-election one of the goals?

Witness: Yes, people wanted to continue their job. We have a shared mission although we worked independently. We try to and we were on different teams. Yes, people love the congressman and wanted to make sure that he would be able to, or at least have the hope that he would be able to serve in congress beyond the election. I don't know how you wouldn't have people working for you that wouldn't hope that.

Mr. Gast: One last thing on these notes before we move on. There's discussion of the Google doc of stakeholders for CA17. What was that document?

Witness: I don't remember.

Mr. Gast: You had earlier discussed that was something that the district office staff put together. Is that the same document?

Witness: I don't know if it was the same. It was, we did put together Google documents in our official capacity listing stakeholders. It could be nonprofits. It could be elected officials who had championed an issue. It could be foundation leaders. It could be anybody, individual constituents who have interest in a particular issue.

Mr. Gast: Did the campaign use those documents?

Witness: I don't know. This isn't, "I don't recall," this is "I don't know."

Mr. Gast: Then, this discussion about "one-pager per issue important as anecdotal info like we supported this stakeholder was happy, tells us who to go to if we have event x or issue y. one-pager only for big issues." Who prepared those one-pagers?

Witness: I don't know if those one-pagers were ever prepared. This, again, wasn't definitive in terms of, it was speculative and questioning how do we or is it, it was more a brainstorm, or people were encouraged to ask all questions.

Mr. Gast: What was the plan for the one pagers, just the kind of the idea behind that?

Witness: If I read it here, would be like a one-pager on an issue like, for example, the Modi situation. I do not recall those one-pagers ever being produced. Again, I saw this as more of a brainstorm, whether any of this happened, I don't recall and I don't think that it was directive in any way.

Mr. Gast: Let's move on to an October 22, 2013 staff retreat, and I really just want to ask you about, at the bottom of page 2, "Campaign Update Presentation." Feel free to look through there.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: Again, on this retreat, was this for district staff, as an official event?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Did the Congressman attend?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: What about DC staff?

Witness: Not that I remember.

Mr. Gast: Where was this held?

Witness: This was held at my house in Aptos, California.

Mr. Gast: It appears, based on this section of the notes here, that Doug Greven, who is the campaign manager, gave a campaign update/presentation. Is that correct?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about that first bullet there, "DC makes policy, we do events, campaign takes DO events and uses them to raise dollars." What was meant by that?

Witness: That's something that was part of Doug's presentation and that was something that he said, as to how it was to occur, whatever. I don't recall there being a discussion, but it was his perspective in something that he said.

Mr. Gast: Did he explain how the campaign will take DO events and use them to raise money?

Witness: Can I take a break right now? I'd like to ask my attorney something.

Mr. Gast: Is it possible to answer the question and then take a break?

Witness: Okay. All right, so Doug asked that I collect business cards from individuals and, on my own time, give those cards to campaign.

Mr. Gast: When you say "to collect business cards," would that be from official events?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Okay, thanks. Did he say why he wanted those business cards?

Witness: To build a database whatever. I don't recall.

Mr. Gast: Did he do so?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Okay. If you want to take a break now-

Witness: Yeah.

[Break]

Mr. Gast: Anything you wanted to add? Okay.

Let's jump ahead to a State Department roundtable event in the district, at Santa Clara University.

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Are you familiar with that event?

Witness: Yes, I am.

Mr. Gast: Can you give us just a quick thumbnail about what that event was?

Witness: We had a new constituency, a larger constituency, in our district of South Asians, and we wanted to outreach to them, to include them in our communications, and to expand our outreach to them as members of our new district.

Mr. Gast: Was this an official event?

Witness: Yes, it was.

Mr. Gast: Who was involved in putting the event together?

Witness: It was members of the district staff, and ... whoever was the district staff counterpart, this is the way we usually do it, in the D.C. office, would've been involved, and Jennifer, as chief of staff.

Mr. Gast: Who in the district office?

Witness: Originally, the event went to Ruchit Agrawal, but he quit during that time. So the event responsibility was transferred to Mark Nakamoto.

Mr. Gast: How about in D.C.?

Witness: The only person I remember is Jennifer.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Was Representative Honda involved in the planning of the event?

Witness: I don't remember specifically. It is our general practice to prepare him for events. An issue-based event like this, it is our general practice to have that preparation in D.C., with a district office staff member on the phone during that preparation time.

Mr. Gast: How were the invitees to this event selected?

Witness: From the district office. I remember that we were uncertain as to how many people were coming because of, at that time, Ruchit was lessening his responsibilities and not working up to capacity, so we had to fill the event quickly. I instructed Mark Nakamoto to ask interns to help us Google names of South Asians who would have an interest in the topic presented at this event.

Mr. Gast: Was Representative Honda's campaign involved in selecting invitees to this event?

Witness: Not as I saw in the district office. I did not communicate with campaign regarding invitees to this event.

Mr. Gast: Let me walk through a couple of emails with you.

First, this one, for the record, is THMH 1895. This appears to start with an email from Ruchit to Jennifer about the S.V. Gujarat roundtable. Is that the same State Department roundtable event that we're talking about?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Then Jennifer responds to Ruchit's initial names, and adds you as a cc on the email. Do you recall that?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Jennifer then further responds, including you, and says "Also I asked Lamar for a list which was due tonight." Is that Lamar, Lamar Heystek, is that you understand that to be?

Witness: I understand that to be Lamar Heystek.

Mr. Gast: What did you understand Jennifer to be telling you there?

Witness: That she was asking Lamar for people that he may have encountered during the campaign, as a source to fill up the room.

Mr. Gast: So the campaign was involved in selecting invitees?

Witness: I don't know whether they did or not. Obviously this asks for them. What I recall is my part in the official office, which I just described to you.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Let's show you this series. I really want to focus on the first page, the February 8th, 2013 email from Lamar, and then Jennifer's.

Witness: What day is that? Is that February 9th?

Mr. Gast: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Witness: Where's February 8th?

Mr. Gast: This right here.

Witness: This one that says, "I've shared an item with you"?

Mr. Gast: Yes, mm-hmm (affirmative).

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: And then the one from Jennifer, which ...

Witness: Is right above it.

Mr. Gast: Is right above it, correct.

Witness: Okay. Yes, I just read it.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall getting this email from Lamar? It's not clear who the recipients were.

Witness: When it came out in the newspaper, and since then, yes.

Mr. Gast: You do recall getting that?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: What did you understand him to be emailing you?

Witness: Are you referring to this line now, or what are you referring to?

Mr. Gast: The "I've shared an item with you," where he says, "Hello Jennifer, here is a list of South Asian tech investment folks..."

Witness: Oh, so this is part of the same email?

Mr. Gast: Yes.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: It appears that in this email from Lamar, he sent this text with a Google document.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall that email from Lamar?

Witness: I recalled it when it became a press item, and since that time, in the phase of finding emails.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall receiving it at the time it was sent?

Witness: There was so much going on, I don't recall this one specifically.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall the reference to "folks who've donated to candidates in the past, none to MH"?

Witness: I don't think I was paying that much attention.

Mr. Gast: What about his reference to the donation history of the people on this list?

Witness: I didn't recall that until I saw this in the newspaper, or wherever it was. My focus was on getting the names from the interns through Mark Nakamoto.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall working with this list from Lamar at all?

Witness: No, I don't recall that. Until it became ... it got in the newspapers and then I looked through, or Jennifer sent me the Google document, and I think my name was shared on there so that I would have received it.

Mr. Gast: But sitting here today, you don't recall receiving it at the time?

Witness: Not specifically.

Mr. Gast: Or working with the list that Lamar attached?

Witness: I don't recall that. Again what I specifically remember was dealing with Mark Nakamoto, and Mark Nakamoto was acting in his official capacity, and we were doing event building in the way that we usually do.

Mr. Gast: What about the subsequent email from Jennifer, in which she says, "Great lists. How are we doing outreach to them for 'dollar sign'?" Do you recall that, receiving that email?

Witness: I didn't recall it until I saw it in the newspaper. There were many, many emails. I didn't respond. I just didn't respond.

Mr. Gast: At the time of the event, did you have any conversations with Jennifer about seeking campaign contributions from the folks involved with the event?

Witness: I don't recall having any such conversations with Jennifer.

Mr. Gast: With anyone?

Witness: I don't ... I really don't remember that. My focus, I remember, was on the logistics and who was going to come, in terms of the elected officials. It was a complicated agenda, because we were meeting with the speaker ahead of time and all of that. So it was a very busy time. I do not recall much of what happened here.

Mr. Gast: Let me ask you, if this was an official event, why are personal emails being used on these emails to talk about putting it together? Looks like it's sent to your Gmail account.

Witness: I didn't write this email, so ... I don't know. Don't recall. I didn't have this conversation.

Mr. Gast: Were there other occasions in which Lamar or other people associated with the campaign had input on who would be invited to official events?

Witness: Not that I recall today. Again, my focus for official was serving our constituents out of our database within the district office.

Mr. Gast: How about input on what kinds of events to hold?

Witness: That conversation could have come up in a planning meeting. It could have come up, I remember specifically, as a scheduling item. We wanted to do a social security event, campaign was going to do a social security event, so we discussed the situation. As a volunteer to the campaign and as, what I would say, I was responsible for the schedule. Those were discussions that were necessary so that we wouldn't be wasting the Congressman's time.

Mr. Gast: How about going back to that staff retreat suggestion about doing district office outreach to Chinese language speakers in Cupertino. Did you get input like that from the campaign, like "How about doing an event in Cupertino surrounding issues important to the Chinese population there"?

Witness: I don't recall specifically. What I remember is planning events within the official office. I remember the Congressman going to a lot of events in Cupertino, but I do not recall a specific Chinese language event that we scheduled as part of our official capacity, for whatever purpose.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Want to move onto the last subject I want to ask you about, and that's using congressional staff for personal business, personal errands of the Congressman.

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative), right.

Mr. Gast: Were you ever asked by anyone, the Congressman or other staff, to assist the Congressman with personal errands or personal business?

Witness: Not that I remember. I was always trying to help him out, given his amount of travel, with time, so ... but I don't remember a specific instance of doing something for him personally.

Mr. Gast: What about, did you ever direct any district office staff members to assist him with any personal matter?

Witness: I didn't personally direct them, but I wasn't involved on that level of the operation as much. Mine was more strategic in terms of actually taking the Congressman from point A to B. Congressional staff had that responsibility, along with the scheduler.

Mr. Gast: So you don't recall any occasion in which you directed somebody to do a personal errand? Go pick up dry cleaning, go ...

Witness: I don't remember directing them. I remember that there were ... I remember discussions regarding picking up the Congressman's medication from Costco. I remember a discussion regarding his dry cleaning.

Mr. Gast: Can you give me a sense of what those discussions were?

Witness: With Costco it was, "Costco is only open until 6:00, his plane isn't arriving until then, and how are we going to get his medicine to him?" The dry cleaning was, "He doesn't have time to pick up his dry cleaning, can you pick it up on the way to an event, or on the way home if you live nearby him, or..." I don't recall the outcome, but I do remember discussing those two.

Mr. Gast: How would you ... How often would that happen, would you have those kind of discussions?

Witness: In my memory, not very often.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Were you involved in setting up the Congressman's Netflix or Apple TV at his home in California?

Witness: The way our district office was structured, there was a deputy district director, and he was involved in supervising the person who was responsible for IT.

Mr. Gast: Who was that?

Witness: That was Ruchit Agrawal. Robert Lucas, during that time.

Mr. Gast: Did they have a role in setting up the Congressman's Apple TV Netflix at his house?

Witness: As I read it in the paper, and have seen it since, yes.

Mr. Gast: Were you involved in that at the time?

Witness: I was not involved, but I would be responsible for actions taken by my staff. I wouldn't ... I don't understand IT and sound systems and how all that works very well, so I would entrust that with someone with more knowledge than me.

Mr. Gast: I believe those are all the questions we have for you. I appreciate your time in sitting down with us.

Witness: Okay.

Exhibit 11

Interview of Former Congressional Aide #1
March 25, 2015

Mr. Gast: This is Investigative Counsel Scott Gast with the Office of Congressional Ethics, here with my colleague Paul Solis, Deputy Chief Counsel. It is Wednesday, March 25th, 2015, and we are here with Former Congressional Aide #1 - am I saying that correctly?

Witness: You are.

Mr. Gast: For an interview regarding matter 15-2070. We appreciate you being here with us today and taking the time to talk to answer our questions.

Witness: What was that number?

Mr. Gast: 15-2070. We'd like to start out with a little bit of background. If you could just give us your current employment situation.

Witness: I'm an LLM student right now at Golden Gate Law School. I'm getting my LLM in taxation.

Mr. Gast: If you could just keep your voice up a little so we make sure we get it on the recording.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: And you said that was an LLM student at Golden Gate University?

Witness: Yeah, San Francisco.

Mr. Gast: And when did you start there?

Witness: January of this year. I got my bar results in November and then transitioned to that.

Mr. Gast: Okay, are you doing anything else or are you a full time student?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Full time. And what did you do prior to starting as a full time student?

Witness: I was studying for the bar.

Mr. Gast: And I assume you took the bar exam?

Witness: Yeah, I took it July of 2014

Mr. Gast: July of 2014. And prior to studying for the bar what ...?

Witness: I graduated law school 2012, worked for the Congressman until February 2013, when I resigned for the reason that we're here. Then I was studying for the bar. Took it July 2013, failed, and then took it July 2014, was able to pass.

Mr. Gast: Okay. So you graduated from undergraduate in the Spring of 2012, is that correct?

Witness: No, law school.

Mr. Gast: From law school in the spring of 2012.

Witness: Yeah, I went to UCLA.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I do have my resume here if that makes it easier.

Mr. Gast: This should be good. And right after graduating law school did you begin working for Representative Honda at that time?

Witness: There was some little time gap, but yeah.

Mr. Gast: That was your first employment position after graduating?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: What was your position when you were hired?

Witness: Congressional Aide. I think I gave you a job description.

Mr. Gast: You did. We like to just get this all on the record for keeping it in one place. So Congressional Aide. Was that the same position you had during your entire ...?

Witness: Yeah, it was the same title.

Mr. Gast: Okay. What were your general duties as a Congressional Aide?

Witness: The primary duty ... Nominally or actually? Should we do both?

Mr. Gast: Why don't we start with nominally? What do you mean by nominally first?

Witness: I mean, what was communicated to me or how did it actually play out?

Mr. Gast: Let's start with what the responsibilities for that position were communicated to you.

Witness: Okay. During the interview process it was communicated to me that there would be two roles in the position. Consistent with the job description, those two roles were field representative, which was basically you take a segment of the Congressman's issues -- the main one was education for me -- and serve as a liaison with stake holders and pimp his policies in the district.

Then the second thing would be a case worker, which is, someone comes in with a concern with a federal agency and you try to work with the relevant Congressional liaison on those issues. That was the entirety of what was communicated to me in the interview process.

Mr. Gast: Now let's talk about what your actual duties were when you started.

Witness: I think the best example that documents what I'm saying is, there's an email from January of 2013, which has Meri Maben, my supervisor, showing that the IT role is the number one priority. The last month and a half that was the only thing I was given to do. Case work and field work was given to other people. The number one priority was this sort of, for lack of a better term, personal servant, IT guy for the Congressman's home, Meri Maben's home and the Congressional office.

This is despite, if you look at my resume, I have no background in that area. I was an econ major, went to law school, I bought my first smart phone in 2012. In California there's a case called Lazar v. Superior Court, which is a case of promissory estoppel. I think this is sort of a textbook case of pre-employment fraud. That was the number one priority.

The number two thing was to do field work. The interesting aspect of that for me was the lack of communication that you would have to use your personal car to drive the congressman around. You get compensated but there was no compensation for buying the car. If you're hiring new graduates with no money I don't know where I'm supposed to get the money to buy that car. That was never communicated that there was an expectation that the Congressman would use your car, which was in my

case my parents' car. My parents are Republicans. They don't really appreciate that.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: Also, going to events and talking about standard field work.

The third thing was case work. Case work is help with a federal agency. The interesting aspect of that is the prioritization of so called "Friends of M.H." That's not to say that if it wasn't a Friend of M.H. you weren't told to do the work, or that even Friends of M.H. you were told to work more time on, but those were the only cases that people up the hierarchy would ever ask about. The designation in and of itself is problematic because if you were starting off in an employment situation you're naturally going to want to impress your boss. There's no reason to communicate that designation.

Mr. Solis: Just to be clear, when you say Friends of M.H. is that the Congressman's Congressional campaign committee?

Witness: No, Friends of M.H. is just sort of designation for Friends of Mike Honda. Not formally, the campaign ...

Mr. Gast: You mean like an informal designation?

Witness: This is a Friend of MH.

Mr. Gast: Like a VIP request that comes in?

Witness: Exactly. I can remember there was an Indian restaurant was one of the cases that I had. If we go through my IQ notes I can go to case work specific but ...

Mr. Gast: How would one get designated informally as a Friend of M.H.?

Witness: I didn't have enough background. I was too low on the totem pole to know that. I don't want to speculate.

Mr. Gast: You were just told ...

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: When a request was given to you to work on, that this person was an FOMH and you should take extra care or ...

Witness: Just that hey, this is a Friend of M.H. That was all that was said.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I think we're all reasonably intelligent people.

Mr. Gast: When you say reasonably intelligent people, what do you mean by that?

Witness: I think, at least for me, the way I interpret that and I guess I can only speak for that, I can't speak for the way ... I interpret that being this is a case that if I do well on, it would be better for me. It would help me more than another case.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever ...

Witness: Help me in the sense that it would be more impressive for my boss and subjectively that's always ...

Mr. Gast: Sure. Was it ever communicated to you that campaign contributors were designated FOMH?

Witness: That was never ... No, it was not like ... It's not that.

Mr. Solis: [REDACTED] can I just ask you, when Scott asks you a question can you just make sure that he finishes his question first?

Mr. Gast: Yeah, just so it's clear on the tape.

No one ever told you that campaign contributors were given the designation of Friends of Mike?

Witness: No, I think it was just more prominent people.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: They don't have to be contributors, they could be potential ... Not even just potential contributors, prominent people in district are prominent people.

Mr. Gast: Sure. I want to go back to one of the things that you said. We'll probably talk about a couple other things that you laid out. You said that when your primary role was IT, you said something about being the personal servant/ IT guy for the Member and for Meri Maben.

Witness: Charlene Loomis kept a copy of the key to the Congressman's house in the keyboard drawer of her desk. I had a copy of that key if I needed to do work at the Congressman ... The best example I would give of that is this trip that Robert Lucas made in a weekend in January 2013. I was at his house, organizing in his living room, stuff unrelated. You could ...

Mr. Gast: Let me stop you for one second just to make sure we're on the same page. Did you have a copy of the Congressman's house key?

Witness: No, if there was something designated ...

Mr. Gast: You would get it from Charlene Loomis.

Witness: Yeah, I didn't have a copy myself.

Mr. Gast: You said Robert Lucas came from the Washington DC office ...

Witness: DC office to the district.

Mr. Gast: To the district. That was in January 2013?

Witness: Yeah, a weekend.

Mr. Gast: What was Robert's role?

Witness: He was systems administrator.

Mr. Gast: He came from DC to the district. Go on from there.

Witness: He came. There was an initial expectation that my parents would put him up at our house, which was interesting. Not going to happen. He came over. We were switching offices because of redistricting, you had to set up the internet at the district office. Additional to that, we also organized the Congressman's personal house. Robert felt it was really disorganized and was just organizing things in the house. He was higher than me on the hierarchy so there was nothing I could do to not go along with that. I did very little, I actually just kind of sat there and watched football. He did most of it.

Mr. Gast: Who ...

Witness: I could have been studying for the bar at that time.

Mr. Gast: Who asked you to do that? Who asked you to help?

Witness: Meri Maben, as you can see in that email, who is the District Director, says that this is the number one priority that weekend. That's where it starts.

Mr. Gast: That was an email from Meri to both you and Robert?

Witness: It was also an indication of coordination. There's a person in Fremont, Sheryl something-something, who is somebody who participates in local politics. She's a teacher at a high school and she has a "We the People" class. Lamar wanted someone from official staff to come with him to judge the "We the People" event to curry favor with this person. She ended up endorsing the challenger. You could see in that email Meri Maben says whatever Robert's doing, that's the priority. That's the only point I'm making. That was the priority that weekend.

Mr. Gast: When you say whatever Robert was doing, what was he doing?

Witness: He was coming over to help out, work on the district and then I think also to organize the Congressman's house. I don't know why we were there otherwise.

Mr. Gast: When you say organize the congressman's house, was that just related to IT?

Witness: No, we were in the living room. We were doing that, too. You go into his hallway, to the right there's the computer room. We were also in the living room.

Mr. Gast: What were you organizing in the living room?

Witness: It's not the cleanest house.

Mr. Gast: Were you doing cleaning?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Vacuuming?

Witness: No. Specifically I remember there was just messes and Robert just wanted to organize them. Try to throw stuff away, etc. Spring cleaning.

Mr. Gast: He was organizing the computer room ...

Witness: Not just the computer room, also in the living room and in the kitchen.

Mr. Gast: Both. In the computer room he was helping to set up the Congressman's personal computer system?

Witness: Yeah. I think it's also linked to the house IT network. It could also be an official thing. There was also work related aspect to the visit to the house.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: It's not exclusively a ...

Mr. Gast: What was the non-work related aspect?

Witness: In the living room, organizing somebody's personal mess.

Mr. Gast: Piles of ...

Witness: Crap.

Mr. Gast: Stuff?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Did you work on his cable, internet, Netflix, Apple TV?

Witness: Netflix, yes.

Mr. Gast: Was that during this trip?

Witness: That was in August. That was the older systems administrator.

Mr. Gast: Well, let's stick with this January one first. Did you have to do anything to his Apple or Netflix or cable?

Witness: None of that stuff at the time.

Mr. Gast: Just kind of tidying up the living room.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Fixing up the computer in the computer room.

Mr. Solis: Just to be clear, there was actually on this instance a work-related component to it?

Witness: There definitely was, I want to be clear about that.

Mr. Solis: Okay.

Witness: In the computer room, that computer is, as far as I know, a house computer which is completely reasonable.

Mr. Gast: All right ...

Witness: I also don't know whether that was Robert's personal initiative or who directed Robert to do that. That was not communicated to me.

Mr. Gast: Okay, let's put aside the Netflix thing for now. We'll get to that. I just want to ask you, can you just tell us for the record the circumstances of what prompted you to leave the congressional office in February of 2013?

Witness: I resigned. My date of separation, I just got my retirement, my federal TSP thing. My date of separation is 2/10/2013.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: Which is right around when the email that was in the press. I resigned, sort of, as a result of that.

Mr. Gast: Can you explain that for the record, what that is?

Witness: There was an email which, to my perception, indicated an improper linking of ... A state department event can only be an official event. State department can never come to a campaign event. Linking any information exchange should not be occurring between campaign officials on what can only be an official event. On top of that, directly linking ...

Number one, making sure that our donors are going to a state department event is, to my mind, not proper. Then also saying that while we can't do outreach right now, we can't do straight asks, we should sort of use what we gather from the state department event to do outreach and build a relationship where we then later do a straight ask for money. This is actually process, this isn't just speculation. There was an article where a prominent venture capitalist from Silicon Valley came forward, who was invited to the event, had never been solicited for a donation before and then was solicited after the event.

Mr. Gast: Right.

Witness: The exact process that's laid out in the email occurred, if you believe this person.

Mr. Gast: Who did you have the conversation with when you resigned?

Witness: I sent an email where I cited health reasons.

Mr. Gast: Who was that email sent to?

Witness: Meri Maben and Jennifer Van der Heide.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: As far as I recall.

Mr. Gast: Did you cite this?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: You did not cite the state department event as a reason for your resignation?

Witness: I didn't give any indication. Afterwards we met, Meri and I, had coffee, I gave a notification of my real reason for leaving. The reason was just career oriented. If you want to ask for a reference, it's kind of hard to ask for a reference after you tell someone that they did something illegal.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: It's a little bit awkward.

Mr. Solis: But in your mind that was the sole reason you decided to resign?

Witness: That was the sole reason I decided to resign. In my mind the health concerns were a direct result of the stress induced by knowing that either I do something illegal or I go into a rather challenging job market for newly minted lawyers.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Now we understand that you submitted some information to the Committee on Ethics about your time in Representative Honda's office. When was that?

Witness: That was in December of 2013.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I have the email thread. I don't have it on me. Do you have wireless?

Mr. Gast: I don't know if we do or not. We don't probably need to get into it now. Given our limited time we'll just kind of work through everything and then follow up. December 2013, what prompted you to make the submission?

Witness: I don't know, I just thought it was important to deal with. I had waited until, it was a volunteer position, but I got a volunteer clerkship with a bankruptcy judge here in San Jose.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I wanted to have another relationship before I initiated that process. That's why I waited until then.

Mr. Gast: When did you get that volunteer position with the judge?

Witness: In December 2013. Right around when I started.

Mr. Gast: What did you say in the submission, what was the substance?

Witness: There's a letter. Basically, I just submitted that Netflix email. That Netflix email was an indication of doing personal work. There are services like Geek Squad that do that, which you can hire for.

Mr. Gast: Let me, now that you referenced that...

Witness: Yeah, definitely.

Mr. Gast: Let me show you this, what's been marked, for the record as Bates number THMH1816. Is this a copy of the submission you made to the Committee on Ethics, as well as the attachments?

Witness: Yeah, and I say in there, honestly in an abundance of caution I waited until I secured a new job before sending this letter.

Mr. Solis: Did they get back to you at all?

Witness: I called Wendy Smith, who was at the time one of the counsels. She gave me her email. This I submitted directly to her. She didn't get back to me then, but then I submitted later, I want to say Spring of 2014. I submitted just the State Department email thread that was in the first thing that was in the press, to her and she got back to me with a one line email saying thank you and that's it. There was no substantive.

Mr. Gast: In December 2013 you made this submission, which we just looked at. Then you followed up with a second submission in the Spring of 2014. Those were both to Wendy Smith?

Witness: Yeah. I have the email thread here.

Mr. Gast: Okay, and did they ever interview you about either of the submissions?

Witness: No, nothing.

Mr. Gast: Nothing, okay. Going back to this initial submission, who assigned you to do the work on the Netflix/ Apple?

Witness: It's good that I have it actually. Nadir Vissanjy, who was the DC-based system administrator, sent me this email.

Mr. Gast: Did you report to him?

Witness: Not directly but in the context of the IT segment he was my direct supervisor.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever discuss that request with Meri Maben?

Witness: I don't remember.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever discuss the request with Mike Nguyen?

Witness: I don't remember.

Mr. Gast: What about Jennifer Van der Heide?

Witness: I don't remember.

Mr. Gast: I think Robert Lucas is on that email as well, is that right?

Witness: He is on that email, that's correct.

Mr. Gast: Did Robert succeed Nadir as systems administrator?

Witness: Exactly.

Mr. Gast: Was this about the time that that transition took place?

Witness: I don't recall that.

Mr. Gast: Would that have been why both Nadir and Robert were on the email? Just because they're both IT?

Witness: That makes sense. The IT world was Nadir and Robert and myself.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I want to ask you, in this cover letter in this submission you talk about, in January 2013, you were asked to use your own car to transport Representative Honda's computer from his home in San Jose to the district office to do some updates during work hours and then take it back.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Can you tell us a little bit about that?

Witness: That exact thing ... It happened after the trip that Robert came for, that we've been talking about.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Was Robert involved with this updating the personal computer?

Witness: He was the one who told me to put it in my car and drive it to the district office. Yeah, he was directing.

Mr. Gast: He was in DC at the time?

Witness: No, this was happening when he was here.

Mr. Gast: This was when he did the trip, okay. This was Representative Honda's personal computer?

Witness: It was his computer that was in home. I guess I don't know if it was his personal computer. I guess the reason I used the word personal because it was in his house.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: It could possibly have been provided by the House, I don't know that. I was not there for the...

Mr. Gast: Sure. What were the software updates that you did on the computer?

Witness: I don't remember, honestly.

Mr. Gast: Was it something officially related, something personal, do you recall that?

Witness: What I remember is that, and this is the problem because I also don't know what these words mean because I don't have any background in IT, Robert didn't want to support a certain operating system, an older one, and he wanted to update because a lot of people were running the older operating system.

Mr. Gast: Okay. You also mention in here that Deputy District Director Mike Nguyen asked you to do updates and fixes on Mike Honda's personal technology. Can you tell us a little bit about that?

Witness: Yeah, sure. Anything the congressman had that was technology related I would just do. The example that's come to my head is actually Meri Maben, not Mike Honda. She had a car and she wanted to hook her bluetooth, which I guess is her work bluetooth up to her car and she just called me down to her car to help with it. It turned out I couldn't help because, again, I don't know anything about IT. Mike Nguyen came down and did it in the end. That was the example. There was examples like that with Mike Honda, I just don't remember specifics enough to...

Mr. Gast: Can you think of any specifics about Mr. Nguyen asking you to do updates or fixes on his personal technology?

Witness: For his own personal technology?

Mr. Gast: For the Representative's.

Witness: No, besides the Netflix. It's so long ago. That's a big question with a lot of implications. I don't want to say that unless I have a document for it.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall what you had in mind when you wrote this?

Witness: I do, but I don't have a document for it.

Mr. Gast: Well that's fine, if you have examples that you had in mind when you wrote this.

Witness: Yeah, I guess. I just don't have a document. I think it's an important question, right? I don't want to get creamed if I say something that's incorrect.

Mr. Gast: Well, to your recollection?

Mr. Solis: Yeah, it's not incorrect if it's just something you remember. If it's what you remember, it's a true statement to the best of your recollection.

Witness: So his iPad for example.

Mr. Gast: And this is the Member's iPad?

Witness: The Congressman's iPad. I remember one instance where the word Netgear kept coming up, which is the way wireless networks work. It kept coming up. I think at the time maybe the Congressman's home wireless network was Netgear, too. When he was going elsewhere and seeing Netgear he was thinking that that was his home network.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I remember sitting there having to explain to him that Netgear is a company . When wireless routers are installed, if people don't set up their own personal name for the wireless network then the company's pre-installed name comes up. So don't make the assumption ... Which is completely reasonable to have because you see Netgear that ...

Mr. Solis: It's your home.

Witness: Netgear may not be the wireless company, too. I just remember him saying this is my home network. I was like no, that's not your home network. Which is a completely reasonable misunderstanding.

Mr. Gast: Was this an iPad that was an official iPad or ...?

Witness: I don't know. I always use the word personal, it was his. I didn't mean personal in the distinction between ... Because I didn't ever do the purchasing so I don't know the chain of ...

Mr. Gast: So obviously you wrote this to the Ethics Committee for something for them to look at because they were violations of ethical rules potentially. We want to make sure we have the right examples where we can go back and research, so if you have them...

Witness: Yeah, I think what I was speaking to was just the Netflix thing. That's what I was talking about.

Mr. Gast: Any other examples that you have, that you can give to us that we might be interested in taking a look at?

Witness: I just don't remember any.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: It's so long ago.

Mr. Gast: In any of your submissions to the Committee on Ethics did you ever mention official staff or official resources being used for campaign work?

Witness: I submitted that email.

Mr. Gast: In 2014?

Witness: Yeah, the Spring one. I don't know if I characterize it, I just submitted the email.

Mr. Gast: Okay, I don't think we have a copy of that. If you can maybe look and see.

Witness: What, the emails to Wendy Smith?

Mr. Gast: The spring 2014 submission.

Witness: I can forward it to you.

Mr. Gast: Okay, that would be great. Switching gears a little, I want to talk about Representative Honda's campaigns. Have you ever worked on any of his campaigns?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever volunteer on any of the campaigns?

Witness: No, my relationship with the office was sort of disgruntled enough that I would never have volunteered to do anything.

Mr. Gast: Did anybody ever ask you to work on the campaign?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Who was that?

Witness: Jennifer Van der Heide. These February 2013 emails. Working with Lamar Heystek, that's got to be campaign even though it's planning a State Department event.

Mr. Gast: Any other examples?

Witness: Sure, we can go from the trivial up. Being required to read Ro Khanna's book. The email characterized it as beyond any electoral purpose, which means that in part there is an electoral purpose to being required to read this book. Even if there is also value to learning about some expert's views on manufacturing economics.

Mr. Gast: Who assigned you to read Ro Khanna's book?

Witness: I think I sent you these emails.

Mr. Gast: Yeah, I think we do have that email but just to ...

Witness: Yeah, I think it's Jennifer. The subject line is required and it's the title of the challenger's book.

Mr. Gast: We'll take a look at that right now. This is number RA-33. Is this the email you were referring to?

Witness: Exactly.

Mr. Gast: The subject is "Required reading: Entrepreneurial National," which I think should be Entrepreneurial Nation, by Ro Khanna. Did you have any conversations with either Jennifer, who sent the email, or anybody else on that list about this assignment?

Witness: We talked about it in the district office. I remember that people were reading copies of the book in the district office. I remember me and Mark

and Ashley joked that it's hardly original to write a book about bringing manufacturing back to the USA. We've heard that story for the last forty years. Just kind of joking about, why is this book even written?

Mr. Gast: That would have been, just for the record, Mark would be Mark Nakamoto?

Witness: Mark Nakamoto.

Mr. Gast: And Ashley would be Ashley Roybal?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Okay. You said people were reading it in the district office?

Witness: Yeah, people were reading it in the district office.

Mr. Gast: Who was that?

Witness: I remember Mark Nakamoto sitting in the Congressman's office and reading the book.

Mr. Solis: Beyond the subject nature of the book, what other discussions did you have with some of the staff members about it? Specifically the request that you read it.

Witness: It was clearly required.

Mr. Solis: Was there any discussion amongst the staff bringing up the question of why we have to do this? This is something we don't want to do.

Witness: No, I think it was very obvious that dealing with Ro Khanna was the number one priority. It was very obvious why we were reading this person's book.

Mr. Solis: Did anybody bring up that topic, that this is a campaign purpose?

Witness: No, I think sort of the working assumption is when you're working for the Congressman you want to keep your job so you're going to support his campaigns. There's no sort of... of course I want the congressman to win. Most of these people, it's very hard for them to get jobs outside of the Congressman's office so it's their vested interest to keep the job.

Mr. Solis: I'm asking specifically was there a discussion about the appropriateness of reading that book?

Witness: No. There was such an intermingling of official and campaign so the notion that we would sort of get surprised that we were doing this such a ... We were having coffee breaks in the district office where we were talking about who's endorsing and how the endorsement's working out. Nobody's going to be shocked that we're going to read the book.

Mr. Gast: I want to talk to you about that stuff but let's just, back to the book. Was there any followup after everybody had read it?

Witness: No. There was no follow up by the time I left. We just kind of read it. I also wasn't on the policy side of things. I was very low on the totem pole. I don't know what's going on. When she said "legislative staff will be discussing" I don't even really know what those discussions would be.

Mr. Gast: Was there any meeting where people got together to discuss the book after it was read?

Witness: No, there was no formal meeting that we're going to sit down and break down the book that I was part of.

Mr. Gast: Did you have any discussions with Jennifer after reading the book?

Witness: No, I did not.

Mr. Gast: How about Meri Maben?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Why do you think you were on this list as somebody assigned to read the book?

Witness: I just assumed it was everybody but it's not actually. My assumption is that Ro Khanna is South Asian, I'm South Asian, so what I noticed was that I suddenly became more important when Ro Khanna came in the picture.

Mr. Gast: So just to walk through these folks on the recipient list.

Witness: These are people who were way above my, quote unquote, pay grade before this.

Mr. Gast: So Eric Werwa, who is he?

Witness: He was Legislative Director at the time.

Mr. Gast: In DC?

Witness: Yeah. He might be a Deputy Chief of Staff now, or something like that.

Mr. Gast: AJ Bhadelia?

Witness: He was a Senior Advisor, DC based.

Mr. Gast: Laura Hatalsky?

Witness: DC based, don't know the title.

Mr. Gast: Michael Shank?

Witness: DC based, I think Communication Director but not sure.

Mr. Gast: Mark Nakamoto?

Witness: He was Senior Congressional Aide in the district office.

Mr. Gast: Meri Maben, obviously the District Director. Lamar Heystek?

Witness: I don't know what his official title would be but he was campaign something.

Mr. Gast: Full time campaign?

Witness: As far as I know, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Mike Nguyen?

Witness: Deputy District Director, and then myself. That's what I'm saying, that everybody was quite senior and in a normal circumstance before Ro Khanna came in the picture, and I think if Ro Khanna's name was Richard Johnson, I would not have been in this email.

Mr. Gast: Everybody on that list with the exception of Lamar was employed by the Congressional office. Is that correct?

Witness: Yeah, except that if you note that Mark Nakamoto's email was [REDACTED] which is the campaign designation. He also would have a [REDACTED] email at the time.

Mr. Gast: He was working half time ...

Witness: I thought he stopped after November 2012, but this email was December and he's on that email. I don't know if he still had access or again, emails were, maybe Jennifer sent it to the wrong email ID, maybe he still didn't have that access.

Mr. Gast: Now let me ask you, despite this being everybody working for the Congressional office except for Lamar, this is all sent to personal emails.

Witness: Yeah. That's an interesting point. For example, it wasn't that I would have gotten up from my house provided IT -- House was paying for my internet service -- and gone and taken out my personal laptop and gone to Starbucks and opened up my personal email to read these emails. I would have read them on my work email.

Mr. Gast: On your work computer?

Witness: Yeah. On my work computer, which is provided ...

Mr. Gast: In the district office.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Solis: For example this is time stamped at 8:38 AM. If 9 AM is when people started reporting to work ...

Mr. Gast: Then later Jennifer does at ten.

Mr. Solis: She would respond at ten. But that's around the time people started getting into work. Is it a safe assumption that the district people who you worked with, Mike ...

Witness: I don't know where they were. I can't make any assumptions about where they were.

Mr. Solis: Right, but so you would go into the office, you would open up your work computer and then you would see this Gmail, right?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Solis: That would be in the district office?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Solis: Okay.

Witness: Also, if you look at the job description it says required weekends and off time so there's no off time. I didn't punch a time card.

Mr. Gast: Let me ask you this. How did Jennifer get your personal email?

Witness: I think when I applied for the job I must have put on my resume ...

Mr. Gast: Why would she pick that then? To send this to your personal email, just pick it off your resume?

Witness: As you can see through the whole emails, there was a standard process of communicating content that was in the campaign bucket over Gmail and were official bucket in mail.house.gov.

Mr. Gast: Were you required to turn over a personal email so the others in the office could communicate with you about campaign issues?

Witness: No. You had your email. You emailed back and forth informally. It gets on to your smart phone. There was no sort of formalized process. Because there was no differentiation between official and campaign.

Mr. Gast: Was official business ever discussed over personal email?

Witness: Yeah, I do. There's an example where we're planning to have the Congressman speak on an event involving nuclear weapons at a retirement home in this area. I have an email that I'm now remembering that has Jennifer saying it'll be a challenge for Congressman Honda to discuss this issue. He needs to know about new policy stuff that's going on in DC. That's legislative work. That email was happening on my Gmail.

Mr. Gast: Any idea why the Gmail was used for that official work?

Witness: I had two phones. I was expected that my personal phone, the Congressman would make phone calls on. My Blackberry didn't have phone service. My personal phone was my work phone also. The Congressman called me on my personal cell phone that I paid the bill for. There was no differentiation of devices.

Mr. Gast: You mentioned that there was this effort to keep official on the mail.house.gov, campaign on the Gmail.

Witness: There was an effort to avoid the recording that would happen if you put it on mail.house.gov. If it's your personal email you can control that flow of information better.

Mr. Solis: What do you mean by an effort to?

Witness: That was why we were doing it on Gmail, so it didn't go into the official server, which has a little more memory.

Mr. Solis: And Jennifer would say that? Somebody would say this is why we're doing this?

Witness: That was clearly. I asked Mike Nguyen, why are we doing this? I asked him like, this is a smart move. We should do it this way so it doesn't stay there. Mike said that's why we do that.

Mr. Solis: I just want to be very clear on this part. You wanted to know, why are we putting officially related discussions on your personal email? Or you wanted to know, why you were putting campaign related discussions on ...

Witness: I asked in the context of the State Department email. I should be more clear. I asked why are we having a conversation about a State Department event, which is an official event as far as I can tell, on my Gmail?

Mr. Gast: Who did you ask?

Witness: Mike Nguyen.

Mr. Gast: What was his response?

Witness: His response was yeah, you're right. That's a smart move. We want to make sure it doesn't stay saved.

Mr. Gast: That it doesn't stay saved?

Witness: As far as I know, and I don't know enough, is that it's easier for investigators to access the mail.house.gov email than it is a Gmail.

Mr. Solis: Did Mike express to you that he felt that these discussions were somehow ...

Mr. Gast: Shouldn't be saved?

Mr. Solis: Improper or shouldn't be saved?

Witness: No, I just said to him hey, it's a smart move we're doing this over Gmail. He said yeah, that's why, so we avoid them getting ...

Mr. Gast: Why would you want to avoid them getting saved?

Witness: It's improper to be linking campaign and donations. You want to avoid a paper trail.

Mr. Solis: Was there anybody else besides Mike who expressed this to you?

Witness: Nobody besides that. I don't know if it was just him saying that in his own mind, nobody besides that ever expressed.

Mr. Solis: Did he express that to you in person, over phone...?

Witness: In person. I prompted it so he didn't come and say ...

Mr. Gast: All right I want to go back, just to go through this campaign. The relationship between the Congressional office and the campaign. You said that you never volunteered for the campaign.

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Were you asked to help with campaign events?

Witness: Yeah, before I even started working there I got an email from Mark Nakamoto saying we're doing a fundraiser. Then I asked hey, it's my first time going, tell me what's going on. Ashley Roybal communicated you wouldn't be going as official staff, you would be going as a volunteer. That was the first time that I even got aware of that distinction. In the initial prompting that I received from Mark, and I didn't provide you that email. There was no communication that you'd be volunteering. It was just hey, we have this thing going on.

Mr. Gast: Do you want to come?

Witness: Yeah, can you help out?

Mr. Gast: Okay, any requests to help with phone banking or going door to door or any of those kinds of activities?

Witness: Yes, I think I provided some documentation of that too. If you have that ...

Mr. Gast: I don't think I do with me, but I remember that.

Witness: Yeah, there was some request to do a language based, so if we have specific language skills.

Mr. Gast: Who would come to you with those requests?

Witness: They would be done over email. Lamar would send them out usually.

Mr. Gast: Did Meri Maben ever ask you to do campaign activities?

Witness: Nothing like phone banking, walking, no.

Mr. Gast: What about Mike Nguyen?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Jennifer Van der Heide?

Witness: Yes, if you look at those State Department emails ...

Mr. Gast: Aside from the State Department, was there anything?

Witness: The emails that I documented, I have to say yes.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall any other paid full-time campaign staff beyond Lamar?

Witness: At this time no, I don't recall anyone else.

Mr. Gast: In the 2012 or the 2014 cycles?

Witness: I left before the 2014 cycle got professionalized, and got the full staff.

Mr. Gast: Okay. So for the 2012 election...

Witness: Lamar and Mark were the only two.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: Mark, who I think was – no, I know was also official at the time.

Mr. Gast: Right. Did any other district office staff work on Representative Honda's campaign?

Witness: I didn't pay attention to what other people were doing.

Mr. Gast: Nobody that often went over to volunteer or attend campaign events on behalf of the Member?

Witness: I don't remember.

Mr. Gast: How involved was Representative Honda in his campaign?

Witness: He was involved. I can give an example. Lamar's wife at the time worked at the Dutch consulate in San Francisco. I drove the Congressman up for an event at a hotel in San Francisco. Me, Lamar and the Congressman met at this office space that his wife had secured for us in the Dutch consulate in San Francisco. This was before the 2012 Democratic Convention because the Congressman was speaking to a Representative in Minnesota, Ellison, on the phone and me and Lamar were there. The binder for what's thousand crane club was on the table. Mike also took a phone call from a journalist. We were doing, in the same office. That's an example. I think the Congressman was involved.

Mr. Gast: When you joined the congressional office, or any time during your service in the congressional office, was there ever any training about campaign activity?

Witness: What do you mean by training about campaign activity?

Mr. Gast: Did anybody give you a presentation or sit down with you and speak to you about the rules that govern campaign activity by official staff?

Witness: The line drawing?

Mr. Gast: About the line, yeah.

Witness: When we would talk about coffee break, Meri indicated the reason we use the euphemism, Meri Maben, was because of this line. That was one indication that there was a line that existed. We were purposefully dancing around the line with the euphemism. Other than that not really.

I went to ethics training after the November 2012 election. I think that's just how it works, nothing would happen in DC before the election if I started in the summer. The ethics training in December, that was the formal ethics training that we [inaudible].

Mr. Gast: Nothing office specific though? Saying listen, we're in the middle of campaign season, we want to give you an idea of what is permissible to do and what is not permissible?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: Were you given any policies specifically? Any written policies specifically on campaign versus official?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Were you, or are you aware of anyone else in a congressional office, ever asked to provide anything or prepare anything for the campaign? Issue papers, issue comparisons, anything like that?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about these coffee breaks with Meri Maben.

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: Who organized the coffee breaks?

Witness: We had staff meetings periodically, once a week.

Mr. Gast: When you say we had staff meetings ...

Witness: Sorry, the district office staff, excuse me. Should I go through the names or ...

Mr. Gast: No, just was it the congressional staff in the district?

Witness: In the district office. We'd have weekly staff meetings. There would be the normal official work and then there would be a coffee break portion.

Mr. Gast: This was all the district staff would attend these or most of the district staff?

Witness: Yeah, sometimes the staff assistant may not have been there but everybody else was there.

Mr. Gast: Were these mandatory meetings?

Witness: Yeah, staff, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Who led those meetings?

Witness: Meri Maben.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Did Representative Honda ever attend your staff meetings?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: And where were these meetings held?

Witness: In the Campbell office they were held in the Representative Honda's office, in the Campbell office.

Mr. Gast: Were you in the new office, the Santa Clara office?

Witness: When the Santa Clara office ... It was actually in San Jose.

Mr. Gast: The new office, that you moved into.

Witness: Yeah, and I think Santa Clara is now recent. The district office that we moved into was in San Jose, near the airport.

Mr. Gast: Okay, were the district staff meetings always held in the district office, wherever it was?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Did the campaign staff ever attend any of your district staff meetings?

Witness: I remember Lamar dropping by for one of them. The reason I remember is because that's when he became aware of the Ethiopian American event.

Mr. Gast: Was that just a situation where he just happened to be stopping by and sat in or was he kind of scheduled to be there?

Witness: I don't know his schedule.

Mr. Gast: Did it look like he had a formal role in the staff meeting, was he presenting something?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: During these district office staff meetings there would be a coffee break. Can you tell us about that?

Witness: Yeah, coffee break was a time when campaign related information would be discussed, such as what's going on, what endorsements are we seeking, sort of generally what's going on politically, locally. Just to focus on sort of local politics, not DC legislative posturing. Local.

Mr. Gast: Was Representative Honda's campaign discussed?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: How would you know you were in a coffee break?

Witness: We would just start talking. But we wouldn't say coffee break is starting. You're done with the work related event then you transition to the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Gast: Were the things you discussed on the agenda?

Witness: I don't remember that. Not usually.

Mr. Gast: I think there was some stuff in the newspaper about Meri Maben would say okay, coffee break time.

Witness: That might have been the other source. I don't ...

Mr. Gast: Does that accurately characterize how that would happen?

Witness: It's not like she would say it's coffee break time. I don't think that's a fair characterization. We just transitioned from one to the other. There was no line. There was no need to ...

Mr. Solis: During a meeting there would be discussion of something official? An official meeting the Congressman was going to take, something like that, and then the next line, item on the agenda would be specifically campaign related.

Witness: Yeah, for example I remember one staff meeting where we discussed whatever we were doing that week and then Mark Nakamoto talked about how one of the interns had done a really great job in bringing his friends or family members in to do phone banking. He knew one of the languages that we were talking at the time.

Mr. Gast: Where does this term coffee break come from?

Witness: I think it comes from Meri Maben.

Mr. Solis: You never heard the phrase coffee break?

Witness: No, I definitely did. There's actually even a video of Meri Maben talking about coffee break. So there was some middle eastern students who came over on a visit. There was a documentary done on their visit. They met with us in the Congressman's office and took video of what we were saying. Meri Maben says in there we have coffee breaks to show the line. There's video of it if you can track that down.

Mr. Gast: You don't have that video?

Witness: No.

Mr. Solis: Do you know about what time, what dates that was?

Witness: Like I said, it was while we were in the Campbell office.

Mr. Solis: Would the coffee breaks happen during specific times? Where there was a campaign event occurring? Closer to an election period? Or did they just happen every time you had a staff meeting?

Witness: Pretty much every time we had a staff meeting. There may have been staff meetings where it didn't happen. It was pretty consistent.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I want to ask you about Google Drives. Are you familiar with Google Drives?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Generally, can you explain what a Google Drive is? Simply.

Witness: It's a way to share documents.

Mr. Gast: How does one set up a Google Drive?

Witness: You go into your Google Apps. There's something called Google Documents for creating a word processing document, Google Sheets if you're doing a spread sheet. The way you collaborate using Google Drive is you share whatever you're working on between you and whoever you're trying to collaborate with.

Mr. Gast: Do you then grant access to who can view that document?

Witness: Yes, I think so. Yeah, there's an access granting. You say yeah, share. You say share, it's not grant access. I guess it's the same thing, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Were Google Drives used as part of Honda World?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: What were they generally used for?

Witness: To sort of keep ...To collaborate on lists of people who outreach, campaign or official, campaign/ official wanted to go register.

Mr. Gast: Were they official docs uploaded to these Google Drives? Were campaign docs uploaded?

Witness: Both. I don't know how to differentiate between those. I'm putting official information in for cam ... I don't know how you characterize that.

Mr. Gast: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Witness: I'm an official staff. I've never been a campaign staff. Anything I work on, even if it's campaign, becomes official.

Mr. Gast: There was no separate Google Drive for official stuff and a separate for campaign?

Witness: We only used the Google Drives system for official stuff.

Mr. Gast: Official stuff.

Witness: To store the constituents' information, IQ has the data base.

Mr. Gast: What's IQ?

Witness: IQ is some acronym for the constituent data ... Basically customer relations management software.

Mr. Gast: For the congressional office?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I want to talk to you about these notes from the district office staff retreat.

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: This looks to be the cover email. You were sending these notes that were attached. Is that correct?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: You sent it from your official house email to Meri Maben.

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mr. Gast: Looks like her official account. Also to "CA-15 District Internal."

Witness: That ... Sorry, I should let you finish questions.

Mr. Gast: Is that "CA-15 District Internal" an email group that included everyone in the district office?

Witness: As far as I recall, yes.

Mr. Gast: I believe we had talked that the district office retreat, in this instance, happened about September 13th, 2012, according to the title of the document.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Then about a week later, on September 20th you forwarded these notes to Meri and the entire district staff. Is that right?

Witness: Yeah. Then we turned those notes into action plans. I didn't provide you those emails.

Mr. Gast: If you had the action plans, that would be great.

Witness: I had an email called "Action Plan" or something like that. I don't have the actual action plans. Again, this stuff never matters. At this time we

were planning, Ro Khanna's not in the picture. Pete Stark hasn't lost. This stuff in the end all goes out the wayside.

Mr. Gast: This is roughly maybe a month and a half before the election in 2012, is that about right?

Witness: Yeah. Exactly. This was processing, or communicating the primary results, which was the first election the Congressman had in the new district.

Mr. Gast: Okay. What was the purpose of this specific event?

Witness: It was a district office retreat to set priorities and have a conversation with the campaign and try to collaborate. Make sure everyone's on the same page.

Mr. Gast: Was this an official event? Was this a campaign event?

Witness: It was definitely an official event. I was going as district staff.

Mr. Gast: Were all district staff required to attend?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Where was the retreat held?

Witness: Meri Maben's, she has a second home in Aptos, California. Beach house. It's not actually by the beach.

Mr. Gast: How long was the event?

Witness: It was full day.

Mr. Gast: Full day. From 9-5ish?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Okay. You said all district staff attended. Anyone from the Washington office attend?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Jennifer Ven der Heide, was she there?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: What about anybody from campaign staff?

Witness: Lamar was there. Mark Nakamoto was wearing both hats. In his capacity as campaign he was presenting.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Did Representative Honda participate in this retreat?

Witness: No, he did not.

Mr. Gast: What was generally discussed at the retreat?

Witness: We first talked about the results, analyzed the results. Set priorities for the office.

Mr. Gast: Want to kind of walk through some of these notes. Just ask you about it. If you look at Roman Numeral II on the first page of the notes, under "Overview of CA17, (Lamar/Mark Nakamoto)", does that mean Lamar Heystek and Mark Nakamoto presented at this point?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Was this Mark in his campaign capacity?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: That first bullet says "New cities. How to transition info from campaign to do," or it might be "campaign to D.O." meaning district office.

Witness: Yeah, it's D.O.

Mr. Gast: It's D.O. "(ethically and practically)". Do you recall what you meant when you put that note in there?

Witness: What I was trying to say was I was taking notes on what Lamar and Mark were saying. Someone, I don't know who, I didn't...so Lamar or Mark, said the purpose of this is to think about how to use what we learn from campaign to help the district office achieve its objectives and vice versa.

Mr. Gast: What kind of info would be transitioned?

Witness: The big thing if you go to the bottom, if you go to page two, somewhere Mark says, "What's the important stuff?" I can find it for you.

Mr. Gast: Is it at the bottom of page two? Transitioning data?

Witness: Yeah. The important information was bottom of page two. The really important information is the anecdotal information that this important person felt this way when we supported this issue and didn't feel this way when we supported this. I think everybody is very intuitive with data analysis or demographics. The important thing, is this specific person. For example, if you go to the next page, Carl Guardino was very important in this area.

Mr. Gast: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Witness: That kind of thing. How does he feel actually about the Congressman? How does the Congressman feel about him? How can we be sure that the Congressman understands that Carl's doing a favor to him? And so the Congressman changes the way he speaks to this person. That kind of stuff is really valuable, understanding the interpersonal dynamic.

Mr. Gast: I want to also go onto on page 2, kind of the middle of the page, right above, "thousand crane." That last bullet says "D.O.? Chinese Language Outreach in Cupertino." That comes after an analysis of the Chinese vote in the district.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: What was meant by "D.O. Chinese Language Outreach in Cupertino"?

Witness: I don't remember. Generally, it was can we get pamphlets, can we translate our information? Think about Chinese.

Mr. Gast: That coupled with transitioning intel from the campaign to the district office, was this an effort to use the district office to support Representative Honda's campaign?

Witness: Yeah. The district office was ... Yes, one of the purposes of the district office was clearly to help the Congressman's campaign, which I think is pretty standard practice.

Mr. Gast: These were campaign considerations driving official actions?

Witness: Yes. The priority of high tech is a campaign consideration. Also it's important in the district, but that's a campaign consideration. I don't know. It's also an official consideration. It's an important constituent industry as well.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Can you tell us about this thousand crane idea that's on the ...

Witness: Yeah. As far as I know, it's the Congressman's idea. It's a thousand people give a thousand dollars that's a million dollars. A social network to provide a club for the cranes. Also to provide an ability for them to do the transactional work that's necessary. Hey, my relative needs a visa, I'm interested in this public policy. It's a place to keep the donors, they can talk. I don't know if formalized or not, if it was just an idea, but there definitely was a binder for it I saw.

Mr. Gast: When you say there was a binder, who kept that binder?

Witness: Lamar had a binder.

Mr. Gast: Was that a binder of who was in the club?

Witness: I don't know. It was just "a thousand cranes" on the top of it.

Mr. Gast: Okay. When you say this was a place where there would be this transactional nature, can you talk a little bit more about that? What that meant?

Witness: I think exactly what I said in these notes. The idea was a crane could say hey, I need this help.

Mr. Gast: Was this a special level of care given to the members of this thousand cranes club?

Witness: Yeah, but not really. I never got a casework from anyone. I never received any like, "this is a crane." The only designation I ever received was Friends of MH.

Mr. Gast: Could it have been the same thing?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: A Friend of MH being a crane? Could that have been a possibility?

Witness: I don't know either way. I can't say no, either.

Mr. Solis: Did Jennifer or Meri ever discuss the cranes in terms of, as you put it, something they might need? Constituent help? Did they ever discuss the cranes and their contributions in connection with official work?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: What about under this “transitioning data” heading. It talks about a Google Doc of stakeholders for CA17, what is that?

Witness: I don't remember that, actually.

Mr. Gast: Was there some kind of list of stakeholders?

Witness: There were stakeholders lists on Google Drives.

Mr. Gast: Who maintained those lists?

Witness: I don't know that.

Mr. Gast: You know who put them together?

Witness: No. Official and campaign staff. I don't know who specifically. I know Lamar would have worked on them and official staff would have worked on them. I think I provided one of those examples. The State Department thing and also the Sikh, the list of people.

Mr. Gast: What does that mean to be a stakeholder?

Witness: It's a constituent, but a constituent who is a little more active.

Mr. Gast: You said both the ...

Witness: Not necessarily in the district, it could just be someone who was active locally and could have a house.

Mr. Gast: Both the campaign and the official office would have access to those documents, to those lists?

Witness: When it was relevant. I didn't look it up every day. If I got a casework, it wasn't like I looked up in there. It wasn't anything like that.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I want to talk briefly about the State Department round table. I think we ...

Witness: Beat that like a dead horse.

Mr. Gast: Yes. I've got a lot of documents and that helps spell things out. This is kind of a compilation of a bunch of different documents stapled together. These are RA-49, THMH1895-96, RA-39-43. Three different docs. Take a minute to look through that.

Can you tell us, again for the record, what was the purpose of this event?

Witness: The context of the event was the Congressman had written a letter indicating that he didn't support Narendra Modi getting a visa to come to the United States. As a result of that, there was some backlash in the Hindu community. The segment of the Hindu community that supports the BJP. Jennifer Van der Heide, this is based on a phone conversation I had with her. There was a concern that the relationship with that community wasn't as strong as it needed to be. Especially given that was a key political base for the challenger, we needed to do outreach.

I'm not indicating that I don't think this was the silver bullet that was going to fix all the problems of the South Asian community, as I think it came out. I didn't raise any money from any of the people I invited to that.

Mr. Gast: You did not?

Witness: That's as far as I know. That's the funny part. It's okay to be corrupt, but it's kind of sad to be corrupt and bad at it.

Mr. Gast: Was your conversation with Jennifer, was that kind of the initial idea for this event?

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mr. Gast: Did she propose having the event?

Witness: Yeah, I wouldn't have. It was not my idea. She was the one who was driving the bus.

Mr. Gast: Did she call you to talk about putting this together?

Witness: She and Ahmed, AJ is what he went by.

Mr. Gast: AJ Bhadelia?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: In your initial call with Jennifer that you mentioned, did she discuss with you this was a key political base for the challenger?

Witness: You don't have to say it. Yeah. We had talked about ... When I went over in December, when I referenced we had lunch together. We talked about

how there were challenges. I remember specifically saying that my family friends and my parents would donate to the challenger before they donated to the Congressman, even though I worked for the Congressman. We'd definitely talk about, this was a concern.

Mr. Gast: You said you had lunch with Jennifer at some point?

Witness: Yeah, I went over for the new staff ethics training.

Mr. Gast: You went over to DC?

Witness: DC, sorry.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: That was paid for by the...out of the MRA.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: We had a lunch in the downstairs cafeteria of the House office building or whatever. We talked about Ro Khanna issues. Also just other stuff, too.

Mr. Gast: Anybody else with you at lunch?

Witness: No, just me and her.

Mr. Gast: Roughly when was this?

Witness: December timeline. You can see when the new house ethics training happened that time.

Mr. Gast: December of 2012?

Witness: 2012.

Mr. Gast: She called you and said it would be a good idea to put together this event with this group because they were so ...

Witness: She didn't like putting together stuff.

Mr. Gast: Putting this group together. Who else did you work with on this event?

Witness: AJ, Ahmed I said his name was, I never communicated with but I was on emails with Lamar and that's it, actually. I never communicated with Madeline Mielke or Meri Maben about this event.

Mr. Gast: You did not?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: No conversations with Meri?

Witness: No, Meri didn't ... This wasn't ...

Mr. Gast: Even though she was District Director?

Witness: We had conversations about the backlash with Narendra Modi issue, but the State Department planning, that was Jennifer doing that.

Mr. Gast: What about Mark Nakamoto? Did you work with him on the event?

Witness: I didn't. It was communicated to me afterwards by Ashley Roybal that he took over when I quit.

Mr. Gast: What about Mike Nguyen?

Witness: Not that I remember.

Mr. Gast: Did you work with Representative Honda at all?

Witness: Not at all.

Mr. Gast: Is this the same event as the SV Gujarat?

Witness: I think so. It started as a Gujarat. Narendra Modi used to be the equivalent of Governor over in India.

Mr. Gast: The Gujarat? I just saw references to ...

Witness: Yeah, he is Gujarat. His electoral premise is the Gujarat. Meri knew all that stuff.

Mr. Gast: There was just one event?

Witness: What are you ... Sorry?

Mr. Gast: When I saw references to the State Department event and to the Gujarat ...

Witness: Yeah, that was one event.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Mr. Solis: Should I go see if Albert is outside just to let him know?

Mr. Gast: I think we have some time.

Witness: I'm sorry. I ran long.

Mr. Gast: Yeah, let's just try to get through this to make sure we can. How were the invitees to this event selected?

Witness: Prominent South Asians in the tech investment world.

Mr. Gast: How were those picked out?

Witness: I think Jennifer's network, our donors if there were any, there was sort of a limited number as Lamar indicates. Just prominent people in the South Asian community.

Mr. Gast: Who put the list together? Who was responsible for putting the list of invitees?

Witness: As far as I know, Lamar put together the suggested South Asian invites that's referenced in this email.

Mr. Gast: The email you're referring to ...

Witness: The one I was just looking through, the February 8th, 2013, the Google Drive document that says suggested South Asian invites.

Mr. Gast: Was that the first list you saw of proposed invites?

Witness: No, I believe I showed there was documents that the list was being shared before that by Jennifer, if I remember correctly.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Jennifer apparently had a list she was sharing with you, Lamar sent his own list?

Witness: I think it's the same list.

Mr. Gast: Who initiated the list? As far as you know.

Witness: Lamar.

Mr. Gast: Jennifer took that list and made edits, changes, additions, subtractions?

Witness: Yeah, Lamar initiated it, and then she went through and culled it.

Mr. Gast: Okay. How did it come to you?

Witness: I mean I was on it I think the whole time.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Let me show you this document. This is a little tricky of a document. It's such a long ... This would be page one of this spread sheet. Does this spread sheet look familiar to you?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: What is this spread sheet?

Witness: This is the suggested South Asian invitees spread sheet I'm pretty sure. Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Was this the one Lamar sent to Jennifer?

Witness: I don't know which version. There were so many versions that went around.

Mr. Gast: It went through several iterations.

Witness: I don't know which print out this is.

Mr. Gast: This is the list that you, Jennifer, and Lamar worked on?

Witness: I never worked on this list. I never did anything with this list.

Mr. Gast: You were just the recipient?

Witness: Yeah. I was asked to work on it and I refused.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Can you tell me why there is a column for giving history 2014?

Witness: The purpose of the event was donors, or potential donors, and one of the ways to indicate potential donors is that they donate to other politicians, to prioritize them to do outreach to this event.

Mr. Gast: Was that a specifically discussed purpose of the event? To seek out potential donors of potential?

Witness: Yeah, it's laid out in the email.

Mr. Gast: Who talked about that?

Witness: Jennifer Van der Heide.

Mr. Gast: Anybody else?

Witness: Lamar Heystek.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Mr. Solis: Again, you didn't create this chart, but when Scott asked you about giving history that doesn't necessarily mean giving history to Representative Honda, it could mean giving history to any Member of Congress.

Witness: Also, giving history to the challenger. For example, Karl, this person was specifically, he had giving history to the challenger. We had to try to convert him.

Mr. Solis: You're assumption could be completely correct, it's just I don't see anything in this chart ...

Witness: You don't see Karl Mehta?

Mr. Solis: That would reflect the challenger receiving any ...

Witness: Karl Mehta? I have that.

Mr. Gast: Page through it, but ...

Witness: You want me to do it? His number is 40 something.

Mr. Solis: That would reference the giving history to the challenger?

Witness: Yes. I can pull it up on my computer. It's there.

Mr. Solis: Okay.

Mr. Gast: All right, let's go back to these emails real quick. You want to pull your copy up so we can walk through. This initial one is dated February 7th, 2013 from Jennifer to Lamar, copied to you.

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mr. Gast: She asked, "Do you have the list of proposed invitees to the Indian round table with state ready? We need to start sending out." It appears as if she's asking Lamar to put together a list of people that they're going to invite.

Witness: Also me. I was also asked to contribute to that list somehow with the constituent information that we have.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Were you asked to put together a list from the official files and Lamar asked to ...

Witness: No, I was asked to take whatever official information we had and put it into the Google Drive that Lamar had started.

Mr. Gast: Okay. He got that from campaign?

Witness: Yeah, I think he lays out how exactly he generated the list.

Mr. Gast: Okay. If you look at the next email, THMH-1896 ...

Witness: Yeah, right here he lays out how he did it.

Mr. Gast: Let's go back to THMH-1896 real quick.

Witness: Where's that?

Mr. Gast: On the bottom right corner. THMH-1896.

Witness: Oh, I see. I got that email. Okay.

Mr. Gast: Flip that one more page. This looks also like on February 7th you sent an email to Jennifer regarding this round table event: "Here is the list with 16 people in organizations. Please tell me if I should drop this law firm. Any ideas who we can contact?" Can you tell me about this list of 16 people, how that came about?

Witness: I don't remember, actually.

Mr. Gast: Do you remember Jennifer asking you to put together a list of potential invitees to this event?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Could that have been what this is?

Witness: I think so.

Mr. Gast: Where would you have gotten that information?

Witness: That's what I don't remember.

Mr. Gast: Then it looks like she replies to you that she'll keep randomly sending names as she thinks of them, asks if you've searched through the IQ and stakeholder lists, looks like she has a couple other names.

Witness: Yeah, it looks like she asked me. I wouldn't have done that. To go through the official list.

Mr. Gast: She also copies Meri Maben on this email. Did you have any discussions with Meri on this?

Witness: Not that I recall.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Then she emails again to you, herself, cc to Meri that she asked Lamar for a list which was due tonight. Is that the list we have been talking about?

Witness: I see what you see. I don't remember, but based on the documents it seems correct.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Then we see, like we've discussed, on February 8th at 9:25am, Lamar shares his list as a Google Doc with you and Jennifer.

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mr. Gast: Jennifer responds on Saturday February 9th: "Great lists. How are we doing outreach to them for \$? Can we at least collect emails and send newsletters or something if we can't do straight asks electronically now? Also, do you have a lists of the South Asians now endorsing/ supporting

MH? Want to make sure we are including all of them. Invites going out first thing Monday morning." You remember that email?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Can you give us a little context of that email and what she was talking about?

Witness: She's talking about the list we've been discussing, then talking about how to build relationships for fundraising.

Mr. Gast: Did you have any discussions with Jennifer about that?

Witness: The fund raising aspect? No, I just had discussions with her about hey, there's sort of this backlash that's happening around Narendra Modi.

Mr. Solis: That's another question. If you're not helping to develop the list and you're not volunteering for the campaign, why is she sending this to you?

Witness: Because I was putting together the official event.

Mr. Solis: The official event.

Witness: The booking, where it happened, speaking points for the Congressman if I had stayed on for that event, biographies for people who'd be coming. That sort of stuff.

Mr. Gast: Did you and Lamar ever discuss the fundraising aspect?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Okay. You and Meri?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Who is Madeline Meilke?

Witness: Consultant.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Beyond Jennifer and beyond Lamar, any other conversations you had with anyone about the potential for getting contributions out of these folks?

Witness: No. Not at all.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I'm going to this Ethiopian event, which we talked about. You had said this was a September 2012 event. It was kind of an Ethiopian award ceremony held at the Los Gatos town hall. Is that correct?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Did you work on this with Mr. Nguyen?

Witness: Yeah, exactly.

Mr. Gast: In this email, Lamar Heystek forwards to you and Mr. Nguyen a name, "Perhaps you would like to invite him to MH's Ethiopian event." Do you recall that?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Was Lamar and the campaign involved in selecting invitees for this event?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Where did this email come from?

Witness: I think I discussed earlier, Lamar at some point had dropped by the office and was talking about what was going on in the office.

Mr. Gast: Did he say this was somebody that they wanted to recruit to the campaign, to seek money from, to seek an endorsement?

Witness: No, it was also a prominent person who was Ethiopian and has invented an interesting item. It also could be completely innocuous.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I want to ask you about this Sikh stakeholders list you briefly mentioned as well. We talked about this list of stakeholders, that there were various lists maintained, on the G Drives, with access by the official and the campaign.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Given that context, can you tell us about this email from Lamar?

Witness: Sure. So what happened this time, there was a shooting tragedy in, somewhere in the Midwest at the time.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: So here in the county, they had a rally in the county government office that we went to. There was sort of a, how do these things happen? For a couple weeks, everybody got very interested in the Sikhs, before they moved on to something else.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: Jennifer then communicated to me that, "Hey, we're trying to develop of a list of stakeholders in the community." I was like okay, yeah, we have some lists. Do you have any ideas of where we can go elsewhere? She's like of course, make sure you reach out to Lamar. Is there anything else?

I wouldn't have known about, for example, the recent fundraiser. It wasn't on my calendar. She communicated that to me. She said hey, let's try to get this done by the end of the day.

Mr. Gast: It appears from the email, you did reach out to Lamar.

Witness: Yeah. At her direction.

Mr. Gast: At her direction. And he gave you some names?

Witness: If I sent Lamar an email saying, "Get this done by the end of the day," Lamar would not...that would not go well.

Mr. Gast: Right. Were you ultimately the one who developed a stakeholder list for the Sikh?

Witness: No, I didn't. I was in training, but this didn't sit right with me. What I did...I just forwarded it on at some point.

Mr. Gast: Who did you forward it on to?

Witness: To the district; to DC.

Mr. Gast: You recall who you did DC?

Witness: No. Actually, this one I might have just not done anything with. I might have just sat on it. I don't actually remember what happened after this.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall what you did with the names that ...

Witness: I don't actually. I remember I was weirded out by this.

Mr. Gast: Why were you weirded out?

Witness: It's kind of strange to use the ... There's a line between campaign and official. I would never have personally, unless someone had prompted me to, if I was planning invites, reach out to Lamar for that. That doesn't make sense to me.

Mr. Gast: Okay. We talked about the Netflix account. We have about 10 minutes before we need to end. I just briefly want to go over the emails. You said this was an email request from Nadir, who is the IT guy in DC.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Robert Lucas was included because he also did IT work based in DC. You had the IT responsibilities put on you. In the initial email from Nadir he says, "Yes. That's a request boarding personal, but such is life." Did you ever discuss that little thought at the time he sent the email?

Witness: No. It's kind of weird and unprompted. I had never, at that point complained or anything. It was kind of weird and just unprompted.

Mr. Gast: Did that strike you as odd?

Witness: Yeah. Just the such is life. It's bullying language. It's not necessary, also.

Mr. Gast: Did you discuss it with anybody? Discuss it with Meri? Or discuss it with Mike Nguyen?

Witness: I discussed it with Mike Nguyen. This is kind of an odd tone. Mike Nguyen said this is how it is. Take it or leave it. I had a similar complaint about the car. I shared my car with my sister at the time. I was like I would have liked to have known because my older sister gets priority. I would have liked to have known. He was like just figure out a way to fix it. That's how it is.

Mr. Gast: Speak to anybody else besides Mike? Did you speak to Jennifer?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Not about that. Speak to Representative Honda?

Witness: I did.

Mr. Gast: You did?

Witness: I did.

Mr. Gast: What was that conversation?

Witness: I did. I said, "hey, Congressman...", I told him I never would have joined working for you if I would have been doing tech support. I have a law degree. I had a great opportunity at a ... Otherwise. I definitely would not have been doing stuff like this for you.

Mr. Gast: What did he say to you?

Witness: He said it's just early. It's important. You're just getting started. Be patient. Which is understandable, too.

Mr. Gast: Did you discuss this ...

Witness: It was August, I think I started in July.

Mr. Gast: Was that the time you spoke to the Member? Was around this email?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Did you specifically raise the Apple TV/ Netflix issue, or just the IT issue?

Witness: Just the IT in general.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I didn't want to accuse him personally. Didn't seem like it would make him more receptive if I accused him personally.

Mr. Gast: After you got this email, what happened?

Witness: I never did anything with it.

Mr. Gast: You never did anything?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Did anybody else?

Witness: I'm not going to do crap like that.

Mr. Gast: Did anybody else fix the Apple TV and the Netflix?

Witness: I don't know.

Mr. Gast: Did Robert?

Witness: I don't know.

Mr. Gast: I'm sorry?

Witness: I don't know.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall Robert being in the district around the time of this?

Witness: I don't remember. Nadir was in the district around this time. Towards the end of his tenure, he came to the district.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Were there any other instances when you were asked or directed to help with personal...?

Witness: I gave the instance with Meri Maben's Lexus... inside her car. Everybody's personal phone was used for official work. All the lower level staff didn't get their phone service paid for by the office. All that stuff would have been under my jurisdiction.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I have one other topic to go through briefly. Do you have any other questions at all? Obviously, there have been news reports about protective orders and threats. I just want to give you an opportunity to, if you would like, give us your version of the events surrounding that.

Witness: It's not relevant to this.

Mr. Gast: There are some who say this might be prompted or inspired by those events, that you might see this as a way to get back at folks.

Witness: The letter to the House Ethics Committee pre-dates the events.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: Unless I was Nostradamus, how could I be inspired by something that hadn't happened?

Mr. Gast: Okay. I just wanted to give you a chance to address that if you wanted.

Witness: I just don't think it's relevant. I don't see the relevance at all.

Mr. Gast:

Okay. I think those were all the questions we had for you. We really do appreciate you taking the time to go through this with us.

Exhibit 12

**Interview of Former Congressional Aide #3
March 25, 2015**

Mr. Gast: All right. This is Scott Gast, Investigative Counsel at the Office of Congressional Ethics, with my colleague Paul Solis, Deputy Chief Counsel. It is March 25th, 2015, and we are here with Former Congressional Aide #3, who has agreed to sit with us, talk with us about a matter that our office has undertaken.

He has received a copy of the False Statements Act and signed an acknowledgement, and we appreciate you being here with us. We generally like to start with a little bit of background... as the windows get washed.

Witness: How good is the tape recorder?

Mr. Gast: Yeah, exactly. Can you just tell us your current employment situation?

Witness: Sure. I'm currently a full-time employee with the San Jose School District as an internal audit specialist.

Mr. Solis: I think I will stop you real quick and pause to see, because this, this microphone is very sensitive so we'll stop for a moment.

Witness: All right.

[Break]

Mr. Gast: Okay, back on the record. So you say your current employment, you're full-time at the San Jose School District, and I missed that, as an audit specialist?

Witness: Yeah, internal audit specialist.

Mr. Gast: Okay. How long have you been in that position?

Witness: Since November 3rd of 2014.

Mr. Gast: What did you do prior to that?

Witness: I did a couple of different things, was and independent contractor, did some consulting with SBDC, a business development center in this area.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: As well as doing contract work with a technology start-up company.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Prior to that?

Witness: I was with Congressman Honda's office.

Mr. Gast: Okay. When were you with the Honda office?

Witness: I think it was July 6th or 7th, 2006, until June 26, I think it was June 26th or June 27th of 2012.

Mr. Gast: What was your position while you were at the office?

Witness: When first started, our title was field rep/caseworker, and then probably halfway through it changed to congressional aide. Similar functions, just title change.

Mr. Gast: What were those similar functions, what were those functions?

Witness: Basically, every field rep/caseworker obviously handles casework, and then the field rep part was mainly just staffing the congressman, preparing briefers, whatever else they needed for particular events. Managing our issue areas. I was also, I came in, because I'm comfortable with tech, I was also responsible for a lot of the tech issues, in the office and out of the office.

Mr. Gast: What prompted your leaving the office in June of 2012?

Witness: I had been looking for a job for a couple of years, was dissatisfied with what I was doing with the office, and it was finally, I think from low morale and low performance from just not wanting to be there anymore, my district director came in and basically called me in one day and said, "You're leaving the office in three months." I said, "Okay."

Mr. Gast: That would have been three months before the July thing?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Who was that at the time, was that Meri ...

Witness: Meri Maben.

Mr. Gast: Okay. All right. While you were employed in the congressional office, were you ever asked to help out with Representative Honda's campaigns?

Witness: That, so when we were asked to volunteer, it was more in the context of, "It's campaign season, if you need extra vacation days, we can give you extra vacation days, but who would like to go out and use their vacation to volunteer on different campaigns?" I was flown to Chicago for one campaign, and staff was just flown all over the country for different campaigns, all on technically vacation time.

Where it got confusing for staff, well, for me, let me just say for me, was when we would have staff, weekend staffing responsibilities, and we would be on call for the entire weekend. Generally, if we were with the congressman at an event, we would typically follow him, and it was sort of expected that we, I felt that I was expected to go with him the entire weekend and be with him, and sometimes we were told to be at certain events with him, whether it was for the whole weekend, so whether it was campaign or office or not, whatever the event was, we were going, because we were assigned staff what weekend.

Mr. Gast: Would you drive the member?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Okay. You were with him for the entire weekend schedule, whether it was campaign or official.

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Let me touch back on this volunteering prior to the campaign.

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: Were you asked, encouraged, offered, directed? How would you characterize that?

Witness: Not directed, it was definitely asked, it was definitely encouraged. In a "Hey, we would love for you guys to go out," not more of a "Your job is dependent on it." It wasn't anything like that, it was more of, "Hey, here's the opportunities, who would like to go where? We can help make that happen." Because the more that other elected officials around the country see that we're helping, it just is more beneficial for the congressman and whatever else. Like I said, we were, if we didn't have

enough vacation time to go out for a week or two weeks, then we were allotted extra vacation time. Or our sick days were transferred to vacation time. They just found a way to give us that time off.

Mr. Gast: Did you feel any pressure to do that?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Okay, so it was completely voluntary?

Witness: Correct, the campaign season stuff was ...

Mr. Gast: Okay. You said you at one point went out to Chicago to work on a campaign?

Witness: Correct, or Chicago area.

Mr. Gast: Chicago area. You would have been through several cycles during your time in the office.

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Was it just the one time that you volunteered for another campaign or were there others?

Witness: I think that was the furthest I went, only because at that time I wasn't married, so I didn't have any responsibilities here. But the other times I was actually local, I stayed, but took some time off, went to Morgan Hill, did some stuff there. But yeah, that was the biggest trip that I can remember.

Mr. Gast: It sounds as if you did the volunteer thing, vacation thing, several times during your stay?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Who would ask?

Witness: Well, it was Meri.

Mr. Gast: Meri?

Witness: Yeah, it was Meri. And then sometimes we got the staff phone call, and it was, hey, everybody, we're just going to have, phone call in D.C. and talk to Jennifer. But it was mostly Meri.

Mr. Gast: Mostly Meri, sometimes Jennifer, Jennifer Van der Heide, the chief of staff.

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Who did the arranging of the vacation/sick days?

Witness: Whoever was in D.C., I think whoever was the scheduler in D.C.

Mr. Gast: Who was your point of contact in making sure that that was taken care of?

Witness: I forget who the person before Daniel Oliver was, but it was whoever was in that role.

Mr. Gast: It wasn't Meri or anybody in the district office?

Witness: Well, no, I think because of the all the HR, personnel, payroll aspect of it, that was all handled in D.C. Whoever arranged the vacation days, and all the flight was handled out of there, I don't know if it was handled in the D.C. office, but all the arrangements were taken care of by D.C., we just, in the district we just said, who wants to go? And things were set up by whoever was, whoever Jennifer had asked or assigned to make those arrangements.

Mr. Gast: Okay. In that shuffling around of vacation times and days, were you adding, were you kept whole with your vacation so that you could still go to Disney World or something else?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: They just added in extra time.

Witness: Yes, whatever they did, they just found a way to give us extra vacation days. Yes, in other words, I felt I was made whole, I never felt that I was missing out on personal vacation, to take the extra vacation.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Before getting into the issue of staffing, staffing the member on weekends, were you ever asked to do campaign work on your personal time, say, march in a parade, or help us with a phone bank?

Witness: We were asked, yeah, I wouldn't, yeah, we were asked, I think it was, especially later on, we were asked more, when he was more active. But I mean, it was one of those things, where if I didn't have to go, I didn't want to go, or if I didn't want to go, I didn't have to go. But yeah, we were asked.

Mr. Gast: It looks like you would have -- would the 2012 cycle have started, the 2012 election cycle, by the time you left?

Witness: It did start, but it obviously didn't finish.

Mr. Gast: Right. Who in that cycle would have asked you if you wanted to participate in the campaign?

Witness: So in the '12, in fact I was looking at some e-mails, and so in 2012, from March, May, June, it was Mark Nakamoto was organizing locally. I looked at, I received several e-mails, not on the government e-mail, but on the personal e-mail side, from him. Also Lamar Heystek was active.

Mr. Gast: Who was Lamar?

Witness: Lamar was the first campaign manager, for that season.

Mr. Gast: For that cycle?

Witness: Correct, for when we transferred over to the 17th.

Mr. Gast: Who was Mark?

Witness: Mark Nakamoto, a long-time staffer, long-time intern. He was in D.C. for a long time and then came out to the district for a stint, for a summer, I think in '10 or '11, and then he came out here officially, right before the campaign.

Mr. Gast: Was he a campaign employee, or an official employee?

Witness: My understanding was he was half-time campaign, half-time official.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Did Representative Honda have a campaign office in that 2012 cycle?

Witness: Yes, I believe so. I believe so, the campaign office was always out of the SEIU building, out, further up First Street.

Mr. Gast: Is that where Lamar would have worked out of, and Mark, when he was campaign ...

Witness: I think primarily yes, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Okay. All right. You said you generally did not accept the invitation to work on the campaign?

Witness: Sometimes I did, yeah, sometimes I did. But yeah, just because mainly, I'm like, well, even though I don't really want to be here anymore, I might as well still keep some friendships and the relationships going.

Mr. Gast: Any pressure to help out with the campaign?

Witness: By that time, I was done with the office. I was like, even if, the pressure that I felt was more to keep the relationships, versus to please my supervisor type of thing.

Mr. Gast: What about earlier on, to previous election cycles?

Witness: No, well, I mean, just because he didn't really have any opposition, there wasn't really a whole lot of asking to do that. It was just, like I said, later on, we were asked to do that.

Mr. Gast: Was the 2012 race the first significant effort that he expended in a campaign?

Witness: Yes, as far as my understanding, yeah, while I was in the office, yeah.

Mr. Gast: That was in a new district, a redrawn district?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Okay. All right. Did other district staff work on the campaign?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Who?

Witness: Well, Ashley Roybal for a long time was doing, was paid to do the campaign work, and she was a staffer. Before that it was Chris Schwarz.

Mr. Gast: Chris Shores?

Witness: Chris Schwarz. S-C-H-W-A-R-Z.

Mr. Gast: Okay, and were they also congressional staff members?

Witness: They were, they were full-time congressional aides as well.

Mr. Gast: Okay. How about unpaid folks? Were any of the district staff helping out on an unpaid basis, regularly?

Witness: Kind of all of us were, to some degree. I mean, I just felt, after thinking about it for a while, I just felt that every time we went on the weekend trips, and we were asked to go to a campaign stop, I'm like, well, I'm not being paid to be here. In that sense, yeah, we were all assigned weekend staffing duties. Mike Nguyen was very active, very active on the congressman's personal business in general, which I'm just assuming ran into the campaign side.

Mr. Gast: Tell me a little bit more about that, about active in the personal business.

Witness: It was picking up laundry, going to the house and making sure that his bookcase designer was let into the house, so, you know, whether that happened during lunch, before work, after work, or whether that was justified by picking up mail for something or other. It was all that, that's what I mean, it was literally, it was, yeah, it was just that type of level of service that Mike Nyugen provided to the office.

Mr. Gast: Who was Mike?

Witness: Mike Nyugen came in, I don't really know when he started, actually, but Mike Nyugen was a staffer, came in probably a couple of years after I did, and I guess, came from the private sector, was always real fond of Asian Americans in politics, and so when he got a chance to work for Honda's office, he took it, and just loved it to death, from what I can tell. He made that very well known, and made it known his commitment to the office and the congressman.

Mr. Gast: Did it ever appear that he was reluctant to help with all of this?

Witness: Not at all. He was always offering and willing, so whether that was during the day or after work or on the weekends.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Aside from the weekend events, were there ever evenings that you staffed the member?

Witness: Yes, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Any campaign events during the week in the evenings?

Witness: I'm sure there were, but I'd have to go through my calendar.

Mr. Gast: How about during the day, like a lunch or anything?

Witness: Not that I can remember specifically.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Can you think of any specific examples on the weekends where you were staffing the member and there were campaign events?

Witness: We went up to, one weekend we went up San Francisco for a Leland Yee campaign event, with some, I forget who it was exactly, but I probably have the briefer or some materials in my e-mails.

Mr. Gast: And that was Leland?

Witness: Leland Yee, yeah, the guy who just got ... He knows.

Mr. Gast: Mayor?

Mr. Solis: He's a state senator who ...

Witness: State senator, or was a state senator.

Mr. Solis: Who was indicted for various charges, couple of years ago, I believe.

Mr. Gast: What kind of event was that?

Witness: It was a fundraising event.

Mr. Gast: Fundraising event. Did you ever discuss with Representative Honda why you were going to these events, you know, about the appropriateness of attending?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever discuss it with anyone else?

Witness: It was more just sort of one of those, with coworkers, it more from like a, "Oh, we really shouldn't be going to this campaign type of thing," but it wasn't ever, "Hey, Meri, we have a concern, a serious concern, I don't

really want to go to these." We never had that discussion, it was just not a discussion you wanted to have when you're junior level staffer, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Sure. No conversations with Meri about it, Jennifer?

Witness: Not that I can remember, no, not that I can remember. Jennifer and Meri, they did the, you know, at all staff stuff, they did the general blanket, "Come talk to us, this is campaign or volunteer time, XYZ." When it came to doing things, it was just sort of, well, matter of a fact, you're staffing this weekend, here are the events that you go to. And that was it. It wasn't, "This is campaign, this is not, do you feel comfortable?" There was never that explicitness with the weekend events.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: With me.

Mr. Gast: Sure. Were you ever given any training about separating campaign and official ...

Witness: Just the typical CRS, or whatever the congressional ...

Mr. Gast: Kind of the annual training?

Witness: Yep.

Mr. Gast: What about any written policies in the office, about campaign activity, campaign work?

Witness: Yeah, I think it would just be the typical paperwork you had to sign. Every once in a while, they would send out e-mails reminding everybody, "Hey, everybody, just a reminder, this is campaign, this is not. Make sure you use your personal e-mails."

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about the e-mails. Were you required to have a personal e-mail for the office to use?

Witness: They asked for it, and they would send all staff announcements.

Mr. Gast: Who was "they" that asked for it?

Witness: Well, I mean, it's on file, right? So "hey, everybody, just make sure," it would be different staffers for different things. Okay, did so-and-so have, so-and-so is organizing this particular thing for staff or for whatever, so

make sure you give them your e-mail. Or "hey, everybody, I gave your e-mails," so I mean, just people found a way to get your e-mail, but it was never, you don't have to if you don't want to, let us know if you want to be on the e-mail chain, it was just sort of, you're expected to be a part of it.

Mr. Gast: But they would say, you don't have to if you don't want to.

Witness: No, they would not say that. There was never, never anything like that.

Mr. Gast: There was never anything like that.

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: There was, give us your e-mail and we'll ...

Witness: Yeah, so-and-so is organizing it, make sure she has your e-mail. Or he has your e-mail.

Mr. Gast: What kind of things were the personal e-mails used for?

Witness: Just this morning, again, I was looking through stuff, and it said, Lamar Heystek sends an e-mail to Meri, saying, "Campaign kindly requests official staff support in Facebook liking." So Meri sent out to all the staff on their personal e-mail, saying, "Lamar is asking us as staff if we could 'like' the Facebook page and help with the, at least the networking, social networking side of the campaign."

Mr. Gast: Did you personally ever think about opting out of that?

Witness: Yeah, sometimes I just didn't do it.

Mr. Gast: Or opting out of being on the e-mail list?

Witness: Oh, no, I guess I never did. Sometimes you just, you didn't know somebody had your e-mail, right?

Mr. Gast: Are you aware of anybody who said they didn't want to be on that campaign e-mail list?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Mr. Solis: You said that's an e-mail you were viewing today?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Solis: You haven't provided that to us, right?

Witness: No, I have not. I haven't provided any documentation at all.

Mr. Solis: Okay, are there other examples of an instance like that, other than the Facebook liking request?

Witness: Yeah, Mark sent out a couple of e-mails, saying, requesting volunteers for the telephone town halls on the campaign side.

When I was looking through some things, too, just to refresh my memory, and I remember one particular instance that I was looking for, and I came across this other stuff. When, more specifically when Mark was in the office as a part-time staff, he was often there the entire day, and there was often, I mean, I specifically downloaded this screen shot of one of the chats, saying, this is ... I can provide it for you guys, can I just ...

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: I'm sure you guys know how to, it's a Windows phone, it's a little bit different, but I'm sure you guys can still ...

Mr. Gast: Can I ask you to, the documents that you have found, you wouldn't mind forwarding them on to me?

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: By e-mail, or mailing them. Let me know if we can give you our FedEx number if that's easier, if you have a whole lot of stuff to ... Okay.

Witness: Well, depends on what you guys want. Like I said, I did keep records, just because, it's once in a lifetime opportunity.

Mr. Solis: This is a screen shot, do you know about the date of this conversation you would have had with Ashley?

Witness: The screen shot is of, from May 16th, so it would have been on or around that date.

Mr. Solis: Of 2000?

Witness: '12.

Mr. Solis: Twelve. I'll just briefly describe it in the, for the record. It's between you and Ashley Roybal, you say, "Yeah, while he's here, he is supposed to be part-time gov employee, but I don't see him doing anything related to the office while IN, capitalized, the office ... It's all campaign stuff." You refer, when you say, "he" that is Mark.

Witness: Mark Nakamoto.

Mr. Solis: Ashley responds, "Oh, yeah. Well, I mean, I'm not sure if he is officially on part-time for the office or not. If not, then way illegal. If he is officially part-time for the office and part-time for campaign, then that part is okay. But he is still handling way too much campaign stuff out of the office." You respond, "So illegal what Mark is doing, right?" That's the end of the ...

Witness: My recollection from this, and just my recollection of that time, like I said, part-time employee, part-time campaign stuff, just a lot of campaign stuff that he was doing, in particular phone calls. If you guys are looking for phone records, I'm sure they're there. I don't know exactly what your investigation is going to do or who's responsible doing what.

Mr. Solis: I mean, did, for example, the request that campaign staff go to, sorry, official staff go to the campaign Facebook page and "like," things like that where there are requests being made from Jennifer or Meri to official staff to somehow be connected to the campaign, we might ask you to look through your records to see what you have. We can be in contact with you later about getting copies of that. It might be something where we would like to take a look at.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: And certainly like those conversations there. Let's talk about Mark Nakamoto for a moment. You worked with him for several years, in the congressional office. Do you have an idea when he went on half-time campaign status?

Witness: For our office, in the district office, it would have been when he made the transition from D.C. to the district office, so I'm not sure exactly when that was, but maybe March of that year, even a little bit earlier?

Mr. Gast: 2012?

Witness: Yeah, or maybe it was just before me. Like I said, that time frame, it was really sketchy, but it would have been March through May, just from the e-mails that I was looking at.

Mr. Gast: He never worked full-time in the district office on the congressional staff?

Witness: A couple of years earlier, he did do that stint, that summer stint. That was full-time.

Mr. Gast: In 2012, it was always half and half?

Witness: My understanding was, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Where does that understanding come from? Are you, did you ask him about that?

Witness: Meri made an announcement, "He's going to be working part time with us and part time with the campaign."

Mr. Gast: Okay. He had a desk and a workplace in the district office?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: And he also apparently ...

Witness: Used the phone.

Mr. Gast: Had a place in the SEIU building?

Witness: Yes, well, I don't know about, again, on the campaign side, I don't know when they got that SEIU building office or not, but they had some space in there, but again, that's my understanding.

Mr. Gast: Okay, and were you aware, or did you see instances where Mark was working on campaign matters in the district office?

Witness: Well, this was a screen shot of while Mark was talking on the phone. It was a campaign-related phone call from the government line.

Mr. Gast: Was it actually the government line, was it his cell phone?

Witness: It was ...

Mr. Gast: On the government line.

Witness: I saw him and a cord, I saw a cord from his handset to the desk.

Mr. Solis: How do you know it was a campaign-related call?

Witness: Talking about money, talking about the campaign event, talking, that's, I remember when I wrote that, I'm like, I sat for a couple of minutes, listening to him, like, I can't believe what I'm listening to. The details, I didn't write in that chat, but the fact that I wrote that chat, it was, Ashley was sitting right next to him.

Mr. Solis: She corroborated that.

Witness: She corroborated that in that moment.

Mr. Solis: That might have been why she said, I don't know, I mean, she responded, as far as I could tell in that text chain, she responded that she didn't know the specifics of what was going on.

Witness: Right, exactly. So we were just told, but who knows what part time, what exactly part time, what that was?

Mr. Solis: But you were fairly, you're certain that that was a campaign-related call on a government line at that moment?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Solis: Do you know who was on the other end of that phone call?

Witness: No.

Mr. Solis: Okay. Was anybody else in the room, besides you, Ashley and Mark?

Witness: Some interns. We always had interns, and we always had at least three to five interns, so there would have been some interns, but I'm not sure they would have been paying attention. I don't remember who those interns were, but ...

Mr. Solis: Did you and Ashley ever have discussions after that text exchange, that electronic exchange, about Mark on the phone?

Witness: No other text message or anything. If anything, it would have just been like a, walking out to the car type of thing, like "I can't believe that." I think we might have had one or two other discussions after that, just saying, "This is ridiculous, but what are you going to do?"

Mr. Solis: Were there other instances, specific instances you recall of Mark engaging in that same type of activity?

Witness: No, not specifically, I can't say this date, this time.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall there being generally other instances where he was on the phone ...

Witness: Right, I do remember generally, there was just a lot of campaign stuff that he was doing. And again, from that, just, it's in that, just saying, I've never, according to that text, according to that chat, I rarely saw him do government work.

Mr. Solis: I was just about to ask, so during that time, when Mark was at least outwardly, a half-time or part-time official employee and part-time campaign employee, from what you're, based on your experiences and what you saw, what officially related work was he doing during that time?

Witness: I think he was mostly in charge of some events, maybe some issues, and I think getting to know the 17th District a little bit more. I really wasn't involved, I didn't talk to him about what he was doing exactly, yeah, so.

Mr. Solis: Okay. You weren't specifically aware of the type of official work he was doing?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Solis: Okay. But he might, had been engaged in some sort of official work.

Witness: Yeah, he might have.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever see him working on official matters?

Witness: During this particular time, I probably did, during this particular time. I mean, obviously, there were other times where he wasn't doing campaign stuff, yeah, he was, you know, doing a lot of government stuff, I mean, official stuff.

Mr. Gast: Aside from the campaign calls using the congressional telephone, did you ever see him working on other things, did he have campaign files with him in the congressional office?

Witness: I'm sure he did, but I never went through his files. I mean, I never like, opened them, "Hey, let me see this." It wasn't the type of co-worker relationship, where I would go over and chit chat with him, and see something on his desk.

Mr. Gast: When you say, you're sure he did, is that, how do you have that sense?

Witness: Just, when I left there, especially in those last few months I was there, it was one of those things where I was watching the campaign ramp up, and there was a lot more campaign talk inside the office, and I just, I was like, well, I'm glad I'm leaving. So I think, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever see him or were you aware of campaign documents being created on the congressional office computers?

Witness: Yeah, there were some times we did that. Various staffers, I mean, not, so I can't tell what other staff at the level they worked on, but there were some things where it's like, we got passed around some stuff. I mean, if you're looking on your personal e-mail, on your official computer, it's still, so yeah, we would see some stuff, and we would comment, or edit, or suggest things.

Mr. Solis: I think Scott's specific question would be, was, instead of just, there's an e-mail attachment on your personal e-mail about the campaign, were you, was anybody in the office ever creating a campaign document while working in the official office?

Witness: I can't say that I saw somebody specifically create, and I wouldn't be able to remember a specific document that was created there.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever notice on the congressional office's computer drives, anything that looked like a campaign ...

Witness: Campaign, I mean, the photos. If you're staffing him for a weekend, and you go to a campaign event, then you download the photos, those photos are going to be on the drives. And there were folders marked "campaign" from various years.

Mr. Gast: On the congressional office drives.

Witness: On the congressional servers, correct.

Mr. Solis: Go ahead.

Mr. Gast: What other kind of documents were there, were there campaign briefers, campaign issue papers?

Witness: One of the things that would have been created on the drive, and I saw this, just to refresh my memory too, so Lamar came to one of our district office staff retreats. The retreat was at Meri's house, and he was there, and the documents were created there. An intern went back to the office, created those, and then shared them with everybody who was at the meeting, including Lamar. I don't know if that, but it was just really odd to me that Lamar would be at our staff retreat, and then being shared with this official document.

Mr. Gast: What was the document, do you remember?

Witness: It was preparing for Congressional 17. So if the congressman was going to be elected, and we did have to do some government work in this, what's the profile of the district? It was probably a ten, fifteen page document.

Mr. Solis: Did you want to ask Witness about that retreat more in-depth later, or did you want to get into that now?

Mr. Gast: I think he left before the retreat that we have. We have a September 2012 retreat. You would have been gone by then.

Witness: Yeah, I would have been gone.

Mr. Solis: There was another one where you were present, where Lamar was also there?

Witness: Yeah, it would have been one just, I think it was in maybe February 2012. I'd have to take a look at the document to see when it was created.

Mr. Solis: Was that at Meri's house?

Witness: Right.

Mr. Solis: Is that in Aptos?

Witness: No, that would have been in San Jose, just actually a few blocks away from where I work right now.

Mr. Solis: Lamar was at that event?

Witness: I remember him being there.

Mr. Solis: Okay. The stated purpose of that meeting would have been an official district meeting?

Witness: That was my understanding, given that all the documents on all our other meetings said "District Office Staff Retreat."

Mr. Solis: Was the campaign discussed at that meeting?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Solis: First off, how long did the meeting last?

Witness: It was either a day or a couple of days.

Mr. Gast: Who attended?

Witness: Pretty much all the district office staff, and Lamar.

Mr. Gast: Was it a mandatory meeting for district staff?

Witness: Yeah, I guess I just assumed it was mandatory, I was never given the option, if you don't want to go, you don't have to go. I mean, if it's a district office staff retreat, I guess my expectation would be that it was mandatory, my assumption.

Mr. Solis: It was called a district staff retreat?

Witness: Yeah, I mean, I could give you the documents, to find out exactly what it was called, but ...

Mr. Solis: Anybody from D.C., the congressional office there?

Witness: That one, maybe Mark would have been in town. I could check the e-mails and find out who, because we did have a list of who was there.

Mr. Gast: Okay. This was in February of 2012?

Witness: I'm not sure of the date. I'd have to again, look at the documents and look at my calendar.

Mr. Gast: But it was early 2012?

Witness: I think it would have had to have been, because it was right after we knew what the official districts were redrawn, and so this is the 17th, this

is what the congressman is going to move into, this is what we have to know and understand.

Mr. Gast: Was Representative Honda there?

Witness: No.

Mr. Solis: Okay. Then generally what was discussed, official, campaign, as best you can recall?

Witness: Everything. Yeah, it was, what are some of our issue priorities, what are some of the priorities moving into this new 17 District, what are some of the priorities for Honda? What is everybody, as a staff are we building the relationships we need to build? How is our casework moving along? It was, are our relationships with D.C. going well? Are we in communication between the D.C. and the district office? Hey, here's the congressman is getting older, and here he's getting more tired, he's going to be sick these couple days, or here's the condition of the congressman, so we need to do this to be able to support him better. Stuff like that.

Mr. Solis: That all sounds relatively official. What campaign issues were discussed?

Witness: I think when, so my recollection is that when Lamar was there, he would talk about what the campaign is going to be doing. I don't remember specifics of what he said that day, but it was also stuff like, who do we need to make sure we're playing nice with in the new district, who's going to transfer over, what are the constituencies that can support us in the new district, type of thing. For me, I guess we're trying to recall this, it all blended together, as we move from the 15th to the 17th, these are the relationships we need to keep up to make sure we make an impact when we move to the 17th, and here's ...

Mr. Solis: Was there a discussion by Lamar or anybody else about information sharing between official staff and Lamar?

Witness: I wouldn't recall, but if there was anything, it would have been just a general, just make sure you're using your personal e-mails.

Mr. Gast: And Lamar made a presentation at this.

Witness: I believe so.

Mr. Gast: You say you have documents?

Witness: I have the report out from, I probably have the calendar, because I saved all the Outlook entries. I probably have the calendar invite on my personal e-mail as well, but also the document that was created was also shared, and Lamar's personal e-mail is on there.

Mr. Gast: That was the action plan that came out of the meeting?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Yeah, I'd think we'd be interested in seeing that if you can forward that.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: We can follow up with a specific e-mail, following up this request.

Mr. Solis: I've got it all written down, so, at least, I have three things so far that we've covered that you have, at least topic areas, that we'll be following up with you, and we can put it in an e-mail so you have it all ...

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: Did you keep time records at the office, time sheets?

Witness: Nope.

Mr. Gast: Punch any clock?

Witness: Nope.

Mr. Gast: Do you know if Mark took any steps to keep track of his time, working on official or campaign?

Witness: No, even when I, so when Ashley would leave, and I said, "Okay, I'll take over for Ashley," and I got paid for doing it, even when I got paid, I never, it was just sort of, "Hey Ashley, here's an e-mail, I spent this time on our trip, or this much. Here's what I need to be reimbursed." I never, even when I was doing stuff, never kept a time sheet. I don't know of any other campaign staffers that did.

Mr. Solis: When did you work on the campaign, when did you do that?

Witness: Periodically, I wouldn't remember the dates, periodically, if one of the folks were out.

Mr. Gast: Did anybody at the campaign, including Lamar, for example, ever contact you directly and ask you to do anything for the campaign?

Witness: I would assume they did, I can't remember specific instance, where I would say, yeah, that felt wrong. You know, of course I did this, it was just, you know, I think I still have his phone number in my cell phone, so it'd be, I think he did call at various times, but I wouldn't be able to recall specifics.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall generally what he asked for?

Witness: Sometimes it was information on the issue that we were working on, sometimes it was clarification on a particular contact or issue contact. "Hey, should we include them in this invite, because of our relationship with ..." If it would have been, it would have been early on when he started it, because I think after a while, I think Meri finally said, "I need to be in the middle of all the communication between the two, or between Lamar and staff." I don't remember any specific e-mail, but I do remember, when Lamar first started, the impression I can remember is, there's a lot of freedom between staff and Lamar, and then at some point it became restricted, and a lot of that communication funneled through Meri.

Mr. Gast: Do you have a sense when that change happened?

Witness: Nope.

Mr. Gast: Were you ever asked by Meri to do things for the campaign?

Witness: No, I can't recall specific instance, where it was, "This is campaign-related, can you do this?" No, I don't think I can ...

Mr. Gast: Were you ever asked to draft an issue paper for the campaign, an issue comparison?

Witness: There were, during some of our, I forget which, there were like our communications contact list, or our issue-based list, that was all on personal e-mail. The reason that was stated publicly was in order to use Google.doc and have everybody edit this at the same time, let's put it on Google. Everybody's gmail was added to the list.

Yeah, like I said, I can't be specific with anything, but I just, it was always, to me, I just understood it as, well, this is also going to be used on the

campaign side. We have systems to do it on the official side, so why not do it on the official side?

Mr. Gast: That was going to be my question. Why did you use Google docs?

Witness: Like I said, the stated reason was that it was easier, but it was, everybody had access to it.

Mr. Gast: When you say everybody, did that include campaign?

Witness: Some past staff who had left the office years ago who had created the original documents, so I've since been, since all these articles came out, I've since been removed from all of the shared documents, or a lot of the shared documents.

Mr. Gast: Since the articles came out?

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mr. Gast: So before that you ...

Witness: Before that, I had free and complete access to all the issue base and campaigns and the stakeholder lists and everything, and shortly after those articles came out, I got removed from a lot of stuff.

Mr. Gast: Do you have a sense why you were removed?

Witness: Oh, yeah, because they read the articles. They were saying, we're going to limit or restrict access to people who we really trust.

Mr. Gast: Do you think they were worried that you were ...

Witness: Not me specifically, I mean, could be, yeah.

Mr. Gast: But just restrict it to a circle of ...

Witness: Right.

Mr. Gast: Trusted advisors, trusted people.

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Was this Google drive a campaign Google drive, an official Google drive?

Witness: Well, it was, yeah, I mean, it was Honda, you know, it was Honda's, everything was under the folder of Honda. I put it under my folder of Honda, but yeah, things were listed as Honda.

Mr. Gast: Was it campaign, was it for campaign use or official use?

Witness: In my official capacity I used it and put stuff on there, I don't know what people, I don't know who in the end took information off of there, what they used it for.

Mr. Gast: Did Lamar use it?

Witness: I want to say he had access to some of those documents at some point.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Coffee breaks.

Witness: You read about those or heard about them?

Mr. Gast: Tell us a little bit about coffee breaks.

Witness: Coffee breaks were for everything not government/official.

Mr. Gast: When did they happen, how did they happen, who was involved?

Mr. Solis: Could you repeat that, we got a lot of background noise. Could you repeat what coffee breaks were for?

Witness: Everything non-official. Yeah, I mean, you figure, staff meeting once a week, fifty-two weeks a year, on average maybe forty staff meetings, to be conservative. Every single staff meeting it was literally, "Okay, on to the weekend stuff, okay, well, time for a coffee break." It was whatever was discussed, whatever was discussed.

Mr. Gast: Who would say, "Okay, time for a coffee break"?

Witness: Typically Meri, but if she wasn't there, then it would be whatever staff member was joking around and said, "Okay, coffee break time," and they would start into whatever topic they wanted.

Mr. Gast: What topics were discussed during the coffee break?

Witness: Everything, yes, campaign, Democratic party issues, local politics, birthday parties, problem constituents, just angry constituents, so that conversation would trickle into the coffee break time. Yeah, some

government stuff would be talked about, but that was the free time to talk about whatever else you wanted to talk about.

Mr. Gast: What was your understanding of the need to call "coffee break"?

Witness: There was a specific line between government work and campaign work.

Mr. Gast: This, you said, took place during district office staff meetings?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Did it take place any other time?

Witness: Well, the only place you would need a coffee break is when you were actually in a meeting and needed to break from that meeting. The coffee break I'm, the term coffee break was just for those specific meetings. Yeah, whether we were in our little kitchen area talking about stuff, or whether we were on our way to an event talking about stuff. I mean, staff is going to talk about whatever they want to talk about, whenever they want to talk about it.

Mr. Gast: Sure. These were held in the district office?

Witness: Yes, in the congressman's office.

Mr. Gast: All or most of the district staff attended?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Mandatory meetings?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Did Representative Honda ever attend?

Witness: Sometimes he was there, when he was in the district, which wasn't ... I mean, for all the times he was in the district, but I think part of it was that, you know, staff doesn't often want their boss, their head boss, in those meetings, when they're talking about how to work these events and these issues and these things. He was there a couple of times a year, but he generally was not in the room.

Mr. Gast: Was he ever there for a coffee break?

Witness: When he was there, yes.

Mr. Gast: Did he participate, did he know ...

Witness: Sometimes. He liked to keep quiet and listen to what his staff had to say.

Mr. Gast: Did he understand what a coffee break was?

Witness: I can't speak for him, but my impression would be, yeah, just from, I mean, having done it for so long that I would assume that he would know that, what that was for.

Mr. Solis: These coffee breaks, how long, your entire time?

Witness: Ten, fifteen minutes. Oh, sorry.

Mr. Solis: The entire time you worked for ...

Witness: Yes, all six years.

Mr. Solis: So all six years, Meri would be calling these coffee breaks, or someone in her stead.

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: You said, ten to fifteen minutes, out of how long of a meeting?

Witness: An hour and a half.

Mr. Solis: Okay. Understanding that campaign, that Representative Honda's campaign was discussed, or electoral issues for him were discussed, was there ever any directives handed out from Meri or anybody else to staff during the coffee break time? On one hand, to be clear, on the one hand, it's, let's just talk about these issues. The other is actually formulating action ...

Witness: There were some planning, yeah, there were some action items at some of the ends of these coffee breaks. I was probably on the lower list of people that Meri trusted to do a lot of this stuff, so I didn't, wasn't asked to do a lot of that stuff unless it was my weekend. "Witness, it's your weekend, would you go to this event?" Yeah, sure, well, obviously, yeah, because I'm staffing, so it would just make sense.

Mr. Gast: If you were on the lower end, who was on the higher end?

Witness: It would have been Christine Pham, Michael Wang, Mike Nyugen, Chris Schwarz, yeah ...

Mr. Gast: Christine Pham.

Witness: Print out the staff list from 2006 and 2008, and you ...

Mr. Gast: All right, just the ones ... Christine Pham.

Witness: Christine Pham, Mike Nyugen, Danielle Duong, D-U-O-N-G, I'm sorry.

Mr. Gast: D-U-O.

Witness: D-U-O-N-G. Michael Wang was there for the first year and a half I was there, and him and Meri were really close. Right when I was really getting aware of everything that was going on, he was gone.

Mr. Solis: Were all those individuals there up until the point you left?

Witness: No, in fact, no. It was, when we started, when I started, it was Michael Wang, Christine Pham, Jeff Crockwell, and myself, and then Bernadette had just left for D.C. Within a year and a half or two years, Jeff had left, Christine had left, so the new crew was me, Chris Schwarz, Mike Nguyen, Danielle Duong.

Mr. Gast: In the 2011, 2012 time frame, those would be the people ...

Witness: Correct. Well, Chris I think had left by that point already.

Mr. Gast: What about Hyde, Ming Hyde?

Witness: Yes, she was there the entire time.

Mr. Gast: Was she part of the more inner circle?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Okay, I think that's ... Do you believe, when you were asked to leave the congressional office, that it had anything to do with your being on the lower end of the ...

Witness: Well, like I talked anecdotally with you, I just think that last couple years, I just, it was very clear to everybody and myself that I just wasn't motivated to be there, and my work performance had suffered because

of it, and I think that they were just, she just kind of said, "Hey, we need a new energy, we need to make sure we're excited going into the new district, and we need you to move on."

Mr. Gast: Do you think the fact that there were more aggressive campaigns coming up factored into that decision?

Witness: I don't know, I don't know why Meri would, like I said, I just, I kind of just always thought, well, yeah, poor work performance, I wouldn't want that person in the office for a long term either, so ...

Mr. Solis: So it wasn't a bad exit, you took that decision and accepted it.

Witness: Yes, correct.

Mr. Solis: You didn't feel ill will towards them.

Witness: Well, the only ill will I felt towards them, was when Meri said, "I don't care what you tell staff, but you're not working here in three months. That's the only ill will, it's like, six years, and you tell me you don't care what I tell staff? That part rubbed me the wrong way, but it was a huge relief. Because like I said, I didn't really want to be there anymore. And it was a huge relief, I'm like, okay, well, now I know what the plans are, now I know I can go work for this start-up and consult. Right when I left, a couple weeks later, I was doing consulting work for the start-up.

Mr. Solis: Kind of forced your hand a little.

Witness: Yeah, exactly. Like I said, I'd been looking and wanting to leave, and it was just sort of a, it is really time for you to go. It was like, okay, thank you.

Mr. Gast: Right. How active was Meri Maben in the campaign side of things?

Witness: Very active.

Mr. Gast: Did she ever go half-time or get paid by the campaign?

Witness: I don't know what her personal relationship, the financial relationship was with the campaign, I just know that she closed her door a lot. As district director, you would assume that somebody closes your door a lot, but, yeah.

Mr. Gast: When you say she was very active in the campaign, what gives that impression?

Witness: Just the coffee break conversations. "Last night I was here, last weekend I was there, this is coming up, I talked with the director, the head of the Democratic Party for the county, and this is what we need to do. The head of labor union, this is ..."

Mr. Gast: Did you ever see her working on campaign matters in the district office?

Witness: You catch glimpses of conversations as she's walking either from her office to the hallway or from the hallway to her office. Yeah, I mean, I didn't really, like I said, I never sat down and looked at what paper she was working on at that particular moment.

Mr. Gast: What about any episodes with Mark Nakamoto, where you heard a phone conversation on an unofficial line?

Witness: No, like I said, you would hear, I always had my suspicions. She's "Hello," pick up the phone, and then it was, "okay, sure, hold on," and then right into the office.

Mr. Solis: Did you ever, during coffee break time, hear Meri talk about conversations with Jennifer? Or bring Jennifer up in the context of the campaign?

Witness: Yeah, I would assume yes. Because it was, I mean, that's who, her and Jennifer met all the time and talked all the time, so I think, yeah.

Mr. Solis: Okay, just to be clear, you think that, you assume that probably happened, but do you recall a specific, a time when Meri said, "I've been talking to Jennifer about this campaign event, Jennifer has told us to do this."

Witness: A specific instance, no, it was just sort of, it just happened so much, it was just kind of, okay, well, I'm sure it did, I just can't tell you which one, because I wouldn't be able to tell you because it happened so often.

Mr. Solis: Okay.

Witness: It was in the context of "Jennifer and I were talking," or "Jennifer says this."

Mr. Gast: During your time in the Honda office, were you ever aware of situations where official events were used to either reward campaign contributors?

Witness: Yes, in the sense that if they were our supporters, campaign or not, they were going to be invited, and they were going to be made sure to be invited. I can't, some of those, a lot of it happened on the Asian community side of things, so that was mostly Christine Pham and Mike Nguyen and Danielle Duong.

Mr. Solis: When you say, they were supporters, campaign or not, what do you mean by supporters?

Witness: Other elected officials who have publicly supported or Mike the congressman is friends with, they're going to be invited, and made sure to be invited on that list. I mean, I never looked at a campaign list and our invite list and said, okay, these people donated, these people didn't donate. I think where I'm coming from is the sense that, as an elected official and as your staffers, of course you want people at those events who are going to be supportive of you. You're going to pull people from wherever.

Did I ever hear of a specific instance, and can I recall a specific instance where somebody said, this person donated this much money, so let's make sure to invite them? No, I never heard that phrase specifically, but in terms of, going back to those lists, and who are our issue lists. Well, the thought of those issue lists are often, you look at the sense, the sense that I had when we looked at who was submitting appropriations requests and who was our supporters publicly and who are organizations that we want to support, because of the type of issue we're getting involved with, I mean, that's just all, it just all commingled.

Mr. Gast: When you say issue lists, is that similar to the stakeholder lists?

Witness: Correct, yeah.

Mr. Gast: And what are those?

Witness: As an office we created, probably '11, '10, or whatever, and again, another Google.doc that was created, and it was issue by issue who are our supporters, who are we involved with today, it had some notes as to why we were involved with them, or why we would want to continue to elicit their support.

Mr. Gast: Who developed those lists?

Witness: All, every staff. D.C. staff, D.O. staff. I mean I contributed the education page, transportation page, and stuff like that. It was staff who created that document.

Mr. Gast: Were campaign contributions referenced on any of that?

Witness: I don't recall seeing anything specific.

Mr. Gast: Do you know if campaign staff added or modified those lists at all?

Witness: Madalene Mielke would have, if she, if anything, because she's the one that had all the congressman's lists.

Mr. Gast: She had access to these lists?

Witness: I believe so, I can't recall specifically, but yeah, it was just, everybody had access to the lists.

Mr. Gast: Madalene Mielke is the congressman's fundraiser.

Witness: Fundraiser, correct.

Mr. Gast: When you say everyone would have access to the lists, Lamar?

Witness: I want to say I remember seeing his name on that list?

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: Again, without having access to it, I can't confirm that.

Mr. Gast: We talked about using official events as a potential way to reward donors or supporters. What about, were you ever aware of instances in which official events were used to develop or groom potential supporters or contributors?

Witness: Yeah, in fact, transportation secretary, when he came out for the BART extension meeting we had with the San Jose State University's transportation institute with the Silicon Valley leadership group in support, I was told by Meri not to invite not to invite Sam Liccardo and to specifically invite Ash Kalra. Even though they were both on the VTA board, it was, Ash was a supporter, and Sam Liccardo was not.

Mr. Gast: You were told by Meri to specifically not invite the non-supporter?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: And to invite the supporter?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Solis: By supporter, campaign supporter? Somebody who contributed to his campaign?

Witness: Well, I'm sure that Ash Kalra did support, contribute to his campaign, but Ash Kalra and the congressman are friends, as far as I can tell. They're always at the same events together, they always have a really good time together, it's kind of like, hey, they would love to groom him to be the next whatever. I don't know what Ash's plans are.

Mr. Gast: How about any discussions where somebody would say, hey, this person has given a lot of money to other candidates, he's somebody we could try and get money from. Let's invite him to this official event.

Witness: Oh, I'm sure I heard that a couple of times, but I can't recall anything specific.

Mr. Gast: Who would you have heard discussing those kind of things?

Witness: I think it might have been like the lower level staff, it might have been a Mike Nguyen, it might have been a Chris Schwarz. Sometimes it was jokingly over a beer after work, and sometimes it was at an event, where we were like, hey, you know, Mike was very gregarious like that. Or open like that, I should say.

Mr. Gast: Aside from the instances where we've already talked about, are you aware of other instances where official resources were used to support representative on this campaign? Any office equipment, office phones, staff time?

Witness: I think it was just mainly staff time, right? If you were going to go check the campaign mailbox, instead of a fifteen minute break, you get your half an hour break, plus you get your full lunch, plus you're given an extra half an hour for lunch. Leave early from work and then go take this. I mean, it was just always, again, it was just so frequent that I can't say, this specific time, I did this or this person did this, and I felt uneasy. It was just as a matter of fact.

Mr. Gast: Okay, I want to ask you about one last subject area, unless you have anything you want to add. How are you doing on time?

Witness: I told my supervisor I'd probably take an extended lunch.

Mr. Gast: Okay, this should be relatively quick, and then we can wrap it up.

Witness: Well, I have your card, so I have a get-out-of-jail free card, right?

Mr. Gast: You can certainly try.

Witness: No, I meant, as proof that I was actually here, that's what I meant, as proof I was actually here.

Mr. Gast: Yes, you do, we can write you a note, if that helps. I want to ask you about, whether you or anybody that you knew in the congressional office were asked to do personal services for Representative Honda.

Witness: Such as?

Mr. Gast: You may have seen in the press, there was some talk about Netflix, Apple TV, setting that up for the congressman.

Witness: Yeah, again, it was just as somebody who handled the technology, it was always, see, Meri always paid me to do work on her home computer that she used for campaign, just office stuff and whatever.

Mr. Gast: Paid you personally, with her funds?

Witness: Correct. I was like, okay, well, Meri's paying me, Cathy's not. But I just always assumed, it was never explicit to me that, here's what you should be working on at the congressman's home or here's what you're not supposed to be working on. In fact, I was given full access and given all the passwords to everything that the congressman owns, just in case something happened, I could go to his house and fix it. So the same thing was happening in D.C.

Mr. Gast: That's personal as well as official?

Witness: Correct, correct.

Mr. Gast: Were you ever asked specifically, go set up his personal ... ?

Witness: Fax machine? Go check the fax machine. Yeah, all the time, that was a big one. Yeah, can you check the internet stuff? Okay, sure. Sometimes when the congressman was there, he would actually get on the phone with AT&T or whoever his provider was, SBC Global, or Yahoo or whoever, and say, "This is the problem." I just always found it amusing, but then I would get back, "Why didn't you call them?" I'm like, well, he wanted to call them, I'm not going to tell my boss no. There's only so much you can do. Like I said, plus I got a kick out of it.

Mr. Gast: Other than the IT stuff, were you ever asked to help with personal business? Pick up laundry, or ...

Witness: No, I don't think, like I said, no, I wasn't.

Mr. Gast: Are you aware of other staff being asked to do that?

Witness: Yeah, Mike Nguyen mostly. I mean, Charlene might have been asked a couple of times. I just remember Mike Nguyen, and the reason why, is because Mike Nguyen sat directly across from me, so I just heard him talking all the time.

Mr. Gast: Do you ever get the impression that people were being asked to do something they didn't want to do and to help with personal stuff, or was Mike ...

Witness: Yeah, he was willing.

Mr. Gast: Happy to do it.

Witness: Yeah, happy to do it.

Mr. Gast: Anybody that you could think of that was asked to do something that they found inappropriate?

Witness: I think Charlene always felt uneasy about being asked to do stuff.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I believe those are all the questions we have for you.

Mr. Solis: Just wondered if you spoke to anybody about the fact that we'd be meeting with you today.

Witness: No, I almost talked to one of my other friends, but I said no, I just, no. Because he knows a lot of lawyers, and I just wanted to get some, "Hey, what am I exposing myself to, what am I getting myself into here?" But in

the end, I told my wife, and she's like, "Be careful." I said, "One, the office has no influence on my life whatsoever." When you're in working for the House of Reps, you're the world, and oh, my gosh, everything can happen to you. As soon as you leave, you realize how inconsequential that office really is.

Wow, we only hear about how messed up the conversations are going in D.C. that's the only time I really hear about Congress these days. Even when working for the start-ups, there was nothing to do with Congress, I'm like, this has no impact on my life whatsoever. So I really don't have anything to fear by being here, except by being persecuted for stuff that I've done, that I can always probably, claim, hey, I was just as a matter of fact told to do it. I didn't break the law, and if I did, it was under the authority of somebody else. I really don't see any reason not to be here.

Mr. Solis: Did you speak to, you said you spoke to Ruchit, right?

Witness: Way when he first filed the complaint, and that was the only time by e-mail, and that was it.

Mr. Solis: What did he express to you?

Witness: Before he left the office, we had a beer after work, and I mean, he was, he just always came off as like, "I don't care, I just want a job, and I want this." I'm like, okay. Afterwards, he in the e-mails, he just, "Hey, I just filed an ethics complaint because I was asked to do stuff that I think goes against my role as a government employee, this isn't what I signed up for. They didn't tell me I'd be doing tech stuff, and now I'm doing all this tech stuff." I think just from his e-mail, he mentions Mike Nguyen as just, he can't handle him. So he was just ...

Mr. Solis: He used the word "revenge"?

Witness: Yeah, you want to read the e-mail that he sent me? I mean, it specifically quote, "revenge fucks are my gag, though."

Mr. Solis: Okay. Did you get the impression that Ruchit then, his intent was to create a problematic situation for Representative Honda's office?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Solis: Okay. Knowing Ruchit like you, how well do you know Ruchit?

Witness: Not very well at all. When we went out for the beer, he was like, "Somebody's smoking weed in here. Oh, no, that's what's in my back pocket." I just went, "All right, anyway, we're here to talk about the office." It was that type of ... And Ashley, I don't know, there's a police report filed on him as well, so if you guys have read that, you're aware of that situation.

Mr. Solis: Right, so knowing, based on your experiences with him and the communications you had during the time he was making these allegations...

Witness: Right.

Mr. Solis: Do you have the impression that he is making some of this up, or do you think it's consistent with what you saw in the office?

Witness: It's consistent what I saw with the office, and don't shoot the messenger. I read the articles, I'm like, people should know about him, because he's maybe not the best person to be around, but it doesn't change the fact that what he's saying seems, it was true to my experience.

Mr. Solis: Okay. Do you believe that Ruchit had problems with management while he was there? Did you see them come down on him for poor performance or for creating a problem at work?

Witness: No, his first day was my last day.

Mr. Solis: Okay.

Witness: I didn't see any interaction between him and anybody else.

Mr. Solis: Okay, you never saw a problematic work environment or anything like that?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Anybody from Representative Honda's office or anybody associated with him ever try to contact you about our review?

Witness: Around the time the articles came out, Jennifer did try to call me. Didn't answer her phone calls.

Mr. Solis: Did she leave a message?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Well, I think that's it. We will get back to you with an e-mail going over what we talked about, document-wise, then we can go from there.

Witness: Sure. Okay.

Mr. Solis: Thanks a lot.

Exhibit 13



Lamar Heystek <[REDACTED]>

Required Reading: Entrepreneurial National by Ro Khanna

Jennifer Van der Heide <[REDACTED]> Wed, Dec 26, 2012 at 8:38 AM
To: Eric Werwa <[REDACTED]>, AJ Bhadelia <[REDACTED]>, Laura Hatalsky
<[REDACTED]>, Michael Shank <[REDACTED]>, Mark Nakamoto
<[REDACTED]>, meri maben <[REDACTED]>, Lamar Heystek <[REDACTED]>,
"Nguyen, Mike" <[REDACTED]>, Ruchit Agrawal <[REDACTED]>

All -

In preparation for the good chance for a challenge by Ro Khanna, you are required to read Ro Khanna's book (Laura already has and I'm halfway).

Legislative staff will be discussing the week of January 7th, in preparation for discussions about MH legislative agenda for 2013.

Regardless of any electoral purpose, there is discussion of issues key to CA 17, including many issues that MH has already been involved with either legislatively or through appropriations - It is a good read for a MOC representing Silicon Valley.

-Jennifer

Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff

| Congressman Mike Honda (CA 15) |

Vice Chair, Democratic National Committee
Chair Emeritus, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus

Exhibit 14

**Interview of Former Deputy District Director
March 27, 2015**

Mr. Gast: This is Scott Gast, Investigative Counsel with the Office of Congressional Ethics, joined by Paul Solis, Deputy Chief Counsel. It is March 27th, 2015. We're here with Former Deputy District Director.

Witness: Yeah, correct. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: [REDACTED]

Mr. Gast: Okay. We appreciate you being here and speaking with us about this matter. We generally like to start with a little background information. We chatted a little bit, but for the record, can you tell us a little bit about what you're doing right now as far as employment? That sort of thing.

Witness: Sure. I'm a graduate student at UCLA School of Education, I'm getting my PhD there. In terms of employment, graduate students on campus, the way it works is, we're given research positions on campus which helps us pay the bills. It's not a lot of money, but it's enough to live.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: Hopefully I'll be done in a total 4 or 5 years.

Mr. Gast: Okay. When did you start at UCLA?

Witness: Fall of 2013. September 2013.

Mr. Gast: Okay. What did you do before starting at UCLA?

Witness: I worked for Congressman Mike Honda.

Mr. Gast: What positions did you hold?

Witness: Sure, I started off as a part time caseworker and then ...

Mr. Gast: When was that?

Witness: February 2007, I don't remember the exact date.

Mr. Gast: Month is ...

Witness: Month is good?

Mr. Gast: Month is good.

Witness: February 2007, part time caseworker, then I believe August 2007 was when I got promoted to a full time position. The title we used then was Congressional Aide.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: Then I got promoted to Deputy District Director, but I honestly can't remember the date.

Mr. Gast: Could it have been February 2011?

Witness: I honestly can't remember. I have it at home, I can double check and let you know, but I honestly for some reason can't remember.

Mr. Gast: Does 2011 sound like the right year?

Witness: Honestly, I was there for almost 7 years, so I can't really remember.

Mr. Gast: About how many years were you in that position?

Witness: Deputy? I think roughly 2.

Mr. Gast: 2 years.

Witness: Maybe? Yeah, I think.

Mr. Gast: Prior to working for Representative Honda what did you do?

Witness: I worked for about 5 months for an online advertising company.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Any other work for members of the House or the Senate?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Okay. As Deputy District Director, what were your duties?

Witness: I did a lot of inter-governmental relations, so working with city municipalities, state legislators and their staff members, it was a lot of that. I still did all the

same responsibilities anyone would do as a Congressional Aide. I still did case work. My job was to oversee, train new staff members, assist the District Director, whatever she needed or if she was out of town. When she was out of town, pretty much all I did was a lot of scheduling, deciding which events the Congressman would go to, which he wouldn't go to, ones that we would need to talk to him about. I would fill her shoes if she was out of town, pretty much.

Mr. Gast: The District Director at the time was Meri Maben?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Okay, was she the District Director the whole time you were in the office?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: You left the Congressional office July of 2013?

Witness: That's right.

Mr. Gast: That's to go to school?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Before we dive into anything else, I want to touch on this. I understand that you have a protective order against Ruchit Agrawal.

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Is that correct?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Can you tell us briefly the circumstances that led to that protective order?

Witness: Sure. I guess, how far do you want me to go back? In terms of when he was on staff, or after he left the office?

Mr. Gast: Wherever you think is a good place to start, just to get the context.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: We'll leave it up to you.

Witness: Okay. I guess, when he was on staff, my job was to train him and make sure he knew how things worked. Let him know what expectations were in the office.

Mr. Gast: Let me stop you real quick. Did you have any supervisory role as Deputy District Director? Did you supervise staff?

Witness: Yes. I had authority, but a lot of it I had to check ... I couldn't fire anybody, if that's what you're trying to say. What do you ...

Mr. Gast: Would you assign work to folks? Would you review work, do annual evaluations, that kind of stuff?

Witness: Not annual evaluations, but would assign work if the District Director was out of town. I wouldn't assign case work, that was up to another staff member.

Mr. Gast: Was that Cathy Ming Hyde?

Witness: Correct. For instance, let me give an example. If an event request came in for the Congressman to go speak at, at some event, then I would assign the staff member to go write the speaking points for that event. If the District Director was ... Sorry, let me turn this off. If the District Director was not available. She didn't understand a lot of technology in terms of ... We had moved offices so I would assign staff members to set up the internet, to get the phone up online, get the internet up and running, get the computers set up. Things like that. Kind of office stuff, if that makes any sense?

Mr. Gast: Sure. You were saying about Ruchit that you were... when he was employed in the office you were kind of responsible for getting him up to speed at least.

Witness: Yeah, I was in charge of that in terms of hiring new staff members, also. Letting him know how to staff the Congressman. He shadowed me when he was first hired. Based on the way he worked in our office, it appeared that he didn't like the type of work we did. He was always very unpolished. Came in the next day wearing the same clothes. Looked like he slept in his car. We'd have a lot of talks about "Hey, appearance matters. You should iron your shirt. You should make sure your suits are pressed. Dry clean them somewhat regularly."

Mr. Gast: Yeah, we've been travelling for a week, so, please don't ...

Witness: Oh, no! Trust me based ... I think you know what I'm getting at.

Mr. Gast: Yes.

Witness: You have to show up on time for work. If you're going to staff the Congressman, you've got to get there before he does, not after him. You can't drink on the job.

Mr. Gast: Was that an issue?

Witness: I always say, you don't ever drink. When we first hire people, we let that expectation. I think that's a pretty normal ... I think that's in the norm, right? We say it anyway. At an event, on his own, he was drinking. I believe actually the Congressman told him he shouldn't be doing that. I know at other events he did it again because we had our friends who worked for other elected officials come and say, "Hey, your new guy's drinking. Maybe you should talk to him." Things like that. Being late.

It seemed of like, in terms of setting up the computers to work in our office, getting our internet up and running, I remember it taking a very long time. I distinctly remember pulling him aside one day and saying "Hey, you've got to do this. You've got to get this up and running. We don't have internet. We can't do any work." That was probably the only reprimand I've ever done. It was just telling him you've got to step up your game, and by stepping up your game I mean do your job. I'm not asking you to do any more, any less. In fact, I remember pulling work off his plate and doing it myself, that way he could just focus on that.

It seemed like he just didn't care. He didn't want to do it. When he decided to resign and leave I thought that was a good thing for us. Other staff members were pulling his weight for him so he could do things other people could do relatively quickly.

Mr. Gast: Did he resign or was he asked to leave?

Witness: He resigned. No one ever asked him. We don't have that philosophy. We try to ... I think this is because Meri and the Congressman are teachers, was to keep training him, keep working on him, and try to improve performance. It just seemed like it wasn't his interest.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: Or whatever else was going on, I don't know. He left.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I actually thought everything was fine until Ashley Roybal called. It was months later. He came over for dinner and he had made threats against all of us. We

also knew though that he gambled a lot. He would actually tell me that. We talked about it in terms of that may be a problem. When he met with Ashley, that's when he made the threats to her. Then she called me and that's how the ball got rolling in terms of us reaching out to law enforcement. Having them investigate and then eventually arrest him, all though no charges were filed. We were all very, very scared.

He actually lives on the same street as my parents. Same street, 20 houses down, actually. Same street. My parents had to change their patterns. They left a car in a different neighborhood. I don't know where he lives now. I assume he lives in the same place, still 20 houses down from my parents.

Mr. Gast: Did you have any contact directly with him about the threats or was this a threat that was made in the presence of Ashley and she relayed it to you?

Witness: In the presence of Ashley. I never saw him after he left our office. Part of the reason ... He finished law school and then started working for us. Then he said he wasn't interested in taking the Bar, didn't want to be a lawyer. Then I guess he changed his mind towards the end and said "Can I go on a part-time basis and study for the Bar?" We said "Sure." As the Bar got closer he took more time off, like a leave of absence to study. That's when he resigned. I can't remember if it was a full leave of absence or just a few days.

Mr. Gast: What was the nature of the threat that was communicated to Ashley?

Witness: He asked her where I usually hang out when I'm in town. Where I usually go so he could beat me up. I believe he said he wanted to hurt Jennifer, our Chief of Staff, but instead of hurting her he would kill her daughter who was 8. That would be more painful. Things of that nature. I think it was to the point where Ashley, her husband DJ owns a firearm. I believe he actually went into his room and took his firearm and concealed it in his clothes in their living room. It just got really, really scary.

Mr. Gast: Any sense of why he made those threats?

Witness: No, I still don't understand. Clearly, he's disgruntled.

Mr. Gast: Why is he disgruntled?

Witness: I can only speculate. I think he thinks we tried to sabotage him or give him a hard time or something. If I was trying to sabotage him, or any of us were, we would probably make his experience in our office worse, right? That's typically what somebody would do. We were taking work off his plate so he would have

less duties than everyone else so he could complete them on time, which he wasn't doing.

Mr. Gast: Was there any specific incident that caused bad blood?

Witness: I honestly thought when he decided to leave, and I can only base it on the resignation email that he sent in which I, at the time, perceived to be genuine. I believe it said something like this was just not his line of work. This was not the type of things he likes to do. It made sense based on his actions in the office. This was not the type of work that he's interested in. I don't know how it suddenly became anger towards everyone and threats against everyone. My guess is he thought we were trying to make his life worse, but I completely disagree.

Mr. Gast: Then you ultimately sought and were granted a protective order, is that correct?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: Who is covered by that protective order?

Witness: I have it with me. Do you guys have a copy?

Mr. Gast: We don't. If you had one that we could take with us.

Witness: Yeah, this is for you. I usually keep this in my car, actually, but I can print out more copies.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I can email you the PDF, too. This is the protective order.

Mr. Gast: We can look through that, just in the interest of time.

Witness: There's a picture of him in the background, too.

Mr. Gast: Okay. That is still ...

Witness: You can have that. I can print more. If you want, I can email you an electronic copy.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Thank you. Let's switch gears a little bit then and talk about the relationship the Congressional office had with Representative Honda's campaigns.

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: While you were in the office, were you ever involved with any of his campaigns while you were on the Congressional staff?

Witness: Yeah, I think it's normal for staff to volunteer on their own time. Not during official capacity, but on your own free time. I would volunteer and stuff, just like anybody else would.

Mr. Gast: How often would you volunteer to do things?

Witness: I left the office before he had that competitive race, so not a lot.

Mr. Gast: This would have been in the 2012 election cycle?

Witness: Sure, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Did you do anything in the 2014 election cycle before you left?

Witness: I don't really remember, but I left before things got really heated. I think I left right when his opponent announced, or around that same time. Maybe even before then, but there wasn't really much that I did.

Mr. Gast: What kind of things would you help out with?

Witness: No, I take that back.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: I'm trying to remember back. In the 2012 election cycle was a non-competitive but it was partially new district. I'm looking up to help me think.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: Yeah, he ran a campaign but didn't really have a strong opponent. Nonetheless, you run one because you're new district, 50% new district. There were evenings where I went and helped phone bank. I never walked.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Were you ever paid by the campaign?

Witness: No.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Did other district staff help with the campaign?

Witness: Yeah, I think folks would volunteer, like me, for phone banking.

Mr. Gast: Who else in the office, say for the 2012 cycle and the 2014 cycle?

Witness: I think a lot of us did. Cathy ...

Mr. Gast: That's Cathy Ming Hyde?

Witness: Yeah. Mark Nakamoto, Ashley, Meri, Charlene. Did Charlene? Did she phone bank? I can't remember if she did or she didn't. I'm just trying to recall that time I went and I phone banked.

Mr. Gast: Did anybody in the office choose not to participate in the campaign at all?

Witness: I can't distinctly remember if anybody ...

Mr. Gast: Who at the time, in the 2012, 2014 election cycle periods ... Were there formal paid positions on the campaign?

Witness: Yeah, Lamar Heystek.

Mr. Gast: Anyone else?

Witness: I don't think so. The Congressman had a fundraiser named Madalene. She's based out of D.C. I guess that's what she does for a lot of Members. She's got a lot of clients.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I don't think there was anybody else.

Mr. Gast: Did Ashley do any work for the campaign?

Witness: I don't remember, but I'm sure she volunteered, just like I did.

Mr. Gast: What about Mark Nakamoto?

Witness: Oh, was he paid on staff? He might have been. I honestly can't remember if he was paid, but I'm sure he volunteered like a lot of us did.

Mr. Gast: Was there ever a time where he did half-time on the campaign, half-time on the Congressional office?

Witness: That sounds right. Maybe not half time, I don't know what the formula was. He might have been full-time on the staff and then part-time on the campaign stuff. I think the way it works is he got paid a certain amount an hour and then no matter how many hours you worked on weekends or evenings or something like that, you would bill that. I'm actually kind of surprised I can't remember.

Mr. Gast: Okay. You just remember what you can remember.

How was the relationship between the campaign and the Congressional office?

Witness: Kept it isolated. Like I said, I didn't do a lot of campaign work. I felt it was pretty isolated. We didn't really dabble between the two. When I did it was on my own free time and at my own free will.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Who did you talk to at the campaign when you did that?

Witness: It would be Lamar.

Mr. Gast: Okay. How involved was Representative Honda in his campaigns? How would you characterize his involvement?

Witness: Just doing some of the basic stuff, not that ... You mean on a scale, or on a ...

Mr. Gast: Yeah, was he kind of someone who was hands off and let Lamar, or others, do the strategy and the planning?

Witness: I don't think there was a lot of strategy. I think it was really basic. I shouldn't even say that. I wasn't in any of those meetings. I'm not really sure. I guess you could characterize it as more hands off. He's not a micro-manager, if that's what you're trying to get at.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Did you ever have any discussions with him about the campaign, how's it going?

Witness: Probably. I probably did.

Mr. Gast: Would that be occasionally, regularly, often?

Witness: It would probably be more on the occasionally side than on the often side. I don't remember it being a very heated race. I had a lot of official responsibilities.

Mr. Gast: Did you, during your time in the Congressional office, receive any training on campaign activities that you as a Congressional staff member could undertake?

Witness: We're required to take that ethics ...

Mr. Gast: The annual training?

Witness: Yeah, the annual training every year. We did that. Then I think you submit some paperwork on it. You watch that video. We did that, but in terms of training for what?

Mr. Gast: Permissible campaign activity, or the rules governing campaign activity. Was there any training specific to that or any ...

Witness: Additional training?

Mr. Gast: Additional, with any written materials that were distributed, anything like that?

Witness: I don't think so.

Mr. Gast: Were you aware of a written policy about that in the office?

Witness: I don't think so.

Mr. Gast: Okay. During your time in the Congressional office, did you ever see occasions where official resources were used for the campaign? Whether it's a computer, a phone, copier?

Witness: I don't think so. No.

Mr. Gast: Did anybody ever do campaign calls from the district office?

Witness: I know I didn't. I don't recall anybody making campaign calls from the office. I doubt they would do it sitting in front of everybody. I don't know if you've been to our office. Well, the old office, we're not there anymore. It's just kind of a big work area with a lot of desks, no one has their own office. Well, a couple people. I didn't. A bunch of other people didn't. It's inappropriate anyway, so no.

Mr. Gast: Discuss the campaign in the district office?

Witness: I think we talked ... Casually you talk about all sorts of politics happening locally.

Mr. Gast: Sure.

Witness: I don't think we ever talked strategy or we said things like "We need to all do this." I don't think there was any expectations of that.

Mr. Gast: I want to ask you about "coffee breaks." Does that sound familiar to you?

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: What is a "coffee break"?

Witness: It's essentially where we would talk about what's happening with other elected officials in the area. What are they doing? It's a lot of just gossip that you would read in San Jose Mercury News. There's a political gossip column called Internal Affairs. I think that's what it's called. It's just political gossip. Who's running for what. Who is doing what initiative. Things like that.

Mr. Gast: Where would these coffee breaks take place?

Witness: In our staff meetings.

Mr. Gast: When you say staff meetings, you mean district staff meetings?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: How often were those?

Witness: District staff meetings? Once a week.

Mr. Gast: Who attended those?

Witness: All the district staff.

Mr. Gast: Did Representative Honda ever attend?

Witness: Honestly, in my 6 and a half years there, maybe once, maybe twice. Granted, he's always in DC. The point of those meetings ... We usually do them on a Thursday. Members leave DC on a Thursday and they come for the weekend. We'd prep. We'd go over his schedule to make sure staff know what they're assigned to. What their responsibilities are. We do it that day before he gets in so when he's on the ground we know who's staffing, we know who's not staffing.

Mr. Gast: These were held in the district office?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: Why call "coffee break"?

Witness: You know, I ...

Mr. Gast: Who would call it, first of all?

Witness: Meri would.

Mr. Gast: Meri would. Why call "coffee break"?

Witness: I don't think what we were doing was inappropriate. Just talking about local political gossip. I guess it's a bit of a ... It might be perceived as a grey area. I'm probably ...

Mr. Gast: Did you talk about Representative Honda's campaigns?

Witness: Probably. We would talk, but ... We would probably say "Oh, this person" ... I remember one conversation saying "If the Congressman were to retire, so and so may want to run for his seat." It was things like that.

Mr. Gast: What about, he had these events coming up on the campaign, stuff like that?

Witness: Yeah. We went over his complete schedule. We know exactly what he was doing.

Mr. Gast: That included both official and campaign events?

Witness: Yeah, his complete schedule on a run through. Every campaign event would be Lamar or whoever was paid to do that, would be in charge of staffing that. We just went over it so people would know where he was.

Mr. Gast: Did Congressional staff ever staff Representative Honda on campaign events?

Witness: I certainly have. Like I said, again, it was never an expectation. Often times I volunteered to do it just because I enjoyed doing the work. There are times I've taken my own vacation days to go work on other campaigns, for other people running for Congress. For their re-election campaigns. This was just things that someone like me was personally interested in doing. We would volunteer on our own time.

Mr. Gast: Who was the person assigning the staffers to the events?

Witness: You mean the campaign events? Or the official events?

Mr. Gast: Both.

Witness: Official events would be Meri. I think for campaign we would go and we would ask Lamar or Jennifer on our own time "Hey, the Congressman is doing" ... "So and so is coming in to stump for the Congressman can we ...", or "Or so and so is coming in to do a fundraiser for the Congressman on Saturday, I'd like to help staff because I'd also like to meet this Senator or this Governor, or whatever."

Mr. Gast: What about staffing on weekends? I understand there was kind of a rotation system that you would staff the member on weekends?

Witness: Yeah, so ... Go ahead.

Mr. Gast: No, finish your thought.

Witness: To be fair and equal, the policy was to have weekends and it would rotate by staff member. That way everyone would have the same amount of weekends to staff for the year. If things happened where we could take each other's place, we would swap, step in and do other things for people depending on life events and stuff like that.

Mr. Gast: When you were staffing the member, were you also driving?

Witness: Sometimes yes, sometimes no.

Mr. Gast: Okay. If there were a mix of campaign and official events on weekends, would the same staff person staff him through the weekend?

Witness: If they wanted to. I would, because I like to do those things. If you didn't want to, you didn't have to. We would figure out something else.

Mr. Gast: How would you figure that out? How would that work?

Witness: I guess Lamar would say "Hey, can you do this? If you can't, no big deal. We'll find someone else." It wasn't like you were expected to do campaign work.

Mr. Gast: Were there occasions where there would be switches? Where somebody would drive him to an official event, somebody ...

Witness: Oh, yeah.

Mr. Gast: From the campaign would pick him up.

Witness: Totally.

Mr. Gast: Official guy would then pick him up.

Witness: Something like that. There were a lot of ... Especially during the weekday, stuff like that.

Mr. Gast: On the weekends? Would there be that switching?

Witness: Yeah, depending on the type of event. Depending on if the staff member, like me, could do it or if they couldn't do it. What their responsibilities of those events were.

Mr. Solis: Was Lamar at the coffee breaks?

Witness: No.

Mr. Solis: We've talked to several people who were present at those meetings and discussed the coffee breaks in full.

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Solis: I just want to make sure, whether or not Representative Honda's campaign was discussed during the coffee breaks beyond mere scheduling. People we've talked to have all affirmatively said there was discussions about substantive campaign issues during the coffee breaks, so I just want to make sure that if you can jog your memory a little bit to see if ...

Witness: If there were, I honestly can't remember any specific things that we talked about.

Mr. Solis: Is it generally possible that his campaign was discussed beyond just scheduling?

Witness: I mean, sure.

Mr. Gast: Frankly, it sounds like when you call "coffee break" that you are no longer on official time. That would be a reason to do that. Was that the thinking behind that?

Witness: I get those optics.

Mr. Solis: Mr. Gast asked you why do you call it "coffee break" and your answer was not... Then the answer of why a "coffee break," you said I could see why that would be a grey area or inappropriate. Your answer was immediately about that. I think we're just a little curious.

Witness: I guess I can be perceived that way, it was just something that she called it. I guess what I'm trying to say is the optics look pretty bad, but I don't think anything ... At least I didn't do anything I think that was to the point where it would be bad.

Mr. Gast: On that question, it's an official staff meeting with official staff in an official office where people are required to be there as part of their job duties. There's this attempt to apparently shift it to a non-official role but people aren't given the option to not participate. It's not taken out of the office. It looks like there's an attempt to maybe use some of the official resources for campaign purposes. Can you speak to that?

Witness: It's been a while since I've taken the ethics training because I ... I don't ... What I'm trying to say is we spoke about political issues during that time period of the meetings but I don't know where that line is, when you cross it. That sounds horrible, too. I don't think it crossed that line, is what I'm trying to say.

Mr. Gast: Talking about somebody who may be running for a state legislative seat, it seems like a legitimate topic to talk about at a Congressional staff meeting. Why would you need to shift to something non-official/coffee break?

Witness: I guess you'd have to ask Meri why she called it that.

Mr. Solis: Did you ever ask Meri "Why are we doing this?"

Witness: That's a good question. No. Part of it was kind of in jest. That's how I perceived it, was that it was in jest. No, I never asked Meri. I thought it was always in jest. I thought everything we did was always above board, from what I can remember.

Mr. Solis: Why would it be in jest? What's the sort of joke there? What's the lighthearted nature by calling it that?

Witness: Maybe because we talked about local political issues. About council members. It's like another term for water cooler talk, we're gossiping about who's running for which office. Things that aren't official in terms of ... Well, official's wrong ... People who haven't announced their candidacy yet, so it's gossip. People gossip at the water cooler. People gossip during coffee break. Is what I always assumed.

Mr. Gast: Kind of along those lines, I want to show you an email we received from the office. For the record, it's RA33. If you want to take a minute to look at that. I'm kind of interested in that first email at the top.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall this email?

Witness: I do now.

Mr. Gast: What are the circumstances around this email?

Witness: I think this was when Ro Khanna was deciding he was going to run. That was what was floating around. I think Jennifer wanted us to just read it to understand who he was, how he thought. I actually never read the book.

Mr. Gast: It's an email from Jennifer, who was the Chief of Staff. If you look at the list of recipients, it looks like everyone with the exception of Lamar was a member of the Congressional staff. Is that correct?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: You're all using your personal emails. Does that look correct as well?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: You're one of the recipients with your personal email account?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: The heading is "Required reading Entrepreneurial Nation by Ro Khanna." It says you are required to read Ro Khanna's book. Was this something she was doing in her capacity as your boss? As Chief of Staff?

Witness: I don't think. I didn't read the book. I don't think a lot of people read the book. The Congressman, there's a thing when we first started working, he always had a handful of books that are required reading for staff. They're books on education, equity, social justice. Stuff that he wants us to understand so we know who he is. I always assume when they say required reading it's that stuff. I actually never read any of those books either.

Mr. Gast: This is required reading about a potential campaign opponent. This isn't ...

Witness: I get that. Not to discredit that or the importance of the other books the Congressman wants us to read, those are important, too, but I guess I never took it seriously. I honestly never read his book or any of the other books the Congressman said were required.

Mr. Gast: Jennifer wasn't in a position to require you to read anything in your personal capacity, was she?

Witness: No, I think that's why I didn't take it as "You needed to do this." I honestly didn't read it.

Mr. Gast: Were you ever asked to produce any materials for use by the campaign?

Witness: Never asked but I had volunteered.

Mr. Gast: Did you produce issue papers, issue comparisons ...

Witness: No, I don't believe I ever did anything like that.

Mr. Gast: What kind of materials did you produce?

Witness: For example, he went to the California Democratic Party Convention. I would produce stuff to prep him for that.

Mr. Gast: Where would you produce that?

Witness: At home.

Mr. Gast: On a personal computer?

Witness: I think so.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever do it in the office?

Witness: You know, I might have.

Mr. Gast: Do you know if on the servers of the Congressional office there would be campaign materials to be found?

Witness: I think I might have a couple speaking points in there. I don't know of anybody else.

Mr. Gast: You don't know of anybody else who did campaign materials?

Witness: I don't think anybody did, but I can't ...

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I can't be certain.

Mr. Solis: We're pretty sure there's at least a folder, or two maybe, on the Congressional servers in the district that has campaign events, campaign materials, campaign pictures, or labeled "campaign." Do you recall if there are folders with campaign materials in them on the House server?

Witness: I can't ... There might be. If there are, I don't think I really ever accessed them regularly, or at all.

Mr. Solis: Would you access them non-regularly or ...

Witness: No, I know what you're saying. I don't know if there was ever a folder called campaign.

Mr. Solis: Regardless of what it was called, was there a campaign material folder?

Witness: I don't think so.

Mr. Solis: You said a minute ago you don't remember accessing it regularly, does that ...

Witness: No, I was just shooting my mouth off. If you look in my folder, it's probably still there, there's probably a folder that says "California Democratic Party" and I've got probably some memos in there.

Mr. Solis: What were the memos talking about?

Witness: They were just talking points for the events he was going to.

Mr. Gast: What about other people in the office? Would they do talking points for that stuff as well?

Witness: I don't think so. I volunteered to do a lot of that stuff.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: A lot of people didn't.

Mr. Gast: What about Mark Nakamoto? Was he someone who volunteered to do or did a lot of campaign work?

Witness: Probably. I believe he was paid, too, on the campaign, if I remember correctly.

Mr. Gast: Did he ever use the Congressional office's computer system to do memos, talking points?

Witness: Not that I'm aware of. If he did and at the time I saw it, and this is all hypothetical, I don't remember.

Mr. Solis: What do you mean if he did and you saw it? Were you about to finish that, you would have done something about that?

Witness: No, I guess what I'm trying to say is I don't remember seeing him do anything. I guess talking to him would be the best.

Mr. Solis: What about in the district office, overhearing Meri, Mark, anybody talking about campaign issues over the phone. On a cell phone or land line?

Witness: I don't remember that.

Mr. Solis: Do you ever recall overhearing anybody talk about campaign issues on a cell phone or a land line?

Witness: I don't remember any specific instance but I, on my phone, would say something like "Yeah, so and so may be running again." Talking to friends, talking casually to somebody. Maybe another friend who's a staff member in another office say "Yeah, so and so might be running." Stuff like that, but I don't remember any of those. It probably wasn't the central point of any of my conversations.

Mr. Gast: All right, I want to get through a couple more things before we run out of time. District office retreats. Did you attend any retreats while you were in the Congressional office?

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mr. Gast: What generally were these retreats?

Witness: It would be where we would basically go over the calendar year in terms of what type of broad issues we'd want to touch, what type of areas we'd want to focus on. Often times it was about education. This is the education agenda the Congressman has. Things we want to gear a lot of our events towards. The Leader's office would always send out general things they would do for the year. Policy memos, stuff like that. These are things we'd want to incorporate

into the year-long calendar. It was to talk about those things. A lot of team building. Team building exercises, stuff like that.

Mr. Gast: When you say we, who is we?

Witness: Usually all the staff members.

Mr. Gast: District office staff?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Were these mandatory retreats?

Witness: Mandatory, yes, but who wouldn't want to go to a beach house or wherever and do that?

Mr. Gast: When you say beach house, where were these retreats held?

Witness: Meri owns a beach house.

Mr. Gast: Meri Maben?

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mr. Gast: When would these usually held? Weekday? Weekend?

Witness: Weekday. I think weekday. I think weekday.

Mr. Gast: All day event?

Witness: Yeah. I remember one where we'd get there in the evening and then it'd be an all day event. Something like that. Say, we'd get there on Tuesday night, it's all day Wednesday and then back to the office on Thursday.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I believe it was on a weekday. I'm not sure what other people are saying. I'm pretty certain it was on a weekday.

Mr. Gast: All district staff would attend?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Would Representative Honda attend?

Witness: I don't think he ever did. If he did, I don't think ... I can't recall him attending a district office retreat. Did he attend them? I don't think so.

Mr. Gast: Did you discuss Representative Honda's campaign at these events?

Witness: I'm sure we talked kind of like who's running, same stuff I've been talking about. In terms of strategy, I don't remember.

Mr. Solis: I just want to be clear. When we continually ask you about Representative Honda's campaign, you've frequently mentioned discussions about other people running or the local political scene or whatever. Who's running, who's not running. When we ask that, we want to be clear it's about Representative Honda's actual campaign, his campaign issues, fundraising, events, those types of things.

Witness: I see.

Mr. Solis: We're definitely not asking about local politics.

Witness: Thank you for being clear. When you say campaign you could mean a lot of different things.

Mr. Solis: Mr. Gast's question to you was, was Representative Honda's actual campaign, again, bearing in mind all those factors I just discussed, fundraising, events, those types of things. Was his campaign discussed at the district retreat?

Witness: Fundraising.

Mr. Solis: Potential challengers against him? Their issues ...

Witness: I'm almost certain we talk about potential challengers against him. I'm sure we talked about ... in terms of fundraising, I don't think anyone ever got into meaty stuff. I think we just said, from what I remember, he's not a good fundraiser. He's always bad at fundraising, it's something he needs to work on. You might be staffing less at events because he's going to have to do more fundraising. Meaning, you have to go to those events. You're going to be going to those events you'd normally go to, but now you're just going to go and represent him. Deliver remarks. I think it was stuff like that.

Mr. Gast: Let me show you this document now. It is a cover email with the subject "DO staff retreat notes," This appears to be notes for a September 13th, 2012 district office retreat, if you want to take a minute to look through there.

Did you attend this retreat?

Witness: I believe so, yeah.

Mr. Gast: What do you recall about this retreat?

Witness: I'll be honest with you, I really didn't remember. This clearly is jogging my memory. I guess that means Lamar was there. Yeah. What was the date on this?

Mr. Gast: It appears from the title of the document it was from September 13th, 2012.

Witness: Okay. I honestly still don't remember the retreat, but if these are the notes than that's what happened.

Mr. Gast: Do you remember being there?

Witness: I actually don't remember. If I was there ... There's a line here " [REDACTED] believes..."

Mr. Gast: Yeah.

Witness: So that means I was. I honestly do not remember it. If that says it, then I was there, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall Lamar attending this particular retreat?

Witness: I guess he was then, right? Lamar asks if voting results take-aways. Yeah.

Mr. Gast: This would have been after the primary election held in the new district, the re-districted district, before the general election in 2012.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: Does that help jog your memory at all?

Witness: Honestly, let me just apologize. I'm really trying to be helpful and remember, but I can't remember ,was this even at Meri's house? I assume it was there, or it could be at another person's beach house that Meri ... I remember we did a retreat at somebody else's house where Meri bid on at an auction. You could stay at so and so's ... He was donating his house for a non-profit or something. I know Meri bid and we got to go to his house.

Mr. Gast: Let's just go back.

Witness: I don't remember.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall the September 13th, 2012 retreat?

Mr. Solis: I think we could ask him like this as well. All your years there, was there a retreat every year?

Witness: I think, almost. Yeah.

Mr. Solis: Did you ever miss a retreat?

Witness: I don't think I did.

Mr. Solis: Pretty safe to say ...

Witness: I know I was there. I just don't remember ... The stuff I remember from the retreats that we've done was never any of the content. I don't know why.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall Lamar or Mark Nakamoto leading a discussion about primary election results or the demographic breakdowns?

Witness: This is jogging my memory and I'm thinking that was talked about, but I don't know if it was Lamar or Mark. I'm really sorry, guys.

Mr. Gast: You remember there was a discussion about that vote result?

Witness: I don't remember it, but this is telling me it happened. I believe this.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall a discussion about transitioning data from the campaign to the official?

Witness: I honestly don't remember that at all but that's in here.

Mr. Gast: Do you remember discussing this idea of a thousand crane fundraising?

Witness: I've heard that term before.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall any discussion about this at this retreat?

Witness: I assume it was there because it's in the notes, right? I just saw it here. There are times where I'd be with the Congressman and he'd say "A thousand cranes." That's a term. A thousand people, a thousand dollars each. He always said that. Not always, but it's something he would say and I would always joke about it with people because it just seemed like a crazy idea.

Mr. Gast: This is a district office retreat held with all the official staff, yet there appears to have been a lot of, if not the majority of the time, discussing the campaign, the primary election, fundraising, using campaign data in the district office. Is that a fair characterization of that staff meeting?

Witness: I wish I could really remember this better. There are not notes on some of the team building stuff we did. This makes it look like the majority of the time this was what we talked about. I'm sure we did a bunch of other things where we didn't talk about this. It isn't in the notes because it was meant for team building. There was probably a new ... I know Meri often scheduled when there was a new staff member so the new staff member would get to know everybody. That stuff's probably not in here. If this is the record and the notes from it, then certainly that means this was discussed.

Mr. Gast: Were there any discussions about using the district office to help further some of the campaign goals?

Witness: I think in terms of that, you could say yeah. We're going to focus on all of our events in Fremont. You're going to prioritize doing more events in Fremont than you are in Cupertino, for example. This is just me speaking hypothetically. I don't know exactly what was said. Something like that. I recall those type of conversations happening.

Mr. Gast: Why Fremont over Cupertino?

Witness: No, I just made that up as an example.

Mr. Gast: Why would that be the ...

Witness: Because it's the newer part of the district. Cupertino is the older part of the district. We're going to do more events there because those are new constituents that don't know the Congressman, so more events there, more visibility there.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Let's move on to ... I want to talk to you about ... First of all, one of the things referenced in these notes is a Google Doc of stakeholders for CA17. Is that a term you are familiar with?

Witness: Yeah. I use Google Docs a lot, also. At the time there was no good way for multiple people to update documents at the same time. The one I used the most was one that when earmarks were still happening, appropriations were still happening, we could make a list of everyone we submitted. How much? Santa Clara County is going to receive this much money for their Department of Health. We use it a lot to track. I use it a lot to track all that stuff and make

sure other staff can add to it. From there, we would build press events around all those announcements of money.

Mr. Gast: What about, specifically, this Stakeholders doc? What was that?

Witness: I think that was about people we wanted to engage with. High visibility people. When you do events with them you would get more press. If that makes any sense.

Mr. Gast: Who put that document together?

Witness: We all ... I remember adding people to the Stakeholder list.

Mr. Gast: When you say we all did, was that the district office staff?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Was that an official document?

Witness: I assume it was official.

Mr. Gast: Did the campaign have access to that document?

Witness: I don't know. If they did ... I don't know. I can't remember.

Mr. Gast: Do you know if the campaign ever used that doc for identifying fundraising targets or event attendees, invitees?

Witness: I don't remember. If they did then they did. I honestly don't remember.

Mr. Gast: Okay. I want to move on to the State Department round table event.

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: That was held in February, March 2013. Do you recall that event?

Witness: I do, it was at Santa Clara University.

Mr. Gast: What was that event?

Witness: Honestly, I remember ... Somebody from the State Department, I can't remember his name, came to do a round table event with ... I think the person from the State Department, his region of coverage was South Asia. I think the point was to bring in executives who did business there or anybody who had

that type of interest. They had a round table to talk about issues that would help them with their business opportunities or anything like that. Where they'd get face-to-face with someone at State.

Mr. Gast: How did this event get generated? Who was the progenitor in this event?

Witness: I'm going to assume it was Meri and Jennifer.

Mr. Gast: How did you become involved?

Witness: I don't think I was very involved. At that time, I don't think this was my policy area or an issue that I covered. I remember going to it, but I don't remember doing very much. I remember sitting in the back and not even paying attention. I think I did registration. Partially, I did registration because I was so uninvolved with it, so if someone's going to be there to be helpful you'd do something that doesn't require any strong understanding of the area, you do registration.

I remember hanging out in the back and just talking to an old friend. I wasn't really paying attention. I wasn't even really there.

Mr. Gast: Do you know who did work on the organizing of it, if you weren't involved with that aspect?

Witness: Yeah. I'm sure it was conceptualized by Jennifer or Meri. I don't know exactly who. Probably one of them. Usually, the way it works is they assign. They go "We're going to work this town hall, this event." Then they assign staff. I believe the two staff were Ruchit and AJ.

Mr. Gast: And that's AJ Bhadelia?

Witness: Bhadelia, yeah.

Mr. Gast: Bhadelia. He's a Washington DC staffer?

Witness: Correct.

Mr. Gast: What was his title at this time?

Witness: Honestly, I can't remember. Might have been Legislative Assistant. He had a lot of titles from what I remember.

Mr. Gast: Agrawal was a district office staffer?

Witness: Correct. I think he was running it.

Mr. Gast: Kind of the point person for the event?

Witness: Could be, might have been Mark. I can't remember.

Mr. Gast: Do you know if Mark was involved in the organizing?

Witness: If he was ... No, he was there because I remember him being there. Certainly, he either did as much as I did or more. I was pretty low man on the totem pole for that event. I can't remember who it was.

Mr. Gast: How were the invitees to this event selected?

Witness: Honestly, I don't remember. I remember reading about the article in newspaper. I'm assuming that ... Jennifer sent out an email about that.

Mr. Gast: Were you involved in that process of selecting invitees?

Witness: No, I don't think so.

Mr. Gast: Did you discuss that process at all with anyone?

Witness: If I did, I can't remember.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: Honestly, I'm not 100% sure. I remember looking at the list and I didn't recognize a lot of names. The only person I knew was a guy named Anil who worked for the Realtors.

Mr. Gast: Okay. This was an official event?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Gast: You said it was held at Santa Clara University.

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Mr. Gast: Was Representative Honda involved in any of the planning, organizing, that you know of?

Witness: Usually, before these big events, any public event that we put on, rather than him going to, there's usually some high level discussion probably between him, Meri, and Jennifer about "We're going to do this event. What do you think?" Usually me and other people aren't in that. After that event had been decided,

then we get instructions. This is what we're doing. These are the type of ... It's this type of business round table so these are the type of business people you want. This is hypothetically, right?

Mr. Gast: Right.

Witness: That's typically how it works. Then he'd come back in. A lot of our job was to do a lot of logistics. Secure a location, all that. Once that's all done, there'd be a meeting with everybody. We'd brief him on who's showing up, these are your talking points, what do you think? Run through some logistics, time, all that.

Mr. Gast: Did you have any discussions with Representative Honda specific to this event?

Witness: I don't think so.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: This was a pretty hands off event for me.

Mr. Gast: Any interaction with Lamar Heystek with regards to this event?

Witness: If there is, I don't remember. I don't think so.

Mr. Gast: Any conversation with anyone -- Jennifer, Lamar, Meri, anyone else -- about potential campaign support, campaign contributions from the people who attended the event?

Witness: Probably not from me.

Mr. Gast: You say probably not.

Witness: I say it because I don't remember. What I do remember is I think I just drove a bunch of people there, then I did registration and I hung out in the back. This wasn't something I ... A lot of my time wasn't invested in so I don't think I had any of those. I don't want to say no and be very firm in the event that I don't remember. If that ...

Mr. Gast: Sure. You don't recall, sitting here today, any conversations about potential campaign support?

Witness: No. From me, no.

Mr. Gast: Did you have any follow up with the attendees? Were you involved in any follow up?

Witness: I don't think so.

Mr. Gast: Do you recall ...

Witness: I might have been on emails, but I don't remember. That's about it.

Mr. Gast: Sure. Do you recall any instance in which attendees or invitees to events put on by the Congressional office were discussed in terms of whether they were campaign supporters or campaign contributors or had some connection to the campaign?

Witness: Yeah. We would ... If someone showed up to an event or if someone was invited to an event we'd say "Yeah, he's donated to the" ... People would just go up and say it. It wasn't ...

Mr. Gast: What about in the planning of events? Did you discuss campaign support or campaign contributions?

Witness: A lot of the events I did were big town halls, big public forums. I'm assuming that might have been in the discussion for this one, but I don't know for any of the other ones. It's not a practice I think we did.

Mr. Gast: Any events where somebody said we need to build support with these people, this community. Let's do an event.

Witness: Yeah. I think that's common for a lot of events. For instance, and this event never materialized, but the US Ambassador to Vietnam ... Did we have a press conference? ... was coming into town and wanted to go do an event with the Vietnamese community. We could reach out. Yes, we were targeted in terms of certain communities that we wanted to always work with. Not always. When you plan out events, you have a population in mind. Beyond large general town halls. I think we did a Veterans one. People were certainly targeted.

Mr. Solis: For this event, we've talked to a lot of people. People have expressed to us that there was a concern about outreach to South Asian constituents. The challenger, Ro Khanna, as far as we understand is South Asian. So that there was this concern that even in relation to the campaign, we need to make outreach to these communities and get them involved. The Congressman's campaign, the Congressman can have that ability to reach out and make those connections and pose a challenge to this guy who is getting into the race. Knowing all that, was this State Department event precipitated by any of those discussions about reaching out to the South Asian community and the challenger Ro Khanna ...

Witness: Being South Asian.

Mr. Solis: Right.

Witness: I think reaching out to the community needed to happen. We would do it regardless because ...

Mr. Solis: When you say regardless, regardless of what?

Witness: If there was a Ro Khanna or not. You're in 50% new district, you've got new constituents. For the first time we had a new South Asian population that we didn't interact with before because we didn't have Fremont, we didn't have that part of the district. Now that we did we would be involved in it regardless of a campaign or not a campaign.

Mr. Gast: With respect to that outreach and that targeting, was that ever discussed in terms of the campaign? That we need to increase the vote total in this demographic, or we need to find people who will endorse Representative Honda, or this is a potential pool of campaign contributors? Was any of that ever discussed when you were doing this targeting and outreach?

Witness: Certain it was discussed. I don't recall any exact instances but I'm sure we talked about that stuff. I just don't know when and where and that.

Mr. Gast: How about who? Who discussed that?

Witness: Probably Jennifer and Meri with us. With the staff.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Mr. Solis: Bearing in mind, the statement that this type of event and it's planning would have occurred regardless of a Ro Khanna. However, was there discussion of Ro Khanna in the lead up to developing this event?

Witness: I don't know. I was so not involved in this. I was not involved in a lot of the planning. If other people are telling you there was then I guess there was. I don't think I was in any of those planning meetings. Or at least I can't remember being in those planning meetings.

Mr. Gast: Okay. Want to shift gears to one last area I want to talk about.

Witness: Sure. I've got all day so take as much time as you need.

Mr. Gast: Yeah, this has been helpful. I want to ask about the use of official resources for personal errands or personal business.

Witness: Okay.

Mr. Gast: For Representative Honda.

Witness: Sure.

Mr. Gast: Were you ever asked to help out with personal errands or personal business for Representative Honda?

Witness: Yes. I remember one time he called me and he said "Hey, I just left for the airport. I left my Crock-Pot on. Can you get inside the house and turn it off so we don't burn down the neighborhood. By the way, feel free to bring that to the office and everybody can eat it." I did that.

There were times where if I was staffing him and I was driving on the way home he would say "Hey, can we swing by to my local laundromat so I can pick up my dry cleaning." Stuff like that. I remember asking him "Hey, can I pick up your dry cleaning and drop it off for you just to make your life easier?" I distinctly remember him saying "No, I'm going to do it." I'm like "Are you sure you don't want to just give it to me and I'll take care of it?" He's like "No, I'm going to do it." He was pretty insistent on doing that stuff on his own. Obviously, I read in the newspaper that Netflix setting up thing.

Mr. Gast: Right.

Witness: Something we did do was go to his house and set up his technologies. He worked from home. He would check his emails from his home computer, which was actually an official computer we set up at his house so he could email. We had an official fax machine there. He liked a lot of his briefing points in the morning so we could get him updated ones right away. He could read it right away. I'd drop off briefers ... I was the staffer that lived the closest to him.

Mr. Gast: Okay.

Witness: I would drop off folders with all his briefing memos for the evening. Usually on a Thursday night or on my way home. Stuff like that.

Mr. Gast: When you talk about a computer at home and the fax machine, all that purchased with official funds?

Witness: Mm-hmm (affirmative), and used ...

Mr. Gast: Used for official purposes?

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: There have been allegations made specifically, I'll read you a quote from an allegation that was made: "As the normal course of business, the Deputy District Director, ██████████ asked me to do updates and fixes on Mike Honda's personal technology." What do you know about that?

Witness: I have no idea.

Mr. Gast: Did you ever ask anyone in the Congressional office to help with Representative Honda's personal technology?

Witness: I don't remember doing that at all. I remember saying make sure his computer works, get his fax machine. Meri also had an official computer at her house so she could do ... She was always on emails. Go there and get her stuff all working. For some reason both of them, their technology always somehow broke. I don't know how or why. Staff would have to go there and fix it. I don't know. I know who that quote came from, obviously. Like I told you earlier on, I took work off his plate so he could focus on just doing ...

Mr. Gast: We're talking about who?

Witness: Ruchit. I took work off his plate to ... If that's who that quote's coming from. I assume that's who that quote's coming from.

Mr. Gast: There was an allegation that staffer was directed to go pick up Representative Honda's personal computer to his home, take it to the district office and update software and return it to the home.

Witness: That's what's funny. He didn't have a personal computer at home.

Mr. Gast: That was an official computer?

Witness: It was a official computer that he could do official ... He could get his emails on.

Mr. Gast: Okay. You mentioned the Netflix/Apple TV reporting.

Witness: Yeah.

Mr. Gast: Do you have any knowledge of that? The circumstances around that?

Witness: I assume I was on that email. I honestly don't remember.

Mr. Gast: I don't know if you were.

Witness: I don't actually remember it. In the course of ... A lot of the issues he had at his home was always about how the internet is not working properly with his computer.

Mr. Gast: This is Representative Honda?

Witness: Congressman Honda, correct. I think that's why people came to fix all that. Set it up. Maybe that had something to do with it, and so he's like ... This is me assuming, he was like "Hey, can you set up my Apple TV while you're over there anyway just because it's there?" That's what I assume it was.

Mr. Gast: No official context to the Netflix and Apple TV? That was purely personal?

Witness: You mean he paid for it himself?

Mr. Gast: I'm asking if you were aware of the office paying for Netflix or Apple TV?

Witness: No, I don't think so.

Mr. Gast: Personal?

Witness: Yeah, and his cable.

Mr. Gast: You don't have any personal knowledge of the circumstances surrounding this request to go set up the Netflix or Apple TV?

Witness: If I'm on the email then I'm on the email, but I really don't even remember something like that.

Mr. Gast: I believe those are all the questions we had.

Mr. Solis: Who have you talked to about our review and the fact you'd be discussing with us these issues?

Witness: After I talked to you for the first time, I called Jennifer just to let her know you all reached out. Jennifer said "Yeah, I think they're calling everybody. They're meeting with everybody. That's all I can really ..." She actually said "I can't tell you anything but just go in there and be honest and tell them everything they are asking." I apologize for not remembering as much. That's basically it, she said she couldn't really talk to me. That's it.

Mr. Solis: Just Jennifer?

Witness: I have a lawyer who did all the restraining order stuff.

Mr. Solis: Okay.

Witness: I told him. I think we had one conversation.

Mr. Solis: You don't have to tell us what you talked about.

Witness: Yeah. Right after you called. I hadn't even talked to him since the day we talked on the phone for the first time. That's it.

Mr. Gast: What about Meri Maben?

Witness: Did not. After I talked to Jennifer, Jennifer said I cannot be talking to you. I purposely didn't want to call anybody. You called around her birthday and I wanted to give her a call and wish her a happy birthday. I just decided not to call and not to do that just to be safe. I didn't even call her and wish her a happy birthday.

Mr. Solis: You still talk to her regularly?

Witness: Not regularly, no. The last time I talked to her was when I dropped by the office a few months ago. Every time I go back to the Bay area I like to go by the office, bring in bagels or donuts, just to ... These are people I've worked with and I care about, obviously. We would talk casually, but the last time I came in we talked about my ex-girlfriend, we just broke up, we talked about me. I'm in the process of trying to join the military as a reservist, so we talked about me joining the military as a reservist, how school was going.

Mr. Gast: Okay. That's I think all we have for you. Again, appreciate your cooperation and coming and speaking with us.

Exhibit 15

Tax Reform	
<p>1. Tax credits. The U.S. Congress should offer tax credits or five-year tax holidays for manufacturers that want to set up or expand factories in the United States. The revenue from these factories should be exempt from the corporate tax for a limited period. This will help level the playing field, given the incentives that many Asian countries are offering, and also help manufacturers finance expensive new factories.</p>	<p>Corporate tax exemption for new factories is good in theory, but open to massive gamesmanship by corporations (e.g. big companies could open a “new factory” every single year, and just book its profits at that site).</p> <p>MH has MBMIA & SUM Act to create incentives for domestic siting.</p>
<p>2. Repatriation. The U.S. Congress should offer a deal to companies with foreign earnings. They can repatriate foreign earnings at a reduced corporate tax rate provided they use that money to invest in either expanding their factories or creating a net number of new jobs.</p>	<p>MH is a cosponsor of the Brady repatriation bill (repeat of the 2004 repatriation holiday) and wrote an op-ed with former SEIU president Andy Stern on job metrics tied to a repatriation holiday.</p>
<p>3. Permanent Expensing. The U.S. Congress should make the temporary expensing of equipment permanent, allowing manufacturers to take an immediate deduction for capital expenditures in any tax year.</p> <p>Manufacturers should also be able to expense worker-training programs as part of this deduction.</p> <p>The U.S. Congress should also expand the research and development tax credit to 20 percent and make it permanent.</p>	<p>100% expensing was created by the year-end 2010 tax bill (P.L. 111-312) which MH opposed (for unrelated reasons). It is widely supported, at least on a temporary basis by both parties and the President. Studies are mixed about the economic efficiency and impact of the provision, which calls into question the wisdom of making it permanent.</p> <p>HR 4196 (led by Reps Tiberi, Larson, Neal, Pascrell, & Paulsen and cosponsored by 45 others of both parties) is the standalone bill that would extend 100% expensing for 1 year. We are not a cosponsor. Currently, there are no proposals to make it permanent or add expensing of worker-training.</p> <p>HR 942 (led by Kevin Brady & cosponsored by 106 members) increases the R&D tax credit to 20% and makes it permanent. MH is a cosponsor.</p>
<p>4. Alternative Energy Incentives. The U.S. Congress should continue to provide broad-range tax credits for alternative</p>	<p>MH consistently votes in support of renewable energy tax credits. A number of them expired in 2011¹</p>

¹ List provided in CRS Report R41769 Table 2.

Ro Khanna

Response/Mike Honda

energy manufacturers.	<p>HR 502, the Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing and Export Assistance Act (Matsui) would provide funding for manufacturers as well as assistance on exporting. MH is a cosponsor of the bill.</p> <p>The Senate has at times considered extensions to some expired credits, and the Fiscal Cliff tax deal had some extensions.</p> <p>It is hard for MH, as he is not on Ways & Means, to lead on extending existing energy tax provisions, given that there are several W&M members (Blumenauer, McDermott) who are equally supportive.</p>
Federal Support	
1. Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)/Small, Medium sized manufacturers. Double funding for MEP & give regional centers more authority/autonomy to administer programs.	<p>MEP is commonly targeted for elimination by deficit hawks.</p> <p>Lofgren-led American Innovation in Manufacturing (AIM) Act (HR 3138) would temporarily reduce the cost share requirement for the MEP program. MH is a cosponsor.</p> <p>Garamendi offered a floor amendment to increase MEP funding by ~\$400k. It passed by voice vote.</p> <p>MH has supported the reauthorization of MEP in the past while on the Science Committee, and could lead on a Dear Colleague letter to appropriators regarding MEP funding if desired.</p>
2. Select USA. The U.S. Department of Commerce should 'strengthen' the Select USA program to help manufacturers expedite the permitting process, cut through bureaucratic red tape, and navigate complex regulations. This should be the one-stop shop for manufacturers that want to build factories in the United States. The U.S. Congress should fund this program and should demand that the Select USA program	<p>This is an obscure program at Commerce that has received little-to-no Congressional attention. Obama created it in 2011.²</p> <p>The most recent CJS funding level was just over \$6 million, less than the President's \$12+ million request. Report language requires the Secretary of Commerce to report (by 11/30/2013) the location and type of assistance provided, the State to which firms</p>

² Executive Order 13577: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/06/15/executive-order-13577-selectusa-initiative>

THMH_0254

Ro Khanna

Response/Mike Honda

<p>have metrics about its success in retaining American manufacturers. The Select USA program should measure how many jobs we are losing to offshoring each month, and how many we are gaining because of new factories that are set up in the United States.</p>	<p>sought to relocate and why, as well as the number of foreign firms that actually decided to locate in the US as a result of the SelectUSA process.</p> <p>Rep. Flake offered an amendment³ on the floor to prohibit any funds for SelectUSA, which failed. MH voted in opposition. Only Fattah spoke in support of the program.</p> <p>MH could take a higher profile as a CJS subcommittee member, from requesting himself to leading on a potential letter if desired.</p>
<p>3. U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service (USFCS). The US Congress should increase the budget of the USFCS, the principal export promotion agency of the US. A 25% increase from the current \$250 million will help the USFCS add essential headcount and upgrade its technology. USFCS should focus these resources on the top 50 countries for exports and allocate resources domestically in cities and rural areas that have the highest export growth potential.</p>	<p>Reps Berman and Manzullo led HR 4041, which requires the Commerce Secretary to conduct a global assessment of overseas markets to determine those with greatest potential for increasing US exports & deploy USFCS personnel and resources based on that assessment. This legislation passed by voice vote on 5/30/2012.</p> <p>The last CJS funding bill provided \$277 million for USFCS, \$40 million less than Obama's request.</p> <p>MH could take a higher profile as a CJS subcommittee member, from requesting himself to leading on a potential letter if desired.</p>
<p>4. Trade Fair Certification program. The program should make loans to small businesses and new exporters to participate in international trade fairs.</p> <p>The program should also fund U.S. pavilions to more actively facilitate buyers abroad.</p>	<p>The Trade Fair Certification program is part of USFCS (above).</p>
<p>5. Commerce-Labor Cooperation. Commerce should open their Advisory Committees to labor representatives.</p>	<p>Commerce has 50 active Advisory Committees, most of which were created by Congress.</p> <p>This session, Representative Lipinski led the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act, which would create a</p>

³ H.Amdt. 1093

THMH_0255

Ro Khanna

Response/Mike Honda

	<p>Manufacturing Competitiveness Board. The legislation requires that one of these board members have experience with “managing labor organizations.” MH voted in support of this bill which passed the House and is awaiting Senate action.</p> <p>MH could propose reauthorizations of these Committees, and ensure that all of them include provisions to have labor representation if desired.</p>
<p>6. Vocational education. The Obama administration has proposed nearly \$8 billion for community colleges to fund skills training programs. But, it should not ignore vocational education at the high school level. The administration’s Investing in Innovation Fund should support vocational schools.</p> <p>Moreover, the Obama administration should propose increased funding for career and technical education, instead of 20% in budget cuts.</p>	<p>MH agrees that cutbacks in career and technical education programs should be protected at the high school level. MH has written 2 federal budget plans that would increase funding at DoEd by billions, and would include assistance for CTE.</p> <p>MH has introduced the STEM Education Innovation Act (HR3373) and the STEM Network Act (HR 6517). These bills develop career awareness programs and STEM career pathways.</p> <p>LLH had suggested taking over a vocational education bill that could serve as an MH vehicle on this subject if desired.</p>
<p>7. Technology investment. The US Congress should fund investments in the next generation of defense through the ManTech program, DARPA, and the Defense Production Act.</p> <p>It should make sure that the Defense Department has the resources to maintain the minimum sustaining rate in its decisions on procurement of essential defense equipment.</p> <p>Congress should provide funding to institutions such as ARPA-E and our national laboratories, which promote national security by helping us become energy independent and remain the technological leader of the world. These institutions should also reach out to private industry to partner on projects.</p>	<p>While MH is a vocal critic of bloated spending at the Pentagon, he believes that the technology developed at DoD can have valuable national security and economic impacts.</p> <p>MH has been a longtime supporter of R&D funding, ARPA-E, and the national labs, from backing authorization bills while on the Science Committee to supporting funding in approps. We can try to get him a more prominent role as a leader of Dear Colleagues to appropriators if desired.</p>
<p>8. Infrastructure investment. Our nation’s infrastructure ranks</p>	<p>MH co-authored an op-ed with former SEIU President Andy Stern</p>

THMH_0256

Ro Khanna

Response/Mike Honda

<p>23rd in the world. It's time for Congress to recognize that strategic spending on infrastructure is a productive investment. Supports an iBank.</p>	<p>on a multi-trillion dollar jobs package which would include the creation of an infrastructure bank.</p> <p>Rosa DeLauro leads the bill in the house that would create the iBank (HR 402). MH was not a cosponsor.</p>
<p>9. Undersecretary for Manufacturing. The US Congress should create an undersecretary for manufacturing who can raise the visibility of issues that are important to manufacturers and coordinate federal support. This position should be housed in a reorganized Commerce Department that consolidates all the federal agencies that promote trade and business.</p>	<p>This is a gimmicky and silly policy suggestion. MH supports the President's move to create the White House Office of Manufacturing Policy, and appoint two high-level officials to chair it (Acting Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank & NEC Chair Gene Sperling).</p>
<p>Fair Trade</p>	
<p>1. Currency. Twice a year, the US Treasury Department must issue a report identifying nations that "manipulate the rate of exchange between their currency and the US dollar for purposes of preventing effective balance of payments adjustments or gaining unfair competitive advantage in international trade." It's time for the Treasury Department to label China a currency manipulator and also make a factual determination about other nations that are not allowing a free-floating currency.</p>	<p>MH has been a critic of those quick to label China as a currency manipulator. Although it is well-documented that China is guilty of this practice, they are not the worst offender on the world's stage. This is a touchy area for MH. He has a hard time separating arguing against inappropriate monetary policies and xenophobia against the countries and people conducting those policies.</p>
<p>2. Dumping and subsidies. The United States needs to make a much firmer line against other nations that engage in unfair dumping or that provide illegal subsidies for their indigenous industries. Dumping and illegal subsidies are hurting our steel manufacturers, our domestic solar panel manufacturers, and our private jet manufacturers, to name just a few affected industries. We need to be more aggressive in bringing WTO actions against these practices and enforcing the laws that are on the books.</p>	<p>This is a touchy area for MH – recall that he got very upset when informed that Korean dry cleaners were having to pay more for wire hangers because the US cracked down on dumping practices by Chinese manufacturers. He has a hard time separating arguing against inappropriate business practices and xenophobia against the countries and people who are conducting those practices.</p>
<p>3. Tax credit for exporters. The United States should call for revising the WTO's archaic distinction between indirect and</p>	<p>HR 2666 (Pascrell, Jones, Michaud) would address this. MH is not a cosponsor.</p>

THMH_0257

Ro Khanna

Response/Mike Honda

<p>direct taxes, which discriminates against US exporters. Either the US should be allowed to offer a tax credit to its exporters or other countries should be prohibited from doing so.</p>	
<p>4. Restraints on raw material exports. The US should seek the elimination of export taxes and restraints imposed by Russia, China, and Ukraine on raw material suppliers. Other nations should not prevent our manufacturers from accessing raw materials, such as scrap metal, that are necessary for production.</p>	<p>More of an Administration action, although MH role could be to encourage if desired.</p>
<p>5. Piracy and forced technology transfers. The US should take a hard line to prevent any foreign government from subsidizing the illegal copying or reverse engineering of American products. We should demand that these countries crack down on piracy, instead of aiding it.</p> <p>We also should aggressively bring trade enforcement actions against nations that force American companies to sign 'joint venture agreements' or transfer technology as a condition for selling into their markets.</p>	<p>Also touchy area for MH – he has often touted the joint venture cooperation between China as a positive thing, and so it will be hard to try to turn him around on the intellectual property aspect of such ventures.</p>
<p>6. Create a “Trade Enforcement Unit” to investigate unfair trading practices of foreign competitors</p>	<p>Through Executive Order,⁴ President Obama established the Interagency Trade Enforcement Center housed at USTR. The center serves as the primary forum within the Federal Government for USTR and other agencies to coordinate enforcement of US trade rights under international agreements.</p>

⁴ Executive Order (February 28, 2012): <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/02/28/executive-order-establishment-interagency-trade-enforcement-center>

THMH_0258

Exhibit 16

From: Werwa, Eric [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2013 5:49 PM
To: Roybal, Ashley (Honda) <[REDACTED]>; 'Lamar Heystek' <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Maben, Meri <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Labor breakfast
Attach: 1.30.13 Background memo for Alameda Labor Council.docx

Just wanted to confirm that I did not give this material to MH, I was assuming that since the event is out there you guys would be incorporating this into the briefer you are preparing.

-----Original Message-----

From: Werwa, Eric
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2013 7:12 PM
To: VanderHeide, Jennifer; Erickson Hatalsky, Laura
Cc: Maben, Meri; Roybal, Ashley (Honda)
Subject: RE: Labor breakfast

Attached is a background memo that also includes some things that he can highlight that he will be fighting for. Hope this works.

-----Original Message-----

From: VanderHeide, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, January 24, 2013 5:50 PM
To: Erickson Hatalsky, Laura; Werwa, Eric
Cc: Maben, Meri; Roybal, Ashley (Honda)
Subject: Labor breakfast

Pls prepare background memo on labor issues in congress for the 113th. And highlights that mh can talk about for lhhs and what he'll be fighting for. Mh will need at least by a day before. Meri can tell u when it is

Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff
Rep. Mike Honda, CA-17

Exhibit 17

EVENT BRIEF

To: MH
From: Monica and Vedant
Re: Fundraiser at Pritpal Singh

When: Monday, May 5, 2014

Time: 6:30 – 7:00pm

Where: Dr. Pritpal Singh's Home, [REDACTED]

Contact: Monica, [REDACTED]

Krystal Ka'ai, [REDACTED]

DETAILS: 10-15 attendees expected for Indian snacks and dinner. Pritpal emphasized that

this will be relaxing event and chance to discuss the Sikh community's involvement in the election.

DIRECTIONS: from campaign ~ 30 mins. (traffic at this time of day)

BACKGROUND:

Pritpal Singh and Harpreet Singh had come to visit with Monica and Jennifer about the possibility of increasing EB4 visas for religious workers.

They were very excited about your Freedom of Faith Act, which makes the Special Immigrant Non-minister program permanent. The program, as currently written, contains a "sunset" provision requiring reauthorization every three years. It was last reauthorized in 2012, and thus, set to expire in 2015. THIS IS FOR TEMPORARY RELIGIOUS WORKERS.

PRITPAL and HARPREET asked about the possibility of having Religious Workers, specifically gurus in the Sikh community, who come over to discuss religious teachings to be able to stay longer than the current prescribed period.

Their proposal is to create a visa category for these workers who can hold the visa for 10 years, and come to the US and return to India multiple times. During the time that they are in the US and visiting gurdwaras, they generate revenue because parishoners flock to hear their teachings and are willing to pay to hear them speak. THIS REVENUE WOULD BE TAXED.

This requires a new category or an expanded category for religious workers under the auspices of EB4, NOT R-1 visas. R-1 Visas are strictly for permanent workers.

The biggest risk to this is that religious worker visas are the most susceptible to fraud.

FYI:

There will be an Event: Congressional American Sikh Caucus/Friends of the Congressional American Sikh Caucus Reception

Date: Wednesday, May 21st

Time: 4:00pm-5:00pm- Data Report (not Caucus related)

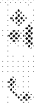
5:00pm-8:00pm-Reception (Co-Chairs Valadao and Chu to speak)

Location: 1539 Longworth HOB

More information:

<http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/crs/rs21630.pdf>

Exhibit 18



This chat is off the record [Learn more](#) [Cancel](#)



me

so legal what Mark is doing right?



Ashley

o yeah.

well I mean

I am not sure if he is officially on part time for the office or not.

if not then wayyy legal!

if he is officially part time for the office, and part time for campaign, then that part is ok

but he is still handling way too much campaign stuff out of the office.



me

yeah, while he's here he is supposed to be part time gov employee, but I don't see him doing anything related to the office while in the office... it's all campaign stuff.



Ashley

lol

yeah...

Exhibit 19

From: Maben, Meri [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2013 12:05 PM
To: Madelene Mielke <[REDACTED]>; Shari Rubin-Rick <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Van der Heide <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Fwd: McEnry
Attach: @.dat

This message has been archived. View the original item

I know we've tried with them before to no avail but once again we've responded to Tom's request. Please ask Tom to come to birthday event and bring Sharks people. Woman below appears to be one of the owners.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hyde, Cathy Ming" <[REDACTED]>
Date: May 16, 2013, 10:13:27 AM PDT
To: "Maben, Meri" <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: McEnry

Here is the email I sent you earlier about the Shark's owner.

Cathryn Ming Hyde
Constituent Services Director
Congressman Mike Honda
17th Congressional District - California

<<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mike-Honda/15675385380>> <http://www.flickr.com/photos/congressman_honda/> <<http://twitter.com/repmikehonda>> <http://www.honda.house.gov/index.php?option=com_bca-rss-syndicator&feed_id=1>

Learn more about Congressman Honda's legislative initiatives by signing up for his e-mail updates <<http://honda.house.gov/emailsignup.shtml>> or visiting his blog <<http://honda.house.gov/blog>> .

P Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Hyde, Cathy Ming
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 10:51 AM
To: Maben, Meri
Subject: RE: McEnry

> Meri -

> Good morning. Hope you are well. One of the Shark owners, [REDACTED] has a passport issue and we are leaving for the Shark Game in Vancouver on Wed. morn. It is not expired until Nov. '13, but she sent it to the Passport Agency for renewal a few weeks ago - she is having a bit of trouble getting it back - the No. is [REDACTED] phone is [REDACTED]. Would it be possible, Meri, to call [REDACTED] and put in a word to expedite the solution of this problem? Please let me know if you call her and call me if you would like.

> Thanks for you attention to this. I am at [REDACTED]

> Best, Tom McEnry

Cathryn Ming Hyde
Constituent Services Director
Congressman Mike Honda
17th Congressional District - California

<<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mike-Honda/15675385380>> <http://www.flickr.com/photos/congressman_honda/> <<http://twitter.com/repmikehonda>> <http://www.honda.house.gov/index.php?option=com_bca-rss-syndicator&feed_id=1>

Learn more about Congressman Honda's legislative initiatives by signing up for his e-mail updates <<http://honda.house.gov/emailsignup.shtml>> or visiting his

blog <<http://honda.house.gov/blog>> .
P Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Maben, Meri
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 9:42 AM
To: Hyde, Cathy Ming
Subject: Re: McEnry

Send me her info to my gmail account
Sent from my iPhone

On May 1, 2013, at 9:35 PM, "Hyde, Cathy Ming" <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Woman never said thanks though. :/
Cathryn Ming Hyde
Constituent Services Director
Office of Congressman Mike Honda
California - 17th District
2001 Gateway Place, Suite 670W
San Jose, CA 95110
Phone: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

From: Maben, Meri
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2013 11:38 PM
To: Hyde, Cathy Ming
Subject: Re: McEnry

Fantastic!

From: Cathy Hyde <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wed, 1 May 2013 14:58:57 -0700
To: "Rep. Mike Honda" <[REDACTED]>
Subject: McEnry

Got the passport handled. Miracle job as I only had 24 hours to get the passport in her hands.

Tom is very happy.

C

Cathryn Ming Hyde
Constituent Services Director
Congressman Mike Honda
17th Congressional District - California
2001 Gateway Place, Suite 670W
San Jose, California 95110
Phone: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

<image001.png> <<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mike-Honda/15675385380>> <image002.png> <http://www.flickr.com/photos/congressman_honda/>
<image003.png>

Attachments:

image001.png	(2 KB)
image002.png	(2 KB)
image003.png	(2 KB)
image004.png	(2 KB)
image001.png	(2 KB)
image002.png	(2 KB)

image003.png
image004.png

(2 KB)
(2 KB)

Exhibit 20

Notes from District Office retreat—Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Summary notes

•Goal:

- Re-group for future challenges, induct Lenine and Lamar, build group cooperation design a work plan for 2012

•Overview of the new district: Lamar

- New district: part of Fremont, Newark, Milpitas, Santa Clara, Cupertino, part of San Jose, Sunnyvale
- Bottom line: district is very diverse, very excited to see MH come into the district.
- Main topics: demographics, jurisdictions/special districts, geography, specific issues
- Meri: important to remember that Fremont has a huge Chinese-American population, besides the large South Asian population
 - Within the Indo-American population, there are Sikhs, Sri Lanka/Tamil faction, and others

•2012: Challenges, Impacts, and Attributes/Skills: MM

• Brainstorm results

•Top Challenges

- 1: Lack of familiarity with the new district (logistics, relationships with new people, relationships, geography, institutions, electeds, CBOs)
- 2: Two counties (competing interests, political negotiations, more work for staff)
 - Our voters are primarily in Santa Clara County
- 3 (tie): Getting MH's name out there (campaign, new voters)
 - Lamar's job
- 3 (tie): Getting MH to do more retail
 - MH prefers smaller events, MH needs to get to some of the bigger events, particularly with our new communities, South Asians and Filipinos who expect him to show up to their large events, get to shake everyone's hand, not talk to one person for an hour.
 - Needs to just show up and talk about his accomplishments, not in depth policy or philosophy. Talk and move on.
 - People want time with MH. Not interested in deep issues, they want their time to say what they want.
- 4: Presidential election— MH traveling to campaign in other places
 - DNC obligations.
 - Traveling will not be as much as last year. MH will have to travel, but not as much as in the past (since he's not chair of CAPAC).
- 5: Demand for more documentation: all the lists and data entry and documentation of procedures, coding projects, stakeholders
- 6: High tech needs

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1.5", No bullets or numbering

- 7: Old elected and constituents with needs we can't meet
- 8: Higher expectation from new district
- 9: Casework
- 10: Satellite office (physical office, staffing)
- 11: Move DO
- 12: New Staff
- 13: More subgroups
- 14: He won't live in the district
- 15: Vulnerable from Alameda County (criticism, candidate)
- 16: Congressional competition (Lee, Miller, Stark)
- 17: Losing big landmark issues (Mt. Um, environment, ag, etc.)
- 18: Less money, budget is flat
- 19: Travel time for new district
- 20: MH comfort level
- 21: New issues

•Top Impacts

- 1: Staff is stretched
- 2: Time and road map needed to Developing new relationships, time spent getting to know new people
- 3: More fundraising (more time outside the office) and campaign events. These events may conflict with official-side events.
 - Big-cost
- 4: Staff won't have all the answers (frustrates MH)
 - Impact on casework (casework is bread and butter, it's what gets our name out there), have to maintain quality
 - More economic driven casework
 - May need to shift expertise
 - Drawn into new fights (don't want to pick a side, hard for MH)
 - Overhead costs
 - More events MH doesn't want to go to
 - Try to extract ourselves from old issues as much as we can
 - MH will be tired
 - Changing dynamic with the DC office
 - Changing scheduling strategies
 - Office transition
 - More interaction with other offices
 - Gap in institutional knowledge
 - of doing mail, Email?

•Top Resources/needs

- 1: Good teamwork/supportive environment/awesome work culture/diversity
- 2: Good relationships between DO and DC veterans
- Needs

- 1,2: Strategic relationship building (as we meet new people, sharing that information with everyone)
- 23: Scheduling strategies prioritizing proactive vs reactive events. Keep in mind MH's needs. Balancing campaign and official events.
- 3 Staying acutely aware of bright line between official and campaign events
 - MH should be disciplined
 - Be more prepared
 - Communicate with each other more (within DO and with DC).
 - More research and prep time for MH/staff
 - Rotation weekend used for prep
 - Need Eshoo to help MH transition time with CA 14.
 - Cross pollination with assembly staff to learn issues
 - MH national AAPI profile
 - Relationship building
 - Systematic procedures for staff and interns
 - Event and project planning superiority (experts, superiority)
 - Established relationships with key leaders
 - MH and staff enthusiasm
 - Institutional knowledge
 - MH is fairly low maintenance. "go-with-the-flow"
 - MH breadth of issues/relationships
 - Senior staff leadership
 - Lamar and Lenine!

- Overview of office procedures for written communication
 - Final decisions:
- Greetings/Letters of Support/Congrats letters: Try having only one letter.
 - If it's confusing for staff, it'll be confusing for interns.
 - ~~Cathy will take a shot, Lenine gets to look second.~~
- Interest: can be thought of like giving a card
- Certificates: like a diploma (individual, award)
- Video recording: work to try and use video recordings to replace written communication. Criteria for video recordings: 1. MH is in DO with an hour free before the event timeline, 2. proper notification is given in advance 3. Organization must have complete tech capacity.
- Legislative Agenda (DD and MN) Proactive Events for DO
 - Market-based manufacturing bill (DD)
 - Market-based manufacturing bill (DD)
 - Stakeholders
 - Business industries

- Local universities
- Labs
- NASA
- National labs
- Museums and organizations
 - Tech museum, Computer History museum, Tech America Tech net, SVLG, Joint Ventures Silicon Valley
- West Valley
- Labor groups
- PR Tactics
 - Press conference and tour of company
 - Example: Prism (laser screen technology)
 - Very energy efficient
 - Chose press conference because it's a better way to educate the public about the idea
 - Nebulous idea
 - Tour of the company that has disruptive tech
 - Op-eds—national and regional
- Timing, April/May
- Need to improve relationships with stakeholders.
- Not a local issue, but it can be supported by local folks.
- DO does have the capacity
- Departments of Energy and Commerce could get involved.
- MH buy in—yes.

•
 :Smart Electronics Bill (MN)

- There are so many devices now, and they all use tons of energy, and this would make electronics much more efficient
- Bill is about being better and greener with all the technological gadgets
- Stakeholders
 - Same stakeholders as in the market-based manufacturing bill
 - Universities
 - EPA and DoE
 - High tech groups and companies
 - Invite environmentalist groups as well
- End of March/early April
- Press conference and tour
 - Main company: Marvell
 - Toying with the idea of having a panel discussion with the press, conference and tour (if employees will come)
 - Some big companies had a lot of interest (Apple).
 - Press conference and tour will be followed by smaller communications.
 - 499s to CEOs all 200 tech companies in district so we're on their radar screen (and vice versa)
 - Establish line of communication.
- Why did it fall apart, why go back to Marvell?

- Federal tie-in
- Marvell wants to work with MH

•Violence against women (Lenine)

- Marker bill
- This bill makes sure that 4 court-related provisions aren't negotiated out when the larger bill is re-authorized.
- Stakeholders
 - Office women's policy
 - Commission on the Status of Women
 - Bar Association
 - Domestic Violence
 - DA's office
 - Public Defender
 - Law Enforcement
 - Communities of Color
 - Immigrant rights groups
 - Legal services non-profits
 - Justice corps
 - JACL
 - Civil rights groups
 - Bill Wilson Center
 - Health and human services
 - County health department
 - Social workers
 - YWCA
 - Aki
 - Don
 - Local female government leaders
 - Shelters
- Start with mail and op-eds
- If it gets incorporated in the larger bill, we want a round-table with a possible press conference.
 - Round-table with all the top leaders on women's issues
- Timing: August/September
- If the programs don't get included, we're not going to do anything.
- If it is included, there's a lot to talk about.

•

•STEM and INVENT act (AB)

- Event to highlight both bills
- May be some duplication of efforts
- Step 1: AB talking to staffers in DC to see what's going on with those bills, plan of action to develop INVENT act
- October timeline
 - School just starting

- Not so overwhelmed at the beginning of school
- Given other timelines, April (secondary) is already getting filled up

•Types of events

- Working with schools and STEM—bill lends itself to a lot of different opportunities
- Hybrid event, highlight social media competition, virtual science fair
- Question of which bills are we doing, how are we prioritizing, and which events will give the most bang for our buck
- Josh Becker with his involvement in National Lab Day in the region
- See who's organizing the big events in our region

•PR tactics

- Already had a number of Op-Eds (continuing those)
- 499s
- New STEM letter that got sent out
- If we do social media part, we invite video submissions for YouTube/Facebook

•Stakeholders

- Lots
- All tech companies should be interested
- Silicon Valley education foundation
- Tesla

•Health IT bill (AR)

- Lots of healthcare and medical device companies in the Fremont/Newark area, Sunnyvale
- Ideally we would host the event at the time we drop the bill, mid-March
 - Promote the fact that we dropped the bill
- Great way to reach out to tech/business community
- Reach out to CA healthcare institute, Silicon Valley leadership group
- Round table, but a press conference would be better
- Want to bring in a lot of people to participate, trade organizations, hospitals, healthcare providers, medical technology, tech companies
- Press Conference would be at some company, ideally in Sunnyvale (some we have relationships with, some not)
- We would be using their sites to promote the event and reach out to business community
- We would like to reach out to the new district and get press coverage
- (CHI: California Healthcare Institute.)

•Scaling up (AR)

- Tour, ideally with press coverage, of a local manufacturing company at their site
 - Tesla was the first one that we thought of, but it might not benefit
 - Solar companies
- Companies will benefit from our involvement
- Labor brought in as a stakeholder group
- Timing, August (especially if we're going to do town halls)

- No date for legislation or anything
- During the summer would be great
- Good talking points
- Promote MH's role in making jobs
- Allows us to reach out to organizations, some in new district
 - San Jose entrepreneurship center, Chambers of Commerce, Tech and business communities, solar businesses, SVLG

•Notes:

- Look for more retail events for MH to go to (especially in August)
- Campaign will have to handle the advertisement, but we can go into another district
- We can't have an event that is specifically in the new district.
- The difference between official and campaign is a bright red line.

•The move: details and logistics

- We can't sign the release until the election results have been certified
 - December 14
- Not clear: how does the House get notified?
- Timing of when we can pack and move—see handout
- Casework purge during the summer
- GSA will send packet for how to move
 - They pay for the move
- Question of who gets the furniture is still up in the air—GSA will get back to CL
- The move will happen in one day
- we're not sure if it has to happen during hours
- Anything that has to be taken out of the office has to be gone by June 1st
- Timeline—see handout
- Closed cases will be shredded. Only open cases are the ones we will be transferring.
- Throw away anything we're not using during clean-up days
- Everything has to be assigned to someone
- Question: how do we set up/shut down internet and phone service?
- There will be 6 months forwarding

STOP HERE

Full Notes

- Goal:
 - Re-group for future challenges, induct Lenine and Lamar, build group cooperation
- Agenda
- Overview of the new district: Lamar

- Lamar visited the DC office, and the feedback was that the DO staff was fantastic
- New district: part of Fremont, Newark, Milpitas, Santa Clara, Cupertino, part of San Jose, Sunnyvale
- The new part of San Jose is a part we haven't had before
- Official description of the new district according to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission—see handout.
 - Population equality requirements: districts are equal in population
- Demographics
 - (All cities included in the new district (all or part) are on the handout share is our portion of the city)
 - The rest of Fremont is going to be in new District 15 (Pete Stark)
 - San Jose is split into three districts
 - We have the smallest share
 - New District 18 (Anna Eshoo)
 - New District 19 (Zoe Lofgren)
 - District 17 covers a portion of Alameda County and Santa Clara County
 - Plurality of Santa Clara County is in Zoe Lofgren's district.
 - Is Mike Honda still a Silicon Valley congressman?
 - Yes.
 - We'll be covering more of the East Bay or Greater Bay area.
 - There is not yet information about the whole 17th district (now just voting population).
 - Voters are slightly more Democratic.
 - Fremont and Newark (with Union City) make up part of the Tri-Cities.
 - People were slightly upset that the Tri-Cities were split up.
 - Incorporation of the three was relatively late (late 50s).
 - People in Newark and Fremont didn't want to be split up, but now they think it might be a good thing.
 - We represent half of the Tri-Cities.
 - Number of voting households increases slightly.
 - Question: Republican percentage has increased a bit in spite of losing some of Gilroy, Los Gatos, etc. Where do the Republicans come from?
 - Basically a wash—within the margin of error.
 - (City analysis will come later.)
 - The most Asian district in the country (minus Hawaii).
 - Important because of MH's role in the Asian American Caucus.
 - Association between MH and the ethnic communities.
- Jurisdictions/Special Districts
 - County Office of Ed in Alameda County -- Elected
 - Bus Board (AC transit) -- elected
 - Sanitary board -- elected
 - BART -- elected
 - AC transportation -- Appointed
 - Washington Township -- elected
 - Fremont School District different than Fremont Union District

- Relationships between organizations and political bodies across counties?
 - Lamar will investigate discreetly.
- Geography
 - Fremont
 - Fremont is big enough to have neighborhoods (districts) like San Jose.
 - Warm Springs is the most industry-filled district.
 - Fremont considers itself the Gateway to Silicon Valley.
 - Fremont sees itself as distinct from Alameda County because of its association with Silicon Valley.
 - Newark
 - Did not want to be incorporated in Fremont, even though that might make sense to Fremont.
 - Newark is the Gateway to the Peninsula (have to go through Newark to get to Dumbarton Bridge).
 - More industrial.
 - Newark doesn't look much like Fremont.
 - Leadership is much older.
 - Less Asian, more white.
 - Issue: there is a rail line that is being planned to join Newark and Palo Alto (CalTrain across the bay that would run parallel to the bridge).
 - Add 4 stations. New station in Fremont (Centerville) and Newark
 - Sunnyvale
 - Just had elections (on odd numbered years)
 - Neighborhoods like San Jose
 - Home of Yahoo
- Top Employers
- Specific issues
 - Fremont:
 - Solyndra has had a large impact, loss of 700 jobs.
 - Talk of trying to bring the A's to Fremont.
 - Newark
 - City is divided between people who want to retain, and who want to progress.
 - Looking for government support to bring high tech to the city.
- Other questions
 - Meri: Demographics by income level?
 - Charlene: City Councils (political makeup, big issues)?
 - Cathy: dominance of Filipino populations in different cities
- Bottom line: district is very diverse, very excited to see MH come into the district.
- Meri: important to remember that Fremont has a huge Chinese-American population, besides the large South Asian population.
 - Within the Indo-American population, there are Sikhs, Sri Lanka/Tamil faction, and others.

- Lamar is going to talk to/reach out to different Filipino and Indo-American communities.

- 2012: Challenges, Impacts, and Attributes/Skills: Meri

- Brainstorming activities (big and large)

- Jennifer is big about checking out everything with the DO—time to put our input into DC.

- Opportunity to strengthen relationships

- Group brainstorming

- Challenges

- 1: Lack of familiarity with the new district (logistics, new people, relationships)

- 2: Two counties (competing interests, political negotiations)

- Our voters are primarily in Santa Clara County

- 3 (tie): Getting MH's name out there (campaign, new voters)

- Need to send more bodies

- Lamar's job!

- 3 (tie): Getting MH to do more retail

- Particularly important for the DO during this campaign year.

- Individual voters, shaking hands, one-on-one (Congress on your corner, Farmer's Markets, big events).

- MH prefers smaller events, MH needs to get to some of the bigger events, got to shake everyone's hand, not talk to one person for an hour. Needs to just show up and talk about his accomplishments, not policy. Talk and move on.

- People want time with MH. Not interested in deep issues, they want their time to say what they want.

- 4: Presidential election—MH traveling to campaign in other places

- DNC obligations.

- Traveling will not be as much as last year. MH will have to travel, but not as much as in the past (since he's not chair of CAPAC).

- 5: Demand for more documentation without the connection to work

- 6: High tech needs

- 7: Old electeds with needs we can't meet

- 8: Higher expectation from new district

- Casework

- Satellite office (physical office, staffing)

- Move DO

- New Staff

- More subgroups

- Higher expectation from new district

- He won't live in the district

- Vulnerable from Alameda County (criticism, candidate)

- Congressional competition (Lee, Miller, Stark)

- Make new contacts (start from scratch)

- Losing big landmark issues (Mt-Um, environment, ag, etc.)
 - Lots of new voters who don't know
 - Less money, budget is flat
 - Travel time for new district
 - MH comfort level
 - High tech needs
 - New issues
 - Relationship with DC
- Impacts
- **1: Staff is stretched**
 - **2: Developing new relationships, time spent getting to know new people**
 - **3: More fundraising (more time outside the office)**
 - Based on latest filing (quarterly), Lofgren and Eshoo have much more money on hand, Honda has much less (goal of \$800k before June primary)
 - Big cost of doing mail - Email?
 - **4: Staff won't have all the answers (frustrates MH)**
 - Impact on casework (casework is bread and butter, it's what gets our name out there), have to maintain quality
 - More economic driven casework
 - May need to shift expertise
 - Drawn into new fights (don't want to pick a side, hard for MH)
 - Overhead costs (more events MH doesn't want to go to)
 - Try to extract ourselves from old issues as much as we can
 - MH will be tired
 - Changing dynamic with the DC office
 - Changing scheduling strategies
 - Office transition
 - More interaction with other offices
 - Gap in institutional knowledge
 - More DC physical presence
- Resources/needs
- **1: Good teamwork/supportive environment/awesome work culture/diversity**
 - **2: Strategic relationship building (as we meet new people, sharing that information with everyone)**
 - **3: Scheduling strategies**
 - MH should be disciplined
 - Be more prepared
 - Communicate with each other more (within DO and with DC).
 - More research and prep time for MH/staff
 - Rotation weekend used for prep
 - Need Eshoo to help MH transition time with CA 14.
 - Cross pollination with assembly staff to learn issues
 - MH national AAP1 profile

- Relationship building
- Systematic procedures for staff and interns
- Event and project planning superiority (experts, superiority)
- Established relationships with key leaders
- MH and staff enthusiasm
- Institutional knowledge
- MH is fairly low maintenance, "go-with-the-flow"
- MH breadth of issues/relationships
- Senior staff leadership
- Lamar and Lenine!

•Lunch break

•Overview of office procedures for written communication

•Greetings letters/letters of support/congrats

•Greetings Letters

•Brainstorming

- For the organization
- More frequent
- For the audience
- A little less formal
- For when MH is not going
- To be read, hopefully published

•Discussion

- Specific purpose for event

•Letters of Support

•Brainstorming

- For the organization
- Somewhat frequent
- Ongoing for organization
- Want to show the letter to some other people
- Framed, meant to be shared
- Formal
- Somewhat frequent
- MH could be going?
- Pre-grants
- More detail

•Discussion

- Specific to the organization

•Congrats

- For the organization
- Least frequent
- Mostly about an event (post-event), awards
- Informal
- MH probably not attending
- Post-grant

- Question: should these three previous be one letter, or do we need three different ones?
 - Make sure interns write the letter that is different
 - Maybe rename the titles (event letter, organization letter, etc.)
 - Congrats should go to organization and events that have a celebration? Greetings letter is for a more general event.
 - Value of the letter? Gets name out, cheap?, cost in staff time, people like it
- Leaning towards idea of removing letters of support
 - Congrats is for a distinct celebration
 - Greetings is for the organization in general
- Why are we using about the organization to the organization?
 - Template? Tried to use them, but there are so many cases.
- Event and Individual?
 - Greetings letter also gives congratulations
- Easier way to do a template based on audience than it is to do it based on purpose
- Perhaps just one letter
 - If there is a reason to congratulate, it will be included
 - But there are differences in organizations and individuals
- Give it a try: one letter. If it's confusing for staff, it'll be confusing for interns.
 - Cathy will take a shot, Lenine gets to look second.
- Resolutions/Interest notes
 - Resolution
 - If specifically requested
 - Size and famousness of organization or individual
 - If printed or displayed or presented
 - Formal occasion
 - Lots of info
 - Issue is a priority for the member
 - Formal position
 - Needs notice
 - Needs to be researched and vetted
 - Used sparingly (time)
 - Can be reused
 - For a big deal
 - Tied to an event (rather than person), potentially an important event in a person's life
 - When do we decide?
 - If they ask, we'll give resolutions.
 - Interest notes: like giving a card
 - Personal/intimate
 - Thank you
 - Not much information
 - Not formal

- Person needs to think member wrote it
- Not public
- For individual/family
- Doesn't need to be researched
- Not formulaic
- Nicety
- Small accomplishment
- Not tied to an event
- Should be hand signed
- Certificates
 - Certificates: **like a diploma** (individual, award)
 - Groups or individuals are awardees or honorees
 - Must be presented at an event or given to an individual or group
 - After the event
 - Also for Eagle and Girl Scouts, Citizenship, Art Competition
 - Have to be in our district
 - Do not have to be hand signed
- Video recording
 - Must be shown at an event
 - Technical capability
 - Willing to show
 - Must be large-scale event (100+ people)
 - Discussion of when to use:
 - MH asked to give remarks or is being honored and can't make it?
 - We should do it for every event that has the capability?
 - Is MH in town in time?
 - Can't do it for every event?
 - Timing? Speaking points, 10 minutes of MH's time. He's very good at this.
 - Comes across very well.
 - Editing takes very little time.
 - More frequently, if they follow criteria
 - MH is in DO with an hour free before the event.
 - Proper notification in advance
 - Standard events
 - No letter or written honor for the event
 - Plays to MH's strengths.
 - Not a guarantee, but done if we can and have time
 - Permission to put it on their website (CL can tell them)
 - More bang for buck
 - Congressional Record
 - Lifetime or long list of accomplishments
 - Regional or national impact or reputation
 - Approved by JVH and MM
 - Significant for MH/has values/his constituents/stakeholder groups.

- Calendar (CL)
- Legislative Agenda (DD and MN)
 - Two documents—one is summary, one is more detailed.
 - Green is bills we already introduced
 - Yellows is bills we will introduce
 - Blue—working on
 - Red things we haven't done yet
 - Go into planning different outreach events/marketing for each piece of legislation or project.
 - Stakeholder groups linked to the legislative priority.
 - Add on any items that might be missing.
- Market-based manufacturing bill (DD)
 - Not the same as the scaling-up bill.
 - Appoints a commission of experts from the industry to decide on 10 disruptive technologies.
 - Stakeholders
 - Several business industries
 - Local universities
 - Labs
 - NASA
 - National labs
 - Museums and organizations
 - Tech museum, Computer History museum, Tech America, Tech net, SVLG, Joint Ventures Silicon Valley
 - West Valley
 - Labor groups
 - PR Tactics
 - Press conference and tour of company
 - Example: Prism (laser screen technology)
 - Very energy efficient
 - Chose press conference because it's a better way to educate the public about the idea
 - Nebulous idea
 - Tour of the company that has disruptive tech
 - Op-eds—national and regional
 - Timing: April/May
 - Need to improve relationships with stakeholders.
 - Not a local issue, but it can be supported by local folks.
 - DO does have the capacity
 - Departments of Energy and Commerce could get involved.
 - MH buy in—yes
- Smart Electronics Bill (MN)
 - There are so many devices now, and they all use tons of energy, and this would make electronics much more efficient
 - Bill is about being better and greener with all the technological gadgets.

- Stakeholders

- Same stakeholders as in the market-based manufacturing bill
- Universities
- EPA and DoE
- High-tech groups and companies
- Invite environmentalist groups as well

- End of March/early April

- Press conference and tour

- Main company- Marvell
- Toying with the idea of having a panel discussion with the press conference and tour (if employees will come).
- Some big companies had a lot of interest (Apple).
- Press conference and tour will be followed by smaller communications.
 - 400s to CEOs all 200-tech companies in district so we're on their radar screen (and vice versa)
 - Establish line of communication.

- Why did it fall apart-why go back to Marvell?

- Federal tie-in
- Marvell wants to work with MH

- Violence against women (Lenine)

- Marker bill

-This bill makes sure that 4-court-related provisions aren't negotiated out when the larger bill is re-authorized-

- Stakeholders

- Office women's policy
- Commission on the Status of Women
- Bar Association
- Domestic Violence
- DA's office
- Public Defender
- Law Enforcement
- Communities of Color
- Immigrant rights groups
- Legal services non-profits
- Justice corps
- JACL
- Civil rights groups
- Bill Wilson Center
- Health and human services
- County health department
- Social workers
- YWCA
- Aki
- Don
- Local female government leaders
- Shelters

- Start with mail and op-eds
- If it gets incorporated in the larger bill, we want a round-table with a possible press conference
 - Round-table with all the top leaders on women's issues
- Timing: August/September
- If the programs don't get included, we're not going to do anything
- If it is included, there's a lot to talk about.
- STEM and INVENT act (AB)
 - Event to highlight both bills
 - May be some duplication of efforts
 - Step 1: AB talking to staffers in DC to see what's going on with those bills, plan of action to develop INVENT act
 - October timeline
 - School just starting
 - Not so overwhelmed at the beginning of school
 - Given other timelines, April (secondary) is already getting filled up
 - Types of events
 - Working with schools and STEM—bill lends itself to a lot of different opportunities
 - Hybrid event: highlight social-media competition, virtual science fair
 - Question of which bills are we doing, how are we prioritizing, and which events will give the most bang for our buck
 - Josh Becker with his involvement in National Lab Day in the region
 - See who's organizing the big events in our region
 - PR tactics
 - Already had a number of Op-Eds (continuing those)
 - 499s
 - New STEM letter that got sent out
 - If we do social media part we invite video submissions for YouTube/Facebook
 - Stakeholders
 - Lots
 - All tech companies should be interested
 - Silicon Valley education foundation
 - Tesla
- Health IT bill (AR)
 - Lots of healthcare and medical device companies in the Fremont/Newark area, Sunnyvale
 - Ideally we would host the event at the time we drop the bill, mid-March
 - Promote the fact that we dropped the bill
 - Great way to reach out to tech/business community
 - Reach out to CA healthcare institute, Silicon Valley leadership group
 - Round-table, but a press conference would be better
 - Want to bring in a lot of people to participate: trade organizations, hospitals, healthcare providers, medical technology, tech companies

- Press Conference would be at some company, ideally in Sunnyvale (some we have relationships with, some not)
- We would be using their sites to promote the event and reach out to business community
- We would like to reach out to the new district and get press coverage.
- (CHI: California Healthcare Institute)
- Scaling up (AR)
 - Tour, ideally with press coverage, of a local manufacturing company at their site
 - Tesla was the first one that we thought of, but it might not benefit
 - Solar companies
 - Companies will benefit from our involvement
 - Labor brought in as a stakeholder group
 - Timing: August (especially if we're going to do town halls)
 - No date for legislation or anything
 - During the summer would be great
 - Good talking points
 - Promote MH's role in making jobs
 - Allows us to reach out to organizations—some in new district
 - San Jose entrepreneurship center, Chambers of Commerce, Tech and business communities, solar businesses, SVLG
- Look for more retail events for MH to go to (especially in August).
 - Campaign will have to handle the advertisement, but we can go into another district.
 - We can't have an event that is specifically in the new district.
- The difference between official and campaign is a bright red line.
- The move
 - We can't sign the release until the election results have been certified
 - December 14
 - Not clear how does the House gets notified?
 - Timing of when we can pack and move—see handout
 - Casework purge during the summer
 - GSA will send packet for how to move
 - They pay for the move
 - Question of who gets the furniture is still up in the air—GSA will get back to CL
 - The move will happen in one day
 - We're not sure if it has to happen during hours
 - Anything that has to be taken out of the office has to be gone by June 1st.
 - Timeline—see handout
 - Closed cases will be shredded—Only open cases are the ones we will be transferring.
 - Throw away anything we're not using during clean-up days
 - Everything has to be assigned to someone
 - Question: how do we set up/shut down internet and phone service?
- There will be 6 months forwarding
- Figure out logistics when we get the new location

•Finish: play-doh and town hall

Exhibit 21

I Purpose of our Retreat

- > New staff, team building
- >MH has taken more control of schedule since our last mini retreat in February, which changes how we do outreach
- >Prepare for move

Icebreaker

Lenine is THE push-up master

II. Overview of Ca-17 (Iamar, mark nakamoto)

- >New cities, how to transition info from campaign to do (ethically and
- >practically) - especially (not exclusively) Fremont' Do so by placing information on a Google document shared by staff.
- >Campaign Sign - - logo evokes "valley", as in Silicon Valley
 - Group thought of change, progress, Dems, Environment, farmland
- >MH magic example - obamanos bumper stickers, high demand, asking \$5 and
- >getting
- >MH wants 70% in election, may be unreasonable but he is "wanting" that number (associated issues of 'managing expectation', dealing with disappointment if we do not hit (which is likely))

June Primary takeaways

>In June, Primary MH got 66.7% of vote

-Intro Comments -

1/MH did better in Santa Clara County than Alameda

2/MH goal is 70%

3/-Problem Areas

Sunnyvale - seniors. Problem areas is older neighborhoods, stable, vote all the time. One problem area was a mobile home park. Also, tech, affluent.

-Milpitas/Fremont - mission (affluent, tech); west of 680 (Chinese); -

Cupertino - Chinese area problem. Also tech affluent

>Weakest part of Fremont - why? Opponent from there does business there.

>Also, MH relatively unknown.

> And upper middle class demo may not favorable

>How Campaign determines an "area of concern": any percent below 60% or less than 10% of Obama 2008; or vote in new district; or 65% or Obama 2008 -10 in new district

>Alameda County weaknesses

>Grimmer area - older demo, more conservative -west of 680 - where opponent does business, visibly -mission area - bigger homes, wealthy

Santa Clara County weakness

- > Sunnyvale - specific area in downtown area with older people
- > Cupertino, why? Chinese,
 - Note - MH guessed Cupertino b/c of Chinese votes (opponent is Chinese), Japanese-chinese relationship is strained

Lamar's analysis of voting results, takeaways

- > High Non republican registration hurt MH more in Alameda County than in Santa Clara County the more Chinese a precinct, the worse MH did
- > Purpose is not just to increase vote with groups/areas in election 2012, but introduce and build MH relationship

Question: Should we be going after those who it will not payoff (Chinese vote) or build relationships where it could bear fruit (Indo Americans)?

Measuring anti-incumbent preference? No party preference is 5%

Chinese

Slight majority dem 52-55%

- Vietnamese

Majority dem 60%

- Mike Nguyen believes Vietnamese not confused by opponents last name

Campaign - Mark - like a normal Voter identification up until a few weeks, then do turn out,

> DO? Chinese language outreach in Cupertino

-Thousand crane-

> 1m - thousand people, each give a thousand per yr

> FOR DONORS: Provide social network to keep in touch, email with questions about federal issues

> Lamar is here to try out this MH idea, even after the election for this

> to work, it will require MHs to use his personal touch.

> Unlike a nonprofit, folks may be hesitant to ante up every year because they believe in the cause

Transitioning Data from Campaign to Official - Mark

How does official use the intelligence from Campaign (outreach, learning)?

- Google doc of stakeholders for CA 17

- One pager per issue, important is anecdotal info like "we supported issue x, this stakeholder was happy"

- Tells you who to go to if we have event x or issue y How many? One pager only for big issues.

- As you use this information officially, place it in to IQ

III Outreach

> Need to manage community's expectations for MH presence.

> Ethnic communities want MH to attend large events which he doesn't like

>Stark's town halls

- >Outreach_ need to give MH specifics on why we are meeting a specific
>set of ethnic people
- >Staff is going to need to attend more events to make up for MH absence
- >Continue telephone town halls as MH is effective
- >Increase 499s to ethnicities specifically, Chinese, Vietnamese, south Asians
- >Need to be systematic in the way we do outreach

Immediate goals:

- >Each field rep and Lenine has to plan and implement their event if not already completed
- >Prepare for move: CMH in charge of transfer of constituents and their files. She will determine dates for transfer of cases and closing out those that can be.
- >CL to design an overall move plan
- >Press: per MS request, continue looking for opportunities in current articles. Get MS on board early with upcoming events.

Exhibit 22

**District Office Staff Retreat
October 22, 2013
Notes**

Office Issues

- Cathy's New Role
 - Update all appropriations--how much, how was it used, how did it help you
 - Can we get the Boss to your org for photos
 - Additional casework -- free up aides for more events
 - Working with Alameda County FOMs
 - Working with Vince to plan retail events
 - Senior Center Day
 - Jan/Feb: Grants Workshop (extremely valuable)
 - Taking over assembly/mailing of 499s
 - Office hours - if you are staffing MH, Cathy will take over them

- Vince
 - Will come up with 3 month plans
 - Will do more proactive event planning
 - DO lead on stakeholder lists - will continue to update them over time (with staff)
 - All staff video call with a new system to continually update
 - Press outreach, being w/ MH at interviews, spotting press

- Staff raised the issue of redundant "paperwork"
 - Biweeklies, Meeting Database, Formal Debriefs, Stakeholder lists
 - Is there a way to streamline this process to avoid overload?

Welcome

Rather than asking for a mission statement, Meri asked us what do we want to look like come next November. Everyone shared their thoughts.

Goals for November 2014

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| • Effective | • Well-oiled machine |
| • Visible | • Community minded |
| • Coordinated | • Responsive |
| • Healthy | • On message |
| • Efficient | • Defined message |
| • Synergistic with campaign | • Recognized |
| • Confident | • Purposeful |
| • Credible | |

DISC Session

Edwin led this session and did not initially hand out everyone's results.

ET started off with providing parameters to understanding the DISC. It is not meant to diagnose you or pigeon-hole you. Rather, it's a chance for us to understand our working styles and those we work with. Especially when we want to accomplish the goals as we approach November, it is important for us to have a healthy team dynamic.

ET threw out the question, "What defines/sets group culture?"

ET explained what the D, I, S, and C personalities were like

ET put up the DISC wheel with just the dots and had people guess where they thought they were, where others were, and where MH was.

ET revealed who was who on the DISC wheel.

ET asked the following questions:

- Do any of the results surprise you? Why?
- Knowing where MH is (C/S), does this help you understand him? How would this affect the way you staff/interact with him?
- What are the strengths of our office? Potential blindspots?
 - ET explained the results v. process oriented people, facts v. emotions, etc...
- What are potential misunderstandings people may have with each other?
 - ET mentioned Robert as an example. He's C/D, very results, detail oriented. When he interacts he's not as worried about feelings as he is about facts. So sometimes this comes off as overly pushy, but if you push back he's fine if you can demonstrate facts to support your side.

ET showed the DC/DO DISC wheel.

Kept contextualizing the results to how we can work effectively together to meet our November 2014 Goals.

Campaign Update/Presentation

Doug Greven presented a short presentation on the campaign status and strategy.

- DC makes policy - we do events - Campaign takes DO events and uses them to raise \$
- Doug: Meri equivalent - admin for staff, political meetings, etc.
- Lamar: endorsements, validator organizing, political information, etc.
- Vivek: online media, press outreach, press secretary, message training w/ MH, scheduling of campaign events (briefer)
- Mehran: call-time manager, fundraising scheduler, intern supervisor, donor list manager, research
- Campaign right now is trying to be quiet - we don't want to talk about RK because we don't WANT to give him name recognition
 - Won't engage until March
- Lamar is setting political folks up to do events that show validators
- Important targets: Alameda County, younger people, caucasians, Latinos
- Prioritize business cards
- New motto: gets stuff done

- If we get a good story, ask people if we can use a quote or get permission to use them
 - If they say thank you, ask them for their story
 - Tell interns to do this
- Campaign is setting up ethnic press stuff

Lunch

Group Problem Solving Activity

Vedant created and lead this activity

Materials: bag of marshmallows and toothpicks

Divide into teams and assign leaders. Vedant showed to the leaders a premade structure and the goal was to have the leaders have their team build their structure without talking.

Debrief Questions:

- What kind of questions made your team successful?
- How did you communicate despite the restriction?
- What was effective? Not?

Strategizing Session

Meri oversaw this session. We started off with going over 2013 Q4 events. Second half was brainstorming events for 2014 (Jan through Nov). Prior to the retreat we were all required to brainstorm 10 ideas and bring them to the event. We then evaluated those events using the following criteria:

- Visibility in the new parts of the district
- Visibility with important stakeholders
- Staff Resources (high, medium, low)
- Resources, time, money (high, medium, low)
- Prep for MH (high, medium, low)
- Opportunity for emphasizing MH accomplishments

Q4 Planning

Event: Veterans Coffee/Casework Workshop

Lead: VR

Date/Time: November 9, 2013, 9:00-9:30a.m. Coffee; 9:30-11am Casework Resources

Details: MH invites vets for morning coffee and chat followed by a casework workshop. MH leaves after coffee.

- Bringing resources to the ppl
- inviting people from the county, VA, etc to assist with informational portion of casework, answer any questions, etc
- Vince is doing VA outreach

Event: Small Business Walking Tour followed by Small Business Roundtable

Lead: AC

Date/Time: November 25, 2013, 10:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Details: MH walks a retail district for meet and greet at store fronts followed by a roundtable with business owners in that area.

Target areas: Alameda County (Vietnamese and Latino businesses in Newark, Afghan district in Fremont, etc.)

- ask them what their needs are

- meet and greet

- fremont business districts (get information on businesses)--AC

- Niles district, alameda county---Lenine suggests Milpitas (email suggestion to VR)

Event: Senior Center Stop By/Listening Tour

Lead: CMH

Date/Time: TBD, 3-4 hours

Details: MH will do meet and greets at senior centers in the district

- meet and greet. 15-20 seniors is a success.

- just a simple listening tour. aiming for credation. low-resource event. not giving a speech---CMH has a good idea of Senior centers, turnouts, etc

Event: Rally to protect Social Security

Lead: LU

Date/Time: November 26, 2013, 10:00 - 11:00a.m.

Details: MH will hold a rally with stakeholders/constituents on the need to protect and strengthen social security

- rallying with stakeholders

- reaching out to the ppl, offering ppl to stand with MH at the rally

- Meri: still a little fuzzy--portion of this needs to be done at a Senior center (educational opportunity for Seniors to come). If Max is involved, will need this to be at a Senior Center

- need parking space and permission

- LU: need enough time to get help from AARP

- turnout will be low. wk before Thanksgiving

- same week. MH giving out food during holiday (Thanksgiving Day)--also out at the Turkey Trot (feel good retail, visibility)

Event: College Womyn's Health Fair

Lead: LU

Date/Time: December 17, 2013, 10:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Details: Hold a women's health fair at a community college in Alameda County (Ohlone College) and Santa Clara County (Mission College) back to back in one day. Include stakeholders such as Planned Parenthood, Tri Health, Office of Women's Health, etc

- 2 events/locations. Santa Clara and Alameda. separately timed. 10 different organizations max. LU
- certain number of ppl and speakers for both events
- need to keep MH focused to be able to do both sites; requires a lot of coordination for staffers
- pushing it to Tuesday, 17th
- Taking place at community college--Mission, Ohlone College (reaching out to the young students)

Event: Deliver holiday cards to veterans at Palo Alto VA with SAC Students

Lead: VP/VR

Date/Time: December 19, 2013

Details: SAC students will make holiday cards and will deliver them with MH

- delivering, thanking, appreciating, acknowledging veterans. feel good event
- an addition to Sacred Heart
- Meri's suggestion: not making cards. just getting them to sign them
- Charlene: instead of SAC students, get interns to sign them
- Meri: non religious, just seasons greetings. either from costco. have kids sign them
- VR and VP are in charge of this

Event: Immigration Listening Session

Lead: LU/ET

Date/Time: December 17, 2013, 9:00a.m. - 10:00a.m. (Santa Clara County), 11:00a.m.-12:00p.m. (Alameda County)

Details: MH gathers immigration groups to update on the progress of CIR and listen to their concerns

- packaging ideas back to back to keep him focused
- purpose: getting credit for his work on immigration
- LU and ET are on this one

Event: STEM Council Event

Lead: ET

Date/Time: December 9, 2013, all day

Details: MH holds a Women and STEM meeting with his STEM Council. He will also visit classrooms in school in CA-17.

-Scam Stoppers

****Meri:** 7 weeks to do 7 events. some are close together. decide on what resources you'll need and ask for help when needed. Busy busy time. Time off between Christmas and NY off**

2104 Planning

Proposed events and descriptions

Clean water (work with water district resources--mailing list, tying in boss' environmental record, santa clara county and alameda water district)

--target: general residents, caucasians, press

--clean water act: fed hook

Tour Zero mission buses on Zanker. walking tour with press. quick press conference at the end. go for a short ride. tie it to infrastructure investments. federally funded in some way, too (AC)

Women peace and security act: india, afghanistan women. related to HR violence act. (AC)

Consumer Protection Town Hall: similar to Trust Act/immigration. get someone from state and fed agency. advertise doing a telephone townhall and linking in fed agency contacts.

Equal Pay Day

High School/Community college grad speech. Get intern to look up graduation dates.

VTA Federally Funded Tour with Bart--visit all sites that give VTA money

IMLS Grant Workshop--at Santa Clara University

Naming of Mt. Umunhum

Women Safety Forum: dating violence and prevention, anti-bullying at a college/ university. fed tie in--wawa

Viet/Fili/Latino Awards

Dividing choices between Tier 1 and 2

Top 10:

Tour of VTA/BART: Mission Bus, faculty

Clean Water/Water District Tour

Women Peace and Security Act Event

Consumer Protection

HS/Comm College Graduation--speech

STEM Grants Workshop

Women's Safety Forum

Naturalization Ceremony (Alameda)

Student Financial Aid (FAFSA)

Human Trafficking

2nd Tier:

Back 2 School Event

IMLS Grant Workshop
Ohlone Job Fair
Thanksgiving Service
Naming of Mt. Umunhum
College/University event with students
Fili/Viet/Latino (Ethnic) Awards
Cultural Community (Lunar, Cinco de Mayo, Dia de las Muertos)
Portuguese Community
Summer Safety Seminar
Filipino Vets (Alameda)
Alviso Environment Event
High School visit
Equal Pay Day

Staff Jeopardy

Lenine lead this section. Prior to the retreat (~1 week) Lenine sent out a survey using google docs to have everyone fill out a survey with the following questions:

- Name
- What is your zodiac sign?
- What is your favorite book, movie, or music genre?
- What is your idea of a perfect vacation?
- How would you spend a million dollars?
- What is your favorite word?
- What sound do you love?
- What sound do you hate?
- What profession other than yours would you like to pursue?
- What profession would you not like to do?
- If heaven exists, what would you like God say when you arrive at the pearly gates?
- What 5 items would your apocalypse survival backpack contain?

Lenine then created a "descriptive profile" for each staffer and put it up on the screen and we went through all the profiles and wrote down our guesses. Then at the end we shared who we thought each profile was and revealed the answers. The best any of us did was 4 out of 9.

I have attached out DO answers and the DO descriptive profiles to this email.

Time Management Session

Materials

Bits and pieces of clothing/fabric, paper, scissors, glue, tape, assortment of decorative bits and pieces, buttons, etc

Rules

1. We will be separated into two groups of 4.
2. Each group will designate who their "model" will be.
3. Each group has its own set of materials.
4. Each group member is responsible for designing and creating a certain part of the eventual outfit.
 - a. One person will design/create the "top" part of the outfit.
 - b. One person will design/create the "bottom" part of the outfit.
 - c. One person will design/create the "accessories" for the outfit.
 - d. One person will design/create the "headwear" for the outfit.
5. The team has only 5 minutes to discuss what their outfit is going to look like.
 - a. The outfit has to have a political theme.
 - b. The outfit CANNOT be swimwear, underwear, or casual.
 - c. The outfit MUST be able to stay together as the model walks down the "runway."
6. After 5 minutes, the team cannot communicate with each other about their design and must start working on their pieces.
7. Teams have 20 minutes to complete their pieces.
8. The first ten minutes, they cannot put their pieces on the model.
9. At the ten minute mark, teams can start putting this on the model.
10. When time is called, all pieces must be on the model.
11. Models then walk up and down the runway with their pieces.
12. The winners are the ones with the MOST pieces able to stay on the model and the MOST creative/good looking.
13. During the activity, facilitator will start removing items that are not being used.

Unspoken Rules

- Team members are implicitly allowed to help each other – some people have "easier" tasks and can offer to help their team members IF THEY INDEPENDENTLY DECIDE TO. Facilitator SHOULD NOT inform them of this ability.

Debrief

- Can you explain the thought process behind your outfit?
- As a team member, what part of this outfit did you contribute?
- What was your idea behind your piece?
- Why did you choose to work on that particular part of the outfit?
- How did you feel when I started removing items?
- What did the loss of your items mean for your team?
- What was difficult about the challenge?
- How did your team members work around the difficulties?
- How did you interpret the rules differently from others?
 - Ask only if someone "went beyond the rules" independently
- In what ways do you think your team was successful in accomplishing your task?

- In what ways would you change your own actions should you do this activity again?
- What do you feel this activity was attempting to teach the group?

Additionally we discussed what time management strategies we each employ on a daily basis. How do we prioritize with competing "important" tasks?

Debrief

We ended the retreat by sharing 2 things we learned about ourselves or others that were positive and shared one area of improvement we could work on.

Exhibit 23



Congressman Mike Honda (CA-17)

San Jose Councilmember Ash Kalra

Fremont Vice Mayor Anu Natarajan

and Fremont Councilmember Raj Salwan



cordially invite you to join a roundtable discussion with

Mitul Desai

Senior Advisor for Strategic Partnership

U.S. Department of State's South & Central Asian Bureau

Thursday, February 21, 2013

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Santa Clara University

500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95053

St. Joseph's Hall – President's Board Room, 2nd Floor

By Invitation Only. Non-transferable. RSVP Required.

RSVP to Mark Nakamoto [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

This round table discussion on the economic relationship between the United States and India will provide an opportunity for policymakers, business innovators, and community leaders to draw upon the lessons of India and the Silicon Valley while helping to deepen the close partnership between the world's largest and the world's oldest democracy.

As Silicon Valley's representative for the last twelve years, Congressman Mike Honda has witnessed first-hand the dynamic growth and entrepreneurial spirit that has made Silicon Valley famous around the world. The role that the South Asian diaspora has played in Silicon Valley is well known both in the United States and in India. During these very same years India has witnessed incredible progress. By focusing on business and infrastructure development, investing in education, and fighting corruption, India has grown increasingly competitive in the global marketplace.

The partnership between the United States and India is critical to peace and prosperity in the 21st Century. Congressman Honda, Councilmember Karla, Vice Mayor Natarajan, Councilmember Salwan, and Mr. Mitul Desai hope that this forum will provide an opportunity to share best practices while deepening the people-to-people, business-to-business, and government-to-government relationships that will be crucial to promoting economic growth and prosperity for both India and the United States.

Exhibit 24

From: Jennifer Van der Heide <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, February 14, 2015 7:51 PM
To: VanderHeide, Jennifer <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Fwd: FW: SV-Gujarat Round Table
Attach: SV-Gujarat Round Table - Invite List 2.7.2013.docx

----- Forwarded message -----

From: VanderHeide, Jennifer <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wed, Sep 24, 2014 at 6:02 PM
Subject: FW: SV-Gujarat Round Table
To: [REDACTED]

Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.

Chief of Staff

Rep. Mike Honda (CA-17)

1713 Longworth House Office Bldg

Washington, DC 20515

Honda.house.gov | [REDACTED]



From: Agrawal, Ruchit
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:37 PM
To: VanderHeide, Jennifer
Subject: SV-Gujarat Round Table

Jennifer:

Here is a list with 16 people and organizations. Please tell me if I should drop [REDACTED]

The list needs to be longer. Any ideas on who we can contact?

Ruchit Agrawal, J.D.

Congressional Aide

Office of Congressman Mike Honda (CA-17)

2001 Gateway Palce, Suite 670W, San Jose, CA 95110

Tel: [REDACTED] / Fax: [REDACTED]



Learn more about Congressman Honda's legislative initiatives by signing up for his [e-mail updates](#) or [visiting his blog](#).

--
Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff
Congressman Mike Honda (CA 17)

Exhibit 25



Ruchit Agrawal [REDACTED]

Do you have the list of proposed invitees to the Indian roundtable with State ready? We need to start sending out.

1 message

Jennifer Van der Heide <[REDACTED]>
To: Lamar Heystek <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Ruchit Agrawal <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Feb 7, 2013 at 10:07 AM

—
Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff
Congressman Mike Honda (CA 17)

Exhibit 26



Re: Suggested South Asian Invitees for State Dept. Roundtable

[redacted]

4 messages

Jennifer Van der Heide <[redacted]> Sat, Feb 9, 2013 at 8:41 AM
To: "Lamar Heystek (Google Drive)" <[redacted]>
Cc: Madalene Mielke <[redacted]>, Ruchit Agrawal <[redacted]>, meri maben <[redacted]>

Great lists - how are we doing outreach to them for \$? Can we at least collect emails and send newsletters or something if we can't do straight asks electronically now?

Also - do you have the list of the South Asians now endorsing/supporting MH? I want to make sure we are including all of them. Invites going out first thing Monday morning.

On Fri, Feb 8, 2013 at 9:25 AM, Lamar Heystek (Google Drive) <[redacted]> wrote:

I've shared an item with you.

Hello Jennifer,

Here is a list of South Asian tech/investment folks who've donated to candidates in the past (none to MH) -- see the donation history in the "Notes" column. I am looking for contact info for as many folks as I can.

Should I share this spreadsheet with Ruchit on his personal e-mail, so he can help add names/contact info?

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Lamar

 Suggested South Asian Invitees for State Dept. Roundtable

Google Drive: create, share, and keep all your stuff in one place.



Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff
Congressman Mike Honda (CA 17)

Jennifer Van der Heide <[redacted]> Sat, Feb 9, 2013 at 8:42 AM
To: Ruchit Agrawal <[redacted]>

I went through and culled out which ones should be on invite list so I need you to call me so I can read off the names.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lamar Heystek (Google Drive) <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, Feb 8, 2013 at 9:25 AM
Subject: Suggested South Asian Invitees for State Dept. Roundtable ([REDACTED])
To: [REDACTED]

I've shared an item with you.

Hello Jennifer,

Here is a list of South Asian tech/investment folks who've donated to candidates in the past (none to MH) -- see the donation history in the "Notes" column. I am looking for contact info for as many folks as I can.

Should I share this spreadsheet with Ruchit on his personal e-mail, so he can help add names/contact info?

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Lamar

 Suggested South Asian Invitees for State Dept. Roundtable

Google Drive: create, share, and keep all your stuff in one place.



—
Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff
Congressman Mike Honda (CA 17)

Lamar Heystek <[REDACTED]> Sun, Feb 10, 2013 at 6:04 AM
To: Jennifer Van der Heide <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Madalene Mielke <[REDACTED]>, Ruchit Agrawal <[REDACTED]>, meri maben <[REDACTED]>

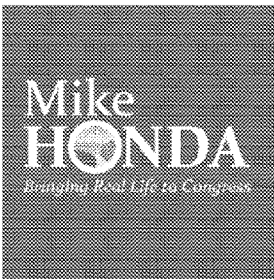
The list is part of the NGP batch upload of the donor research data we had compiled did a few months ago -- they are all in our database, along with contact info and giving history. They have already been receiving our electronic correspondence, and all will be receiving a Lunar New Year card from MH.

The South Asians endorsing MH is not a particularly long list at this point -- but I will work on it via a Google Doc and make sure everyone here can add to it.

Thanks,
Lamar

Lamar Heystek
Mike Honda for Congress
[REDACTED] phone
[REDACTED] fax
www.mikehonda.com
Like Mike on Facebook!

RA_0040
15-2070_0524



On Sat, Feb 9, 2013 at 8:41 AM, Jennifer Van der Heide <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Great lists - how are we doing outreach to them for \$? Can we at least collect emails and send newsletters or something if we can't do straight asks electronically now?

Also - do you have the list of the South Asians now endorsing/supporting MH? I want to make sure we are including all of them. Invites going out first thing Monday morning.

On Fri, Feb 8, 2013 at 9:25 AM, Lamar Heystek (Google Drive) <[REDACTED]> wrote:

I've shared an item with you.


Hello Jennifer,

Here is a list of South Asian tech/investment folks who've donated to candidates in the past (none to MH) -- see the donation history in the "Notes" column. I am looking for contact info for as many folks as I can.

Should I share this spreadsheet with Ruchit on his personal e-mail, so he can help add names/contact info?

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Lamar

 Suggested South Asian Invitees for State Dept. Roundtable

Google Drive: create, share, and keep all your stuff in one place.



—
Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff
Congressman Mike Honda (CA 17)

Jennifer Van der Heide <[REDACTED]> Sun, Feb 10, 2013 at 6:45 AM
To: Lamar Heystek <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Madalene Mielke <[REDACTED]>, Ruchit Agrawal <[REDACTED]>, meri maben <[REDACTED]>

Thanks. We r under pressure to release ad with 100 Indo names....

Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff
Rep. Mike Honda, CA-17

On Feb 10, 2013, at 9:04 AM, Lamar Heystek <[REDACTED]> wrote:

The list is part of the NGP batch upload of the donor research data we had compiled did a few months ago – they are all in our database, along with contact info and giving history. They have already been receiving our electronic correspondence, and all will be receiving a Lunar New Year card from MH.

The South Asians endorsing MH is not a particularly long list at this point – but I will work on it via a Google Doc and make sure everyone here can add to it.

Thanks,
Lamar



Lamar Heystek
Mike Honda for Congress

[REDACTED] phone
[REDACTED] fax

www.mikehonda.com

Like Mike on Facebook!

On Sat, Feb 9, 2013 at 8:41 AM, Jennifer Van der Heide <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Great lists - how are we doing outreach to them for \$? Can we at least collect emails and send newsletters or something if we can't do straight asks electronically now?

Also - do you have the list of the South Asians now endorsing/supporting MH? I want to make sure we are including all of them. Invites going out first thing Monday morning.

On Fri, Feb 8, 2013 at 9:25 AM, Lamar Heystek (Google Drive) <[REDACTED]> wrote:

I've shared an item with you.

Hello Jennifer,

Here is a list of South Asian tech/investment folks who've donated to candidates in the past (none to MH) – see the donation history in the "Notes" column. I am looking for contact info for as many folks as I can.

Should I share this spreadsheet with Ruchit on his personal e-mail, so he can help add names/contact info?

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Lamar

 Suggested South Asian Invitees for State Dept. Roundtable

Google Drive: create, share, and keep all your stuff in one place.

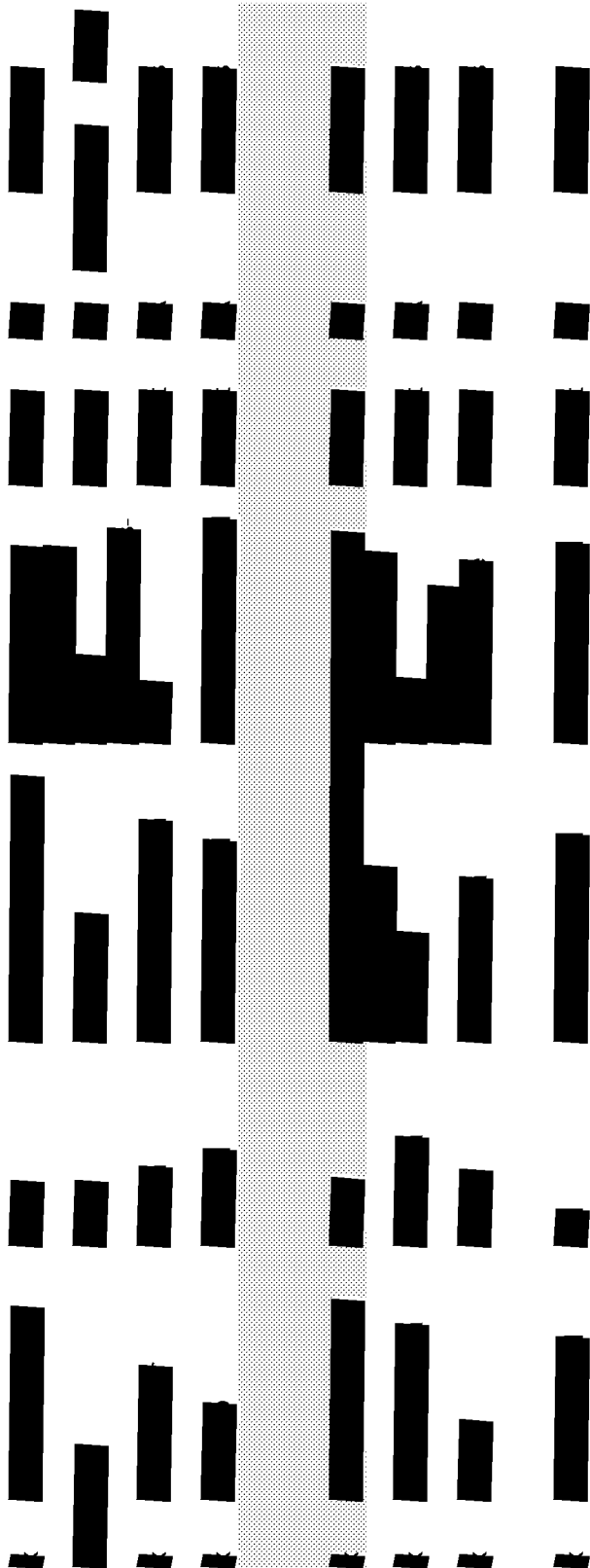


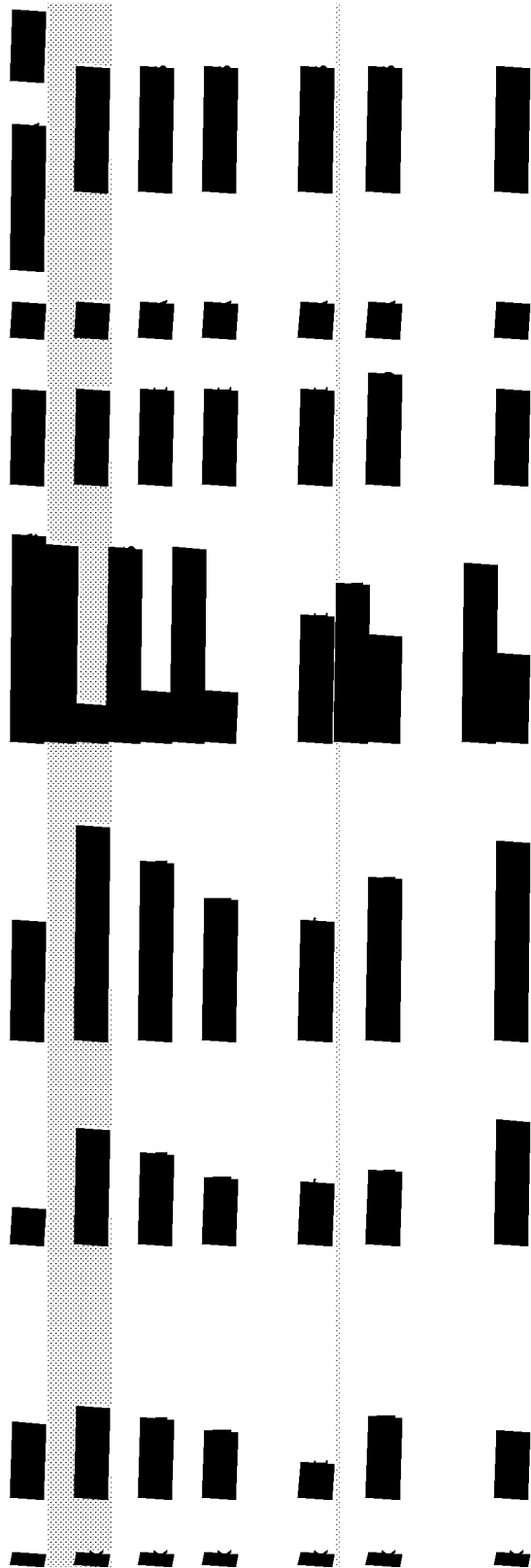
—
Jennifer Van der Heide, Esq.
Chief of Staff
Congressman Mike Honda (CA 17)

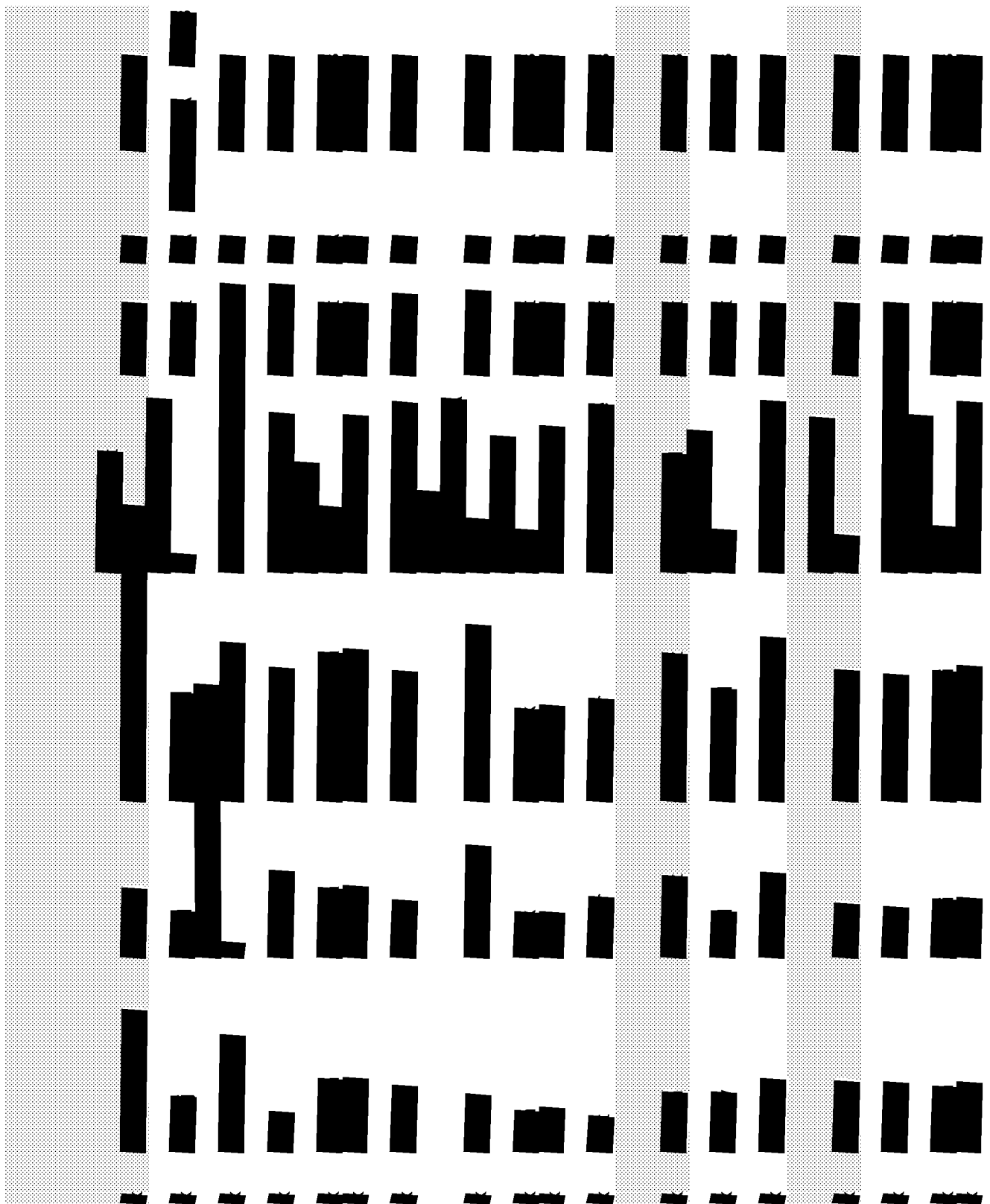
Exhibit 27

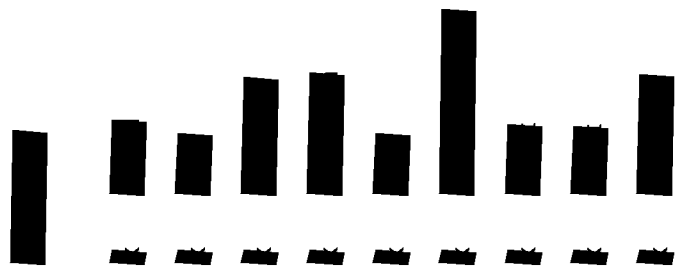
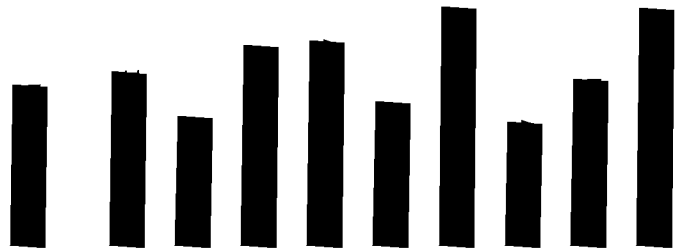
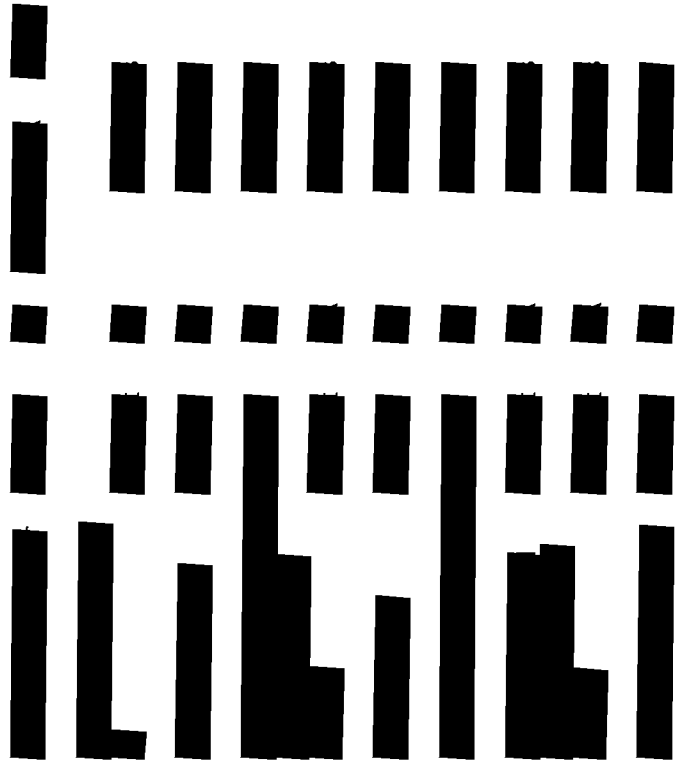
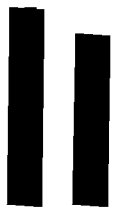
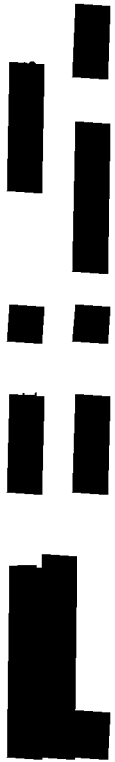
Cod e First Name Last Name Full Name Address 1 City State Zip Code A- Verifica tion

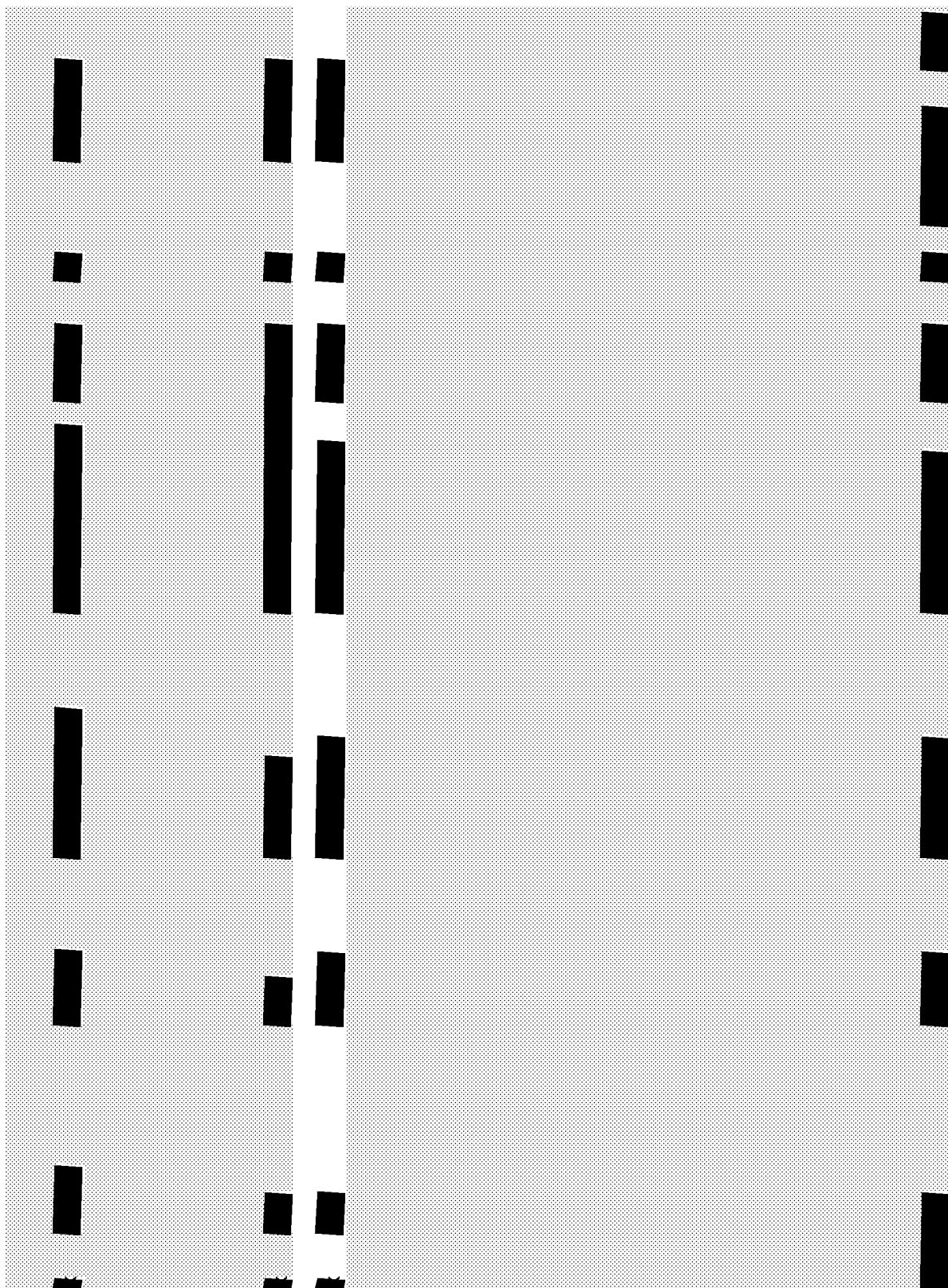
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

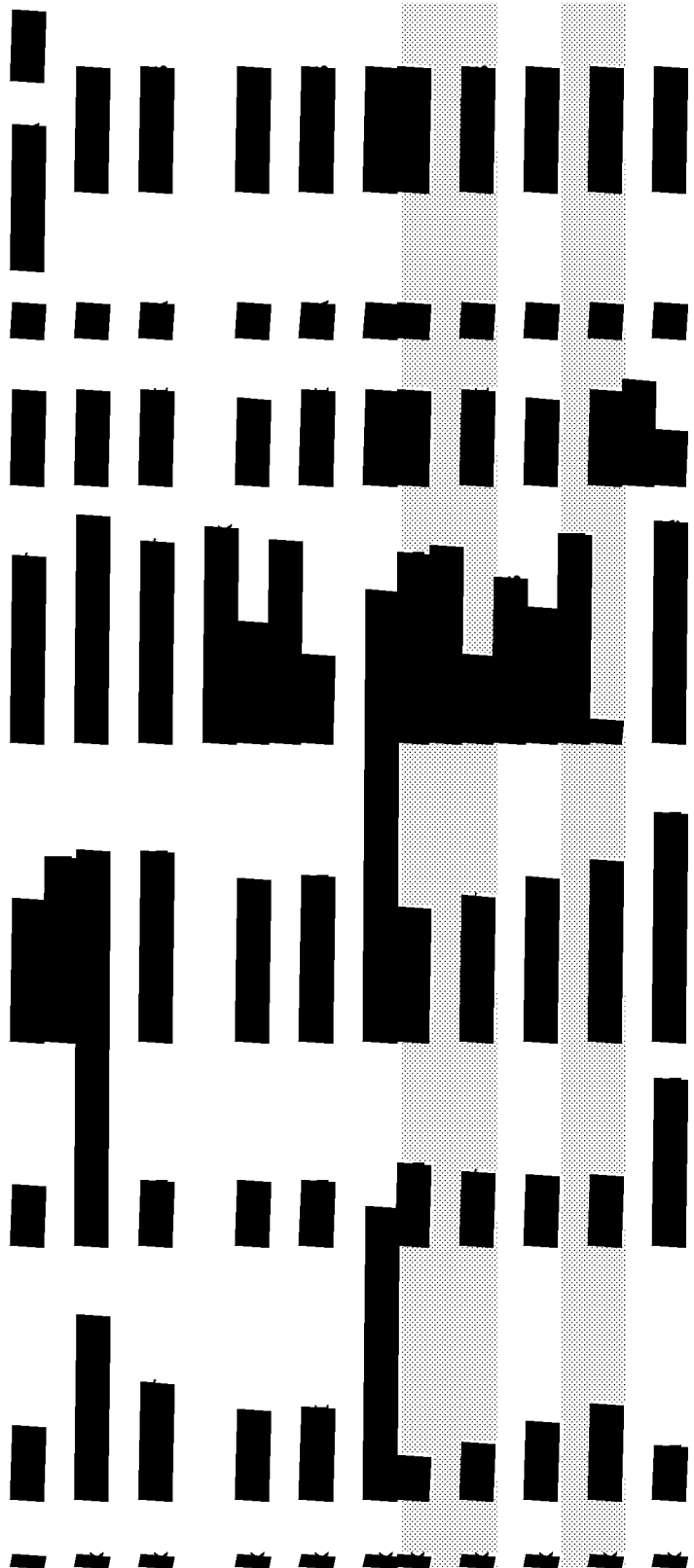












[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

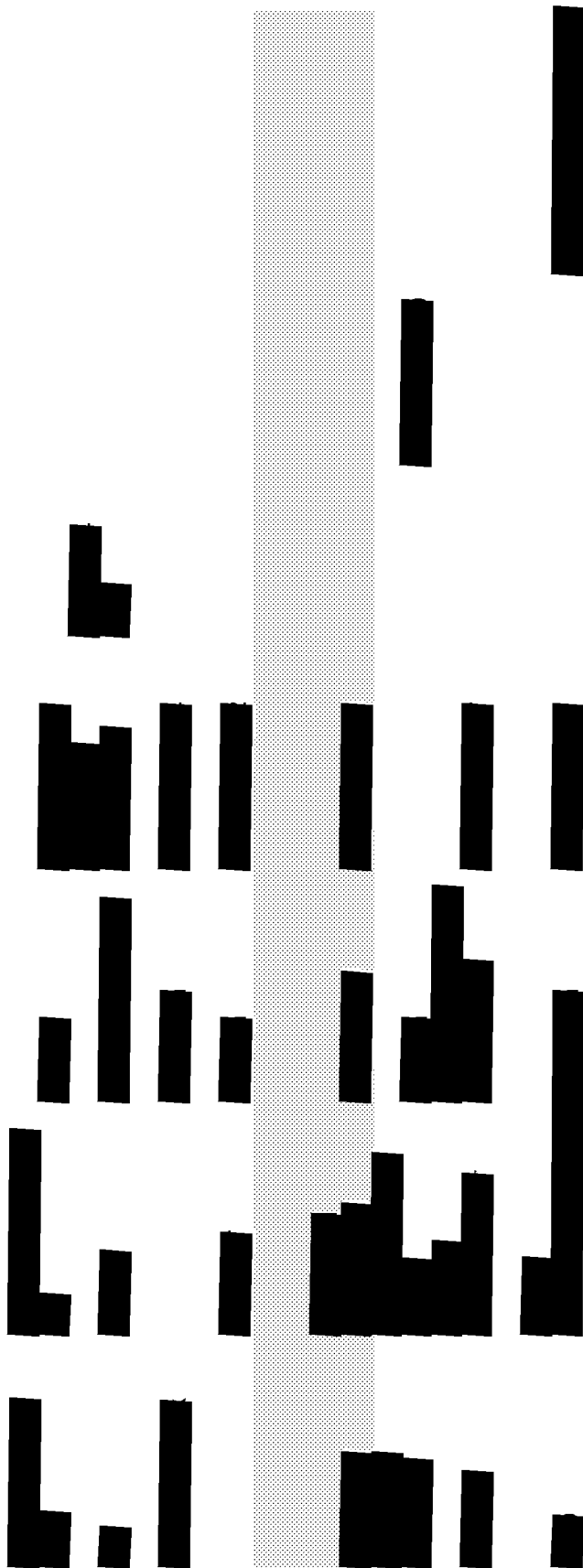
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

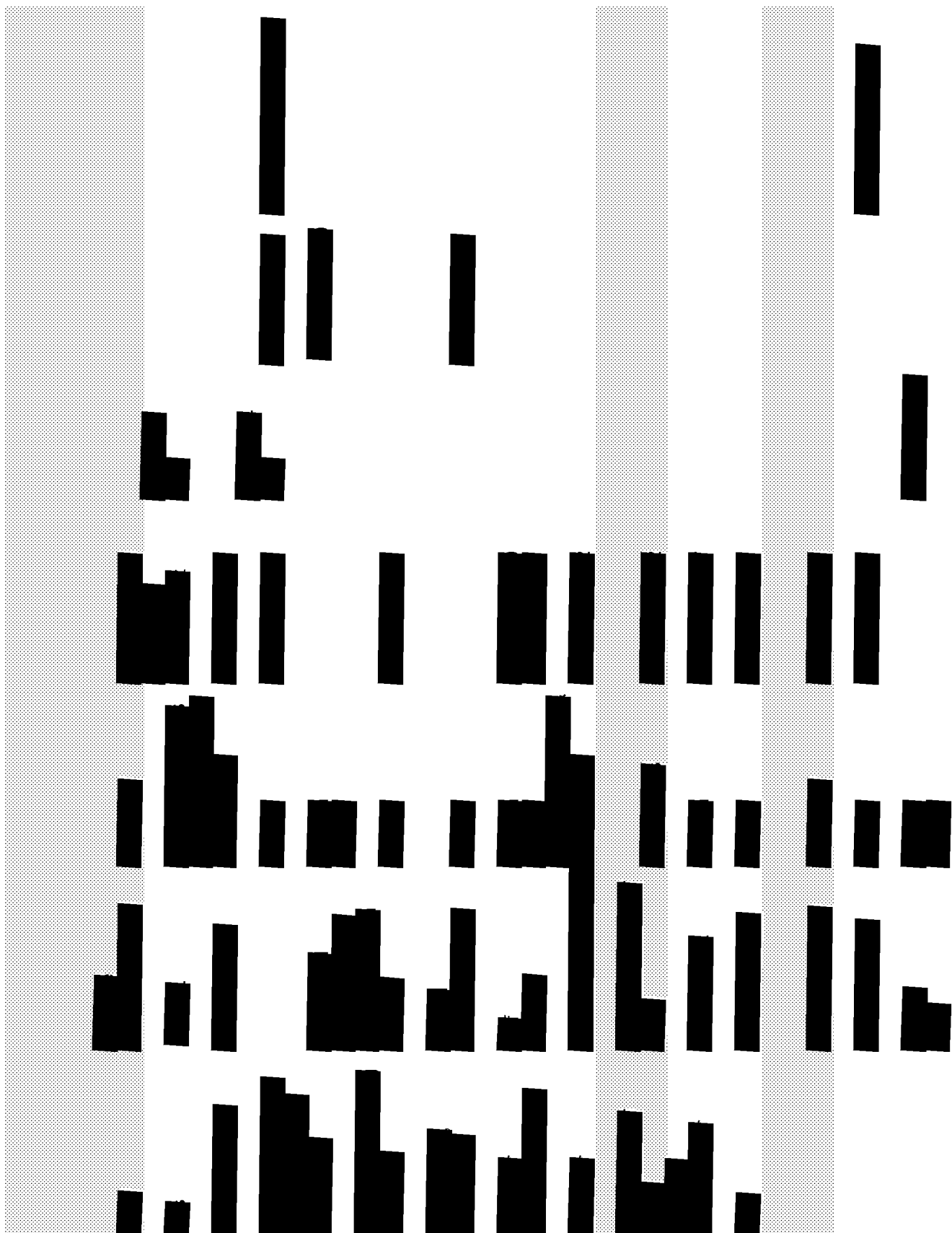
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

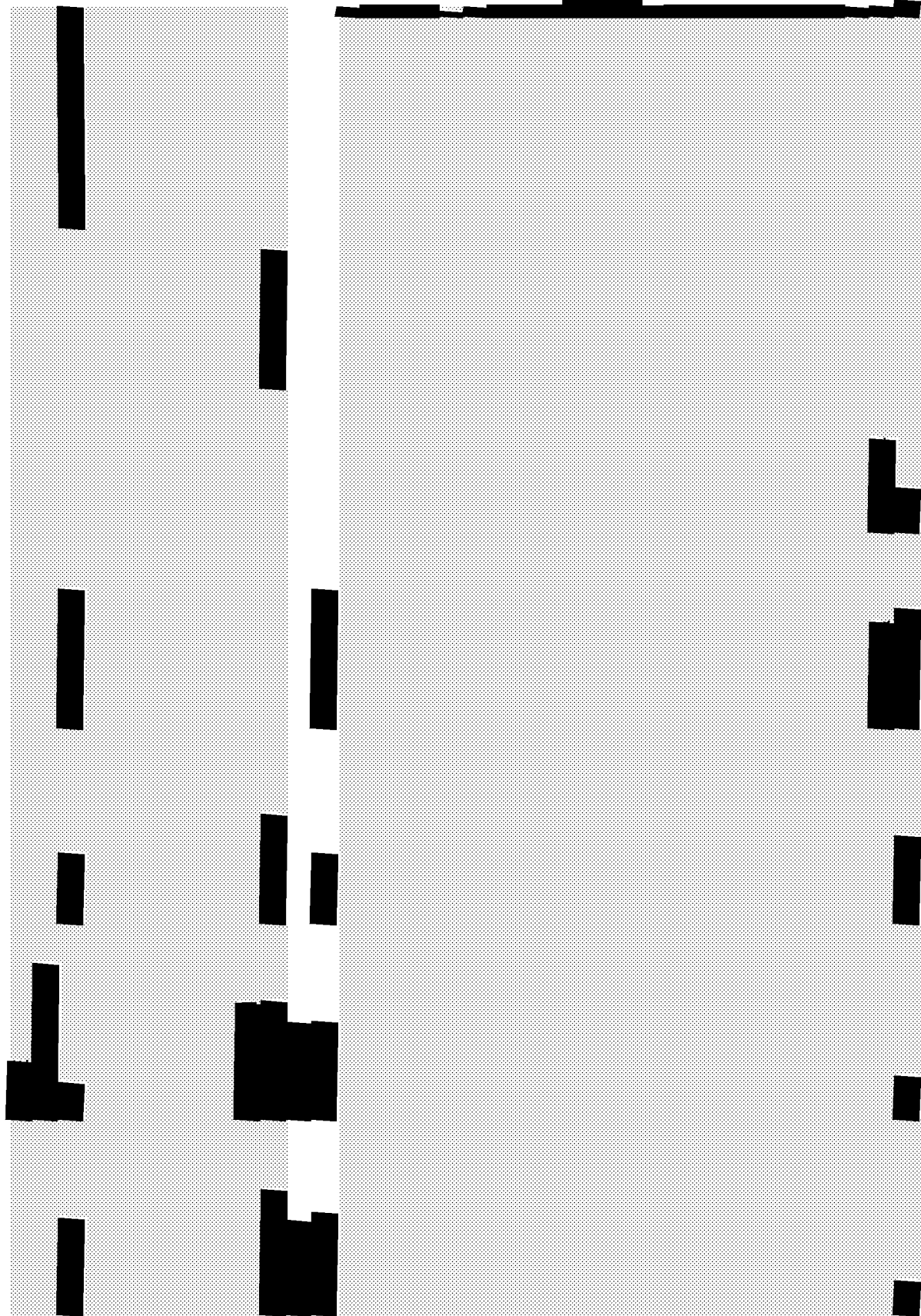
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Notes	AN	RK	MH	ES	De m Pre s	Rep Pres	Asian
3 25 2008 Iranian American PAC \$2,500 5/24/12 Darius Shahinfar (D) \$500							
11 19 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$500		x					
3 31 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$200					x		
062406 Anu Natarajan \$100, 4/23/2008 Barack Obama (D) \$2,275	x	x			x		
9/7/2008 Barack Obama (D) \$1,000, 10/19/2008 Pete Stark (D) \$250					x		
9 27 2009 Sestak, Joseph A Jr (D) \$201							
3 28 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$2,300					x		
091406 Anu Natarajan \$250, 10/7/2011 Rohit Khanna (D) \$2,500, 6/22/2007 Hillary Clinton \$2,300, 9/18/2007 Democratic Congressional Campaign Cmte (D) \$1,000, 5/31/2008 Democratic Congressional Campaign Cmte \$1,000	x	x			x		
1 22 2010 Goyle, Raj (D) \$250							
2 22 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$500					x		
10 12 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$2,500		x					

2 2 2010 DNC Services Corp (D) \$219, 8 12 2009 DNC Services Corp (D) \$209, 6 21 2009 Democratic Senatorial Campaign Cmte (D) \$250, 9 19 2008 Democratic Senatorial Campaign Cmte (D) \$250, 10 18 2008 Democratic Senatorial Campaign Cmte (D) \$250, 10 17 2010 Democratic Senatorial Campaign Cmte (D) \$250

x

101206 Anu Natarajan \$250

x

~~102206 Anu Natarajan \$100, 11/3/2011 Rohit Khanna (D) \$500~~

x

5 10 2012 Gill, Ricky (R) \$250

9 27 2007 Democratic Congressional Campaign Cmte (D) \$5,000, 9 28 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$2,500, 6 22 2007 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$2,300, 9 28 2010 Sestak, Joseph A Jr (D) \$250, Top 10 Donors in Fremont for '08 cycle

x

9 9 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$250

x

10/30/2008 Sue Chan \$100

9/30/10 Barbara Boxer \$2,400, 12 14 2011 Gill, Ricky (R) \$2,500

11 9 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$500

10 13 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$2,500

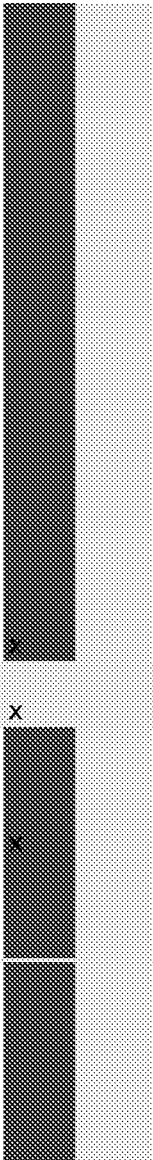
3 17 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$2,000

11 14 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$1,000, 3 30 2008 Madia, Ashwin (D) \$1,000

9 11 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$500

7/31/07 Hillary Clinton \$2,300, 7/24/07 Keith Ellison \$1,000, 10/20/08 Keith Ellison \$1,000,

103006 Anu Natarajan \$125, 4 15 2007 Democratic Senatorial Campaign Cmte (D) \$500, 9 25 2008 Democratic Senatorial Campaign Cmte (D) \$250, 7 31 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$250 x



x

x

x

x

101906 Anu Natarajan \$250, 11/30/2007 Democratic Congressional Campaign Cmte (D) \$10,000, 10/15/2011 Rohit Khanna (D) \$2,500, 10/8/2009 Anna Eshoo (D) \$1,000, 2/1/2008 Republican National Cmte \$28,500, 6/30/2008 John McCain \$2,300, 6/30/2008 John McCain \$2,300, Top 10 Donors in Fremont for '08 cycle

x x

3 23 2012 Space Systems/Loral \$250

070606 Anu Natarajan \$250

x

102206 Anu Natarajan \$249, 10 24 2006 Bill Harrison \$249

x

3 7 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$200
11 21 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$250

x

101906 Anu Natarajan \$150

x

[REDACTED] 11 30 2007 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$250

x

102206 Anu Natarajan \$200

x

082406 Anu Natarajan \$100

x

091406 Anu Natarajan \$250, 10 24 2006 Bill Harrison \$100

x

10 30 2008 Ackerson, Nels (D) \$1,001, 9 28 2007 Ackerson, Nels (D) \$1,000

101206 Anu Natarajan \$250

x

10 3 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$500, 10 9 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$250

x

2 3 2012 Obama, Barack (D) \$2,500, 2 3 2012 Obama, Barack (D) \$2,500, 10 15 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$2,500, 2 29 2012 DNC Services Corp (D) \$7,500

x

1 25 2012 Obama, Barack (D) \$250

x

101206 Anu Natarajan \$250

x

5-8-2012 Stark, Pete (D) \$250

11 15 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$2,500

11 5 2006 Bill Harrison \$100

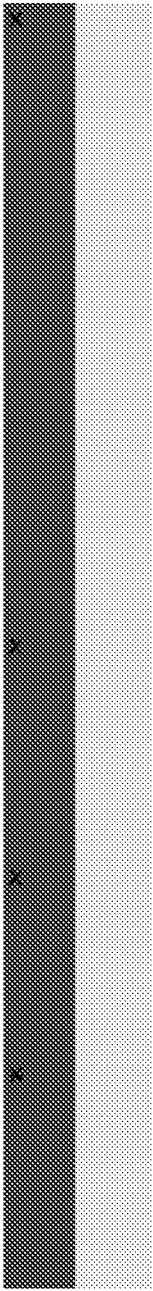
11 15 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$2,500, 10 24 2009 Garamendi,
John (D) \$250
2 15 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$1,000, 12 22 2011 Obama,
Barack (D) \$300, 9 26 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$1,000, 10 24
2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$500,
5 14 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$250, 10 24 2008 Obama, Barack
(D) \$500
10 10 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$1,000, 9 28 2009 Goyle, Raj (D)
\$250

101206 Anu Natarajan \$100 x
4 23 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$250, 2 7 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D)
\$250, 5 3 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$250 x
~~062306 Anu Natarajan \$250, 11 13 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D)-
\$2,500 x~~

10/3/08 Barack Obama \$250, 10/16/08 Barack Obama \$250 x

9/8/12 Ricky Gill \$250

092806 Anu Natarajan \$100 x



x
x
x
x

9 9 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$250 x
102206 Anu Natarajan \$200, 8 27 2008 Obama, Barack (D)
\$2,300, 12 31 2007 Baucus, Max (D) \$2,300, 10 31 2008
Democratic Senatorial Campaign Cmte (D) \$1,000, 10 13 2009
Simitian, S Joseph (D) \$250, 9 30 2008 Blue Dog PAC \$3,850, 3
21 2007 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$2,300, 10 6 2008 BRIDGE PAC (D)
\$1,200, 7 31 2006 Biden, Joseph R Jr (D) \$1,000, 12 31 2007
Freedom Project (R) \$3,900, Top 10 Donors in Fremont for '08
cycle x x

2 8 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$250 x

6/17/08 Democratic Congressional Cmte \$1000, 12/17/09 Bill
Foster \$250

9/24/07 National Republican Cmte \$1,000, 11 16 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$1,000

9/14/08 Barack Obama \$250

5 10 2012 Gill, Ricky (R) \$250

2 25 2008 Clinton, Hillary (D) \$2,300

100606 Anu Natarajan \$150

5 10 2012 Gill, Ricky (R) \$1,000

9/3/08 Barack Obama \$4,500

101206 Anu Natarajan \$250, 11 15 2011 Khanna, Rohit (D) \$2,500

101206 Anu Natarajan \$250

2/9/08 Hillary Clinton \$500

103006 Anu Natarajan \$200

x

x

x

x

x

x

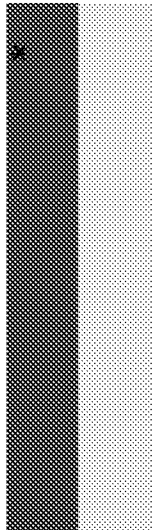
x

x

~~102206 Anu Natarajan \$100, 11/3/2011 Rohit Khanna (D) \$300~~ x

100606 Anu Natarajan \$100 x
6 7 2008 Obama, Barack (D) \$250

110606 Anu Natarajan \$100 x

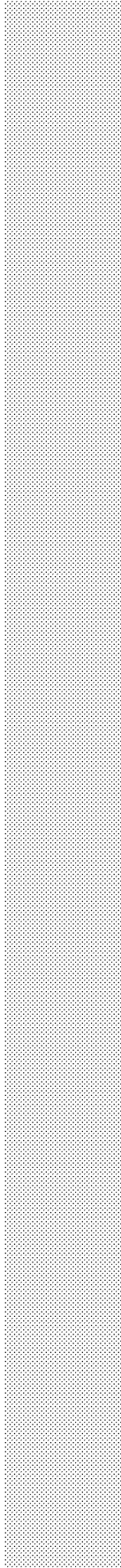


x

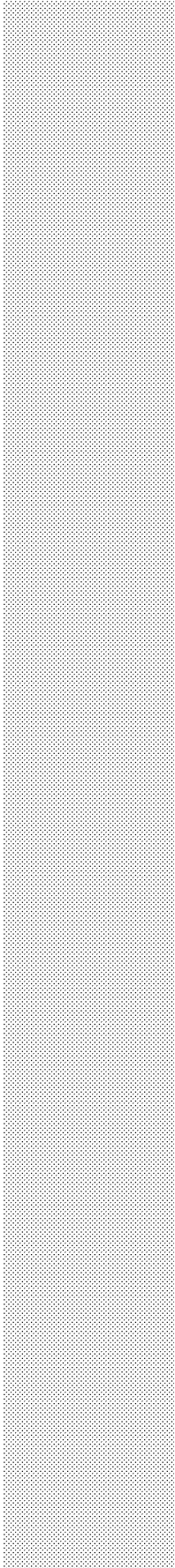
Left Union OTHER PS AA MSC Cho

x

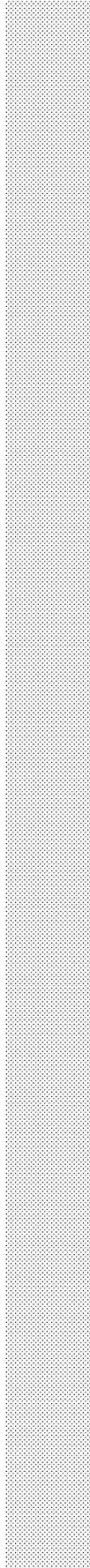
x



x

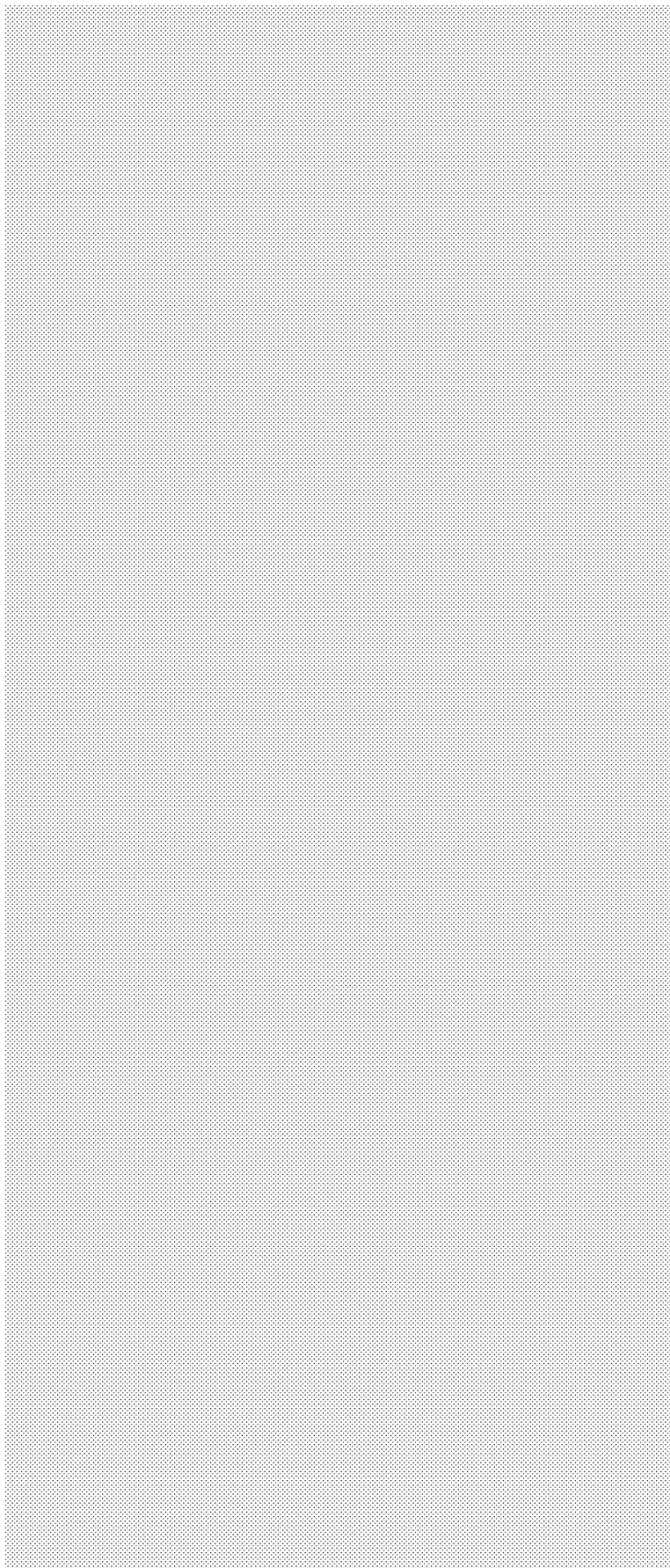
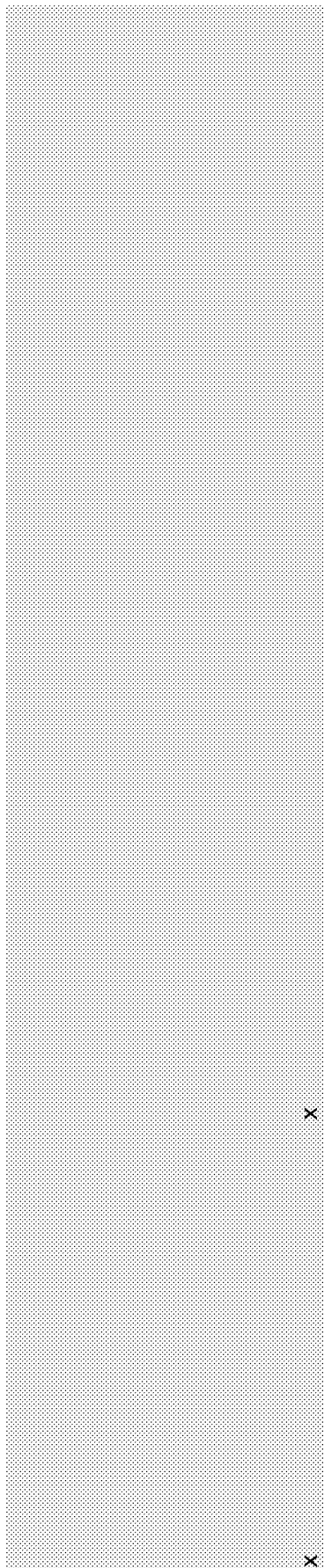


x

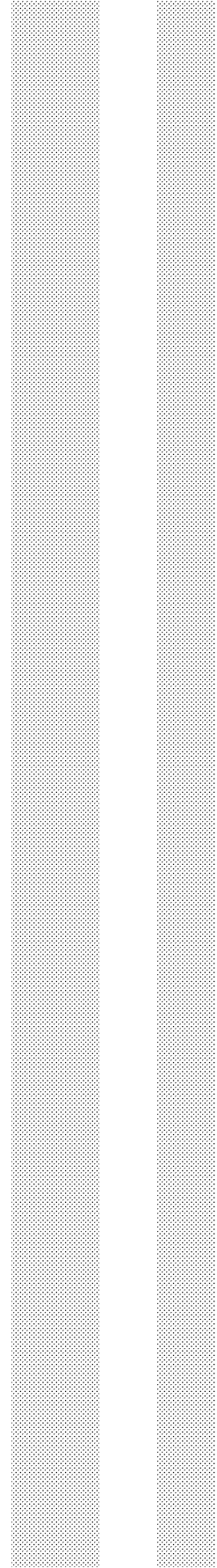


*

x



x

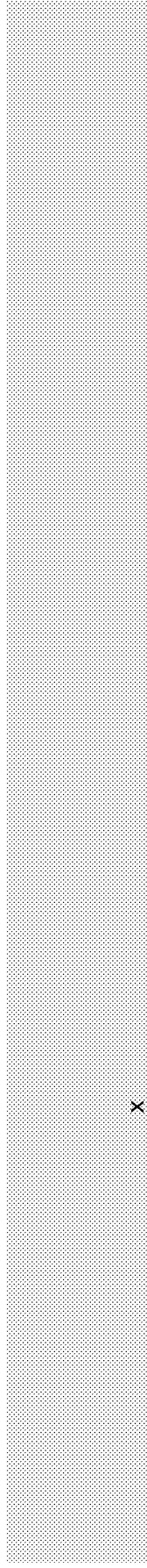


Other Congress **State Senate** **Dem** **RG** **EC** **Website** **Bio**

x

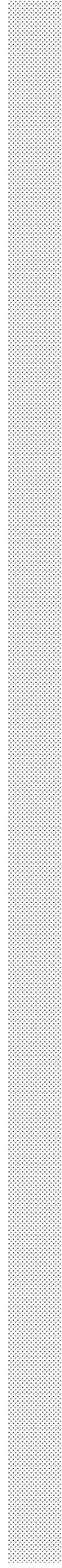


x



x

x

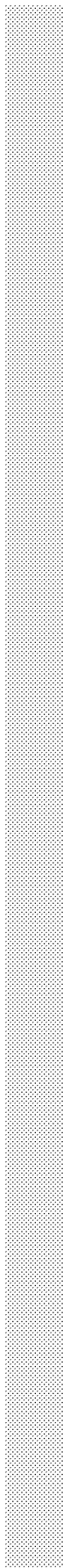


x

x

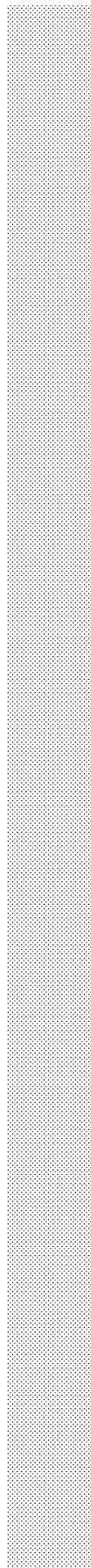
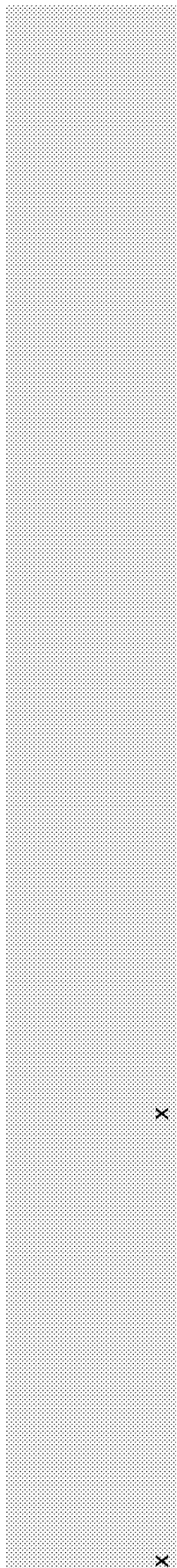
Democratic

x



x

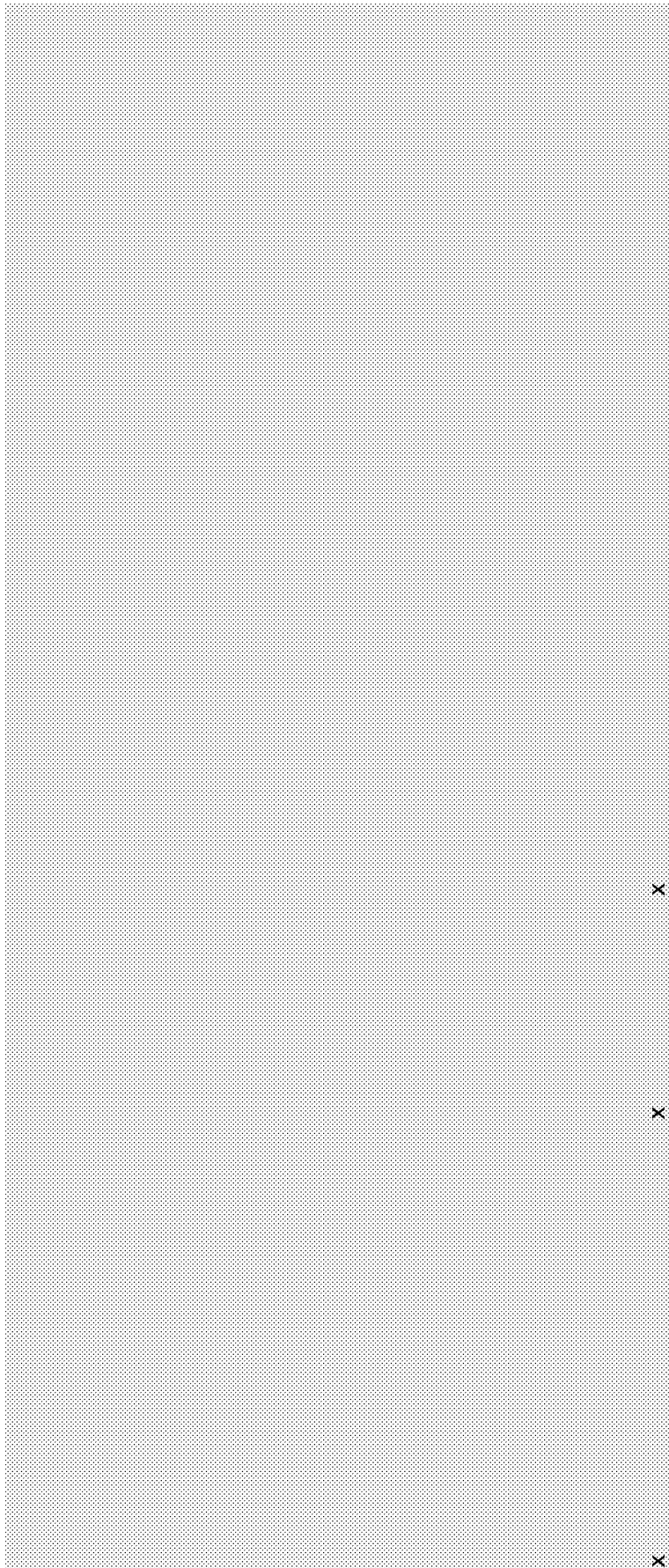
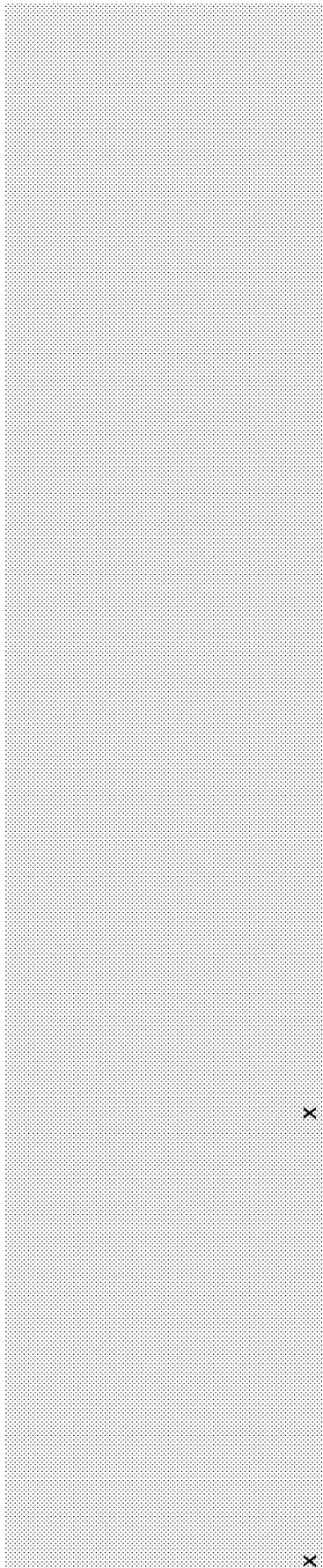
x



Democratic

x

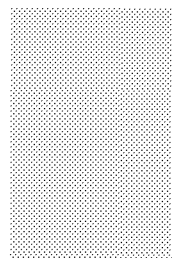
x

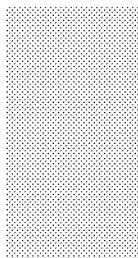


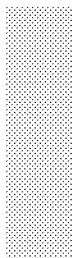
x

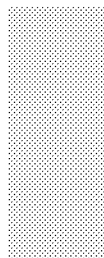
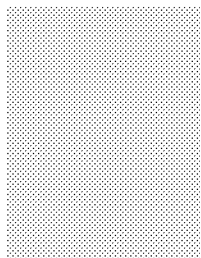
x

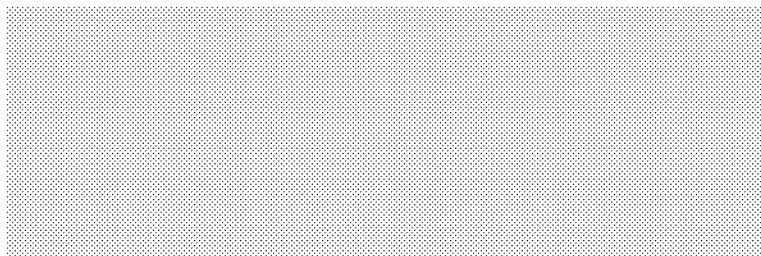
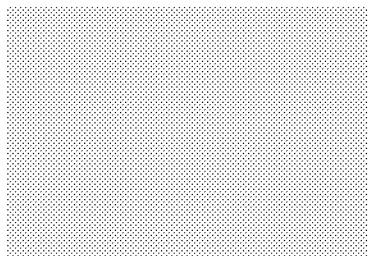












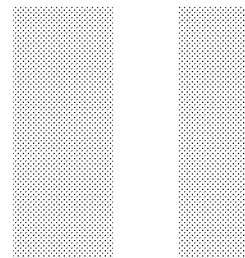


Exhibit 28

From: VanderHeide, Jennifer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, February 7, 2013 10:36 PM
To: VanderHeide, Jennifer <[REDACTED]>; Agrawal, Ruchit <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Maben, Meri <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: SV-Gujarat Round Table

Also, I asked Lamar for a list which was due tonight – I'm sure it will be coming.

Also – add - [REDACTED]

Office: [REDACTED] | Mobile: [REDACTED]

I think he won't come, but may circulate (I talked with him today). He is CEO (16 years my junior....)

From: VanderHeide, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2013 10:32 PM
To: Agrawal, Ruchit
Cc: Maben, Meri
Subject: RE: SV-Gujarat Round Table

I'll keep randomly sending names as I think of them.
Did you search through IQ and stakeholders lists?

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] – invite him and ask him for some names (he should give you 5)
I will ask AJ and Eric for names as well.

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (I talked with him about it)

[REDACTED]
Search [REDACTED] for names.

Drop [REDACTED]

Excellent start

For the orgs – they could send several people per org (2-3). We'll get maybe half of what we invite, but outreach is a big part of it.

From: Agrawal, Ruchit
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:37 PM
To: VanderHeide, Jennifer
Subject: SV-Gujarat Round Table

Jennifer:

Here is a list with 16 people and organizations. Please tell me if I should drop [REDACTED]

The list needs to be longer. Any ideas on who we can contact?

Ruchit Agrawal, J.D.
Congressional Aide
Office of Congressman Mike Honda (CA-17)
2001 Gateway Palce, Suite 670W, San Jose, CA 95110
Tel: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]



Learn more about Congressman Honda's legislative initiatives by signing up for his [e-mail updates](#) or [visiting his blog](#).

Exhibit 29

Sikh Stakeholders

7 messages

Ruchit Agrawal [redacted]
To: Lamar Heystek [redacted]

Thu, Sep 27, 2012 at 10:13 AM

Lamar -

Jennifer is trying to develop a list of stakeholders in the Sikh Community.

Is there any Sikh stakeholders from campaign? Was there a recent fundraiser that may have generated some friendly names in the Sikh community?

I was just told about this today, but Jennifer is looking for this by the end of today so would be appreciated

Thanks!
Ruchit

Lamar Heystek [redacted]
To: Ruchit Agrawal [redacted]

Thu, Sep 27, 2012 at 1:19 PM

Hello Ruchit,

I will give you what I can find by the end of the day -- what else will you need besides names?

Thanks,
Lamar



Lamar Heystek
Mike Honda for Congress
[redacted] phone/text
[redacted] fax
www.mikehonda.com
Like Mike on Facebook!

[Quoted text hidden]

Ruchit Agrawal [redacted]
To: Lamar Heystek [redacted]

Lamar -

As much information as you may have, leave blank if not available. JVH will be added to IQ - we will send them literature if it is relevant.

Name
Title
Organization
Work Phone
Cell Phone
Email
DC Based
District Based

Thanks buddy -
Ruchit

[Quoted text hidden]

Lamar Heystek [redacted]
To: Ruchit Agrawal [redacted]

Thu, Sep 27, 2012 at 9:24 PM

Just got home from an event for MH -- I'll work on some names tonight, after I get something to eat :)

Thanks,
Lamar



Lamar Heystek
Mike Honda for Congress
[redacted] hone/text
[redacted] fax
www.mikehonda.com
Like Mike on Facebook!

[Quoted text hidden]

Lamar Heystek [redacted]
To: Ruchit Agrawal [redacted]

Thu, Sep 27, 2012 at 11:42 PM

Hello Ruchit,

I hope this helps you before the end of the day (18 minutes to go):

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Regards,
Lamar

Lamar Heystek



Mike Honda for Congress

phone/text

fax

www.mikehonda.com

Like Mike on Facebook!

[Quoted text hidden]

Ruchit Agrawal <[redacted]>
To: Lamar Heystek <[redacted]>

Fri, Sep 28, 2012 at 8:58 AM

Lamar - Thanks man, this is a great help.

Ruchit:

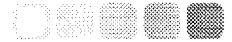
[Quoted text hidden]

Ruchit Agrawal <[redacted]>
Draft To: Ruchit A <[redacted]>

Mon, Nov 3, 2014 at 5:07 AM

[Quoted text hidden]

Exhibit 30



NOTE: Here's an example of using taxpayer resources for personal benefit. Tech support is something that the most people pay for themselves (with something like "Geek Squad"), rather than having the taxpayer pay for their personal errands.



Ruchit Agrawal <[REDACTED]>

FW: Netflix Activation

5 messages

Agrawal, Ruchit <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Sep 27, 2012 at 6:08 PM

To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

From: Mike Honda [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2012 12:24 PM
To: Mike Honda
Cc: Vissanjy, Nadir; Agrawal, Ruchit
Subject: Netflix Activation

Congressman,

In order to activate your Netflix account, you'll need your new credit card information.

Please go to netflix.com, your username is [REDACTED] and password is [REDACTED]

Click on Your Account (top right) and it will ask you to log in your information (credit card number and all that).

Once you have done all that, Ruchit will set up your apple TV. I will talk to him on how to do it (we'll also do it in DC for you).

Nadir

Agrawal, Ruchit <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Sep 27, 2012 at 6:08 PM

To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>



From: Vissanjy, Nadir
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2012 6:08 AM
To: Agrawal, Ruchit; Lucas, Robert
Subject: FW: Netflix Activation

Folks,

MH needs to activate his Netflix account and then you need to input that on his Apple TV and show him how to use his Apple TV. Yes, that's a request boarding personal, but such is life.

He needs to activate his Netflix account because his credit card expired. You will either need to get his credit card to re-activate his Netflix account and/or have him do it (I suggest the former). When you take down the credit card info, make sure you get the numbers, expiration date, numbers on the back and the address it is associated too. Make sure you inform Charlene and Daniel about the credit card info so they can update their records (this just happened this month).

He has two accounts (both on Evernote):

Netflix.com (waiting for MH to reactivate)

[REDACTED]	pw: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	pw: [REDACTED]

You will have to figure out which one he activated and all that. I suggest you activate his personal email address if you have the option to do so.

Thanks,
Nadir

Nadir Vissanjy
Legislative Correspondent | Systems Administrator
U.S. Representative Michael Honda (CA-15)
1713 Longworth House Office Building
Main: [REDACTED]
Web: <http://honda.house.gov>

From: Mike Honda [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2012 3:24 PM
To: Mike Honda
Cc: Vissanjy, Nadir; Agrawal, Ruchit



Subject: Netflix Activation

Congressman,

In order to activate your Netflix account, you'll need your new credit card information.

Please go to netflix.com, your username is [REDACTED] and password is [REDACTED]

Click on Your Account (top right) and it will ask you to log in your information (credit card number and all that).

Once you have done all that, Ruchit will set up your apple TV. I will talk to him on how to do it (we'll also do it in DC for you).

Nadir