

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 10:10:12 -0400

To: Schultz, Eric, Schultz, Eric

Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

----- Original Message -----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 09:11 AM

To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

Cc: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura

<Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM

> To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

> Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

>

> Dear Laura,

>

> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company, claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of

> directors:

>

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

>

> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.

>

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

>

> Thanks and best

>

> Max

>

>

> --

> Max Seddon

> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed

> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)

> twitter.com/maxseddon

--

Max Seddon

Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed

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Pietranton, Kelsey

Wed, 22 Oct 2014 17:42:25 -0400

To: Murray, Shailagh, Barkoff, Kendra, Spector, Stephen, Hart, Liz, Murray, Shailagh, Spector, Stephen, Hart, Elizabeth A., Barkoff, Kendra

Washington Examiner: The Hunter Biden Chronicles

Washington Examiner: The Hunter Biden Chronicles

By: Michele Malkin

October 22, 2014

Everything you need to know about Beltway nepotism, corporate cronyism and corruption can be found in the biography of Robert Hunter Biden. Where are the Occupy Wall Street rabble-rousers and enemies of elitist privilege when you need them? Straining their neck muscles to look the other way.

The youngest son of Vice President Joe Biden made news last week after the Wall Street Journal revealed he had been booted from the Navy Reserve for cocaine use. His drug abuse was certainly no surprise to the Navy, which issued him a waiver for *aprevious* drug offense before commissioning him as a public affairs officer at the age of 43. The Navy also bent over backward a *second* time with an age waiver so he could secure the cushy part-time job.

Papa Biden loves to tout his middle-class, "Average Joe" credentials. But rest assured, if his son had been "Hunter Smith" or "Hunter Jones" or "Hunter Brown," the Navy's extraordinary dispensations would be all but unattainable. Oh, and if he had been "Hunter Palin," The New York Times would be on its 50th front-page investigative report by now.

Despite the disgraceful ejection from our military, Hunter's Connecticut law license won't be subject to automatic review. Because, well, *Biden*.

Biden's bennies are not just one-offs. Skating by, flouting rules and extracting favors are the story of Hunter's life.

Hunter's first job, acquired after Joe Biden won his 1996 Senate re-election bid in Delaware, was with MBNA. That's the credit card conglomerate and top campaign finance donor that forked over nearly \$63,000 in bundled primary and general contributions from its employees to then Sen. Biden. As I've reported previously, Daddy Biden secured his custom-built, multimillion-dollar house in Delaware's ritziest Chateau Country neighborhood with the help of a leading MBNA corporate executive. Average Joe went on to carry legislative water for MBNA in the Senate for years.

Hunter zoomed up to senior vice president by early 1998 and then scored a plum position in the Clinton administration's Commerce Department, specializing in "electronic commerce" before returning to MBNA three years later as a high-priced "consultant." While he collected those "consulting" (translation: nepotistic access-trading) fees, Hunter became a "founding partner" in the lobbying firm of Oldaker, Biden and Belair in 2002.

William Oldaker was Papa Biden's former fundraiser, campaign treasurer and general counsel — a Beltway barnacle whose Democratic machine days dated back to Ted Kennedy's 1980 presidential bid. Under Oldaker's tutelage, Hunter lobbied for drug companies, universities and other deep-pocketed clients to the tune of nearly \$4 million billed to the company by 2007.

Coincidentally, then-Illinois Sen. Barack Obama personally requested and secured cozy taxpayer-subsidized earmarks for several of Hunter's clients.

Hunter got himself appointed to multiple corporate board positions, including a directorship with Eudora Global. It's an investment firm founded by one Jeffrey Cooper, head of one of the biggest asbestos-litigation firms in the country. SimmonsCooper, based in Madison County, Ill., donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to Biden the Elder's various political campaigns over the past decade — all while the firm poured \$6.5 million into lobbying against a key tort-reform bill, which former Sen. Biden worked hard to defeat. Cooper also contributed to the Delaware attorney general campaign of Hunter's older brother, Beau, and paid Beau for legal work on lucrative asbestos-litigation cases.

Hunter also was previously a top official at Paradigm Global Advisors, a hedge fund holding company founded with Vice President Biden's brother, James, and marketed by convicted finance fraudster Allen Stanford. As Paradigm chairman, Hunter oversaw half a billion dollars of client money invested in hedge funds while remaining a lobbyist at Oldaker, Biden and Belair. Cooper chipped in \$2 million for the ill-fated venture, which went bust amid nasty fraud lawsuits.

Continually failing upward, Hunter snagged a seat on the board of directors of taxpayer-subsidized, stimulus-inflated Amtrak, where he pretended not to be a lobbyist, but rather an "effective advocate" for the government railroad system serving the 1 percenters' D.C.-NYC corridor.

So, where does a coke-abusing influence peddler go after raking in gobs of Daddy-enabled dough and abusing the U.S. Navy's ill-considered generosity? Back to Cronyland! Hunter joined Ukrainian natural gas company Burisma Holdings — owned by a powerful Russian government sympathizer who fled to Russia in February — this spring. The hypocritical lobbyist-bashers at the White House deny he will be lobbying and deny any conflict of interest.

Meanwhile, Just Like You Joe was whipping up class envy in South Carolina last week. "Corporate profits have soared," he railed, thanks to "these guys running hedge funds in New York," who are to blame for "income inequality." You know, like his son and brother and their Beltway back-scratching patrons.

The Bidens: They're *not* like us.

MICHELLE MALKIN, a Washington Examiner columnist, is nationally syndicated by [Creators Syndicate](#).

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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

19 Oct 2014 09:59:29

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.
Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Mackler, Alexander, Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Person, Anne Marie, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Twigg, Carri, Bolduc, Chad, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Anderson, David, Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Graves, Don, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Liz, Schrum, Michael, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Gleeson, James, Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Noblitt, Karly, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern), Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Stennis, Michael, Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, Berlenbach, Sarah, Rosenthal, Lynn, Ford, Sarah (Intern), Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Nourse, Victoria, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov", "Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Mackler, Alexander, >", "Gleeson, James, (Intern), >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Person, Anne, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Stennis, Michael, >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Nourse, Victoria, >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >" (Intern), "Schrum, Evan, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Berlenbach, Sarah, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Noblitt, Karly, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Ford, Sarah (Intern), >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern), >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Graves, Don, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Twigg, Carri, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Anderson, David, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Sunday, October 19, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:51:50 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Susan Crabtree

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:55:25 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Re: Hunter Biden's hiring by Burisma Holdings

no worries, Kendra. I appreciate your getting it to me. Will add it to my story shortly.

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 2:34 PM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra.A.Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Susan Crabtree [mailto:scrabtree@washingtonexaminer.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:58 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Hunter Biden's hiring by Burisma Holdings

Hi there Kendra,

I just posted a story about the brief mention of Hunter Biden's hiring by Jay during the briefing.

He directed questions to the vice president's office so I am wondering if you can answer a couple.

Wondering if Hunter talked to Biden about this hiring when he received the offer, how much compensation Hunter Biden will receive and whether the vice president gave his seal of approval to the hiring, i.e. whether his son asked for Biden's approval before accepting the offer and whether Biden gave it.

Thanks so much, Kendra. Know you must be inundated with questions about this.

Thanks,

Susan Crabtree

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Zezenia, Katie

Wed, 14 May 2014 10:49:48 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Hunter Biden and Ukrainian gas producer

Hi Kendra,

Hope you're doing well. I'm wondering if you have any comment on Hunter Biden joining the board of directors of Burisma Holdings. Given that VP Biden has expressed support for pro-Western demonstrators that overthrew Mr. Yanukovich's government, does the VP see any conflict? Has the VP had any involvement with the company? Have Hunter Biden and Vice President Biden discussed the move?

Thanks so much.

Katie

Katie Zezenia
White House reporter
The Washington Post
Office: 202-334-9607
Cell: 617-997-9221
Katie.zezenia@washpost.com
@katiezez

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Compton, Ann W.

Tue, 13 May 2014 13:16:00 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Trotter, Kingsley, Spector, Stephen, Spector, Stephen, Trotter, Katherine K., Barkoff, Kendra

Cc: Bruce, Mary K., Karl, Jonathan D., Klein, Rick

Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

Can you tell us whether the WH counsel's office was consulted? Informed? Even as a courtesy?
And was Vice President Biden aware of the hiring when he visited Ukraine April 21-22?

Would appreciate a timely response... Thanks, as always.

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:50 PM

To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'

Subject: ?? Any reply ?? Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM

To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'

Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer — a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

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Bulletin Intelligence

08 Jun 2014 10:25:25

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Person, Anne Marie, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Bolduc, Chad, Fromstein, Charles, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Liz, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov", "Rosenthal, Lynn, Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, Russo2, Bill, Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Person, Anne, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Fromstein, Charles, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Russo, Bill, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Sunday, June 8, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:34:09 EST 2022

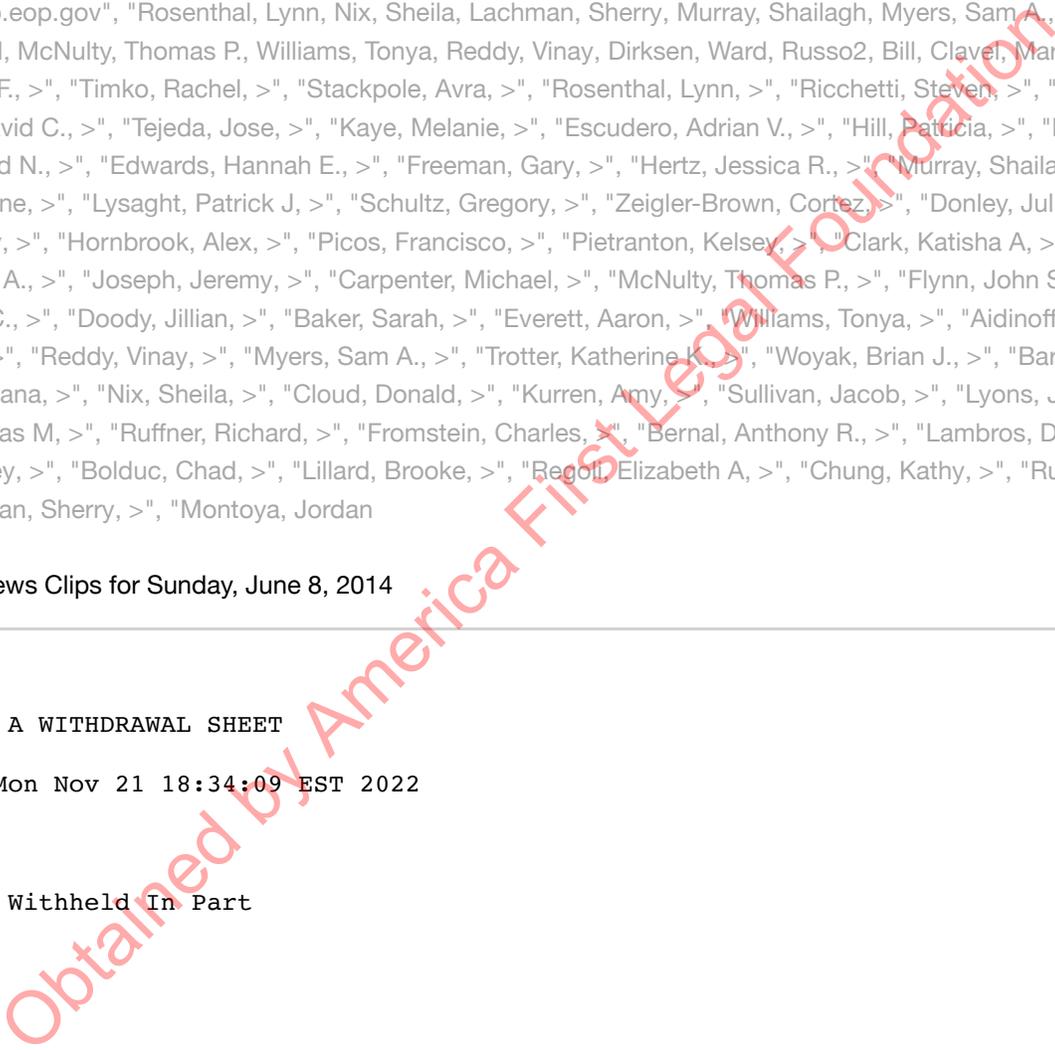
Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address



Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Sat, 07 Jun 2014 10:20:43 -0400

To: Murray, Shailagh, Lambros, Demetra, Ricchetti, Steven, Sullivan, Jacob, Prescott, Jeffrey, Ricchetti, Steven, Murray, Shailagh, Sullivan, Jacob, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc: Spector, Stephen, Spector, Stephen

AP: Ukrainian Energy Firm Hires Biden Son as Lawyer

Ukrainian Energy Firm Hires Biden Son as Lawyer

WASHINGTON June 7, 2014 (AP)

By STEPHEN BRAUN Associated Press

Vice President Joe Biden's weekend trip to support Ukraine's fragile democracy comes soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

The company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea and is owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president.

The hiring of Hunter Biden, 44, by Burisma Holdings Limited in April was approved by the company's owner, a former senior minister and political ally of Viktor Yanukovich, the exiled Ukrainian president. Yanukovich fled to Russia in February after protests erupted over his efforts to establish closer economic ties with Moscow.

Hunter Biden's employment means he will be working as a director and top lawyer for a Ukrainian energy company during the period when his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine's new government, especially on energy issues.

There's no indication that Hunter Biden, his father or Burisma are crossing any legal or ethical lines, although ethics experts appear divided over the implications of Hunter Biden's new job.

American conflict-of-interest laws and federal ethics rules essentially do not regulate the business activities of adult relatives of those who work in the White House.

"The primary problem here is the fact that Hunter Biden has set up a financial arrangement with someone who might have business pending before this administration," said Craig Holman, an ethics expert with Public Citizen, a Washington-based government reform organization.

Joe Biden led the U.S. delegation at Saturday's inauguration of Ukraine's new president, Petro Poroshenko. The two spoke for a few minutes at a reception after the ceremony.

Ukraine is an important natural-gas and petroleum-liquids transit country. Two major pipeline systems carry Russian gas through Ukraine to Western Europe.

Burisma is headed by Nikolai Zlochevskyi, who held senior posts over natural resources, environment and defense in Ukraine. The company has aggressively bought up Ukrainian oil and natural gas leases and companies.

Hunter Biden's new company says it aims to reduce Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas and oil, a goal that parallels U.S. efforts to aid Ukraine's energy industry.

As a Burisma director and the company's top lawyer, the younger Biden has yet to take any public actions on behalf of the company.

But the timing of his hiring is politically awkward for the administration's efforts to shore up Ukraine's pro-Western government, and poses potential complications from Burisma's growing energy interests and the background of Hunter Biden's new boss, Zlochevskyi.

At least two oil and natural gas fields leased by subsidiaries of Burisma are in Ukrainian territories where pro-Russian sentiments remain strong, according to government and media releases, independent energy maps and Burisma's website.

One is in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea; the other is in the eastern Ukrainian Kharkiv region. Instability there could force the younger Biden's new company to coordinate with pro-Russian separatists whom the U.S. considers illegitimate.

White House officials declined to comment on Hunter Biden's association with Burisma and the company's holdings in Crimea and east Ukraine.

The vice president's spokeswoman, Kendra Barkoff, previously said that Biden's son is a private citizen and a lawyer, and that Joe Biden "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Presidents and vice presidents have long been vexed by relatives rewarded for family ties.

Political loan troubles shadowed Vice President Richard Nixon's brother, Donald, during the 1960 election, and President Jimmy Carter's brother, Billy, who accepted a \$220,000 stipend in 1981 from Libya's Moammar Gadhafi.

In recent years, several Bush and Clinton relatives were caught in a string of murky financial and political dealings.

But "unless there's solid evidence that Hunter Biden got his job to influence American foreign policy, there's no clear line that's been crossed," said Melanie Sloan, executive director of the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

A former Washington lobbyist, the vice president's son is effectively exempt from most rules that would require him to describe publicly the legal work he does on behalf of Burisma.

Hunter Biden will not lobby for the company, said Lawrence Pacheco, an official with FTI Consulting, a Washington government affairs company recently hired by Burisma.

Pacheco did not say whether Biden might oversee or advise on any future Burisma lobbying strategy in the U.S. Pacheco said the company "does not take positions on political matters."

But Biden's company may have to deal with Ukrainian enclaves that the U.S. does not recognize diplomatically or are threatened by instability.

One Burisma subsidiary, KrymTopEnergoservis, operates natural gas fields and has headquarters in the Crimea, which seceded from Ukraine this year and now aligns with Russia.

A second subsidiary, Esco-Pivnich, produces oil and natural gas just west of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, which was the site of several protests and borders on separatist-controlled provinces. The company's website confirms that Burisma operates oil and natural gas sites in Crimea and east Ukraine, as well as elsewhere in Ukraine.

"While he's just at the beginning of his involvement with this company, Ukraine is volatile right now and there are all sorts of problems that might crop up down the line," said Bill Allison, the editorial director of the Sunlight Foundation, a nonpartisan watchdog group.

Pacheco said the company's western and eastern operations have been unaffected by Ukraine's unrest but that its Crimea subsidiary is not operating currently. He did not explain further, but confirmed KrymTopEnergoservis is based and leases gas deposits in Crimea.

Hunter Biden, Zlochevskyi and other company officials would not comment publicly, Pacheco said.

Hunter Biden is a managing director with Rosemont Seneca Partners, a private equity firm, and worked as a

Washington lobbyist for seven years until his father was elected vice president. He lobbied primarily for colleges, hospitals and tech firms.

Pacheco said Biden's son came to Burisma's attention after he was introduced by Devon Archer, another new Burisma board member, to Alan Apter, Burisma's board chairman. Archer works with Hunter Biden at Rosemont and was a top fundraiser for now-Secretary of State John Kerry when Kerry ran for president in 2004. Zlochevskyi approved Biden's hiring, Pacheco said.

Zlochevskyi, 48, worked as minister of natural resources and environment under Yanukovych and most recently was deputy secretary of Ukraine's national security and defense council, which advised Yanukovych on defense matters.

Zlochevskyi also served in the Ukrainian parliament from 2007 to 2011 as a member of the Party of Regions, the political party affiliated with Yanukovych and traditionally aligned with pro-Russian interests.

Zlochevskyi's name is missing from Burisma's web site, but financial documents in Cyprus as well as U.S. Securities and Exchange records show that he owns the bulk of Burisma's shares. Zlochevskyi's Cyprus-based Brociti Investments Limited controls Burisma.

Hunter Biden joined Burisma in April, the same month his father visited Kiev to show support for the new interim government.

Associated Press writers Menelaos Hadjicostis in Nicosia, Cyprus, and Laura Mills in Kiev contributed to this report.

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 10:08 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra; Ricchetti, Steven; Sullivan, Jacob; Prescott, Jeffrey
Cc: Spector, Stephen
Subject: FW: Biden son story

Flagging.
We won't comment, but flagging

From: Braun, Stephen S. [<mailto:SBraun@ap.org>]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 10:00 AM
To: Schultz, Eric
Subject: Biden son story

Hey Eric:

With VP Biden headed for Ukraine this weekend to support the new government in Kiev, I'm working on a story with reporters in Ukraine and elsewhere about the VP's son, Hunter, and his new job for a Ukrainian energy firm that may have repercussions on U.S. efforts to support the fledgling Ukrainian government. As previous stories have already noted, **Hunter Biden's new firm, Burisma Holdings Ltd**, is run by a former government minister and Ukrainian parliament member with ties to Viktor Yanukovych, the pro-Russian president who's now in exile in Russia. **The new story I'm working will report that in addition to those ties, at least two of Burisma's subsidiaries operate in disputed Ukrainian territory — one in breakaway and Russia-aligned Crimea and the other in the Kharkiv region in east Ukraine, now under assault from pro-Russian separatists. While Burisma says its oil interests are aimed (as is US policy) to promote energy independence in Ukraine, its holdings in disputed territory would also force the company to deal with governments and officials the US considers illegitimate. Ethics experts are divided over whether there are potential conflicts in Hunter Biden's new job, but they all voice concern about the complications it could pose for US policy in Ukraine. We're aiming for the story to run this weekend.** Hoping to hear back from you or someone else at the WH by 5 today.

Thanks much, Steve

Stephen Braun
Associated Press, Washington Bureau
1100 13th St. NW Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005-4076
(O): 202-641-9405
(C): 202-365-2667
sbraun@ap.org

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[IP_US_DISC]

msk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

15 May 2014 10:13:56

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Bolduc, Chad, Fromstein, Charles, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Elizabeth, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Richards, Kitty, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov", "Rosenthal, Lynn, Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, Russo2, Bill, Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Richards, Kitty, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Fromstein, Charles, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Russo, Bill, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, May 15, 2014.

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:46:29 EST 2022

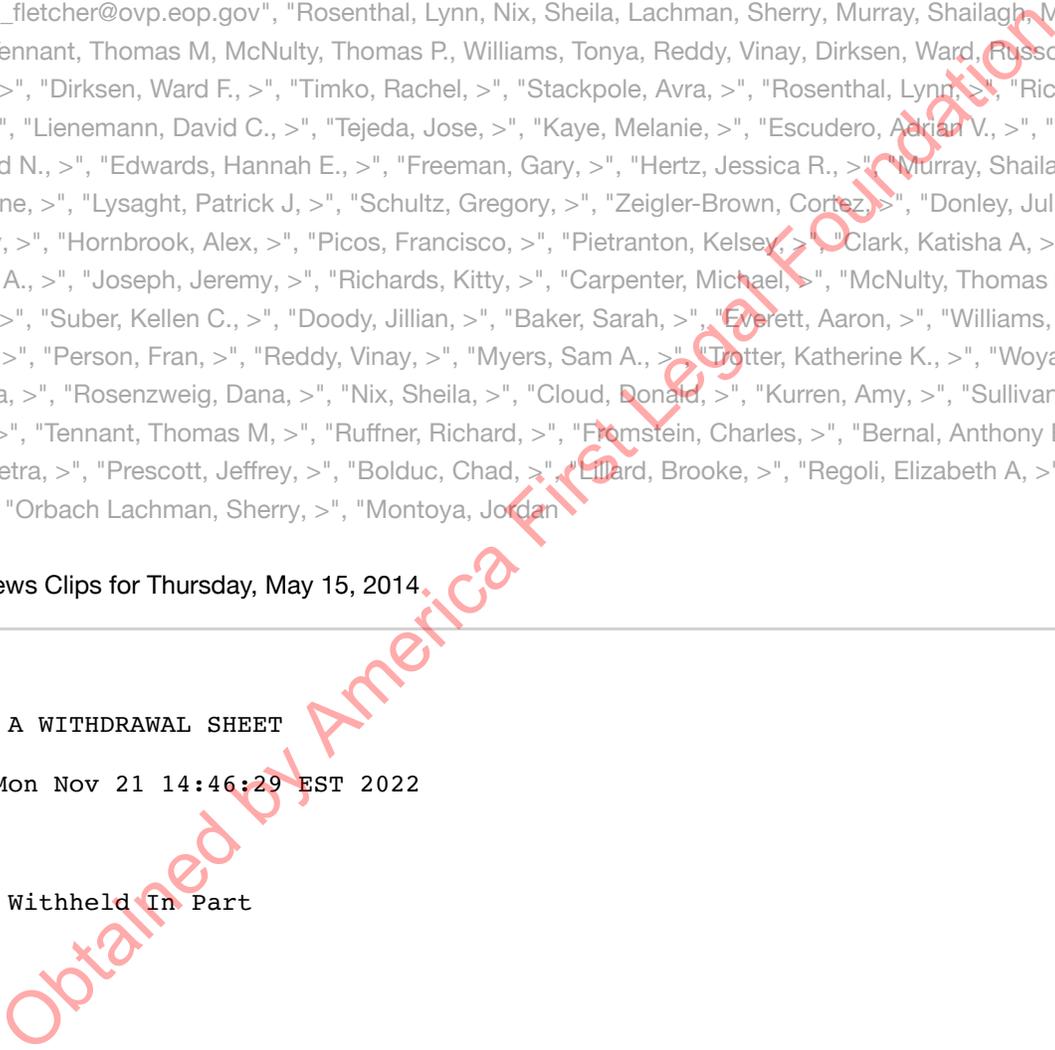
Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address



Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

16 May 2014 10:13:28

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Bolduc, Chad, Fromstein, Charles, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Elizabeth, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Richards, Kitty, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov", "Rosenthal, Lynn, Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, Russo2, Bill, Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Richards, Kitty, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Fromstein, Charles, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Russo, Bill, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, May 16, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:47:37 EST 2022

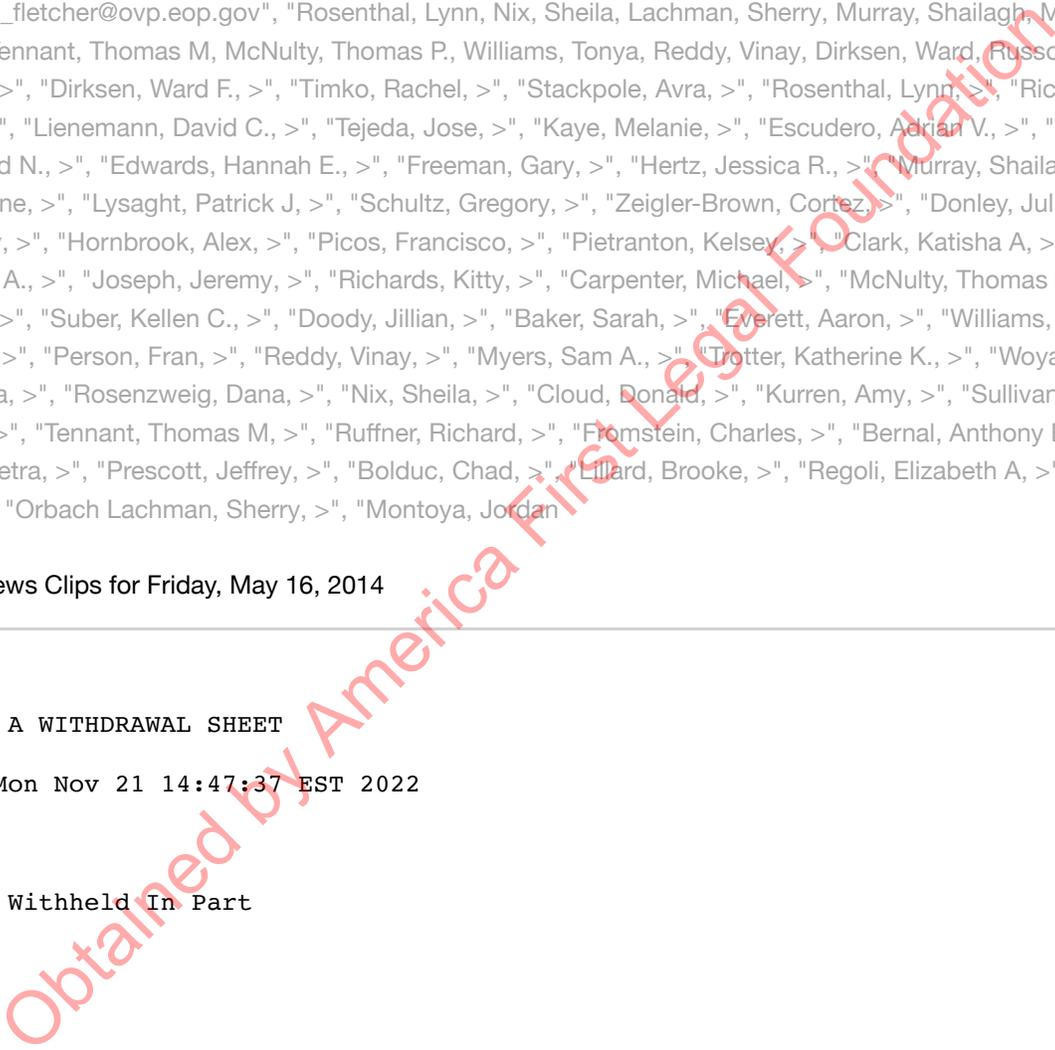
Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address



Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

20 May 2014 10:13:22

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Bolduc, Chad, Fromstein, Charles, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Elizabeth, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Richards, Kitty, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov", "Rosenthal, Lynn, Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, Russo2, Bill, Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Richards, Kitty, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Fromstein, Charles, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Russo, Bill, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, May 20, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:36:42 EST 2022

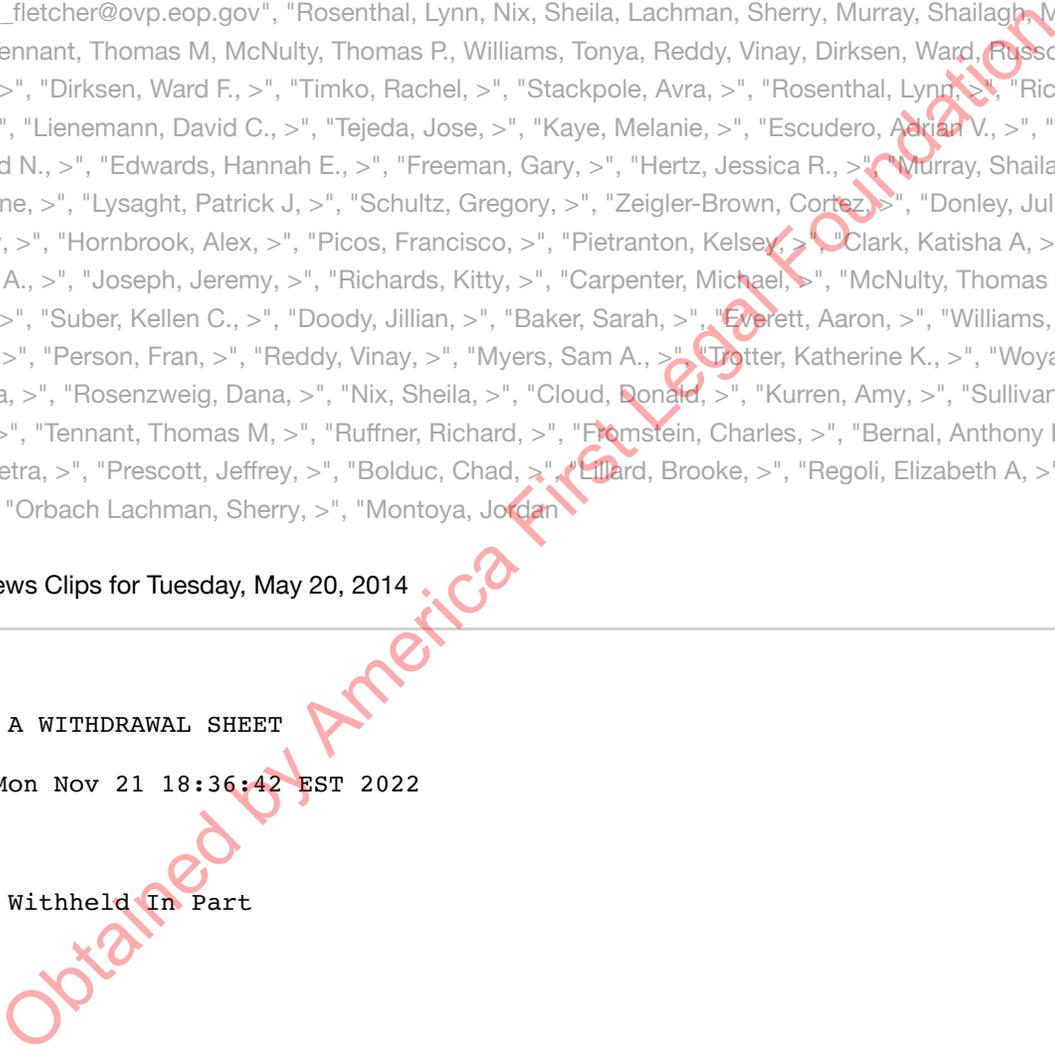
Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address



Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Compton, Ann W.

Tue, 13 May 2014 11:39:49 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Trotter, Kingsley, Trotter, Katherine K., Barkoff, Kendra

Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer — a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

###

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Kalishman, David (Intern)

16 May 2014 11:42:18

To: Lyons, Jamie, Lyons, Jamie

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, May 16, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:35:59 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 13:05:45 -0400

To: Spector, Stephen, Spector, Stephen

RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Nothing from the briefing yet?

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:03 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Thanks

From: Barkoff, Kendra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:02 PM

To: Spector, Stephen

Subject: Re: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Waiting for Jay to brief before I give it out

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:00 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Do we have a response?

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:54 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM

To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn,

Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchhoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Politico // Lucy McCalmont

May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

Bulletin Intelligence

08 Jul 2014 10:12:33

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Person, Anne Marie, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Bolduc, Chad, Fromstein, Charles, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Liz, Schrum, Michael, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov", "Rosenthal, Lynn, Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, Russo2, Bill, Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Person, Anne, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >", "Schrum, Evan, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Fromstein, Charles, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Russo, Bill, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan
Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, July 8, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:43:57 EST 2022

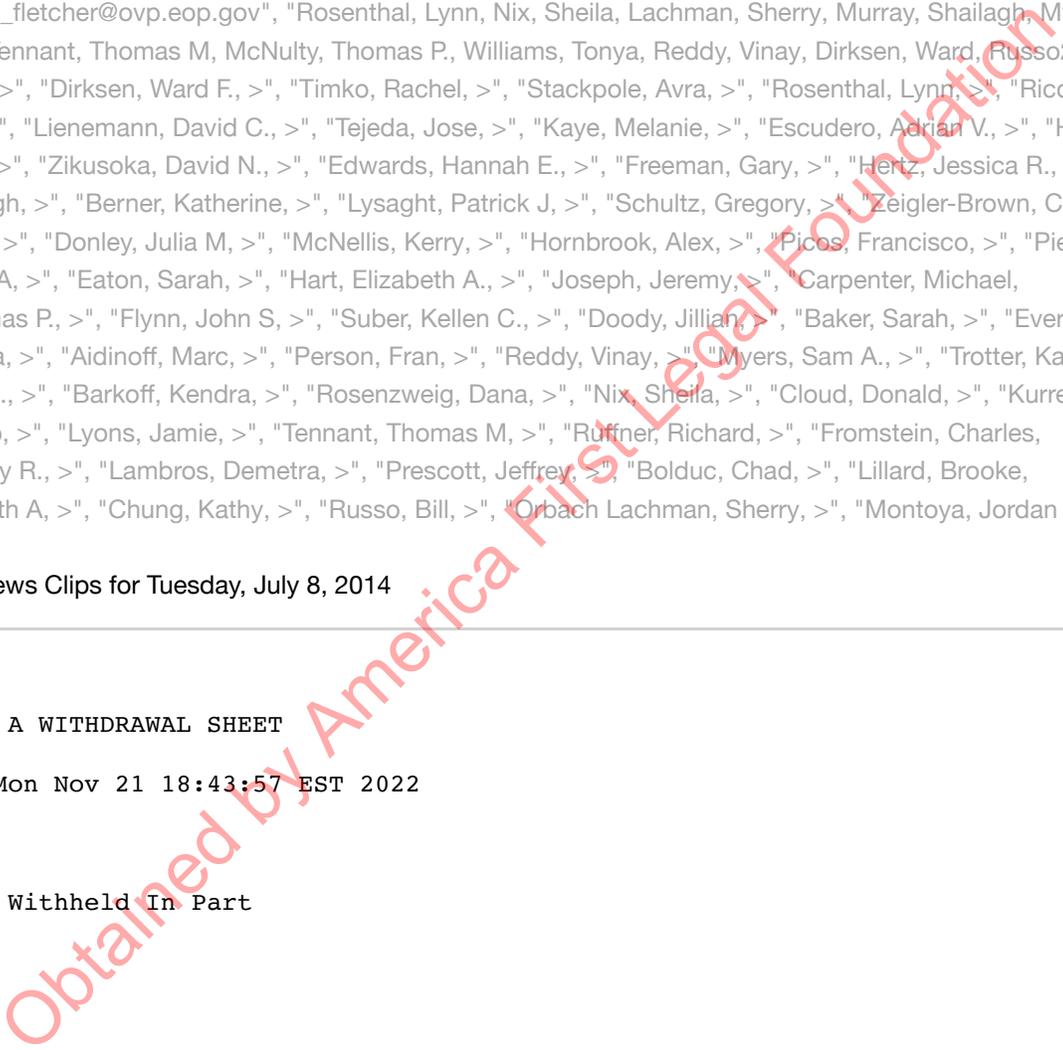
Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address



Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lambros, Demetra

13 May 2014 17:29:23

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Hertz, Jessica R., Hertz, Jessica R., >, "Barkoff, Kendra

Cc: Murray, Shailagh, Murray, Shailagh

Bcc:

RE: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Nov 15 13:53:39 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

16 Oct 2014 22:57:46

To: Holzer, Benjamin, Jones, Stefani, Holzer, Benjamin, >, "Jones, Stefani

Cc:

Bcc:

Re: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Feb 28 14:53:37 EST 2023

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Murray, Shailagh

14 May 2014 14:55:55

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: Hunter Biden and Ukrainian gas producer

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 28 13:01:26 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lambros, Demetra

08 Jul 2014 11:08:31

To: Joseph, Jeremy, Joseph, Jeremy

Cc:

Bcc:

Fw: TIME: Ukrainian Employer Of Joe Biden's Son Hires A D.C. Lobbyist

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Nov 22 17:13:34 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Holzer, Benjamin

16 Oct 2014 22:57:11

To: Jones, Stefani, Jones, Stefani

Cc: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Bcc:

Re: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Feb 28 14:52:42 EST 2023

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Wynne, Janine M

03 Nov 2014 18:04:36

To: Carpenter, Michael, Carpenter, Michael

Cc: Bouldin, Megan T

Bcc:

FW: Ukraine Econ Reporting - 11/3

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:23:46 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

08 Jul 2014 12:59:01

To: Murray, Shailagh, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, Ricchetti, Steven, >, "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: TIME: Ukrainian Employer Of Joe Biden's Son Hires A D.C. Lobbyist

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:25:26 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

13 May 2014 17:48:56

To: Lambros, Demetra, Lambros, Demetra

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Thu Feb 09 20:22:36 EST 2023

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Murray, Shailagh

08 Jul 2014 12:59:50

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: TIME: Ukrainian Employer Of Joe Biden's Son Hires A D.C. Lobbyist

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:25:52 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

13 May 2014 17:53:55

To: Lambros, Demetra, Lambros, Demetra

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 28 13:00:39 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lambros, Demetra

13 May 2014 17:56:31

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 28 13:00:54 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Sloat, Amanda L

14 May 2014 14:46:29

To: Ellison, Janine, Ellison, Janine

Cc: Walker, Vivian S

Bcc:

FW: Turkey Daily Notes: May 14, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:23:29 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

08 Jul 2014 12:57:47

To: Murray, Shailagh, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, Ricchetti, Steven, >, "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: TIME: Ukrainian Employer Of Joe Biden's Son Hires A D.C. Lobbyist

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Nov 22 17:14:51 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lucas Magnuson, Laura

15 May 2014 20:43:48

To: Joyce, Jenifer

Cc: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Bcc:

RE: Deutsche Welle interview request

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:24:34 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lambros, Demetra

13 May 2014 17:49:51

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 28 13:00:22 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

14 May 2014 14:51:16

To: Murray, Shailagh, Murray, Shailagh

Cc:

Bcc:

FW: Hunter Biden and Ukranian gas producer

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Feb 28 14:59:18 EST 2023

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Murray, Shailagh

08 Jul 2014 12:58:38

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: TIME: Ukrainian Employer Of Joe Biden's Son Hires A D.C. Lobbyist

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Nov 22 17:15:26 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

13 May 2014 17:57:38

To: Lambros, Demetra, Lambros, Demetra

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 28 13:01:12 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Platkin, Alex

13 May 2014 16:05:46

To: Holzer, Benjamin, Barkoff, Kendra, Holzer, Benjamin, >, "Barkoff, Kendra

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: Burisma

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Nov 22 16:02:33 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Murray, Shailagh

16 Oct 2014 23:00:07

To: robinware456@gmail.com

Cc:

Bcc:

Fw: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Wed Nov 23 12:00:44 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

07 Jul 2014 18:00:06

To: Murray, Shailagh, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, Ricchetti, Steven, >, "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc:

Bcc:

FW: Ukraine Energy

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Wed Nov 23 12:06:11 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lambros, Demetra

13 May 2014 17:47:28

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Cc:

Bcc:

RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 28 13:03:26 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

13 May 2014 17:23:58

To: Lambros, Demetra, Hertz, Jessica R., Hertz, Jessica R., >, "Lambros, Demetra

Cc: Murray, Shailagh, Murray, Shailagh

Bcc:

FW: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Nov 15 13:48:58 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Kim, Yuri J (Ankara)

14 May 2014 11:19:23

To: Nuland, Victoria J, Jones, Paul W, Rubin, Eric S, Sloat, Amanda L, Haggard, Henry R, EUR-SE-TU-DL, Sherwood-Randall, Liz, Finer, Jonathan J, Lakhdhir, Kamala S, Clements, Kelly, Underriner, John M, Iris, Nancy R, VonHippel, Karin L, Manso, Joseph X, Pisani, Kristen L, Kahl, L Alex, Scanlon, Amy B (Athens), Uyehara, Michael M, Kenna, Lisa D (Amman), Goldberger, Thomas H (Baghdad), P EUR Duty, Schofer, Andrew J, philip_h_gordon@nss.eop.gov", "Weigold Schultz, Eva A, Latham, Michael E, Mujica, Maryam AM, Pappas, Demitra M, Godfrey, John T, Walker, Peggy J (Athens), McDowell, H. Martin, D EUR Duty Officer2, Narain, Paul F (Athens), Binnendijk, Anika L, (Athens), "Chris Skaluba, shoshanna.matney@osd.mil", ", Belmonte, Monica L, (Amman), "james.j.townsend2.civ@mail.mil", "'Buland, Alton V CIV OSD OUSD POLICY (US, (Baghdad), "Bobrow, Christina, Leweling, Tara, Carpenter, Michael, Smith, Sammie, Alpha, Avery, Smith, Samantha, >", "Alpha, Avery, >", "Leweling, Tara, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "Bobrow, Christina, >", "Sherwood-Randall, Liz
Cc: Ricciardone, Francis J, Baily, Jess L, Lackey, Hal V, marc.sasseville@us.af.mil", "Ward, Mark S (D/MET), AnkaraAMB, Wentworth, Mark A, Van De Vate, Katherine, Mennuti, Deborah (Istanbul), (D/MET), "Densmore, William E, Espinoza, John L, Wroblewski, K Andrew, Mahoney, Haynes R (Istanbul), ISTANBUL-POLECON AMERICANS-DL, Peterson, Chad S, Lally, Michael (Dept of Commerce), (Istanbul), "Tobey, Laurence E, Ricciardone, Marie D., Carraway, Cassandra B, Fingarson, Timothy J, Blue, Michael C, Grubisha, Thomas J, Olson, Scott A, Hansen, Ralph S, (Istanbul), "Turner, James J, Hines, R. Arturo, Wilson, Brandon L, Fischer, Patrick J, Hayden, Liam D, (Dept of Commerce), "Speaks, John T, Hunter, Charles F (Istanbul), Saxton-Ruiz, James-Michael, Olson, Kimberly G, Brown, Kristina M, Nassmacher, Wendy L, Friedman, Justin, Stafford, Edward G, Armush, Maha A, O'Shaughnessy, Melissa S, Cardwell, Adam K, Ngutter, Dorothy M, Kim, Yuri J (Ankara), O'Shaughnessy, Melissa

Bcc:

Turkey Daily Notes: May 14, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:23:14 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

13 May 2014 16:09:39

To: Murray, Shailagh, Ricchetti, Steven, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, >, "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc:

Bcc:

Fw: Burisma

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Nov 22 16:06:17 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

08 Jul 2014 10:43:35

To: Murray, Shailagh, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, Ricchetti, Steven, >, "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc:

Bcc:

TIME: Ukrainian Employer Of Joe Biden's Son Hires A D.C. Lobbyist

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Tue Nov 22 17:10:53 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Full

Reasons for Withholding:

P5

Notes:

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal)

Tue, 13 May 2014 13:56:32 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Hunter Biden to Oil Company w Holdings in Ukraine?

Hi Kendra,

Wondering if you have any comment on allegations Hunter Biden has taken a seat on the board of an oil and gas company with holdings in Ukraine? Carney pushed us all to you all – any comment?

Thanks in advance!

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Here's their release:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Stacey P. Klein

NBC News – The White House

202-885-4363 (office)

202-573-0328 (cell)

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Spector, Stephen

Tue, 13 May 2014 16:08:13 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Murray, Shailagh, Trotter, Kingsley, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Lambros, Demetra, Hertz, Jessica R., Hertz, Jessica R., Murray, Shailagh, Trotter, Katherine K., Barkoff, Kendra, Sullivan, Jacob, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey
Business Insider: Joe Biden's Son Is Now On The Board Of One Of Ukraine's Biggest Gas Conglomerates

Joe Biden's Son Is Now On The Board Of One Of Ukraine's Biggest Gas Conglomerates

BRETT LOGIURATO

Hunter Biden, the youngest son of Vice President Joe Biden, has been appointed to the board of directors of Ukraine's largest private-gas producer.

The company, Burisma Holdings, announced Biden's appointment on its [website](#) Tuesday. Burisma said Biden would be the new head of the company's legal unit.

The White House shot down any notion of a conflict of interest with Hunter Biden's appointment. In a statement provided to Business Insider, Joe Biden spokesperson Kendra Barkoff said Hunter's appointment did not constitute an endorsement by the vice president.

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company," Barkoff said. "For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, the national law firm for which Hunter Biden serves as a counsel, did not respond to a request for comment on Tuesday.

During the daily White House press briefing on Tuesday, press secretary Jay Carney said where Hunter Biden works "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration, by the president or vice president."

Hunter Biden's appointment comes as the U.S. and much of the West has sought to help Ukraine wean off its dependence on Russia for oil and gas supplies. Last month during a trip to Kiev, the vice president pledged U.S. assistance in Ukraine's pursuit of energy independence from Russia. Ukraine and the West believe energy independence would serve as a major leverage point for Ukraine in its standoff with Russia.

In a statement released by Burisma, Hunter Biden said he believes the company will help strengthen Ukraine's floundering economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Read more: <http://www.businessinsider.com/hunter-biden-joes-son-ukraine-gas-company-burisma->

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:53 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.

Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

By: [Lucy McCalmont](#)

May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

<http://dyn.politico.com/printstory.cfm?uuid=E0720EFC-048D-45F0-B3A3-EC67457DEBB7>

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:52 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.

Subject: WE: Jay Carney: Joe Biden's son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

Jay Carney: Joe Biden's son accepted

position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

Susan Crabtree

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/carney-bidens-son-accepted-position-with-ukrainian-gas-company-as-private-citizen/article/2548379>

Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son, Hunter Biden, has accepted a position with [Ukraine](#)'s largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the [White House](#) signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman [Jay Carney](#) said Tuesday.

Burisma Holdings announced Tuesday that Hunter Biden, Biden's youngest son, would serve on the company's board of directors.

The company in a news release on its website said Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Burisma's legal unit and will "provide support" among international organizations. [The Moscow Times](#) first reported the news Tuesday.

Asked about the hiring by a reporter Tuesday, Carney referred questions about it to the vice president's office and noted that it did not indicate that Obama was involved or approved of it.

"Hunter Biden and other members of the family are obviously private citizens and where they work is not an endorsement by the president or vice president," he said.

Amid the escalating tensions between Ukraine and [Russia](#) in recent weeks, the European Commission, the executive body of the [European Union](#), has tried to step in to try to prevent Russia from halting [natural gas](#) shipments to Ukraine unless it pays \$3.5 billion in debts.

Ukraine has so far refused to pay in protest of Moscow's decision to nearly double the price it charges Kiev for gas imports.

In the company's release, Alan Apter, the chairman of the company's board of directors, said: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Hunter Biden works at Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York. He is also a co-founder and a managing partner of investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and serves as director of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, a network of 400 businesses, nonprofits and foreign policy experts, and the chairman of the advisory board for the National Democratic Institute, a non-profit that works to support democratic institutions and elections around the world.

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:50 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.

Subject: WT: Joe Biden's son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

Joe Biden's son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

By [Jessica Chasmar](#)

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/may/13/joe-bidens-son-hunter-head-legal-unit-ukraines-lar/>

The Washington Times Vice President [Joseph R. Biden](#)'s youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at [Ukraine](#)'s largest private gas producer.

Burisma Holdings [said in a statement](#) that Hunter [Biden](#) will be in charge of the [company's](#) legal unit and will provide support for the company among international organizations.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in [Ukraine](#)," [Mr. Biden](#) said.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and [benefit](#) the people of [Ukraine](#)," he said.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said Tuesday that [Mr. Biden](#)'s new position "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration," Time magazine's [Zeke Miller reported](#).

The announcement comes [just one day](#) after Russia's state energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to [Ukraine](#) unless the country pays in advance for supplies.

The vice president has condemned Russia for its intervention in [Ukraine](#) and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy, The Moscow Times [reported](#).

Read more: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/may/13/joe-bidens-son-hunter-head-legal-unit-ukraines-lar/#ixzz31cgyEE5E>

Follow us: [@washtimes](#) on Twitter

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:17 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.

Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

AP: VP Biden's son joins Ukrainian gas company's board

WASHINGTON (AP) - Vice President Joe Biden's youngest son, Hunter Biden, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine.

That's according to Burisma Holdings. The company says Biden will head the company's legal unit and seek support for Burisma among international organizations.

The announcement comes as Ukraine is looking to decrease its reliance on Russian energy. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage in the crisis with Ukraine if Europe was less dependent on Russian gas.

Burisma says it's the largest private gas producer in Ukraine, but a state-owned company controls most

gas production there.

Securities and Exchange Commission records show Burisma is based in Cyprus. The vice president will visit Cyprus next week and has been a key player in the U.S. response to the Ukraine crisis.

From: Barkoff, Kendra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:27 PM

To: Spector, Stephen; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.

Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

+ others

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:23 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley

Subject: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/white-house/another-biden-has-waded-into-the-ukraine-crisis-20140513>

By Marina Koren

Joe Biden has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only Biden involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration

message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

It's unclear whether the entry of another Biden into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

19 Oct 2014 09:59:29

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.
Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Mackler, Alexander, Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Person, Anne Marie, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Twigg, Carri, Bolduc, Chad, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Anderson, David, Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Graves, Don, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Liz, Schrum, Michael, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Gleeson, James, Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Noblitt, Karly, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern), Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Stennis, Michael, Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, Berlenbach, Sarah, Rosenthal, Lynn, Ford, Sarah (Intern), Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Nourse, Victoria, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov", "Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Mackler, Alexander, >", "Gleeson, James, (Intern), >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Person, Anne, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Stennis, Michael, >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Nourse, Victoria, >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >" (Intern), "Schrum, Evan, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Berlenbach, Sarah, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Noblitt, Karly, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Ford, Sarah (Intern), >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern), >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Graves, Don, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Twigg, Carri, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Anderson, David, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Sunday, October 19, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:46:00 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Spector, Stephen

Tue, 13 May 2014 13:06:03 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

nothing

From: Barkoff, Kendra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:06 PM

To: Spector, Stephen

Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Nothing from the briefing yet?

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:03 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Thanks

From: Barkoff, Kendra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:02 PM

To: Spector, Stephen

Subject: Re: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Waiting for Jay to brief before I give it out

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:00 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Do we have a response?

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:54 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM

To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.;

Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchhoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.

Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Politico // Lucy McCalmont

May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

Lambros, Demetra

Tue, 13 May 2014 15:07:45 -0400

To: Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Hertz, Jessica R., Joseph, Jeremy

FW: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Also, looks like the guy's name is alternatively spelled Nicolay Zlochevsky

-----Original Message-----

From: Lambros, Demetra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:52 PM

To: Murray, Shailagh

Subject: FW: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Here is the first reference to Zlochewsky

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:15 AM

To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra

Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

----- Original Message -----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 09:11 AM

To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

Cc: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM

> To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

> Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas

> company

>

> Dear Laura,

>

> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press

> release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company,

> claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of

> directors:

>

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

>

> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.

>

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

>

> Thanks and best

>

> Max

>

>

> --
> Max Seddon
> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
> twitter.com/maxseddon

--
Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Thu, 15 May 2014 07:55:53 -0400

To: Murray, Shailagh, Ricchetti, Steven, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, Murray, Shailagh, Sullivan, Jacob, Lambros, Demetra, Prescott, Jeffrey

Fw: Russian Television

From: Усенко Наталья Валерьевна [mailto:NUsenko@ntv.ru]

Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 07:13 AM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Russian Television

Dear Ms. Barkoff,

NTV Russian Television and a Central Television program send you best regards and kindly ask your assistance.

Central Television program with Vadim Takmenev is the 1st news program combining all TV genres. The program presents the real life, political, social and cultural events. In our program took part a lot of famous persons of show-business and politics: Tom Cruise, Angelina Jolie, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Daniel Craig, Lara Fabian, Alain Delon, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Jackie Chan, Benicio Del Toro, Til Schweiger, Vin Diesel, James Cameron, Lars von Trier, Scarlett Johansson, Daniel Radcliffe, Stephen Fry, Vladimir Putin, Dmitry Medvedev.

Mr. Hunter Biden has recently become a member of Committee of Directors of Burisma company. We would like to congratulate him and wish him good luck! Would you be so kind to help us to organize an interview with Mr. Joseph Biden so that he could tell us his attitude towards and tell us if it will influence the foreign policy of the USA. We would like to organize this shooting this week (May, 15 – 16) any time and place suitable for Mr. Biden as our program will be on air this Saturday (May, 17). Thank you and looking forward your answer!

Sincerely,

Natalya Usenko

Producer

+7 964 537 38 77(cell)

+7 495 617 90 47(f)

NUsenko@ntv.ru

solinoNU@gmail.com

www.ntv.ru

NTV Broadcasting Company is the largest non-governmental TV-network in Russia. It covers the audience of approx. 100 million people in countries of former Soviet Union. It is also the main Russian language channel broadcasted all over the world via satellite. NTV journalists interviewed George Bush, Condoleezza Rice, John Ashcroft, James Baker, Mikhail Gorbachev, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Ariel Sharon, Mikhail Saakashvili, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Paul McCartney, Madonna, Nicole Kidman and many others. NTV covers all main political, social and cultural events every day and brings the top news stories from around the world which are produced by dedicated

staff in Moscow working with colleagues at NTV's world bureaus worldwide including New York, London, Berlin, Brussels, Paris, Kyiv etc.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lyons, Jamie

17 Oct 2014 11:03:32

To: Vogel, Pamela (Intern), Vogel, Pamela (Intern)

Cc:

Bcc:

Fw: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, October 17, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:46:23 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Prescott, Jeffrey

Tue, 13 May 2014 11:57:32 -0400

To: Lambros, Demetra, Lambros, Demetra

Cc: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

RE: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Yeah, will be out of mtg at 12:30 or so

-----Original Message-----

From: Lambros, Demetra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:17 AM

To: Prescott, Jeffrey

Cc: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: FW: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Hey Jeff:

Do you have a minute to talk about this?

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:15 AM

To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra

Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

----- Original Message -----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 09:11 AM

To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

Cc: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM

> To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

> Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas
> company

>

> Dear Laura,

>

> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press
> release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company,
> claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of
> directors:

>

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

>

> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role
on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy
NSC chief under Yanukovich.

>

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

>

> Thanks and best
>
> Max
>
>
> --
> Max Seddon
> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
> twitter.com/maxseddon

--
Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

19 Oct 2014 09:59:29

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Mackler, Alexander, Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Person, Anne Marie, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Twigg, Carri, Bolduc, Chad, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Anderson, David, Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Graves, Don, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Liz, Schrum, Michael, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Gleeson, James, Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Noblitt, Karly, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern), Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Stennis, Michael, Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, Berlenbach, Sarah, Rosenthal, Lynn, Ford, Sarah (Intern), Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Nourse, Victoria, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov", "Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Mackler, Alexander, >", "Gleeson, James, (Intern), >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Person, Anne, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Stennis, Michael, >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Nourse, Victoria, >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >" (Intern), "Schrum, Evan, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Berlenbach, Sarah, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Noblitt, Karly, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Ford, Sarah (Intern), >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern), >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Graves, Don, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Twigg, Carri, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Anderson, David, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Sunday, October 19, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:53:57 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

18 Oct 2014 10:02:45

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Mackler, Alexander, Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Person, Anne Marie, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Twigg, Carri, Bolduc, Chad, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Anderson, David, Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Graves, Don, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Liz, Schrum, Michael, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Gleeson, James, Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Noblitt, Karly, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern), Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Stennis, Michael, Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, Berlenbach, Sarah, Rosenthal, Lynn, Ford, Sarah (Intern), Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Nourse, Victoria, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov", "Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Mackler, Alexander, >", "Gleeson, James, (Intern), >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Person, Anne, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Stennis, Michael, >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Nourse, Victoria, >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >" (Intern), "Schrum, Evan, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Berlenbach, Sarah, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Noblitt, Karly, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Ford, Sarah (Intern), >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern), >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Graves, Don, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Twigg, Carri, >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Anderson, David, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Saturday, October 18, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:51:22 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:37:18 -0400

To: ann.w.compton@abc.com, "Trotter, Kingsley, Spector, Stephen, Spector, Stephen, Trotter, Katherine K.

Cc: mary.k.bruce@abc.com, jonathan.d.karl@abc.com, rick.klein@abc.com

Re: I know you are travellinbg. OFF the record doesnt help. I would however be willing to use this with or without quoting YOU.

Off the record:

The lawyers weren't consulted because Hunter is a private citizen and the VP has no association with this company.

----- Original Message -----

From: Compton, Ann W. [mailto:Ann.W.Compton@abc.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:35 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen

Cc: Bruce, Mary K. <Mary.K.Bruce@abc.com>; Karl, Jonathan D. <Jonathan.D.Karl@abc.com>; Klein, Rick <Rick.Klein@abc.com>

Subject: I know you are travellinbg. OFF the record doesnt help. I would however be willing to use this with or without quoting YOU.

And Hunter's office cannot answer: was the WH counsel's office consulted, or informed as a courtesy?

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:27 PM

To: Compton, Ann W.; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen

Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick

Subject: RE: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W. [mailto:Ann.W.Compton@abc.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:16 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen

Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick

Subject: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

Can you tell us whether the WH counsel's office was consulted? Informed? Even as a courtesy?

And was Vice President Biden aware of the hiring when he visited Ukraine April 21-22?

Would appreciate a timely response... Thanks, as always.

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:50 PM

To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'

Subject: ?? Any reply ?? Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM

To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'

Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer — a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

###

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

14 May 2014 10:13:02

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.
Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Bolduc, Chad, Fromstein, Charles, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Elizabeth, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Richards, Kitty, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov", "Rosenthal, Lynn, Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, Russo2, Bill, Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Richards, Kitty, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Fromstein, Charles, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Russo, Bill, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan
Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, May 14, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:08:49 EST 2022

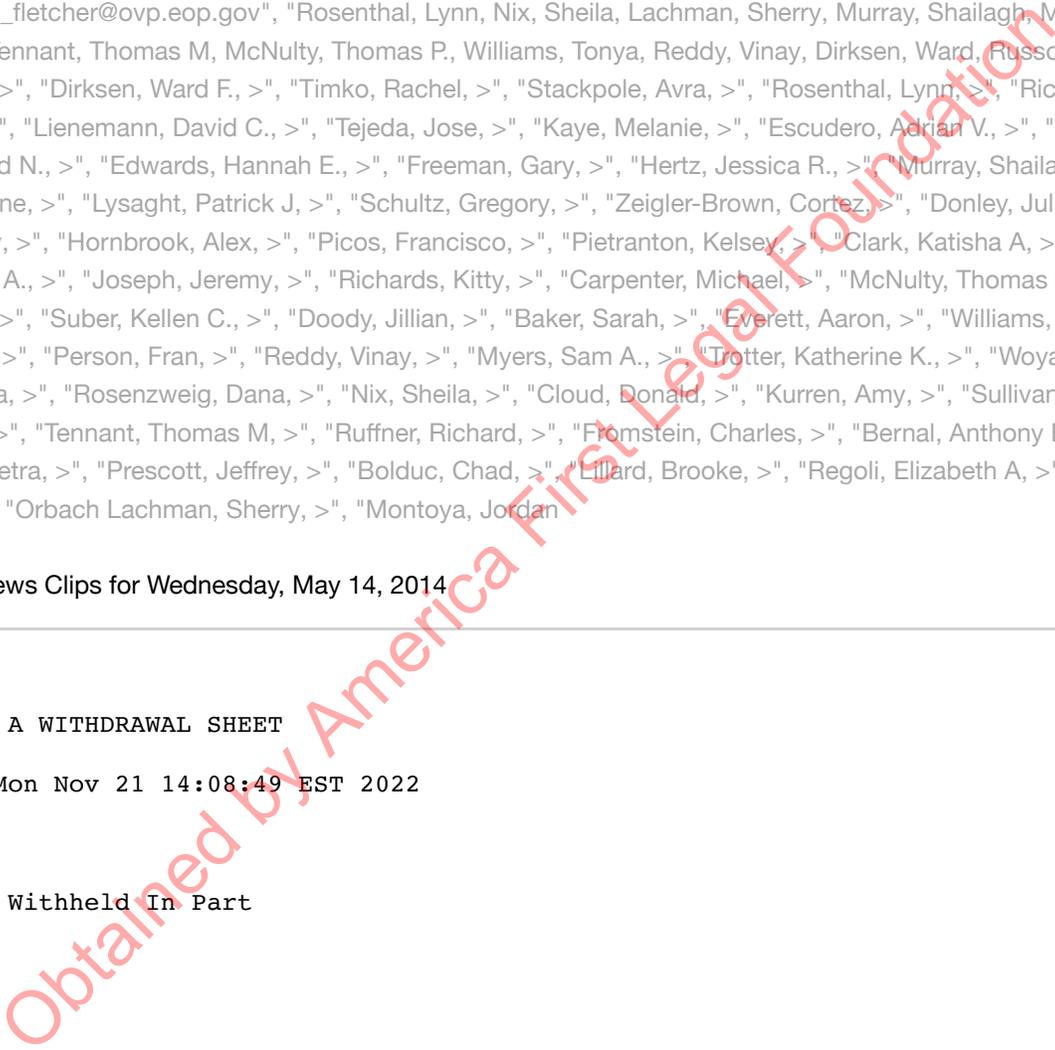
Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address



Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:39:05 -0400

To: rosie@buzzfeed.com

Re: Hunter Biden

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Rosie Gray [mailto:rosie@buzzfeed.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:04 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Hunter Biden

Hi,

I'm a reporter for BuzzFeed. I know my colleague Max Seddon has already reached out to your office but we're looking to get answers about whether or not Hunter Biden has joined the board of Burisma. Can you confirm? Is the VP's office going to say anything about this?

thanks,
Rosie

--

Reporter, BuzzFeed

@rosiegray

c: 646 369 9351

rosie@buzzfeed.com

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 11:00:14 -0400

To: eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com

Cc: hbiden@rosemontseneca.com

Re: hey

Thanks

From: Eric Schwerin [mailto:eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:58 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: Re: hey

Kendra, I am around the next few days if you need me.

Eric D. Schwerin
Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC
1010 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Suite 705
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 333-1880
eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com

 Consider the environment before printing this email.

On May 13, 2014, at 10:39 AM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:39 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Eric Schwerin
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

Ok-

What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined

the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Gerlach, Alec

Tue, 13 May 2014 10:53:18 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Sounds good.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:53 AM

To: Gerlach, Alec

Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. Trying to get more info over here. Give me a little bit of time.

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:50 AM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM

To: Gerlach, Alec

Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks

We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?

Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff

Press Secretary

Office of the Vice President

(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)

kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing...

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [<mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM

To: Gerlach, Alec

Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along....

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board...

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Compton, Ann W.

Tue, 13 May 2014 12:49:48 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Trotter, Kingsley, Trotter, Katherine K., Barkoff, Kendra

?? Any reply ?? Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM

To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'

Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer — a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

###

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Aidinoff, Marc

07 Jun 2014 21:34:42

To: [personal email address]

Cc:

Bcc:

FW: Clips

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:41:43 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email addresses

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 13:01:40 -0400

To: Spector, Stephen, Spector, Stephen

Re: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Waiting for Jay to brief before I give it out

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:00 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Do we have a response?

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:54 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM

To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchhoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jesica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.

Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Politico // Lucy McCalmont

May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine’s largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

“The company’s strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we’re delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals,” Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings’ chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings “among international organizations.”

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine’s economy.

“Burisma’s track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine,” Biden said in a statement. “As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.”

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it “illegal” under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:26:57 -0400

To: Compton, Ann W., Trotter, Kingsley, Spector, Stephen, Spector, Stephen, Trotter, Katherine K.

Cc: Bruce, Mary K., Karl, Jonathan D., Klein, Rick

RE: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

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Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:16 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen

Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick

Subject: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

Can you tell us whether the WH counsel's office was consulted? Informed? Even as a courtesy?
And was Vice President Biden aware of the hiring when he visited Ukraine April 21-22?

Would appreciate a timely response... Thanks, as always.

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:50 PM

To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'

Subject: ?? Any reply ?? Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

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From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM

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Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

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- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

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Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has

pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

###

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lucas Magnuson, Laura

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:17:30 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Trotter, Kingsley, Trotter, Katherine K., Barkoff, Kendra

Cc: Carpenter, Michael, Carpenter, Michael

FW: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Want me to have State forward all queries to you?

And are you saying anything? Thanks!

From: Singer, Matthew A [mailto:SingerMA@state.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:15 PM

To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

Cc: Ferencevych, Yaryna N; Schtele, Luke A; Sessums, Michael D; Smith, Brian T; Bouldin, Megan T; EUR-PD-Dirs-DL

Subject: FW: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Hello, Laura,

Can we discuss? Post has gotten an inquiry about this (fortunately, just to confirm whether it's true, nothing too loaded), and they need to know if they should forward inquiries to NSC.

Thank you,

-MS

Matthew Singer • Public Diplomacy Desk Officer for Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus • Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs • U.S. Dept. of State

2201 C St NW, Room 4427, Washington, DC 20520 | Direct 202-647-7861 | SingerMA@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Smith, Brian T

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:13 PM

To: EUR-UMB-DL; EUR-RUS-POL-DL

Cc: Ukraine Neg Narratives; Ukraine-Russia Coordination; Kyiv, PAS FSOs

Subject: RE: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Now being covered in English by the Moscow Times.

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/son-of-us-vice-president-biden-joins-ukraine-gas-company/500062.html>

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Smith, Brian T

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:10 AM

To: EUR-UMB-DL; EUR-RUS-POL-DL

Cc: Ukraine Neg Narratives; Ukraine-Russia Coordination

Subject: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Colleagues – FYSA, The below Russian news article, that VP Biden’s son, Hunter, has been named a board member of the energy company Burisma, which has rights to hydrocarbon reserves in Ukraine, is being retweeted by Russian elites, including Aleksey Pushkov and Vladislav Surkov. It has 100 retweets as of 1100 EST.

<http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/13/biden/>

Brian T. Smith
EUR/UMB (TDY)
202.647.2979 | HST 4427A

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:22:23 -0400

To: Lederman, Josh

RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Off the record (on the airplane, so having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I’m sure you’re about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine’s largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings’ legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: “Burisma’s track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.”

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: “The company’s strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we’re delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals.”

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including “Bush vs. Gore”, and “U.S. vs. Microsoft”. He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University’s Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman’s Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale

Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world's largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent – incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m³ of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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Afternoon Press Clips- October 21, 2014

Attachments: [VPOTUS PM PRESS- 10.21.14.docx](#) (49.7 KB)

VPOTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS **Tuesday, October 21, 2014**

[Washington Post](#)

BIDEN pushes for infrastructure investment — especially for LaGuardia Airport

By: Jose A. DelReal / October 21, 2014

In case you didn't already know how Vice President **BIDEN** feels about LaGuardia Airport, on Tuesday he reminded us that it's "the worst airport in the world."

[DNAinfo New York](#)

Cuomo, BIDEN Announce Design Competiton to Upgrade LaGuardia and JFK

By: Jeff Mays / October 21, 2014

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[Washington Examiner](#)

BIDEN: Airport workers thanked me for comparing LaGuardia to 'third-world country'

By: Brian Hughes / October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** has already landed in hot water with some New Yorkers for comparing LaGuardia Airport to a "third-world country." But he could not resist poking fun at the state of the terminals there again on Tuesday.

[Gothamist](#)

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By: Rebecca Fishbein / October 21, 2014

Not everyone who flies through La Guardia Airport is able to fully appreciate NYC's finest hunk of peeling drywall, even if the Auntie Anne's at Gate A rivals the one at Port Authority Bus Terminal. Earlier this year, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** likened La Guardia to an airport in "some third world country."

[The Detroit News](#)

BIDEN touts new Detroit buses, M-1

By: David Shepardson / October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** touted Detroit's M-1 rail system and the Transportation Department's award of funds for 50 new buses for the Motor City.

[Associated Press](#)

VP Joe BIDEN to campaign for Schneider in Illinois

October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is expected to attend a rally in support of Democratic U.S. Rep. Brad Schneider.

[Daily Herald](#)

Vernon Hills preparing for Vice President Joe BIDEN's visit Wednesday

By: Russell Lissau and Mick Zawislak / October 21, 2014

The giggling toddlers and energetic dancers who normally would occupy Vernon Hills' Sullivan Community Center on Wednesday will make way for a political rally featuring Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

[Chicago Sun-Times](#)

Bill Clinton stumps for Quinn; tells workers to look to future

By: Natasha Korecki / October 21, 2014

Clinton's arrival came one day after President Barack Obama's departure. While here, Obama headed a 6,200-person rally at Chicago State University, then pushed for early voting on Monday. Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is on deck for Wednesday. First lady Michelle Obama as well as Hillary Clinton have also come through town for Quinn.

[ABC News Radio](#)

POLL: More Prefer Public Transit to Road Building

October 21, 2014

The results come as Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and six mayors from major U.S. cities are scheduled to attend a Washington Post forum Tuesday on relieving traffic congestion.

[Globe Newswire](#)

Cubic Joins National Journalists, Elected Officials and Transportation Leaders for The Washington Post's 'Fix My Commute' Live Event

October 21, 2014

Cole, executive vice president and deputy for strategy, business development and diversification at Cubic Transportation Systems, will join U.S. Vice President Joseph **BIDEN** and fellow transportation industry leaders at The Washington Post's America Answers event, 'Fix My Commute,' on Tuesday, Oct. 21 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. EST.

[NCB News](#)

BIDEN: LaGuardia Staff Thanked Me for Telling Truth About Airport

October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** says workers at LaGuardia Airport thanked him for

comments he made earlier this year where he compared the structure to a "third world country."

[The Washington Post](#)

BIDEN clocks his Amtrak hours

October 21, 2014

During a speech on commuter issues, Vice President **BIDEN** estimates that he has made roughly 8,000 round-trips on Amtrak.

[Camas-Washougal Post-Record](#)

WHS students meet VP

October 21, 2014

Washougal High School students were provided the chance to get up close and personal with state and national leaders at a recent Portland political rally.

[New York Observer](#)

A New Look at LaGuardia Airport

October 21, 2014

Earlier this year, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** compared LaGuardia International Airport to a third-world facility. As usual when Mr. **BIDEN** ventures from prepared scripts people were offended. Mr. **BIDEN** had to apologize to the airport managers in third-world countries.

[World Tribune](#)

Putin exploits latest BIDEN gaffe, offers helping hand to Turkey

By: Miles Yu / October 21, 2014

When U.S. Vice President openly chastised Turkey for allowing foreign militant fighters to cross its territory into Syria to join Islamist State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL), President Vladimir Putin of Russia picked up the phone.

[RT](#)

US needs pro-American lobby in Israel

By: Robert Bridge / October 21, 2014

Behind the polite and diplomatic statements regarding the "unbreakable bond" that exists between the United States and Israel lays a more disturbing truth that is slowly coming to the surface.

[Lake County News-Sun](#)

Opinion: Maybe we'll get to see BIDEN being BIDEN

October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will show up Wednesday for a political speech in Vernon Hills.

[NoHo Arts District](#)

5 Things I learned from my time with Joe BIDEN

By: Jessie Marcus / October 21, 2014

I have to admit I was a little star struck. I've worked with lots of celebrities but when I heard I might be going to the Vice Presidents home in Washington, DC to film him for a Public Service announcement, I was thrilled and butterflies took flight in my stomach.

[Daily Beast](#)

Where There's Trouble, You'll Usually Find Joe BIDEN

By: Lloyd Green / October 21, 2014

According to the polls, Joe BIDEN doesn't have a prayer in 2016. And according to former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, BIDEN "has been wrong on nearly every major foreign-policy and national-security issue over the past four decades."

[Huffington Post](#)

'White Boy' BIDEN Got It Right and Wrong About the Tea Party

By: Earl Ofari Hutchinson / October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN got the tongues furiously wagging again after a recent meeting with black ministers in South Carolina. First he called himself the virtually lone "white boy" in a black Wilmington, Delaware neighborhood.

[Daily Kos](#)

If Hillary doesn't run, is BIDEN the default?

October 21, 2014

Hillary Clinton isn't going to retire to life as a Chappiqua grandma; she is all but certain to run for president. If Joe BIDEN is putting any serious thought to 2016, there is no point in him positioning himself as a progressive alternative to Clinton in the primaries.

[Washington Post](#)

BIDEN pushes for infrastructure investment — especially for LaGuardia Airport

By: Jose A. DelReal / October 21, 2014

In case you didn't already know how Vice President BIDEN feels about LaGuardia Airport, on Tuesday he reminded us that it's "the worst airport in the world."

Speaking at a Washington Post Live event on Tuesday about the importance of investing in transportation infrastructure, BIDEN told audience members that the United States needs airports that "actually look like the 21st century," a subtle callback to comments he made earlier this year comparing the New York airport to a "third-world country."

“My name is Joe ‘Amtrak’ **BIDEN**,” began the vice president, warming up the crowd before launching into remarks about the occasionally dry subject of infrastructure development. During his remarks, which lasted about 30 minutes, **BIDEN** stressed the importance of investing in transportation and workforce training programs, a combined effort that he said is a path toward strengthening the middle class.

“Modern infrastructure at this point, in my view right now, is about jobs. Infrastructure investment is one of the most direct ways to good paying, middle-class jobs,” he said.

Tuesday's event — the first in an ongoing series — focused on building better commuting experiences and upgrading traffic infrastructure. Other speakers included former transportation secretary and White House chief of staff Andrew Card, former Indianapolis mayor Stephen Goldsmith, former Pennsylvania governor Ed Rendell (D) and former White House adviser David Plouffe.

DNAinfo New York

Cuomo, BIDEN Announce Design Competition to Upgrade LaGuardia and JFK **By: Jeff Mays / October 21, 2014**

NEW YORK CITY — The last time he mentioned LaGuardia Airport, Vice President Joseph **BIDEN** made news when he said it looked like a “third world country.”

The remark drew the ire of Mayor Bill de Blasio and other New Yorkers.

But on Monday, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said he had taken **BIDEN**'s much-criticized remarks to heart and announced a design competition to upgrade both LaGuardia and John F. Kennedy International Airport.

“And he was right, by the way. Or at least he was right enough,” Cuomo said during an event at the College of Aeronautics and Technology in Queens.

In spite of a record 50 million passengers at JFK and a record 26 million passengers at LaGuardia, Cuomo said the airports are not serving the needs of travelers. Both airports are old, with LaGuardia built in 1939 and JFK in 1960.

In addition to the footprints of JFK and LaGuardia being too small, it also takes too long to get to the airports from Manhattan, Cuomo said.

And while JFK and LaGuardia lack amenities, Dubai's airport has two hotels at two different terminals and two business centers.

“They do business in the airport as a meeting place itself. We must modernize our

airports if we want to keep our competitive advantage and grow," said Cuomo.

Under the design competition plan — which begins in a month — groups will have 60 days to submit plans that modernize and upgrade both airports.

At LaGuardia, that includes a link with the Long Island Rail Road, adding ferry service to increase access from Manhattan, and adding more retail and food establishments.

At JFK, the goal is to increase connectivity between the AirTrain and subway and increase hotels and meeting spaces.

The top three plans will receive \$500,000 each to expand on their project before a winner is chosen.

The winning design will coincide with Jet Blue's existing \$740 million terminal expansion at JFK and the planned new central terminal for LaGuardia.

The design competition will also work with plans to improve Republic Airport on Long Island and Stewart International Airport in the Hudson Valley.

Joseph Sitt, president and founder of the Global Gateway Alliance, a group that has pushed for modernization of New York City's airports, called the proposal just a first step.

"We hope that this is a serious plan with a clear timeline, budget, and accountability for success, not just political words," Sitt said.

Washington Examiner

BIDEN: Airport workers thanked me for comparing LaGuardia to 'third-world country'

By: Brian Hughes / October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** has already landed in hot water with some New Yorkers for comparing LaGuardia Airport to a "third-world country." But he could not resist poking fun at the state of the terminals there again on Tuesday.

"There were a group of eight LaGuardia airport workers lined up — they all wanted to shake my hand and say, 'Thank you for telling the truth,'" **BIDEN** said at a Washington Post forum, recounting the fallout from his description of the New York facility.

Earlier this year, **BIDEN** made clear where he stood on LaGuardia's notoriously lacking upgrades.

"If I blindfolded someone and took them at 2 o'clock in the morning into the airport in Hong Kong and said, 'Where do you think you are?' "They would say, 'This must be America. This is a modern airport,'" he said in February. "If I took them blindfolded and took them to LaGuardia Airport in New York, he would [be] like, 'I must be in some third-world country.' I'm not joking."

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New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, among others, responded by calling **BIDEN's** comments inappropriate.

Months later, **BIDEN** is still no fan of LaGuardia.

"My Air Force Two crew said, 'Uh-oh,'" **BIDEN** said Tuesday of his team's response to landing at LaGuardia, at one point calling it the worst airport in the world — before clarifying that it was "at least" the worst in the U.S.

BIDEN used LaGuardia as a prime example of why U.S. leaders need to devote more dollars to infrastructure spending.

"Our problem isn't the workforce," **BIDEN** added of LaGuardia. "It's the physical structure. It's ridiculous."

Gothamist

Any Ideas On How To Make LaGuardia & JFK Less Soul-Crushing?

By: Rebecca Fishbein / October 21, 2014

Not everyone who flies through La Guardia Airport is able to fully appreciate NYC's finest hunk of peeling drywall, even if the Auntie Anne's at Gate A rivals the one at Port Authority Bus Terminal. Earlier this year, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** likened La Guardia to an airport in "some third world country." Now Governor Andrew Cuomo's putting in some photo time with Uncle Joe, teaming up with the VP to announce contests aimed at modernizing both La Guardia and John F. Kennedy Airport, an effort that's totally unrelated to any sort of future major upcoming election or whatever! SMILE FOR THE CAMERA, JOE.

Cuomo announced the contest yesterday at a press conference with **BIDEN**, who, according to the Times, went on a 25-minute "ramble" about infrastructure ("It was kind of like performance art," one witness told the paper). The governor said that the initiative is all part of the state government's plan to "invest in roads, bridges and tunnels on a scale that we haven't seen in decades." Starting next month, interested parties have 60 days to come up with plans to revitalize and redesign both airports. Then the Port Authority will pick three winning teams, and each will be awarded \$500,000 to further develop their proposals.

The proposals should aim to enhance transportation to and from the airports, amp up food and retail, make the airport layouts more accessible and all around upgrade the facilities, among other things. These tentative upgrades are all well and good, but of course, critics have noted all this UPGRADE THE AIRPOTS talk seems a little too closely timed to Election Year 2016—even **BIDEN** got into the game, likening Cuomo to Lincoln (it's in the jowls). Joseph Sitt, a developer with the Global Gateway Alliance who has a history of sucking the soul out of Coney Island, told the Times he hoped Cuomo's contest wasn't election-year "hyperbole," noting that "without dollars and cents, it could just be government rhetoric." Impossible!

La Guardia's already getting a new terminal, though it won't look as good as the one proposed by the aforementioned Global Gateway Alliance a few years ago—the Port Authority has not announced which consortium will build that future \$3.6 billion hub, but you can assume its flight boards still won't list the right gates.

New York Observer **A New Look at LaGuardia Airport** **October 21, 2014**

Earlier this year, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** compared LaGuardia International Airport to a third-world facility. As usual when Mr. **BIDEN** ventures from prepared scripts people were offended. Mr. **BIDEN** had to apologize to the airport managers in third-world countries.

Just kidding about that last bit. Actually, Mr. **BIDEN**'s remarks created a stir simply because he said out loud what thousands of New Yorkers—and visitors—say to themselves every day. LaGuardia is a wretched gateway to the greatest city in the world, and it's time somebody said so.

Mr. **BIDEN** was back in town the other day, joining Gov. Andrew Cuomo at the very airport he disparaged back in February. He saw no reason to take back his earlier remarks. "It's unacceptable that LaGuardia has the worst passenger service in the world," the vice president said.

That's going to change, as Mr. Cuomo made clear during a press conference called to announce a design competition to rebuild and revitalize not only LaGuardia, but Kennedy Airport as well. The governor told the vice president, "We've heard your message and we're acting on it."

That's good news. But it's hard not to wonder why these critical pieces of infrastructure have been allowed to wallow in obsolescence for all these years, even as other world-class competitors were investing billions in their airports and ancillary support systems, especially direct rail links. The Port Authority, which

operates the airports, has presided over the deterioration of LaGuardia and the aging of Kennedy. Too bad Mr. **BIDEN** didn't criticize the agency by name.

It's also fair to wonder if the governor's high-profile announcement was prompted by something other than genuine concern for airport design—something like, you know, his re-election campaign. If he is re-elected, New Yorkers should make certain that his grandiose plans become reality, and soon.

Mr. Cuomo suggested that the coming redesign may include a link between LaGuardia and the Long Island Railroad as well as ferry service between the airport and Manhattan. That's wonderful, but seasoned travelers can't help but point to other world-class cities that already have superb public transport to and from their major airports.

Mr. Cuomo said his design competition is not intended to delay or impede the Port Authority's already-announced plans to build a new main terminal at LaGuardia, estimated to cost \$3.6 billion. The terminal project and the design competition can co-exist, the governor said.

Let's hope so, because, as Mr. **BIDEN** was nice enough to point out, the airport is in desperate need of help. There surely is plenty of work to be done, but if the Port Authority's existing plan for a new terminal and Mr. Cuomo's more sweeping idea for a redesign of the facility conflict with each other, nothing will have been achieved.

Nothing, that is, except a well-timed news conference.

The Detroit News

BIDEN touts new Detroit buses, M-1

By: David Shepardson / October 21, 2014

Washington — Vice President Joe **BIDEN** touted Detroit's M-1 rail system and the Transportation Department's award of funds for 50 new buses for the Motor City.

"Detroit's getting off its back. It's on its knees. It's about to stand up," **BIDEN** said at a forum on commuting sponsored by the Washington Post at a local theater. He praised Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan as a "great mayor. ... I'm serious — a really can-do guy."

BIDEN also suggested self-driving cars may be in place faster than many experts have predicted.

Last month, the U.S. Transportation Department announced it was awarding the city \$25.9 million to buy as many as 50 new hybrid and clean diesel buses that will ease

overcrowding, reduce wait times, and provide more accessible and reliable service where 35 percent of the people live below the poverty line. They will replace aging vehicles that have been "plagued by maintenance issues, resulting in better on-time service, as well as reduced carbon emissions," the department said.

It marked the second boost from Washington in less than a year for the city's beleaguered bus system. In December, the Federal Transit Administration approved \$41.6 million to overhaul 60 buses, improve facilities and acquire security equipment.

The Transportation Department said 60 percent of Detroiters don't have access to a car. "They rely on buses," **BIDEN** said. "They don't have enough buses so we just arranged for" funding for more buses.

"What does mean? It means people can keep the few jobs they have out there. They don't show up late. They are actually able to be on time. ... It means a working mom doesn't have to take two buses that take two hours to get to work."

He also praised the M-1 rail system "going right through the center of town."

"The point is that it matters. Transportation and convenient transportation, efficient transportation matter to how people can live their lives," **BIDEN** said.

BIDEN also praised Google Inc. for working on self-driving cars and Tesla Motors Inc. for building electric vehicles.

"Tesla — I shouldn't say Tesla because I'm going to be accused of promoting a brand. But here's the deal: They are about to put a car on the market that goes 0 to 60 in 3.2 seconds," **BIDEN** said referring a new souped-up version of the Model S that the automaker unveiled earlier this month. "Google's working to develop self-driving cars, which I predict will be around in the next four or five years. The possibilities are immense."

Self-driving cars could save lives and improve productivity, **BIDEN** said. "It's gigantic," he said.

Duggan won permission in January from Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr to hire a new bus director, after he saw buses running behind schedule while residents waited in subzero temperatures. Duggan had been pushing the Obama administration for bus funding and spoke with **BIDEN** about it.

Also last month, the Transportation Department awarded a \$12.2 million federal grant to help finish the 3.31-mile M-1 streetcar project.

Associated Press

VP Joe BIDEN to campaign for Schneider in Illinois

October 21, 2014

VERNON HILLS, Ill. (AP) — Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is expected to attend a rally in support of Democratic U.S. Rep. Brad Schneider.

Schneider is in a race with Republican Bob Dold in Illinois' 10th congressional district. Schneider's campaign says the vice president will headline an early voter rally on Wednesday afternoon at a community center in the suburb of Vernon Hills.

BIDEN is one of many political heavy weights who have visited Illinois in recent days to campaign for Democratic candidates. President Barack Obama was in Chicago on Sunday to help Gov. Pat Quinn in his campaign against GOP challenger Bruce Rauner (ROW'-nur). Quinn campaigned Tuesday with former President Bill Clinton.

Daily Herald

Vernon Hills preparing for Vice President Joe BIDEN's visit Wednesday

By: Russell Lissau and Mick Zawislak / October 21, 2014

The giggling toddlers and energetic dancers who normally would occupy Vernon Hills' Sullivan Community Center on Wednesday will make way for a political rally featuring Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

BIDEN is coming to the center on Aspen Drive in the afternoon to stump for some fellow Democrats on the Nov. 4 ballot.

The Vernon Hills Park District facility will be closed for the day and scheduled programs have been canceled. Additionally, motorists should expect corresponding delays and detours in the area.

As campaign workers, district staffers and others prepare for the event, the Sullivan Center has been a flurry of activity. U.S. flags and other decorations are being added to the decor, a stage is being built and barricades will be erected.

Park district Executive Director Jeff Fougrousse sounded excited about **BIDEN's** visit.

"When you can bring the vice president of the United States into our park district facility, that's a special moment for us," he said.

Doors will open to the public at 1 p.m., and things are expected to get underway about 1:30 p.m.

The Sullivan Center was chosen for **BIDEN's** visit because it's in the 10th Congressional District, where Democratic incumbent Brad Schneider is running a close race with Republican rival Robert Dold.

Schneider's campaign committee is covering the \$500 rental cost, said Jay Bullman, the center's facility supervisor. The contract was signed Oct. 14, Fougrousse said, and planning began in earnest a few days later.

BIDEN and Schneider will be joined by U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, who's also seeking re-election, and by Paul Vallas, who's running for lieutenant governor with Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn as his running mate.

Durbin's challenger is Republican Jim Oberweis. Quinn is running against the GOP's Bruce Rauner.

At the Sullivan Center, a preschool program, some dance classes, and a rhythmic gymnastics class previously set for Wednesday have been canceled. An after-school program will be relocated, too.

The dozen or so full-time employees who otherwise would be scheduled to work at the center won't have vacation days, Fougrousse said.

"They're still going to work, just at different locations," he said. "It's not a paid holiday for staff."

BIDEN's visit isn't causing any other significant disruptions in town, officials said.

Vernon Hills police are involved with traffic control coordination. The Secret Service will handle **BIDEN's** transportation, officials said.

Motorists should expect delays or detours in the area, police said.

Village employees aren't involved in any other aspects of the rally.

"It's a private event," Village Manager John Kalmar said.

When President Obama made a speech at Evanston's Northwestern University this month, university and city officials had much more to do.

"It's a much more overwhelming event when the sitting president comes to your campus," Northwestern spokesman Al Cabbage said.

University leaders had about 10 days to prepare. Cabbage and key staffers met

daily to discuss security, facilities issues and other matters.

For example, three rows of seats in the rear of the Cahn Auditorium needed to be removed so risers could be installed for media crews. A temporary floor was built over the theater's orchestra pit, too.

"It was a lot of work," Cabbage said.

The Sullivan center has hosted political bigwigs before. In March 2012, Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney had a rally there.

Chicago Sun-Times

Bill Clinton stumps for Quinn; tells workers to look to future

By: Natasha Korecki / October 21, 2014

Former President Bill Clinton landed in Chicago on Tuesday, becoming the latest in a steady stream of star-studded pols to stump for Gov. Pat Quinn's re-election.

With U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and Quinn at his side at Wheatland Tube on the Southwest Side, Clinton defended Quinn's tenure as governor.

"What this election should be about is what your lives are about: More jobs, higher incomes, better education and training, secure health care and stronger families and communities," Clinton told a crowd of hard-hat wearing workers at the steel pipe and tube manufacturing plant. "The rest is all background music."

Clinton worked to dispel thoughts that this election was a referendum on President Barack Obama as well as convince the crowd that a vote for Quinn was a vote for the future.

"When he took office, things were in a terrible mess ... There were no easy answers," Clinton said of Quinn. "We had the worst crash since the depression... Don't be pessimistic about the future, and don't let your neighbors be."

Clinton's arrival came one day after President Barack Obama's departure. While here, Obama headed a 6,200-person rally at Chicago State University, then pushed for early voting on Monday. Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is on deck for Wednesday. First lady Michelle Obama as well as Hillary Clinton have also come through town for Quinn.

Republican Bruce Rauner, meanwhile, was pushing early voting in Henry, Tazewell and Winnebago counties. Rauner tapped starpower as well in New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie. Christie appeared at a campaign stop with Rauner in Rockford. Christie, also the chair of the Republican Governors Association, has visited Illinois

numerous times to campaign for Rauner and on Tuesday was grabbing headlines complaining about the Democrats' use of the minimum wage as a campaign tactic.

Meanwhile, Rauner's campaign has a different take on the state's record of job creation.

"When it comes to jobs, Illinois continues to lag behind its neighbors with one of the lowest growth rates in the Midwest," Rauner spokesperson Mike Schimpf said in an emailed statement.

However, new numbers released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show Illinois had the second best job growth in the nation. Last month, Illinois added nearly 20,000 jobs.

"Illinois has seen the nation's sharpest decline in unemployment over the last year, and our unemployment rate is at its lowest point in more than six years," Quinn's statement said.

Rauner and Quinn are locked in a tight election battle for the governor's mansion. The election is Nov. 4.

ABC News Radio

POLL: More Prefer Public Transit to Road Building

October 21, 2014

(NEW YORK) -- Americans in an ABC News/Washington Post poll favor expanded public transportation options over road building in government efforts to reduce traffic congestion. But where they live makes a difference.

Overall, 54 percent prefer focusing on public transit, such as trains and buses, while four in 10 say the government should focus on expanding and building roads instead. Preference for public transit, though, ranges from 61 percent of urban residents to 52 percent of suburbanites and 49 percent of people in rural areas.

The results come as Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and six mayors from major U.S. cities are scheduled to attend a Washington Post forum Tuesday on relieving traffic congestion.

There are other differences among groups. Preference for a focus on public transit peaks at two in three liberals and six in 10 college graduates, as well as among nonwhites, people under age 40, those in the top income category, \$100,000-plus, and political independents.

Other groups have a slight preference for road building: strong conservatives,

evangelical white Protestants and white men without a college degree.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Sept. 4-7, 2014, among a random national sample of 1,001 adults, including landline and cell phone-only respondents. Results have a 3.5 point error margin. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt-SRBI of New York.st

Globe Newswire

Cubic Joins National Journalists, Elected Officials and Transportation Leaders for The Washington Post's 'Fix My Commute' Live Event October 21, 2014

SAN DIEGO, Oct. 21, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- via PRWEB - Matt Cole, executive vice president and deputy for strategy, business development and diversification at Cubic Transportation Systems, will join U.S. Vice President **Joseph BIDEN** and fellow transportation industry leaders at The Washington Post's America Answers event, 'Fix My Commute,' on Tuesday, Oct. 21 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. EST. America Answers is a transformative live event series, bringing together innovators from government, industry and start-ups to analyze and discuss national issues, such as healthcare, transportation, schools and more. In addition to the vice president, the mayors of Atlanta, Denver, Honolulu, Miami and Salt Lake City will present innovations in their cities complemented by experts from business and academia at this daylong event.

'Fix My Commute' is the first installment in the series, examining how states, cities and towns are utilizing solutions to improve cost, congestion, traffic safety and infrastructure projects. Presenters will delve into technological advances in the industry including autonomous vehicles, apps for commuting and energy improvements.

"We are honored to be part of the first America Answers event alongside Vice President **BIDEN** and so many transportation industry thought leaders," said Cole. "Improving how commuters get from here to there is at the crux of Cubic's NextCity strategy to integrate all modes of transportation. NextCity is enabling cities to more efficiently manage revenue and infrastructure pricing, better plan for and meet demand using data-driven analytics and maximize traveler convenience through the gathering of predictive, personalized and actionable information."

The 'Big Data, Big Solutions' panel will run from 9:30-10 a.m., where Cole will cover how the vast information collected by transportation authorities can be used to move commuters more efficiently and keep riders and transport operators more informed about their transit networks. Cole will be joined by moderator Nancy Scola, technology policy reporter at The Washington Post and editor for the publication's tech blog, The Switch, Di-Ann Eisnor, head of global partnerships at Waze, and

Stephen Goldsmith, professor of government at Harvard Kennedy School.

Cubic is well-qualified to speak on the subject after years of experience with big data and predictive analytics in the transportation industry, culminating in the launch of its Urban Insights subsidiary in June 2014. Urban Insights delivers data-driven insights that will shape the urban transportation network of the future, enable greater mobility and help transportation agencies solve one of their most critical issues--funding--by helping them operate more efficiently and do more with less resources. The subsidiary assists agencies in gathering the relevant data, analyzing and assessing the meaning in the context of the desired outcomes, and in turn, helping them to deliver the optimal level of service to the right locations at the right times.

NCB News

BIDEN: LaGuardia Staff Thanked Me for Telling Truth About Airport October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** says workers at LaGuardia Airport thanked him for comments he made earlier this year where he compared the structure to a "third world country."

The Washington Post

BIDEN clocks his Amtrak hours October 21, 2014

During a speech on commuter issues, Vice President **BIDEN** estimates that he has made roughly 8,000 round-trips on Amtrak.

Camas-Washougal Post-Record

WHS students meet VP October 21, 2014

Washougal High School students were provided the chance to get up close and personal with state and national leaders at a recent Portland political rally.

The event was organized to support the re-election campaign for Oregon Democratic Sen. Jeff Merkley. According to Jim Reed, WHS Advanced Placement government and contemporary world problems teacher, his goal was for the students to experience the ins and outs of politics.

"This field trip was not about voting Democrat or Republican, but rather to get a feel for the campaign process and their techniques," Reed said.

"It was a very successful field trip," he continued. "The students were able to see

firsthand how the campaigning process works.”

Students got to see and hear from political figures such as Portland Mayor Charlie Hales, various congressional leaders, Merkley and Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

“This experience has really made me excited to vote,” said WHS senior, Brandon Rotundo. “I can’t wait to be 18. I will need to know the issues and start picking sides.”

The experience began with a two hour wait to get in to the rally. During that time, students were able to hear conversations with some attendees as to why they were there and the issues they were representing.

They also saw groups of protestors on a variety of issues from the Israel–Palestine Conflict to legalization of marijuana. “Both parties are interested in the younger vote,” Reed said.

Once inside the rally, the group was invited to the main floor VIP area where they had many campaign messages for young voters directed at them.

“The rally was very exciting and very enlightening,” said WHS senior Seth Foster. “You came away with a better understanding of the campaign process. Rallies are very different from campaign TV ads. You could see how they set things up to appeal to the audience to get the right vibe.”

“I really feel now that my vote will matter,” said WHS senior Emma Boyle. “It will be exciting for me to have my vote make a difference.”

Boyle was also impressed with **BIDEN**’s ease using technology. “I must say, for a man in his 70s, he is very good at taking ‘selfies’ with people. He was very efficient.”

According to Reed, the students will follow up by watching the results of congressional races and state initiatives. They will also participate in a Washington State election for students at the end of the month through the Washington Secretary of State’s office.

World Tribune

Putin exploits latest BIDEN gaffe, offers helping hand to Turkey

By: Miles Yu / October 21, 2014

When U.S. Vice President openly chastised Turkey for allowing foreign militant fighters to cross its territory into Syria to join Islamist State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL), President Vladimir Putin of Russia picked up the phone.

Putin, estranged from the international community for his Ukraine gambit, called Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Oct. 11 to offer sympathy and support.

Although **BIDEN**, who is known for being prone to gaffes of all sizes and types, apologized to Erdogan for his remarks which blamed Turkey for the rise of ISIL, the Turkish president was furious still.

"If **BIDEN** said such a thing, he is history to me," Erdogan was quoted as saying by Turkish press.

RT

US needs pro-American lobby in Israel

By: Robert Bridge / October 21, 2014

Behind the polite and diplomatic statements regarding the "unbreakable bond" that exists between the United States and Israel lays a more disturbing truth that is slowly coming to the surface.

It would require more than one article to document the litany of diplomatic disasters that have plagued the US-Israeli relationship of late, and especially since Barack Obama entered the White House.

Perhaps one of the more memorable setbacks occurred during the November 2011 G20 meeting where Obama and former French President Nicolas Sarkozy were overheard expressing less-than-flattering remarks about Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"Netanyahu, I can't stand him. He's a liar," Sarkozy reportedly told Obama, to which Obama responded: "You are sick of him, but I have to work with him every day."

In March 2010, while Vice President Joe **BIDEN** was in Jerusalem touting the US-Israeli relationship, the Israeli Interior Ministry took the opportunity to announce the construction of 1,600 new homes in contested East Jerusalem, a poorly timed decision that came just after the Palestinians agreed to restart peace talks after a 14-month lapse.

"The substance and timing of the announcement, particularly with the launching of proximity talks, is precisely the kind of step that undermines the trust we need right now," **BIDEN** told his host.

The recent rash of such incidences could signal more irreparable damage down the road.

Meanwhile, Israel continues to carry out its domestic initiatives - illegal settlement construction on contested territory is the most glaring example - without giving much thought to what long-term repercussions those actions could have on its relationship with Washington.

Here is how the prestigious US political journal, Foreign Affairs, described the strained bilateral relationship: “Over the last 30 years these relations have evolved to the point where Israel is more dependent on the United States than ever, and yet feels itself free to take hard-line positions at variance with American views without fear of anything worse than verbal admonition from Washington,” wrote the American diplomat George W. Ball. “The result is to encourage Israeli positions and actions that cannot be in the long-term interest of Israel itself, and to deprive the United States in practice of freedom of diplomatic action on issues that deeply affect its national interest.”

The incredible thing about that accurate summary of the US-Israeli relationship is that it was penned back in 1979, by yet another American in a long list of diplomats who never lived to see through a Middle East peace plan between Israel and Palestine. Some say that failure, which has existed since the Six-Day War in 1967 (although Palestinians would argue the problem goes back to 1948 with the creation of the State of Israel) and Israel’s annexation of disputed territory, is the root of all problems in the Middle East.

Last week, US Secretary of State John Kerry took that controversial argument to the next level, suggesting that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has contributed to the rapid expansion of the Islamic State, the ultra-violent Sunni group that aims to establish a region-wide caliphate.

“As I went around and met with people in the course of our discussions about the ISIL [Islamic State] coalition, the truth is we – there wasn’t a leader I met within the region who didn’t raise with me spontaneously the need to try to get peace between Israel and the Palestinians, because it was a cause of recruitment and of street anger and agitation that they felt – and I see a lot of heads nodding – they had to respond to,” Kerry said on Thursday at a reception for the Muslim feast of Eid al-Adha in Washington.

Needless to say, Kerry’s comments triggered a fierce reaction among Israeli politicians.

Naftali Bennett, Israel’s economic minister and leader of the far-Right Jewish Home party came close to accusing Kerry of outright anti-Semitism.

“It turns out that even when a British Muslim decapitates a British Christian, there will always be someone to blame the Jew,” he said. “To say that the Israeli-

Palestinian conflict is strengthening the Islamic State [ISIS] is encouraging global terror.”

The White House was quick to respond in kind to Mr. Bennett.

“Either this specific minister did not actually read what the secretary said or someone is engaging in the politics of distortion,” said Marie Harf, a state department spokesperson, calling the interpretation of Kerry’s remarks “inaccurate.”

Moshe Ya’alon, Israel’s defense minister, attempted to turn down the volume between the two sides when he reminded: “The relationship between the United States and Israel is based on shared interests and values, and disputes of one sort or another must not cast a shadow over it.”

Although Kerry’s attempt to connect the rise of Islamic State to the failed Middle East peace efforts may be a stretch, it nevertheless shows the deep frustration being felt on the American side, where efforts to draw up a road map for peace between Israelis and Palestinians has confounded and ultimately escaped Washington leaders for decades. Patience may be wearing thin, as even Israeli commentators have suggested.

As America continues to relish in its superpower status, soaring high on a towering mountain called hubris, it should come as no surprise that it is getting sorely perplexed with every failed attempt to mediate a Middle East deal between Israel and the Palestinians.

Here is the crux of the matter: While Israel enjoys a level of lobbying representation inside of the United States that some would describe as out of proportion to its size, the United States has no such diplomatic apparatus with which to express and promote its concerns.

One solution may be to open a branch of the influential American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) on Israeli soil as a means for American-centric lobbyists to communicate their ideas directly to Israeli leaders and parliamentarians on issues of pressing importance. Although we should not expect the pro-American lobby to ever interfere in the Israeli political process, such a vehicle would in any case reduce tensions between the two historic allies and possibly even resolve the seemingly intractable Middle East crisis.

Lake County News-Sun

Opinion: Maybe we’ll get to see BIDEN being BIDEN

October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will show up Wednesday for a political speech in Vernon

Hills.

It could be dull. After all, it's just two weeks before the midterm national elections, and **BIDEN** can be expected to carry the Democratic Party flag and jab at Republicans. Nothing scintillating about that.

On the other hand, maybe this will be one of those "**BIDEN** Being **BIDEN**" moments at the Sullivan Community Center at 1 p.m. The potential can be exciting because it always comes as a surprise. If we believe the vice president, he often doesn't know it's coming, either.

On occasions more frequent than White House handlers would hope, **BIDEN** speaks his mind. Sometimes his variation has something to do with the normal text and topic of his assigned message. Sometimes he has something on his mind and wants to spill the goods.

When these unscripted, unpredictable blurts happen, democracy shudders.

It's not that **BIDEN** says untruths or hatefulness.

When the vice president slides off center, what he routinely says turns out to be true. Truth is embarrassing in politics.

Time magazine has compiled a "hit list" of **BIDEN**'s gaffes.

Among them, he said this at a 2008 rally in Nashua, N.H.: "Hillary Clinton is as qualified or more qualified than I am to be Vice President of the United States of America. Let's get that straight. She's a truly close personal friend. She is qualified to be President of the United States of America. She's easily qualified to be Vice President of the United States of America. Quite frankly, it might have been a better pick than me. But she's first rate."

Oops.

A day later, he summoned Missouri state Sen. Chuck Graham to stand up at a campaign rally, before realizing that Graham was confined to a wheelchair. He also zaps international allies.

Sometimes he's goofy. Sometimes he just inadvertently reveals the truth when no one expects it. If it's **BIDEN** Being **BIDEN**, there's always more fun.

NoHo Arts District

5 Things I learned from my time with Joe BIDEN

By: Jessie Marcus / October 21, 2014

I have to admit I was a little star struck. I've worked with lots of celebrities but when I heard I might be going to the Vice Presidents home in Washington, DC to film him for a Public Service announcement, I was thrilled and butterflies took flight in my stomach.

This was going to be interesting and possibly one of the most challenging shoots I would ever produce.

I left the set of our shoot in Atlanta with my director to jump on a plane in time to make our 4am call and 9am shoot with VPOTUS. Not the most glorious side of the job, but nothing was going to stop me from taking advantage of this amazing opportunity. Another reason I feel so blessed in the work that I do!

And when I arrived at his office it wasn't the dogs sniffing our gear or the secret service watching my every move that made me nervous. It was meeting one of the most powerful people on the planet and the feelings of curiosity about what he would be like.

I hoped he would be gracious and kind, authentic and caring. I imagined he could be welcoming and strong, powerful but gentle. But hey, I look for that in most of the men I meet; this was going to be a roll of the dice.

He did not disappoint.

From the minute he arrived there was warmth and appreciation and I felt I was in the presence of a man comfortable in his position but aware of who he truly is.

These are the impressions and lessons Joe gave me that day that I feel fortunate to be able to share with you.

Family First: When Mr. Vice President walked in the room the very first thing he did was introduce his granddaughter to the crew and talk about her recent accomplishment of making the tennis team. He admitted he might be embarrassing her, but his delight in her talent, and pride as a grandfather couldn't be contained. Right out of the gate he showed us the value family has in his life and made us all feel at ease.

Being kind matters: Of all the things that impressed me the most that day it was his kindness. He took the time to acknowledge everyone in the room who was there to help, and even though I know he has been trained as a politician, kindness inspires and he brought out the best in us all with his.

Listening goes a long way: Another thing that moved me about Joe **BIDEN** was his

presence and the feeling I got when he engaged in a conversation with me. It was my moment and he fully gave it to me. It feels good to matter enough to be heard and he is a maestro in the art of listening.

Serve others: At 71 Mr. Vice President looks amazing! He radiates from the inside. I'm sure he has a lot of support to maintain his health and stay fit but I think being of service is what contributes the most to him being a silver fox. (can I say that???)

Exit in Style: Not all of us can climb in our air chariot called Marine Two and be whisked away to a meeting but if you can I say Do It!

And if you want to get a sense of who Joe really can be, check out this video he made for The White House Correspondents dinner with Julia Louis-Dreyfus. Hysterical!

Daily Beast

Where There's Trouble, You'll Usually Find Joe **BIDEN**

By: Lloyd Green / October 21, 2014

According to the polls, Joe **BIDEN** doesn't have a prayer in 2016. And according to former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, **BIDEN** "has been wrong on nearly every major foreign-policy and national-security issue over the past four decades."

But two things are also certain: First, **BIDEN** is still Barack Obama's go-to-guy when partisan loyalty is at a premium. Faced with rising concern and criticism over the outbreak of Ebola, Obama tapped Ron Klain, **BIDEN**'s former chief of staff, to be America's Ebola czar. Second, **BIDEN**'s friends and family have not hesitated to profit from their ties to the vice president. **BIDEN**'s brother, James, and his son, Hunter, have cashed in on the family name, whether it be in Iraq or Ukraine. **BIDEN** may have the mien of the crazy uncle in the basement, but he is also a real reminder of what is wrong with politics.

Let's start with Klain. Like **BIDEN**, Klain is a consummate fixer, with Georgetown and Harvard Law School degrees thrown in for good measure. But for his political pedigree, Klain would have no business being Ebola coordinator. Ebola is not just another messaging problem.

Klain was the aide to Al Gore who was memorialized by Kevin Spacey in the HBO movie Recount as pushing for a more aggressive approach to, well, the 2000 Florida recount. Then, after failing in Florida, Klain became a Fannie Mae lobbyist who helped convince Congress and Fannie Mae's regulators that all was well with the world, even as Fannie Mae was inflating what would prove to be a catastrophic housing bubble.

And yet, **BIDEN** and Obama now seek to again unleash Klain on America. To be sure, Klain's public-health credentials are invisible, a fact that Obama himself has tacitly acknowledged. In announcing Klain's selection, Obama framed things this way: "Klain comes to the job with extensive experience in overseeing complex governmental operations and has good working relationships with leading members of Congress as well as senior administration officials." Not one word about Klain, medicine, and immunology.

In that sense, Klain is all too reminiscent of Harriet Miers, George W. Bush's White House counsel and his personal lawyer. Bush nominated Miers to the Supreme Court but was then compelled to pull her nomination after it became clear that Miers' loyalty to the president far exceeded her legal chops.

What prevented Miers from joining the court was the fact that she would have to run the gantlet of Senate confirmation, which is something that Klain, the Ebola czar, will not need to do. He is a creature of the White House, cloaked in executive privilege.

Ron Klain is cut from the same mold as Tom Donilon, Obama's former national security adviser, who, like Klain, also served at Fannie Mae.

Klain is not the first to crawl out of the swamp of **BIDEN** World on to the larger stage. He is cut from the same mold as Tom Donilon, Obama's former national security adviser, who, like Klain, also served at Fannie Mae; had his own ties to **BIDEN**; and worked in a job in which he was over his head. For the record, Donilon's brother, Mike, was **BIDEN**'s counselor between 2009 and 2013.

According to The Nation, "Fannie Mae paid Donilon, a longtime Democratic Party operative, \$15 million to lobby Congress to gut the power of government regulators." He was "a top executive at Fannie Mae during the period when cooking the books to increase executive compensation would later lead to a \$400 million fine."

More disturbingly, Donilon took center stage as national security adviser despite the fact that he was lightly regarded in national-security circles. In Bob Woodward's telling, Gen. Jim Jones, Donilon's predecessor at NSA, said to Donilon, "You have no credibility with the military.... you frequently pop off with absolute declarations about places you've never been, leaders you've never met, or colleagues you work with." Donilon was also Obama's guy while the president was laying out imaginary red lines to Syria.

But it's not just **BIDEN** placing loyalty over competence that makes him who he is, his tropism toward plagiarism, or even his tendency to say the wrong thing at the wrong time. It's **BIDEN**'s willingness to turn a blind eye in the face of his family members trading on **BIDEN**'s job as vice president for fun, profit, and disgrace that

completes the picture.

Take Hunter **BIDEN**, the veep's younger son. Just last week, it was reported that the 44-year-old Hunter was discharged from the Navy after testing positive for cocaine. But here's the thing. To get into the Navy, Hunter needed a separate waiver on account of his prior drug use. History does repeat itself.

And then there's that matter of Hunter and Ukraine. Back in May, Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private natural-gas producer, announced that Hunter had joined its board. To which the White House could only reply, "Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president."

And then there's James **BIDEN**, the vice president's brother, who made a go at winning public-housing contracts in Iraq. As reported in the waning days of the 2012 presidential campaign, after Joe became vice president, James joined New Jersey-based Hill International as its executive vice president.

So what? So this. Hill's business is managing construction projects in the Middle East and the United States, and lo and behold, six months after James joined Hill in 2010, the company won a \$1.5 billion contract to build at least 100,000 affordable homes in Iraq. Talk about coincidence.

Or not. According to published reports, the State Department, then run by Hillary Clinton, and the Iraqi government were instrumental in Hill winning the contract. Also at the time, **BIDEN** was Obama's point person on Iraq, and like Klain, who is no expert on public health, James **BIDEN** was no maven on public housing.

The White House may have contemplated dumping Joe **BIDEN** from the ticket. But that was then. These days, it is **BIDEN** who again finds himself at the center of all things Obama.

Even as the United States struggles to build a coalition against ISIS, it is **BIDEN** who tweaks Turkey, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, without appreciating the havoc that he would wreak, tweaks for which he would ultimately be forced to apologize. We have seen the diplomatic crises **BIDEN** can stir up. But sadly, it's hardly the worst of **BIDEN**'s handiwork.

Huffington Post

'White Boy' BIDEN Got It Right and Wrong About the Tea Party

By: Earl Ofari Hutchinson / October 21, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** got the tongues furiously wagging again after a recent

meeting with black ministers in South Carolina. First he called himself the virtually lone "white boy" in a black Wilmington, Delaware neighborhood. Then he lambasted the tea party as "crazy." The reference to himself as the "white boy" was more amusing than anything else. Since **BIDEN** obviously took great relish in making the point to a mostly black gathering that he's one of them too and by extension so is the Democratic Party.

But it was his typecast of the tea party as a bunch of loons that was far more eye catching. He got it right and wrong about it. It's easy to sneer at, and even poke fun, at a party that, since it burst on the scene in the aftermath of President Obama's first presidential election win, some of its members have come off as a cross between a KKK Klavern and a PT Barnum clown circus act. After their first flush of growth, the party's slide in getting candidates elected and gaining more popular support has been relentlessly downhill. Polls repeatedly show that a majority of Americans look on the tea party with everything from disgust to indifference. Gallup poll numbers show that less than one in four Americans now back the party. But looks can be deceiving, and that's never truer than in politics, and this is where **BIDEN** got it wrong about the tea party.

The best guess is that of the two hundred plus House Republicans, less than half of them are there because of tea party support or are directly affiliated with the tea party. Yet this minority within the GOP controlled House has continually held the House and Congress hostage on everything from spending on all domestic programs to its dozens of obstructionist and showboat votes repealing the Affordable Care Act. Meanwhile, the Senate is regarded as the one sure firewall between the tea party-influenced, GOP-controlled House getting its way on legislation and its initiatives.

GOP Senate leaders have been careful to keep the tea party at arm's length and the various official GOP campaign committees have loudly made it clear that in the 2014 and the 2016 elections they will only bankroll GOP candidates who are electable. This means candidates who are sans the tea party stigma and odor. They have been as good as their word and now crow that the current crop of GOP contenders in the key Senate races have a better than fair shot at winning precisely because they are seen as sensible and electable.

This is much less it that than it appears. The supposedly moderate GOP Senators have toed the tea party line in opposing tougher gun control provisions and immigration reform. And they have hammered away on spending cuts on everything from Head Start to food nutrition programs, and have torpedoed key Obama administration judicial and staff appointments.

At every step, they have cast a wary but congenial eye on the tea party. There's no mystery why. The 2014 midterm elections shape up to be a cliffhanger in the key

battleground states between the GOP and Democrats, especially incumbent Democratic senators. The incessant media talk of a GOP tsunami in those states is just that -- talk. The Democrats are rolling the dice hard in the key match-ups in those states and are spending the bank on their candidates. That makes the tea party even more vital to the GOP, shrunken numbers are not. It can make enough noise and in some districts turn out sufficient numbers to make a difference in close contests. That's even more vital in swing districts with Democratic congresspersons who are on shaky ground with conservative voters.

The various polls that show the declining tea party fortunes have also noted that the tea party's backer's vehemence toward the Democratic Party is unrelenting. This presents yet another dilemma and opportunity for the GOP. With nowhere else for tea party adherents to go other than the GOP, this could open the gates wide again for more challenges from tea party backed candidates to GOP incumbents in 2014 and beyond. This perpetually puts GOP congresspersons in the disastrous position of having to continually look over their shoulders to see if there is a tea party candidate waiting in the wings to challenge if they do not tow the tea party line. They have turned this to their advantage by simply co-opting much of the tea party line on the issues without calling it that.

"White boy" **BIDEN** did not misspeak or engage in campaign ballyhoo to please black Democrats in South Carolina or anywhere else for that matter when he round-housed the tea party. The tea party's anti-Obama antics have brought them richly deserved public ridicule. But beyond the ridicule they're still very much a force to be reckoned with and the hostage taking success they've had and continue to have with the GOP is ample proof of that.

Daily Kos

If Hillary doesn't run, is BIDEN the default?

October 21, 2014

Hillary Clinton isn't going to retire to life as a Chappaqua grandma; she is all but certain to run for president. If Joe **BIDEN** is putting any serious thought to 2016, there is no point in him positioning himself as a progressive alternative to Clinton in the primaries. His best chance is to loiter as an heir apparent, ready to launch a campaign if health issues or some other, unforeseen circumstance compels Clinton to bow out. At that point, it is highly likely **BIDEN** would be able to dispatch Martin O'Malley or Brian Schweitzer, or Jim Webb, or Bernie Sanders, or any of the other peripheral figures who might decide to contest the primaries. There would be an inevitable grass-roots campaign to get Elizabeth Warren to run, but she has consistently ruled it out. In any case, many of her most ardent and influential supporters have reservations about the feasibility of such a campaign, and would prefer her to remain in the Senate.

“If Hillary comes out tomorrow and says, ‘I’m not running,’ ...I still think she shouldn’t run,” said one New York-based financial supporter of Warren. “She has so many holes in her resume.”

Added another California-based donor: “Two years ago she was a college professor, for goodness sakes. She has one issue and she is a great advocate for that one issue. She doesn’t have the breadth of experience necessary to be president.”

If Hillary drops out, with a significant health issue entirely plausible, **BIDEN** becomes, if not the automatic substitute, then certainly the fall-back for the 2016 Democratic nomination until a substitute is decided upon.

The arguments about his viability as a presidential contender are deeply familiar. His authenticity and commendable face-to-face campaigning abilities are let down by his notorious ill-discipline and tendency to go off track. His age is an issue.

Officially, there’s no maximum age for presidential candidates. The point at which someone is considered too old isn’t clearly defined.

The oldest presidential candidate thus far was Ronald Reagan, who was 73-and-a-half years old when he ran as the incumbent in 1984. The oldest non-incumbent to win a nomination was Bob Dole, who turned 73 a few weeks before the 1996 Republican convention. He’s followed closely by John McCain, who turned 72 a few days before the GOP nominated him in ’08.

Bob Dole is the most interesting comparison. **BIDEN**, who will turn 74 two weeks after the 2016 election, will be 73 during the campaign, only eight months older than Dole was in 1996.

One person can be nominated by his party and run for president, but another person’s candidacy is tacitly ruled out, because he is eight months older? Put like that, such a margin seems arbitrary and artificial.

BIDEN’s gaffes reinforce the age issue for him, because they are synonymous with the lapses of attention and fading mental acuity of advancing years.

Mitigating against this is the notion that **BIDEN**’s lapses, whilst exasperating, are almost invariably inconsequential. They never reveal Machiavellian cynicism, or hypocrisy, or scathing contempt for opponents or figures in the media, or backstabbing, or a schism between on-stage and off-stage personas.

The ‘Joe Bombs’ as they are called, are what I would term soft gaffes – **BIDEN**’s ‘Big fucking deal’ getting caught on mic was crass, but amounted to little more than

an old-school politician ginning up his boss who was about to make remarks about the ACA. Telling the wheelchair-bound Chuck Graham to stand up was similarly clumsy, but inconsequential. A more important distinction to make is between dated, politically incorrect analogies and language, and **BIDEN**'s durably authentic character. **BIDEN** calls someone 'The wisest man in the Orient', and calls lenders of bad loans to people serving in the military 'Shylocks,' and whilst clumsy, no one would contend that, the latter for instance, was a genuinely anti-Semitic Freudian slip, a revelation of a subliminal ethnic and cultural contempt. Outdated racial terminology? – Yes. The merest hint of genuine bigotry in the remarks? – No. Similarly, when **BIDEN** spoke at the Democratic Women's Leadership Forum, and clumsily and thoughtlessly praised the legislative involvement of former Sen. Bob Packwood, who resigned in 1995 after accusations of sexual harassment and assault, no one would actually suggest that **BIDEN**, the driving force behind the Violence Against Women Act, actually condones Bob Packwood's misogyny.

The reason these little episodes get so much media traction is partly because there is a degree of humor about them – the pathos and irony of a sincere person guilelessly frustrating those he is sincerely trying to help.

One emphatic riposte to criticism of **BIDEN**'s discipline is his key role in the debates, during two presidential campaigns. Against Sarah Palin he performed suitably, with discipline and without any gaffes. He had good control of his material, had the presence of mind to avoid being seen as overbearing towards his female opponent, and won the debate handily. Against Paul Ryan four years later, he was once again disciplined, and righted the ship at a difficult time for the re-election campaign, after the president's weak first debate performance. With nation-wide attention, during prime-time, when it counts, Joe **BIDEN** delivers.

Most importantly, his legislative involvement during the administration reveals him to be a disciplined and vital figure.

In December 2010, **BIDEN**'s advocacy within the White House for a middle ground, followed by his direct negotiations with Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, were instrumental in producing the administration's compromise tax package that revolved around a temporary extension of the Bush tax cuts. **BIDEN** then took the lead in trying to sell the agreement to a reluctant Democratic caucus in Congress. In March 2011, Obama detailed **BIDEN** to lead negotiations between both houses of Congress and the White House in resolving federal spending levels for the rest of the year and avoid a government shutdown. By May 2011, a "**BIDEN** panel" with six congressional members was trying to reach a bipartisan deal on raising the U.S. debt ceiling as part of an overall deficit reduction plan. The U.S. debt ceiling crisis developed over the next couple of months, but it was again **BIDEN**'s relationship with McConnell that proved to be a key factor in breaking the deadlock and finally bringing about a bipartisan deal to resolve the debt ceiling crisis, in the form of the

Budget Control Act of 2011. **BIDEN** had spent the most time bargaining with Congress on the debt question of anyone in the administration, and one Republican staffer said, “**BIDEN**’s the only guy with real negotiating authority, and McConnell knows that his word is good. He was key to the deal.”

Dick Cheney is the most influential modern vice-president in terms of geo-politics and national security; but **BIDEN**’s negotiating and framing of significant legislation marks him as the most influential modern vice president in terms of the domestic, fiscal agenda. In an age of hyper-partisan gridlock, he has managed, through experience, connections and trustworthiness, to get significant things done. Isn’t that, ultimately, what people want from a president? Wouldn’t that be an attractive proposition in 2016, after the current legislative malaise and mood of distrust? To put it another way, the legislative deals he helped negotiate are a big fucking deal.

If he can tell that story, and establish that narrative, the public might start to tolerate the worst of his his ill-disciplined rhetoric, and be willing to give the old-school, hand-grasping, mouth-running, stick-up-for-the-working-stiff V.P a decent chance

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Lederman, Josh

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:48:49 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Ok. This whole thing is just a little weird. This company last month added David Archer to its board. David is a co-partner at Rosemont with Hunter.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:47 PM

To: Lederman, Josh

Subject: Re: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Off the record:

Hunter is not traveling with the vp to Cyprus and Romania. Since the VP has no association with the company it has nothing to do with his trip

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:47 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Following up on this because the company is based in Cyprus. Two questions for you:

- 1) Is this related to the vice president's visit to Cyprus next week?
- 2) Is Hunter Biden traveling on the VP's trip to Cyprus?

Thanks, Josh

From: Lederman, Josh

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM

To: 'Barkoff, Kendra'

Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,

Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R. Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and

industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.”

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: “The company’s strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we’re delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals.”

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including “Bush vs. Gore”, and “U.S. vs. Microsoft”. He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University’s Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman’s Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world’s largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent – incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m³ of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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[IP_US_DISC]

msk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

Barkoff, Kendra

Thu, 16 Oct 2014 19:08:58 -0400

To: mary.k.bruce@abc.com

Re: Hunter Biden

Off the record:

I'm going to refer you to Hunter's lawyer Tom Gallagher: gallagher@pepperlaw.com

From: Bruce, Mary K. [mailto:Mary.K.Bruce@abc.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 07:08 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Hunter Biden

Any comment? Thanks.

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657>

Lawyer Pursued Military Service Relatively Late as a Public-Affairs Officer

Hunter Biden, right, attends a basketball game with his father, Vice President Joe Biden, center, and President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C., in 2010. ENLARGE

Hunter Biden, right, attends a basketball game with his father, Vice President Joe Biden, center, and President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C., in 2010. ASSOCIATED PRESS

By COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

WASHINGTON—Vice President Joe Biden's son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was “the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am

embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Write to Colleen McCain Nelson at colleen.nelson@wsj.com

Lambros, Demetra

Wed, 11 Jun 2014 12:32:25 -0400

To: Ricchetti, Steven, Ricchetti, Steven

FW: AP: Complex times for VP's son to work at Ukraine firm

From: Allen, Jessica

Sent: Sunday, June 08, 2014 11:14 AM

To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Liz; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Pietranton, Kelsey; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Reddy, Vinay; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Schulman, Loren; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.

Subject: AP: Complex times for VP's son to work at Ukraine firm

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_BIDENS_SON_UKRAINE?
SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_BIDENS_SON_UKRAINE?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)

Complex times for VP's son to work at Ukraine firm

Associated Press // STEPHEN BRAUN

3:39 PM

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Vice President Joe Biden's visit Saturday to support Ukraine's fragile democracy came soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

Yet that company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea and is owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president.

The hiring of Hunter Biden, 44, by Burisma Holdings Limited in April was approved by the company's owner, a former senior minister and political ally of Viktor Yanukovich, the exiled Ukrainian president. Yanukovich fled to Russia in February after protests erupted over his efforts to establish closer economic ties with Moscow.

Hunter Biden's employment means he will be working as a director and top lawyer for a Ukrainian energy company during the period when his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine's new government, especially on energy issues.

There's no indication that Hunter Biden, his father or Burisma is crossing any legal or ethical lines, although ethics experts appear divided over the implications of Hunter Biden's new job.

American conflict-of-interest laws and federal ethics rules essentially do not regulate the business activities of adult relatives of those who work in the White House.

"The primary problem here is the fact that Hunter Biden has set up a financial arrangement with someone who might

have business pending before this administration," said Craig Holman, an ethics expert with Public Citizen, a Washington-based government reform organization.

Joe Biden led the U.S. delegation at Saturday's inauguration of Ukraine's new president, Petro Poroshenko, and announced \$48 million in additional aid for the Kiev government. Biden met Poroshenko and said "there is a window for peace and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely ... America is with you."

Ukraine is an important natural-gas and petroleum-liquids transit country. Two major pipeline systems carry Russian gas through Ukraine to Western Europe.

Burisma is headed by Nikolai Zlochevskyi, who held senior posts over natural resources, environment and defense in Ukraine. The company has aggressively bought up Ukrainian oil and natural gas leases and companies.

Hunter Biden's new company says it aims to reduce Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas and oil, a goal that parallels U.S. efforts to aid Ukraine's energy industry.

As a Burisma director and the company's top lawyer, the younger Biden has yet to take any public actions on behalf of the company.

But the timing of his hiring is politically awkward for the administration's efforts to shore up Ukraine's pro-Western government, and poses potential complications from Burisma's growing energy interests and the background of Hunter Biden's new boss, Zlochevskyi.

At least two oil and natural gas fields leased by subsidiaries of Burisma are in Ukrainian territories where pro-Russian sentiments remain strong, according to government and media releases, independent energy maps and Burisma's website.

One is in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea; the other is in the eastern Ukrainian Kharkiv region. Instability there could force the younger Biden's new company to coordinate with pro-Russian separatists whom the U.S. considers illegitimate.

White House officials declined to comment on Hunter Biden's association with Burisma and the company's holdings in Crimea and east Ukraine.

The vice president's spokeswoman, Kendra Barkoff, previously said that Biden's son is a private citizen and a lawyer, and that Joe Biden "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Presidents and vice presidents have long been vexed by relatives rewarded for family ties.

Political loan troubles shadowed Vice President Richard Nixon's brother, Donald, during the 1960 election, and President Jimmy Carter's brother, Billy, who accepted a \$220,000 stipend in 1981 from Libya's Moammar Gadhafi.

In recent years, several Bush and Clinton relatives were caught in a string of murky financial and political dealings.

But "unless there's solid evidence that Hunter Biden got his job to influence American foreign policy, there's no clear line that's been crossed," said Melanie Sloan, executive director of the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

A former Washington lobbyist, the vice president's son is effectively exempt from most rules that would require him to describe publicly the legal work he does on behalf of Burisma.

Hunter Biden will not lobby for the company, said Lawrence Pacheco, an official with FTI Consulting, a Washington government affairs company recently hired by Burisma.

Pacheco did not say whether Biden might oversee or advise on any future Burisma lobbying strategy in the U.S. Pacheco said the company "does not take positions on political matters."

But Biden's company may have to deal with Ukrainian enclaves that the U.S. does not recognize diplomatically or are threatened by instability.

One Burisma subsidiary, KrymTopEnergoServis, operates natural gas fields and has headquarters in the Crimea, which seceded from Ukraine this year and now aligns with Russia.

A second subsidiary, Esco-Pivnich, produces oil and natural gas just west of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, which was the site of several protests and borders on separatist-controlled provinces. The company's website confirms that Burisma operates oil and natural gas sites in Crimea and east Ukraine, as well as elsewhere in Ukraine.

"While he's just at the beginning of his involvement with this company, Ukraine is volatile right now and there are all sorts of problems that might crop up down the line," said Bill Allison, the editorial director of the Sunlight Foundation, a nonpartisan watchdog group.

Pacheco said the company's western and eastern operations have been unaffected by Ukraine's unrest but that its Crimea subsidiary is not operating currently. He did not explain further, but confirmed KrymTopEnergoServis is based and leases gas deposits in Crimea.

Hunter Biden, Zlochevskyi and other company officials would not comment publicly, Pacheco said.

Hunter Biden is a managing director with Rosemont Seneca Partners, a private equity firm, and worked as a Washington lobbyist for seven years until his father was elected vice president. He lobbied primarily for colleges, hospitals and tech firms.

Pacheco said Biden's son came to Burisma's attention after he was introduced by Devon Archer, another new Burisma board member, to Alan Apter, Burisma's board chairman. Archer works with Hunter Biden at Rosemont and was a top fundraiser for now-Secretary of State John Kerry when Kerry ran for president in 2004. Zlochevskyi approved Biden's hiring, Pacheco said.

Zlochevskyi, 48, worked as minister of natural resources and environment under Yanukovych and most recently was deputy secretary of Ukraine's national security and defense council, which advised Yanukovych on defense matters.

Zlochevskyi also served in the Ukrainian parliament from 2007 to 2011 as a member of the Party of Regions, the political party affiliated with Yanukovych and traditionally aligned with pro-Russian interests.

Zlochevskyi's name is missing from Burisma's web site, but financial documents in Cyprus as well as U.S. Securities and Exchange records show that he owns the bulk of Burisma's shares. Zlochevskyi's Cyprus-based Brociti Investments Limited controls Burisma.

Hunter Biden joined Burisma in April, the same month his father visited Kiev to show support for the new interim government.

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 10:05:08 -0400

To: Hunter Biden

RE: hey

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Re: hey

Ok-

What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB

202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff

Press Secretary

Office of the Vice President

(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)

kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Hunter Biden

Tue, 13 May 2014 15:24:57 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Re: hey

Thanks

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 10:23 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Been giving out this statement:

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 02:20 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

If anything beyond referring questions to my office is required from you or counsel you can contact Heather King at Boise Schiller.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 6:00 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Eric Schwerin [<mailto:eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:58 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: Re: hey

Kendra, I am around the next few days if you need me.

Eric D. Schwerin
Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC
1010 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Suite 705
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 333-1880
eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com

 Consider the environment before printing this email.

On May 13, 2014, at 10:39 AM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:39 AM

To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Eric Schwerin
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

Ok-
What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Nelson, Colleen McCain

Tue, 13 May 2014 13:28:59 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

question from The Wall Street Journal on Hunter Biden

Hi Kendra –

We're writing something today about Hunter Biden joining the board of directors of Burisma Holdings. Would you be able to answer a few questions about this?

Thanks so much for your help.

Best,

Colleen

Colleen McCain Nelson

The Wall Street Journal

Office: 202.862.9289

Cell: 214.957.0632

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Albertson, Michael

Wed, 14 May 2014 08:07:09 -0400

To: Carpenter, Michael, Covert, Kevin, Carpenter, Michael, Covert, Kevin

Izvestiya: Russia: Hunter Biden Appointment to Ukrainian Company Board Seen As 'Typical' US 'Colonial Practice'

A strange one just to have in your back pocket....

Russia: Hunter Biden Appointment to Ukrainian Company Board Seen As 'Typical' US 'Colonial Practice'

CEL2014051437461310 Moscow [Izvestiya Online](#) in Russian 14 May 14

[Report by Mariya Amirdzhanyan: "Biden's Ukraine Appointment Is Colonial Practice. The US Vice President's Son Has Joined the Order of Directors of the Ukrainian Oil and Gas Company Burisma"]

US Vice President Joe Biden's son -- Hunter Biden -- has become an independent director of the privately owned Ukrainian oil and gas company Burisma Holdings. Hunter Biden will handle the development of international cooperation, be in charge of legal matters, and advise the company on issues relating to business transparency and corporate governance. This is stated by company documents. Experts are describing this appointment as a typical manifestation of US foreign policy in countries that it controls.

Apart from his new job at Burisma, Biden is also an adviser to the American legal firm of Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP. Biden is also founder and managing director of Rosemont Seneca Partners. Another founder and managing director of Rosemont Seneca Partners, Devon Archer, has been a member of the Burisma Board of Directors since April 2014. According to information on the oil and gas company's website, Biden also joined the Board of Directors in April 2014, but this has become known only now.

Burisma Holdings (which is registered in Cyprus) owns two oil and gas production companies -- Esco-Pivnich and Pari. They own licenses to exploit the Rakytyanska, Karaikozovske, and Roganska fields in Kharkiv Oblast, the Peremyshlyanska, Chukvynska, Semygynivske, and Nikolvytske fields in Lviv Oblast, the Chemyngyvske and Pylypivske fields in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, and also the Sheremetivske field in Chernihiv Oblast. Ukrainian media identify Mykola Zlochevsky, former minister of ecology and natural resources, as being one of Burisma's owners.

Experts are describing Biden's appointment as rather typical for US foreign policy.

"For the United States it is in principle quite traditional for the relatives of state leaders to be involved in private business in regions where the American state is rather active. Historically this practice was widespread in the Latin America region, which was linked to the United States by a semi-colonial relationship. We can now see them trying to extend the same practice to Ukraine. Given the uncertainty of its future this is possibly an overly hasty decision," Timofey Bordachev, director of the State University-Higher School of Economics Center for European Studies, considers.

There is nothing unusual here, Boris Kagarlitskiy, director of the Institute of Globalization and Social Movements, agrees.

"This is the practice of so-called revolving doors that is widespread in America -- when big companies and politicians lobbying for their interests establish links at the level of kinship relationships in one way or another. This practice is now

also being extended to Ukraine," he says.

Biden's motives can also be attributed to business considerations, Professor Maksim Braterskiy of the Higher School of Economics and National Research University, feels

"It is clear that there is some kind of political context here, but in general business is business. But at this kind of level business and politics are inseparable: Being the son of the US vice president, it is much easier to talk to other serious businessmen and open the requisite doors. This always has been and always will be the case -- there is nothing out of the ordinary here. I cannot see any geopolitical move here," he adds. There is a very strong political aspect to this move, Andrey Suzdaltsev, deputy dean of the Higher School of Economics Faculty of World Economics and Politics, disagrees.

"It is clear that this has nothing to do with investment. Most likely it has been done at the Ukrainian side's request. It is a kind of image thing: Ukraine has just received the first tranche of a loan from the IMF and it of course wants to demonstrate that people from the American elite will now come into Ukrainian companies and they will be followed by investment and new technology. It is the kind of element of support in that does not cost the Americans anything," Suzdaltsev is certain.

[Description of Source: Moscow Izvestiya Online in Russian -- Website of large-circulation daily that is majority-owned by Yuriy Kovalchuk's National Media Group and usually supports the Kremlin; URL: <http://www.izvestia.ru/>]

Mike Albertson

Director for Russia/Central Asia
National Security Staff
The White House, EEOB 382
202-456-1058

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Rosie Gray

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:39:53 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Re: Hunter Biden

Thank you Kendra

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 2:39 PM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Rosie Gray [mailto:rosie@buzzfeed.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:04 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Hunter Biden

Hi,

I'm a reporter for BuzzFeed. I know my colleague Max Seddon has already reached out to your office but we're looking to get answers about whether or not Hunter Biden has joined the board of Burisma. Can you confirm? Is the VP's office going to say anything about this?

thanks,
Rosie

--

Reporter, BuzzFeed
@rosiegray
c: [646 369 9351](tel:6463699351)
rosie@buzzfeed.com

--

Reporter, BuzzFeed
@rosiegray
c: 646 369 9351
rosie@buzzfeed.com

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Murray, Shailagh

Thu, 16 Oct 2014 19:02:22 -0400

To: Ricchetti, Steven, Ricchetti, Steven

Fw: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 06:52 PM

To: Murray, Shailagh; Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

By

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was “the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward.”

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

08 Jul 2014 10:12:33

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Person, Anne Marie, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Bolduc, Chad, Fromstein, Charles, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Liz, Schrum, Michael, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov", "Rosenthal, Lynn, Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, Russo2, Bill, Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Person, Anne, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >", "Schrum, Evan, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Fromstein, Charles, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Russo, Bill, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan
Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, July 8, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:44:18 EST 2022

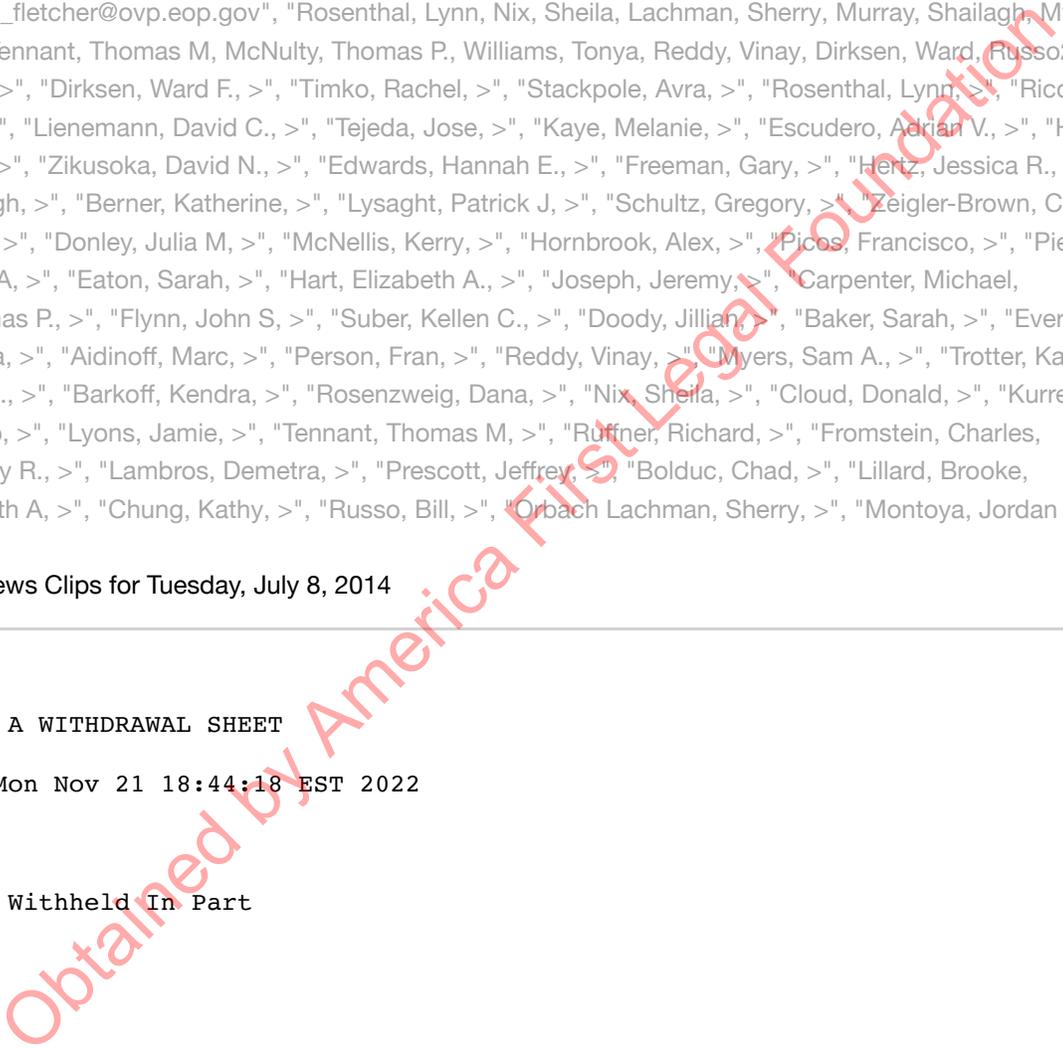
Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address



Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Barkoff, Kendra

Tue, 13 May 2014 14:34:15 -0400

To: stacey.klein@nbcuni.com

Re: Hunter Biden to Oil Company w Holdings in Ukraine?

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Stacey.Klein@nbcuni.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:56 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Hunter Biden to Oil Company w Holdings in Ukraine?

Hi Kendra,

Wondering if you have any comment on allegations Hunter Biden has taken a seat on the board of an oil and gas company with holdings in Ukraine? Carney pushed us all to you all – any comment?

Thanks in advance!

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Here’s their release:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Stacey P. Klein

NBC News – The White House

202-885-4363 (office)

202-573-0328 (cell)

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

Wed, 14 May 2014 04:59:15 -0400

To: whitehouse@bulletinintelligence.com

WHNS for Wednesday, May 14, 2014

Attachments: [whns140514.doc](#) (556.0 KB)

WHITE HOUSE NEWS SUMMARY

This document and searchable archives are available at <http://www.bulletinintelligence.com/whitehouse>.

TO: THE PRESIDENT AND SENIOR WHITE HOUSE STAFF

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014 5:00 AM EDT

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Leading The News:

OBAMA: HOUSE MUST PASS IMMIGRATION REFORM WITHIN MONTHS. President Obama's remarks to an audience of law enforcement officials on Tuesday at the White House on the need to reform the country's immigration system received remarkably little national media coverage. None of the three network newscasts covered the story, nor was it a topic of discussion on any of the most-watched prime-time cable news programs Tuesday night. Notably, Fox News did not devote any attention to the President's arguments for passing comprehensive immigration reform, but both [Fox News' Special Report](#) (5/13, 2.15M) and [Fox News' The Kelly File](#) (5/14, 1.33M) reported on newly released statistics showing that in 2013, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement released 36,000 convicted criminals living in the US illegally back into the general public, including murderers and rapists.

The [AP](#) (5/14) reports that the President "says there's a two- to three-month window for an immigration overhaul to pass Congress this year before the midterm elections take over." The AP also notes that on Tuesday, the President said Speaker Boehner is among those Republicans who support comprehensive immigration reform, but "a handful of House Republicans are blocking it."

However, [USA Today](#) (5/14, Jackson, 5.82M) reports that on Tuesday, Boehner spokesman Michael Steel said "it is impossible to make progress" on immigration reform "until the American people...have faith that the president himself will actually enforce the law as written." The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (5/14, Swan, 566K) points out that Boehner himself has said that "the biggest impediment we have in moving immigration reform is that the American people don't trust the president to enforce or implement the law that we may or may not pass."

On [MSNBC's Now With Alex Wagner](#) (5/14, 437K), Alex Wagner said the President "did his best to put immigration reform on the front burner, huddling with over 40 law enforcement leaders at the White House in hopes of putting pressure on Congress to do something – anything – this summer." Wagner added that "the fate of the nation's 11 million undocumented residents sits largely in the hands of" Boehner, and on Tuesday, the President "gave him a shoutout" although, according to Wagner, "a rhetorical nod from the Democratic President may not be exactly what he's looking for."

Under the headline, "Obama: Small Window To Get Immigration Reform Done This Year," [Reuters](#) (5/14) reports that the President said, "We've got this narrow window. The closer we get to the midterm elections, the harder it is to get things done around here. ... We've got maybe a window...of two, three months to get the ball rolling in the House of Representatives." Reuters notes that the President went on to say, "To their credit, I think Speaker Boehner and some of the other leaders there do believe that immigration reform's the right thing, but they've got to have a political space that allows them to get ahead and get it through their caucus and get it done."

The [Huffington Post](#) (5/13, Foley, 11.54M) reports that "the 40-plus law enforcement officials" who met with the President on Tuesday "were broadly supportive of reform, and Obama asked them to keep pressure on House Republicans to enact

a bill.” According to the Huffington Post, the President “said in remarks to the group that he was aware of the tension over police taking on immigration tasks.”

[Roll Call](#) (5/13, Dennis, 76K) reports that on Tuesday, the President estimated that “about 80 percent of the unauthorized immigrants had been in the United States for more than a decade and are ‘woven into the fabric of our society.’” [The Hill](#) (5/13, Sink, Berman, 237K) says the President “tailored his remarks to the audience, arguing that having to focus on immigration enforcement was stopping police from ‘chasing gang bangers and going after violent criminals.’”

According to [Politico](#) (5/13, Kim, 73K), President Obama’s “comments reflect a sense on and off Capitol Hill that lawmakers could still act on immigration reform this year, but that it’s dead unless that happens before the August recess.” Politico says the President “has previously emphasized the truncated timeframe – for instance, at a Cinco de Mayo reception earlier this month, he urged reformers to mobilize ‘over the next two months’ – but Tuesday’s comments appear to be the firmest yet on a deadline.” Politico also notes that on Monday, Boehner “said both Democrats and Republicans were ‘getting closer on the policy side in terms of how to deal with’ immigration and that he was still committed to reform.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Meckler, Sparshott, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports that in regards to the House Republican leadership, the President said, “They’ve got to have a political space that allows them to go ahead and get it through their caucus.”

[Bloomberg News](#) (5/14, Keane, 4.91M) reported that on Tuesday, the President “urg[ed] police officials to join with evangelical Christians and businesses to pressure House Republicans” to pass immigration reform legislation. Bloomberg says the President made the case that “evangelical groups...are a ‘powerful voice’ that can be combined with business groups and companies such as Microsoft Corp. and Caterpillar Inc. to prod House Republicans to pass a bill that the Senate already approved.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/14, Parsons, 3.46M) notes that on Tuesday, the President “signaled...that he is open to compromise on immigration reform, saying he is not ‘hell-bent’ on getting everything from the Senate immigration bill into the version that finally hits his desk.” However, the Times reports that the President did say that reform legislation “must hew to some ‘core principles,’ including some sort of ‘pathway to citizenship’ for immigrants in the country illegally.”

According to the [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Boyer, 455K), “prospects appear dim for the Republican-led House to take up the Senate bill in the time remaining this year before November’s elections.” In a piece for the [Daily Caller](#) (5/13, 408K), Neil Munro says the President’s “call to end the enforcement of immigration law came during a staged event at the White House,” which was intended to “stimulate his supporters’ declining interest in the largely defunct and unpopular 18-month campaign to sharply increase the inflow of immigrants and guest-workers.”

The [Salt Lake \(UT\) Tribune](#) (5/14, Burr, 470K) reports former Salt Lake County Sheriff Aaron Kennard, who serves as executive director of the National Sheriffs Association, said on Tuesday: “We in law enforcement believe very strongly that it’s time a comprehensive immigration-reform bill is put forward.” According to the Tribune, Kennard also said the National Sheriffs Association “wants secure borders.”

Reform Proponents Urge White House To Resist Using Executive Actions To Slow Deportations. Under the headline, “Slowing Deportations Could Hurt Chances For House Immigration Action,” the [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/14, Bennett, Parsons, 3.46M) reports that as the President mulls using executive actions to further limit deportations, some supporters of comprehensive immigration reform “are quietly urging the White House to slow that effort down, warning that ordering changes without congressional approval could spook House Republicans.” According to the Times, Alfonso Aguilar, who served in the Bush Administration and is now executive director of the Latino Partnership for Conservative Principles, warns that “a White House move to scale back deportations would unite House Republicans in opposition and end the push for reform.” Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), among the most prominent House Republican supporters of the Senate’s comprehensive immigration reform, is quoted as saying, “The last thing we need is for the president to be doing things that can be interpreted as selectively enforcing the law.”

The [AP](#) (5/14) reports that on Tuesday some “immigrant youth activists” urged “Senate Democrats...to demand that” the President “halt to most deportations of people living in the US illegally.” The AP reports that Sen. Bob Menendez has “called on the administration...to ‘take action today’ to ease deportations,” and Adam Bozzi, a spokesman for Sen. Michael Bennet, said, “If the House continues to drag its feet, we encourage the administration to pursue its efforts to prevent these innocent families from being ripped apart.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/14, Parsons, 3.46M) says the Administration is currently “press[ing] forward with a full review of its deportation practices” although “senior advisors to the president say they aren’t planning to make major changes through the use of his administrative powers.”

However, the [Christian Science Monitor](#) (5/14, Swan, 566K) notes that the AP recently reported that DHS Secretary Johnson “has been considering allowing immigrants living in the US illegally to remain in the country as long as they do not

have serious criminal records.” According to the Monitor, “evidence suggests the Obama administration has already been turning a blind eye to undocumented immigrants who do not have a criminal history.”

DHS Plans To Overhaul Program That Assists Local Police In Enforcing Immigration Laws. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Nakamura, 4.22M) reports that some police chiefs who met with DHS Secretary Johnson at the White House on Tuesday say the Administration “is likely to overhaul” Secure Communities, “a program that allows the federal government to partner with local law enforcement agencies to identify undocumented immigrants for deportation.” According to the Post, “Immigrant advocates complain that the program has improperly targeted undocumented immigrants who are arrested for relatively minor violations.” Austin, Texas police chief Art Acevedo, who says he is “not interested” in enforcing Federal immigration laws, said that after meeting with Johnson, “The sense I got is that we are going to see a reboot of Secure Communities, and once that comes out, you’ll see a singular focus in state and local counties on violent criminals.”

ICE Admits Releasing 36,000 Convicted Criminals Living In The US Illegally In 2013. [Fox News’ Special Report](#) (5/13, 2.15M) did not cover the President’s Tuesday remarks on immigration reform, but Bret Baier did note a “new report [that] says the Obama Administration released over 36,000 convicted criminals last year – including murderers and rapists – while they were awaiting the outcome of deportation proceedings.”

Likewise, [Fox News’ The Kelly File](#) (5/14, 1.33M) did not mention the President’s appearance on Tuesday, but devoted a full segment to ICE’s decision to release violent criminals who are in the US illegally, including 193 with “homicide convictions” and 426 with “sexual assault convictions.” Host Shannon Bream noted that “ICE isn’t denying” that they released the criminals back in to the general public. Former Justice Department official J. Christian Adams warned that “many” of the foreign nationals with criminal convictions will never be re-apprehended. Adams added, “Think about it – 50 murderers were released by discretionary decisions of the Obama Administration” in 2013.

The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Boyer, 455K) notes that the Administration’s own “statistics...showed that US Immigration and Customs Enforcement released people who had amassed more than 15,000 drunken-driving convictions, 1,317 domestic violence convictions and even four that the statistics listed as ‘treason, sabotage.’” The Times adds that “there were also convictions for homicide,” including “one classified as ‘homicide-willful kill-public official-gun.’”

Grassley: DHS Allowed Supporter Of Terrorism To Enter The US. The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Kredo, 455K) republishes a piece from the [Washington Free Beacon](#) in which it was reported that Sen. Charles Grassley revealed that the Department of Homeland Security “secretly assembled a terrorist ‘hands off’ list that permitted individuals with terrorist ties unfettered entrance into the United States.” According to the Beacon, “emails – sent between US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) – reveal a row over the admittance of one alleged Muslim Brotherhood official tied to Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terror groups.” The Beacon reported that “while the individual in question is not named in the heavily redacted emails...the person referenced is Jamal Badawi, a Canadian Islamist leader who has praised suicide bombing and is close to Hamas and Hezbollah.”

RCP AVERAGE HAS OBAMA JOB APPROVAL AT 44.6%. The [RealClearPolitics](#) average of recent polling on President Obama’s job approval has it at 44.6%, and his disapproval at 51.6%. Approval is up 0.3 percentage points since yesterday; disapproval is down by 0.1.

The latest [Gallup](#) daily tracking poll of 1,500 adults (5/10-5/12) shows Obama with a 46% approval rating and 49% disapproval. [Rasmussen](#)’s automated survey of 1,500 likely voters (5/9-5/12) finds Obama’s approval at 50%, with 49% disapproving of his performance.

Ukraine News:

BIDEN’S SON JOINS UKRAINIAN GAS PRODUCER. [Politico](#) (5/13, Mccalmont, 73K) reports Vice President Biden’s son, Hunter Biden, is “joining Ukraine’s largest private gas producer,” Burisma Holdings. Hunter Biden will “be in charge of the legal unit,” according to the company, providing “support for Burisma Holdings ‘among international organizations.’” Hunter Biden said the company’s “track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine.”

The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Chasmar, 455K) reports White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said Hunter Biden’s new position “does not reflect an endorsement by the administration.”

[Reuters](#) (5/14, Rampton) reports Vice President Biden’s spokeswoman, Kendra Barkoff, said he “does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement” with Burisma.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Sonne, Grimaldi, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports Hunter Biden is a close friend of Secretary Kerry’s stepson. The Journal notes the hiring comes a few weeks after Devon Archer, a college roommate of Kerry’s stepson, Christopher Heinz, joined the company’s board in a role that involves helping the firm attract US investors. Heinz also has ties to one of Kerry’s previous presidential campaigns.

AS GERMANY SEEKS TALKS, SIX UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS KILLED BY PRO-RUSSIAN SEPARATISTS. [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, story 5, 0:20, Williams, 7.86M) reported briefly that six Ukrainian soldiers “were killed in an ambush when they came under attack by pro-Russian forces outside a village in the region of Donetsk.”

The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Kunkle, Denyer, 4.22M) reports that attack came as German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier sought to “jump-start talks” between Kiev and the separatists “as part of a European bid to resolve the crisis.” But Tuesday’s renewed fighting “suggested that the protagonists in the conflict were still talking past each other.”

The [AP](#) (5/14, Vasilyeva) reports Steinmeier’s trip is part of an OSCE “road map for settling Ukraine’s crisis,” but Ukrainian officials “sounded skeptical Tuesday about the OSCE plan.” Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk “thanked” the OSCE, but “said Ukraine has drawn up its own ‘road map’ for ending the crisis and noted the people of his country should settle the issue themselves.”

And the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Troianovski, Marson, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports that there were no signs that talks would begin between the two sides on Wednesday as planned.

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Smale, Cowell, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) says Steinmeier’s visit “came as the battle lines seemed to harden” between Kiev and the separatists.

SATELLITE IMAGES SHOW RUSSIAN TROOPS DID NOT PULL BACK FROM BORDER. [Reuters](#) (5/14, Croft) reports the US released new satellite images on Tuesday which shows Russian troops are still near the Ukrainian border. Reuters notes the images contradict Russian President Vladimir Putin’s statements last week that indicated Russian troops were pulling back. NATO spokesman Col. Martin Downie said Russia “continues to have 40,000 high readiness troops massed” on the border and “another 25,000 troops in Crimea.” Downie added the troops were present “to intimidate Ukraine’s government and they could be used for an invasion.”

RUSSIA SAYS IT WILL END COOPERATION ON SPACE STATION BEYOND 2020. [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, story 9, 0:35, Williams, 7.86M) reported briefly that Russia announced Tuesday that “it would keep US astronauts off the International Space Station after the year 2020. The problem is the Russians are the only way to get there. The Americans hitch a ride on the Soyuz spacecraft.”

[Reuters](#) (5/13) reports Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitri Rogozin said his country will reject the US request to continue the station’s operations beyond 2020. “We are very concerned about continuing to develop high-tech projects with such an unreliable partner as the United States, which politicizes everything,” Rogozin said.

The [AP](#) (5/14) reports Rogozin added that Russia has “would like to redirect the resources now used for manned spaceflight to other space projects.” According to Rogozin, the Russian section of the space station “can exist independently of the American one, but the American segment cannot exist on its own without the Russian one.” Rogozin also said that Russia “will act pragmatically and will not place any impediments for work on the ISS.”

Russia Threatens To Halt Sale Of Rocket Engines To US. Bret Baier reported on [FOX News’ Special Report](#) (5/13, 2.15M) that Russia is also “threatening to withhold Russian engines used to launch American military satellites into space.” Russia “continues to profit from the sale of those engines,” but Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitri Rogozin “says he will pull the plug unless the US stops using them for military purposes,” according to Fox.

[Bloomberg News](#) (5/14, Ratnam, Meyer, 2.76M) notes Russian-made RD-180 rocket engines are used by United Launch Alliance LLC, the “sole supplier of rocket launches” for the Pentagon. But the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Oustroukh, Cameron, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) says the US government currently has a two-year supply of the engines, but the Pentagon has begun to search for domestic alternatives.

SANCTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA COULD HURT US COMPANIES. The [Washington Times](#) (5/13, Taylor, 455K) reports while the White House “claims it can use economic sanctions to punish” Russia’s actions in Ukraine, analysts say the “strategy has quickly run into problems” and “too aggressive a move” by the US “could result in blowback on major American companies with close ties” to Russia. The Times says the Administration is “walking a tightrope between America’s corporate and national interests” by sanctioning Russians who head companies “with ties to US corporate giants.” A future decision to sanction “entire sectors” of Russia’s economy could force those companies to “swallow sudden and serious losses.”

CRUZ TO VISIT UKRAINE. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports Sen. Ted Cruz “will visit Ukraine this month” and meet protest leaders that “forced out the country’s pro-Russian president.” Cruz will also visit other Eastern European countries and Israel on the trip “that could be seen as an attempt to build his foreign policy credentials.” The trip is “sponsored by Secure America Now, a conservative foreign policy group,” and Cruz is the “only lawmaker on the trip,” according to the Senator’s office. Cruz said Ukraine “is facing an enormous threat from Russia...I have particular responsibility to assess firsthand the

current and future military threats” facing allies.

Healthcare News:

MORE FEDERAL DOLLARS WENT TO CREATING STATE HEALTH EXCHANGES THAN HEALTHCARE.GOV. The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (5/14, Trumbull, 566K) reported on the problems with some state-run health insurance exchanges, noting that they “have emerged as costly technological messes, unable to function smoothly.” By one account, more taxpayer money “went to setting up individual exchanges for 14 states and the District of Columbia than for the federal Healthcare.gov.” According to Jay Angoff, a health policy expert at the law firm Mehri & Skalet in Washington, Federal funds “used to set up the 15 stand-alone exchanges totals \$3.9 billion, compared with \$3.5 billion to build ‘federally facilitated marketplaces’ for the 36 states that didn’t set up their own exchanges.” The Monitor noted that after receiving hundreds of millions of Federal dollars, both Oregon and Massachusetts have decided to scrap their websites, and it is possible “that other states among the 14 that created their own websites under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), including Maryland, will also ditch their trouble-ridden websites.”

Employees Of St. Louis ACA Contractor Paid To Do Nothing. The [Daily Caller](#) (5/13, Treacher, 408K) featured a story from KMOV in St. Louis on an ACA contractor responsible for processing paper applications for health insurance under the ACA. From the KMOV story, “The main thing is that the data entry side does not have hardly any work to do. They’re told to sit at their computers and hit the refresh button every ten minutes. No more than every ten minutes. They’re monitored. To hopefully look for an application. They’re [sic] goals are set to process two applications per month and some people are not even able to do that.”

INSURERS SAY PATIENT CHOICE CAN’T BE A PRIORITY UNDER ACA. The [Daily Caller](#) (5/13, Hurtubise, 408K) reported that health insurers now admit that under the ACA, “patient choice can no longer be a priority for Americans.” According to the Daily Caller, health insurers’ costs are rising, and if they “are going to keep prices at a manageable level, narrow networks are one of their only options.” Cancer centers “have been a primary casualty of narrow networks.” An analysis by the AP found that “just four of the 19 top comprehensive cancer centers are covered by all Obamacare exchange plans in their states.” The Daily Caller noted that these “limited choices were clearly not part of the promise President Barack Obama made when selling his health care law.”

“WOODWORK EFFECT” RESULTED IN MORE MEDICAID ENROLLMENTS IN NON-EXPANSION STATES. [McClatchy](#) (5/13, Pugh, Subscription Publication, 23K) reports that an analysis by Avalere Health has found that 17 states which “chose not to expand eligibility for Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act ended up with more program beneficiaries – partly because of all the hoopla surrounding the health law.” Between October and March, more than 500,000 people in those states signed up for Medicaid coverage “even though they were already eligible for the program but were not previously enrolled.” McClatchy notes that the sign-ups took place as the Administration and supporters “were engaged in a massive public outreach and education campaign that resulted in 8 million Americans purchasing a marketplace health plan.” Those 17 states saw increased enrollments due to the “woodwork effect,” which refers to eligible residents who “came out of the woodwork” to sign up.

The [AP](#) (5/14) notes that these states “could be getting billions of dollars more from the federal government if they had expanded eligibility for their Medicaid programs.”

SENATE REPUBLICANS PUSH FOR VOTE ON MEDICAL DEVICE TAX REPEAL. [The Hill](#) (5/13, Becker, 237K) reported that Senate Republicans on Tuesday called for a vote to kill the ACA’s tax on medical devices “as part of a broader package to revive tax breaks that expired at the end of last year.” However, it is “unclear if Republicans have the leverage to win a vote on the medical device tax,” because the larger tax package “is popular with members of both parties.” The Hill noted that Republicans expressed confidence that they “have the support to roll back the medical device tax if it hit the floor, given that 79 senators backed a nonbinding repeal measure last year,” but they “stopped short of saying they would oppose the tax package without the medical device vote.”

[Roll Call](#) (5/13, Lesniewski, Sanchez, Subscription Publication, 76K) reported that Sen. Orrin Hatch, ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee, “said he heard from some Democrats that [Senate Majority Leader] Reid was likely to block consideration of a device amendment.” Roll Call noted that Reid “has long supported the tax, even in the face of opposition from a number of members of his caucus.”

JINDAL NOTES HILLARY CLINTON’S 1993 OBJECTIONS TO INDIVIDUAL MANDATE. Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, in a piece for [Politico Magazine](#) (5/13, 633K), notes that in 1993, then First Lady Hillary Clinton “testified publicly that if Congress were to pass legislation with an individual mandate to purchase insurance, ‘we worry that the numbers of people who currently are insured through their employment will decrease because there will no longer be any reason for many employers’ to offer coverage, when individuals can receive government subsidies instead.” According to Jindal, “It is a well-known fact that Clinton came to strenuously support an individual health insurance mandate in her 2008 primary campaign,” but “less well-remembered...is that Clinton considered an employer mandate – not an individual mandate – the best way to achieve ‘universal coverage’ in her health care task force’s ill-fated 1993 proposal.”

MORE THAN 90 ARRESTED FOR MEDICARE FRAUD. The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (5/14, Richey, 566K) reports that the Justice Department on Tuesday charged more than 90 people as part of “a nationwide crackdown against what investigators said was massive fraud in federally administered health-care programs.” The defendants, which include 27 medical professionals, including 16 physicians, “were charged with submitting more than \$260 million in fraudulent claims to the Medicare system.” Acting Assistant Attorney General David O’Neil said in a statement, “The fraud was rampant, it was brazen, and it permeated every part of the Medicare system. ... The crimes charged represent the face of health care fraud today – doctors billing for services that were never rendered, supply companies providing motorized wheelchairs that were never needed, recruiters paying kickbacks to get Medicare billing numbers of patients.”

[McClatchy](#) (5/13, Gordon, Subscription Publication, 23K) reports that this was the Medicare Fraud Strike Force’s seventh enforcement action. Since its inception in 2007, the Strike Force has “prosecuted 1,900 people in nine locations on charges that they bilked the government for almost \$6 billion.” Attorney General **Holder** said of Tuesday’s action, “Department of Justice will not tolerate these activities. ... And we will continue working alongside the Department of Health and Human Services – as well as federal, state and local partners – to use every appropriate tool and available resource to find, stop and punish those who seek to take advantage of their fellow citizens.”

The [Miami Herald](#) (5/14, Weaver, 822K) reports that in South Florida, there were “50 suspects busted over two days on charges of trying to steal almost \$66 million from” Medicare. The South Florida arrests “accounted for the majority of Medicare fraud suspects busted in a coordinated nationwide take-down.”

REPORT: US IS ONE OF THREE NATIONS THAT DOES NOT PROVIDE PAID MATERNITY LEAVE. [McClatchy](#) (5/14, Zarocostas, Subscription Publication, 23K) reports that a new UN study says the US is one of only three nations in the world, and the only in the West “that does not provide some kind of monetary payment to new mothers who’ve taken maternity leave from their jobs.” According to the report from the International Labor Organization, the other two nations are “Oman, an absolute monarchy in the Persian Gulf; and Papua New Guinea, a South Pacific nation where the US State Department says violence against women is so common that 60 percent of men in a UN study acknowledged having committed a rape.” The report notes that the other 182 nations surveyed “provide either a Social Security-like government payment to women who’ve recently given birth or adopted a child or require employers to continue at least a percentage of the worker’s pay.”

OFFICIALS MOVE TO PREVENT SPREAD OF MERS IN US. The confirmation of two cases of the potentially fatal MERS virus in the US was covered by all three network news broadcasts Tuesday evening, and was the lead on two of them. [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, lead story, 2:30, Williams, 7.86M) reported that while public health officials “have been down playing the threat,” the Federal government on Tuesday “stepped up its efforts to keep it out of this country.” A health advisory has been posted “at all US major airports alerting travelers to the Middle East and trying to prevent its spread.” NBC’s chief medical editor Dr. Nancy Snyderman added that the White House responded to concerns about the virus’s appearance in the US. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney: “The President has been briefed on this development. The CDC is taking the current situation very seriously and is working in close coordination with local health authorities.”

[ABC World New](#) (5/13, lead story, 2:25, Osunsami) (5/13, lead story, 2:25, Osunsami) reported in its lead story that “health officials are trying to track down more than 500 passengers from at least 20 states,” who shared a May 1 flight with the Florida patient. Two healthcare workers who treated the patient “are already showing symptoms. One is hospitalized with what looks like pneumonia.”

The [CBS Evening News](#) (5/13, story 6, 0:20, Pelley, 5.08M) reported 21 workers at two Orlando hospitals who came into contact with the patient “are being monitored for symptoms” of the disease, which is “fatal in 30 percent of cases.”

NSA News:

SENATORS QUESTION ADMINISTRATION STATEMENTS ON WARRANTLESS NSA SURVEILLANCE. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Savage, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that Sens. Mark Udall and Ron Wyden on Tuesday accused the Administration of “seeking to ‘ignore or justify’ statements it made to the Supreme Court about warrantless surveillance by the National Security Agency, contributing to what they called a ‘culture of misinformation’ by the executive branch.” In a letter to Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli Jr., Udall and Wyden “maintained that the Justice Department was not being forthright about what they portrayed as factual misrepresentations to the Supreme Court in 2012.” Their letter “was a response to a letter that the Justice Department sent them in December defending its conduct in the surveillance case.” A spokesman said that the Justice Department “was reviewing the senators’ letter and declined to comment further.”

NSA CASE COULD MEAN “REDEMPTION” FOR KLAYMAN. The [Washington Post Magazine](#) (5/11, Montgomery) examined Judicial Watch founder Larry Klayman’s “landmark challenge of the National Security Agency’s program of collecting records of domestic telephone calls,” noting that after Klayman’s “relevance faded” in the early 2000s, Judge Richard J. Leon’s “scathing 68-page preliminary opinion” on his NSA case “blasted open a path to redemption for Larry Klayman.” Leon wrote that the “technology of the NSA’s phone records program is ‘almost-Orwellian,’” and “its use such an

apparent violation of the Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable search and seizure that...Klayman would ultimately prevail." While Leon "stayed his ruling so the government could appeal," if "things continue to break his way, Klayman finds himself on the threshold of scoring one of the most monumental rebukes of government overreach in American history."

Syria News:

OBAMA, JARBA DISCUSS ADDITIONAL US AID FOR OPPOSITION. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, DeYoung, 4.22M) reports President Obama met Tuesday at the White House the Syrian opposition leader Ahmad al-Jarba, who "said they had laid the groundwork for more substantive US assistance." While the Administration "continued to resist opposition entreaties to supply surface-to-air missiles," Jarba adviser Oubai Shahbandar said, "We've made significant headway and laid the pillars for much more significant discussions."

[Reuters](#) (5/14) reports that in a statement, the White House said Obama "welcomed the coalition's leadership and constructive approach to dialogue, and encouraged the coalition to further its vision for an inclusive government that represents all of the people of Syria."

BRAHIMI RESIGNS AS UN ENVOY TO SYRIA. [McClatchy](#) (5/13, Allam, Subscription Publication, 23K) reports UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon on Tuesday "announced the resignation of special envoy" to Syria Lakhdar Brahimi. Ban indicated the international community is "hopelessly divided" on a political solution to the crisis, saying, "I regret that the parties, and especially the government, have proven so reluctant to take advantage of that opportunity" to end the war.

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports Ban said the failure of Security Council members to "coax allies on the ground into the conflict" was a significant reason for Brahimi's resignation. Ban said Brahimi's efforts "have not received support" from the Council, representing "a failure of all of us."

The [AP](#) (5/14) reports a successor for Brahimi has not been chosen yet, according to Ban, who said he will "take time to find 'the right person.'" According to the AP, diplomats have said candidates include: former Tunisian Foreign Minister Kamel Morjane, former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, former UN envoy Michael Williams from Britain, and former Spanish NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana.

[Reuters](#) (5/14, Nichols) reports Brahimi's last day in the position will be May 31. Brahimi said, "It's very sad that I leave this position and leave Syria behind in such a bad state."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Lauria, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports Brahimi said that he is "sure the crisis will end." Brahimi added, "Everybody who has responsibility and influence in the situation," should ask the question "how many more dead? How much more destruction...before Syria becomes gain the Syria we have known."

[AFP](#) (5/14, Viollaz, Revise) reports Brahimi "coaxed" Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and Syria's "fractious opposition to attend peace talks," but "negotiations broke down after only two rounds amid bitter recriminations." The war "slipped into a fourth year with an estimated 150,000 dead and millions of refugees," according to AFP.

FRANCE: SYRIA LAUNCHED AS MANY AS 14 CHEMICAL ATTACKS IN RECENT MONTHS. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Gordon, Cowell, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius on Tuesday accused Syria's government of "carrying out attacks using chemical agents, especially chlorine, as many as 14 times in recent months." Fabius, who met with Secretary Kerry earlier in the day, said he "regretted that" the US "decided against using force to enforce its 'red line'" following the Syrian regime's use of chemical weapons on Aug. 21. Fabius added that France was willing to use force as "part of an American-led coalition, but did not want to act alone."

[Reuters](#) (5/14, Wroughton) reports Fabius said samples from the attacks are being examined to confirm the use of chemical weapons. "What it shows is that (the) Bashar al-Assad regime...continues to be able to produce chemical weapons and to use them," Fabius said.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/14, Abdulrahim, 3.46M) reports Nadim Houry, of Human Rights Watch, said the chemical attacks are "one more reason for the U.N. Security Council to refer the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court."

NYTimes: Referring Syria To ICC Will Reinforce Condemnation Of Atrocities. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) editorializes that a decision to "refer Syria to the International Criminal Court (ICC) for possible prosecution of war crimes," will not end the civil war, but it "would underscore the world's revulsion at atrocities by both sides." The Times says "there is ample justification for an investigation," but "there is no reason to believe Russia...or China will back the referral."

REPORT: SYRIAN TROOPS TARGETING MEDICAL WORKERS. According to the [New York Times](#) (5/14, Gladstone,

Subscription Publication, 9.65M), a report from advocacy group Physicians for Human Rights says Syrian forces “have systematically attacked doctors and other medical workers in rebel-held areas and are responsible for 90 percent” of assaults on the country’s healthcare facilities. The group’s executive director, Donna McKay, said, “Syria is among the worst examples of targeting medical care as a weapon of war.”

MALINOWSKI'S COMMENTS ON RWANDA DRAW ATTENTION TO SYRIAN CRISIS. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Landler, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports Assistant Secretary of State Tom Malinowski’s comments about Rwanda at his swearing in on Tuesday prompted comparisons to the Administration’s handling of the Syrian crisis. Malinowski, who previously served as a speechwriter for Secretary of State Warren Christopher, said he thought at the time that the US actions related to Rwanda “probably won’t satisfy” the next generation’s questions about efforts made to step the genocide. The Times notes, in his previous role as a human-rights activist, Malinowski urged the White House to do more in the Syrian crisis, and his former colleagues indicated Secretary Kerry “has encouraged him to speak out.”

HOMS RESIDENTS RETURNING AFTER REBELS WITHDRAWAL. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Morris, 4.22M) reports “displaced residents” of Homs are returning home following last week’s agreement between rebels and the government which led to the anti-government fighters leaving the city. The Post notes the Syrian flag “is expected to be raised above” the city on Wednesday, as part of a “government ceremony” of the regime’s “major step in its attempt to secure central Syria.”

AID AGENCIES CANNOT ACCOMMODATE NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN LEBANON. The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Hlavaty, 455K) reports “Lebanon has more refugees” in need of aid “than international agencies can accommodate, and the situation worsens daily” as the Syrian civil war continues. Refugees now make up “one-third of Lebanon’s” population, putting a strain on “finances and resources” of the country. UN spokeswoman Dana Sleiman said, “The latest numbers are that 70 percent of refugees in Lebanon are very vulnerable, which leaves 30 percent not receiving aid. For assistance, I am only talking about food, hygiene and baby kits.”

IGNATIUS: SYRIAN CIVIL WAR BOOSTING DANGEROUS TERRORIST GROUP. In a [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M) column, David Ignatius argues the Syrian war has “spawned a terrorist group so extreme” that even Al Qaeda “rejected” it. Ignatius says the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) “is now establishing a safe haven” in the city of Raqqa, which “could soon be used to attack foreign targets.”

[AfPak News:](#)

DOBBINS: US, ALLIES WILL CONTINUE “SIGNIFICANT” PRESENCE IN AFGHANISTAN. [AFP](#) (5/14) reports special representative James Dobbins said the coalition military presence in Afghanistan will be “significant” despite the drawdown. While speaking to journalists in Tokyo, Dobbins said he hopes a decision is made “in the next month or two on the exact size of (the remaining) contingent.” Dobbins added the US and its allies “will be prepared for a continuing advisory mission, much smaller numbers” than today, but still capable of “improv[ing] the quality of the Afghan security forces.”

FORMER SOLDIER AWARDED MEDAL OF HONOR FOR ACTIONS IN AFGHANISTAN. [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, story 7, 2:10, Williams, 7.86M) reported that after years of bureaucratic delays, the President on Tuesday awarded the Medal of Honor to Army Specialist Kyle White, “whose combat actions in Afghanistan were the definition of courage and sacrifice.” NBC (Mikaslewski) added that on a “rugged mountain pass in eastern Afghanistan,” White’s platoon “came under heavy fire in an enemy ambush.” After being wounded himself, White “repeatedly exposed himself to intense enemy fire in an effort to save” other wounded members of his platoon. [ABC World News](#) (5/13, story 5, 0:30, Sawyer) and the [CBS Evening News](#) (5/13, story 10, 3:05, Pelley, 5.08M) ran similar reports on the awarding of the medal to White.

[USA Today](#) (5/14, Jackson, 5.82M) reports that although White was “wounded and knocked unconscious at one point,” he “treated comrades for injuries and radioed for help to evacuate survivors, some of whom attended Tuesday’s ceremony in the East Room.” USA Today notes that in awarding the medal, the President said, “Today, we pay tribute to a soldier who embodies the courage of his generation.”

[McClatchy](#) (5/13, Ordonez, Subscription Publication, 23K) reports that the President said, “Kyle, members of Chosen Company, you did your duty, and now it’s time for America to do ours. ... After more than a decade of war, to welcome you home with the support and the benefits and opportunities that you’ve earned. You make us proud, and you motivate all of us to be the best we can be.”

The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Jaffe, Wilson, 4.22M) reports that White said the medal “gives him a chance to tell the story of the five soldiers and one Marine who died in a largely unknown battle in one of the most isolated places on earth.” White said, “Finally our story can be told and recognized. ... It was just a number at the bottom of the ticker on a news channel. But these guys were the best of us. I’ll always say that because that’s what I believe. It is important their names are known.”

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Joachim, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) notes that White is the “14th recipient of the Medal of Honor for service in either Afghanistan or Iraq.”

AFGHAN TALIBAN APPOINTS NEW MILITARY COMMANDER. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Trofimov, Totakhil, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports that Afghan officials say the Afghan Taliban has appointed Ibrahim Sadar, who was released from Pakistani custody earlier this year, as its new military commander.

JOURNALIST DESCRIBES HIS EXPERIENCE COVERING AFGHAN LANDSLIDES. In a post for the [New York Times](#)' (5/14, 9.65M) “At War” blog, Ali Latifi described his experience covering the back-to-back landslides which struck the Afghan village of Abi Barik. Latifi noted that on the plateau above the village there was “an odd sense of inertia,” as people “circled from one location to another while stacks of tents and blankets sat unused.” Latifi noted the frustration “as people who had lost everything could only stare at supplies that were collecting dust under the blaring sun.” He added that while the plateau “was awash with sound...the site itself was silent,” as a “community of hundreds of homes, dozens of shops, thousands of animals and seven mosques was buried.” Latifi added that the “real tragedy” of the disaster is that “the story of the land and the people who had made a home here had been silenced.”

SIXTY-EIGHT PAKISTANI LAWYERS CHARGED WITH BLASPHEMY. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Masood, Walsh, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that in a case that highlights “growing intolerance in Pakistan,” police in Punjab Province said Tuesday that they have “filed blasphemy charges against a group of 68 lawyers at the instigation of a Sunni extremist leader.” The charges stem from a May 7 incident in which “dozens of lawyers, mostly from the country’s Shiite minority, staged a street protest against a senior police official, Umar Daraz,” who they say “had detained and beaten a lawyer after arguing with him.” During the protest, the lawyers referred to Daraz “by his first name,” which he shares with Umar Farooq, “a revered historical figure in Islam who was a companion of the Prophet Muhammad in seventh-century Arabia.” The leader of Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat, Maulana Muhammad Ahmed Ludhianvi, “claimed the lawyers were shouting and insulting the name of the religious figure, not the police officer” and “one of his associates lodged a formal blasphemy complaint” against them.

[Iraq News:](#)

BOMBINGS IN SHIITE AREAS OF BAGHDAD KILL 28. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports that 28 people were killed Tuesday in a “wave of car bombings in mainly Shiite areas of Baghdad.” The attacks occurred “as Iraqi Shiites were celebrating the birthday of Imam Ali, the cousin and son-in-law of the Prophet Muhammad and Shiite Islam’s most sacred martyr.” Although no group “claimed responsibility for the attacks,” they “bore the hallmarks of al-Qaida-inspired Sunni militants who consider Shiites to be ‘infidels.’”

In its report on the bombings, the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Yacoub, 4.22M) reports that “at least 34 people” were killed in the “show of force meant to intimidate the majority Shiites as they celebrated what is meant to be a joyous holiday for their sect.”

FATHER OF SLAIN SOLDIER URGES IRAQI JUDGE TO PROSECUTE INSURGENT. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports that Keith Maupin of Cincinnati, who is the father of a US soldier “whose remains were found near Baghdad in 2008 says he urged an Iraqi judge at a hearing to fully prosecute the insurgent accused of killing his son.” Maupin “participated by video teleconference from the Pentagon in the case of a man in Iraqi custody,” who US officials say “confessed to the killing of Sgt. Matt Maupin, who was kidnapped near Baghdad in 2004.”

[Detainee Issues News:](#)

ISLAMIC CLERIC TELLS JURY HE ADMIRERED BIN LADEN. [Bloomberg News](#) (5/14, Hurtado, 2.76M) reports that Abu Hamza al-Masri, the Muslim cleric on trial in New York City for supporting the al Qaeda network, told a Federal jury “of his admiration for Osama bin Laden and said the World Trade Center was blown up by the U.S. government.” Assistant US Attorney John Cronan on Tuesday questioned Abu Hamza “about statements he made in media interviews as well as recorded speeches and sermons, expounding his views while preaching in the 1990s at the Finsbury Park Mosque in London.” Cronan asked Abu Hamza “if he ever said in a television interview that he endorsed bin Laden and that he loved him for his achievements after 1993, adding: ‘Sheikh bin Laden is not a normal person, he’s an example for all mujahedeem, for his past experience, goals and achievements.’” and Abu Hamza agreed that he had made those statements.

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Weiser, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that Abu Hamza, also known as Mostafa Kamel Mostafa, “turned combative and defensive” under “a prosecutor’s rigorous cross-examination,” and “even tried to pose his own questions to the prosecutor, accusing him of taking his statements out of context and telling him at one point to ‘try to concentrate.’” US District Judge Katherine Forrest told him at one point, “Mr. Mostafa, we do need to obey the rules of cross-examination, all right? Don’t make speeches.”

JUDGE TO CONSIDER MOVING TRIAL FOR THREE OF TSARNAEV'S FRIENDS. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Seelye, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports from Boston that US District Judge Douglas P. Woodlock on Tuesday "said he wanted to try to find juries in Boston for the trials of three friends of" Boston Marathon bombing defendant Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, but he indicated "that if impartial jurors could not be found here, he might seek a jury from Springfield, Mass., about 90 miles west." The three friends are charged with trying to cover up for Tsarnaev "after the authorities released photographs of him and his brother, Tamerlan, to the public." Judge Woodlock "ordered the three to face trial separately and set a trial date of June 30 for Azamat Tazhayakov, Sept. 8 for Dias Kadyrbayev and Sept. 29 for Robel Phillipos."

Terrorism News:

NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM TO BE DEDICATED THIS WEEK. [USA Today](#) (5/14, Rick, Hampson, 5.82M) reports that the National September 11 Memorial and Museum will be dedicated in New York on Thursday. The museum's "monumental artifacts" include "a staircase that channeled the imperiled to safety; a column that refused to yield when others around it fell; a wall that held back the flood; and the cross that materialized in the midst of chaos."

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Cotter, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that the President will attend the dedication of the museum. The Times describes the museum as "emotionally overwhelming, particularly...for New Yorkers who were in the city on that apocalyptic September day and the paranoia-fraught weeks that followed, but almost as certainly for the estimated two billion people around the globe who followed the horror unfolding on television, radio and the Internet." The museum will open to the public next Wednesday.

Other National News:

OBAMA TO PUSH FOR INCREASED INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING TODAY. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Halsey, 4.22M) reports that on Monday, Sens. Barbara Boxer and David Vitter "released without comment" a "long-awaited bipartisan" transportation spending bill, which is "pegged at around the current level of \$52 billion a year, with an allowance for inflation." According to the Post, "the bill was reassuring to state and local transportation officials who feared their federal funds might be delayed or reduced by mid-summer." The Post notes that the bill "landed in the middle of what advocacy groups have dubbed 'infrastructure week,' a concerted effort to draw...attention to declining national systems said to need \$3.6 trillion in restoration by 2020." The Post notes that on Wednesday, President Obama will "visit New York's Tappan Zee Bridge" as part of his "latest foray to underscore the infrastructure issue."

SENATE VOTES 96-3 TO BEGIN DEBATE ON TAX EXTENDERS PACKAGE. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports that on Tuesday, "a bill to renew more than 50 expired tax breaks...cleared a key hurdle in the Senate," which is "giving hope to millions of taxpayers who would otherwise be hit with unwelcome tax increases next spring," but "other hurdles remain." According to the AP, "The package includes a business tax credit for research and development and a sales tax deduction for individuals who live in states without an income tax," along with "a generous tax credit for using...renewable energy sources to produce electricity, and several provisions that allow businesses to write off capital investments more quickly." The AP says "the tax breaks enjoy broad bipartisan support," but "some Republican senators want the opportunity to" add amendments, including "the repeal of a medical device tax that helps fund" the Affordable Care Act, and "it's not clear whether" Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid will "allow amendments."

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Weisman, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) says that when the Senate "vot[ed] 96-3 to take up a package of business tax breaks without offering any way to pay for them," they were "shrugg[ing] off the deficit concerns that were once an animating force" in Congress. According to the Times, "the procedural vote presaged final passage as early as this week and followed the House's overwhelming approval last week of legislation that would...raise the deficit by \$156 billion over the next 10 years." The Times notes that "62 House Democrats joined virtually every Republican in ignoring President Obama's veto threat because of the deficit implications."

ADMINISTRATION MOVING AHEAD WITH PLANS TO SPEND BILLIONS ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY. [USA Today](#) (5/14, Koch, 5.82M) reports that following the Senate's "failure to approve a bipartisan energy efficiency bill," the Administration is "expanding its push to boost the efficiency of appliances, outdoor lights and the buildings of corporate giants." USA Today notes that last week, the President "announced the Department of Energy will work to develop stricter building codes" that "require 8.5% less energy." USA Today adds that "the federal government will spend an extra \$2 billion on upgrades to its buildings over the next three years."

GOP Senators, WSJournal Urge Reid To Allow Vote On Keystone XL Pipeline. [Bloomberg News](#) (5/13, Snyder, 2.76M), in an article on the energy-efficiency legislation sponsored by Sen. Rob Portman and Jeanne Shaheen that effectively died in the Senate on Monday, says "deep divisions on issues unrelated to the bill – such as the Keystone XL pipeline and regulations on the coal industry – doomed it," which Bloomberg says "underscores that even legislation with broad support faces an uphill fight as both parties eye midterm elections that will determine control of Congress."

[The Hill](#) (5/13, Barron-lopez, 237K) reported that on Tuesday, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell said Majority Leader Harry Reid “can schedule a vote on the Keystone pipeline at any time,” and noted that Reid “has several members that would like to have that vote.” The Hill adds that Sen. Lisa Murkowski, “a co-sponsor of the energy efficiency bill that died Monday, echoed McConnell’s sentiments,” saying, “Sen. Reid’s decision to deny Republicans the ability to offer a handful of energy-related amendments was a sad milestone in the downward spiral of the Senate, but it doesn’t mean we can’t have a vote on the Keystone XL pipeline.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 5.51M), in an editorial titled, “Harry Reid’s Senate Blockade,” blames Reid for the demise of the Shaheen-Portman bill, and contends that his refusal to allow votes on amendments is attributable to his alliance with the White House. According to the Journal, the White House is fearful that centrist Democrats will join with Republicans to approve the Keystone project and roll back EPA regulations on coal plants.

Meanwhile, in an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Anderson, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) titled, “Stopping Keystone Ensures More Railroad Tank-Car Spills,” Terry Anderson, president of the Property and Environment Research Center, makes the case that construction of the Keystone XL pipeline would decrease the oil industry’s reliance on trains to transport crude and therefore reduce the number of spills that occur when those trains derail.

MILLER URGES OBAMA TO ESTABLISH COMMISSION TO PROBE VA HOSPITALS. [USA Today](#) (5/14, Zoroya, 5.82M) reports that Rep. Jeff Miller, the chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, has sent a letter to President Obama urging him to “set up a special, bipartisan commission to investigate accumulating allegations of health care delays at VA hospitals.” According to USA Today, Miller “said an independent commission was necessary ‘to thoroughly investigate veteran access issues, patient harm and preventable deaths as a result of delays in care across the VA health care system.’”

On the [CBS Evening News](#) (5/13, story 2, 3:00, Pelley, 5.08M), Scott Pelley reported that the VA “is under fire over allegations that administrators in Phoenix kept a secret waiting list to hide delays in patient care,” and, according to Pelley, CBS “has discovered the same practice may be happening at another VA hospital,” this one in Chicago.

The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Hicks, 4.22M) reports that VA Secretary Shinseki will testify Thursday before the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee and senators are “poised to question him about VA health clinics allegedly covering up treatment delays.” The Post says that senators are likely to “challenge Shinseki over the amount of time he took to order the preservation of electronic and paper evidence related to the purported treatment delays.”

The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Chasmar, 455K) reports that Sen. Bernie Sanders, who chairs the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, has decried what he describes as a “concerted effort to undermine the VA” driven by the “Koch Brothers and others, who want to radically change the nature of society, and either make major cuts in all of these institutions, or maybe do away with them entirely.”

DEMOCRATS CRITICIZE OBAMA JUDICIAL NOMINEE’S LEGISLATIVE RECORD. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, O’Keefe, 4.22M) reports that on Tuesday, Senate Democrats opposed to the nomination of Michael Boggs, “a Georgia state judge tapped by [President] Obama to serve on a U.S. district court in Georgia,” “sharply questioned” Boggs “about his previous statements, votes and court decisions related to abortion rights, gay rights and civil rights.” According to the Post, the White House “has stood by Boggs despite strong opposition from a handful of Democratic senators, members of the Congressional Black Caucus, civil rights leaders, NARAL Pro-Choice America and gay rights groups.” The Post reports that “as a state senator from 2000 to 2004, Boggs, a conservative Democrat, supported keeping the Confederate emblem on the Georgia state flag; supported establishing a...license plate that helped fund antiabortion groups; opposed same-sex marriage; and supported a law that would require parents to accompany their daughters to abortion clinics if the daughter is younger than 18.”

The [Huffington Post](#) (5/13, Bendery, 11.54M) reported that Sen. Dianne Feinstein “flat-out told Boggs she wasn’t sure she could support him...given his past votes, despite his assurances that he would follow legal precedent if confirmed as a federal judge.” The Huffington Post also reports that Sen. Al Franken “said he felt misled by a private conversation he had with Boggs about his votes for keeping the Confederate insignia on the state flag,” while Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid “declined to back Boggs in a news conference with reporters,” saying, “I’m not going to make a decision on Boggs until the committee acts on it.”

According to [Roll Call](#) (5/13, Sanchez, Subscription Publication, 76K), Boggs’ nomination “was part of a larger deal between the White House and the two Georgia senators in order to get more important, higher-level circuit court judges confirmed in the state.”

[The Hill](#) (5/13, Lillis, 237K) reports that Sens. Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson “both spoke Tuesday in support of all seven of those nominees, and the Republicans on the Judiciary Committee appear poised to back the whole slate.” The Hill reports that also on Tuesday, White House press secretary Jay Carney said, “Based on Judge Boggs’s 10-year track record as a state trial and appellate court judge, the president believes he is qualified for the federal bench.”

The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Dinan, Boyer, 455K) reports that “black Democratic leaders in Congress have criticized...Boggs’ nomination and questioned why the Senate hearing was held while the House was on a weeklong recess.”

REID SAYS SENATE WILL VOTE SOON ON NOMINEE WHO WROTE OBAMA DRONE POLICY. [Roll Call](#) (5/13, Lesniewski, 76K) reports that on Tuesday, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid indicated that “senators could soon face a vote on Harvard Law Professor David J. Barron,” who is “the author of legal opinions backing the Obama administration’s drone policy...to be a federal appeals court judge.” Roll Call notes that Sen. Rand Paul “has contested the continued secrecy surrounding the legal justification for targeted killing of American citizens using drones.”

WPOST FACT CHECKER: OBAMA OVERSTATED NUMBER OF GOP FILIBUSTERS SINCE 2007. In his “In The Loop” column for the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Kamen, Itkowitz, 4.22M), A Kamen notes that Glenn Kessler, the Post’s “resident fact checker” gave President Obama “four Pinocchios” after he claimed last week that “since 2007, Republicans have filibustered ‘500 pieces of legislation that would help the middle class.’” Kamen adds that, according to Kessler, “the correct number – generously including nominations as well as ‘pieces of legislation’ – is about 133 ‘successful’ filibusters since 2007.”

NBC’S TODD ON BENGHAZI: “ALL THE QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED.” The [Huffington Post](#) (5/14, Fung, 11.54M) reported that on [MSNBC’s Morning Joe](#) on Tuesday, NBC political director Chuck Todd said that in regards to the 2012 Benghazi terrorist attacks “all the questions have been answered.” Todd added, “There’s just some people that don’t like the answers, that wish the answers were somehow more conspiratorial, I guess.”

Portman: Senate Should Have Its Own Select Committee On Benghazi. Sen. Rob Portman, appearing on [Fox News’ Special Report](#) (5/13, 2.15M), advocated the establishment of a Senate select committee to investigate the Benghazi terrorist attacks that would work with the House’s select committee. Portman said, “I would prefer it to be bicameral, in other words, have a House and Senate committee working together.” Portman added, “Frankly, it’s in the Administration’s interests to do it more quickly than have it be closer to a 2016 election.”

WTimes Profile: Gowdy Enjoys Bipartisan Respect In Congress. According to the [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Sherfinski, 455K), “Republicans and Democrats alike say” Rep. Trey Gowdy (R-SC) “is the right man to head the special congressional investigation into Benghazi, a job that could springboard him into positions such as attorney general or service in a Republican presidential administration.” The Times adds that colleagues “also say the forthright former prosecutor isn’t likely to cut corners on the investigation to score political points or raise his profile.”

WATT ANNOUNCES GSES WILL CONTINUE IN CURRENT ROLE. Media reports are casting the announcement by Federal Housing Finance Agency head Mel Watt that the GSEs will expand their role in the mortgage markets as a major change in policy by the Administration. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Lowrey, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that Watt, head of the FHFA, which oversees Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, on Tuesday “announced policies that would maintain the mortgage giants’ role in parts of the housing market, spur more home lending and aid distressed homeowners.” The Times says that the announcement “is a significant shift in strategy for the mortgage financiers.” Speaking at the Brookings Institution, **Watt** said, “Our overriding objective is to ensure that there is broad liquidity in the housing finance market and to do so in a way that is safe and sound.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/14, Puzanghera, 3.46M) reports that Watt’s move comes as “the housing market showing signs of slowing,” and he “doesn’t want the giant mortgage financing firms to start reducing the federal government’s outsized role in helping borrowers get home loans.” By keeping the pair of GSEs “on course,” Watt “essentially announced a major shift in direction for the bailed-out companies, one that ensures they will keep playing the main role in housing finance for the foreseeable future.”

The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Elboghdady, 4.22M) reports that Watt “said that his job is to make sure the mortgage market is working smoothly until Congress decides what to do next” with Fannie and Freddie. The Post says that several bills “propose gradually dismantling the companies and shifting mortgage lending risks away from taxpayers to the private sector.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Timiraos, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) says that the move could boost the stuttering housing recovery. The Journal also says that the move could result in the GSEs retaining prominence in the mortgage market despite support in Congress for winding them down.

[USA Today](#) (5/14, Korte, 5.82M) reports that Watt’s proposal will “not reduce the size of mortgages Fannie and Freddie will back” as expected. Watt said that the change “came after the agency heard ‘concerns about how such a reduction could adversely impact the health of the current housing finance market.’” In addition, the GSEs “will back loans even when a borrower misses two mortgage payments in the first three years.”

The [Huffington Post](#) (5/14, Gongloff, 11.54M) says that the Federal government “is about to make it easier for you to get a mortgage,” as Watt has told the two GSEs “to make more credit available to home-buyers, instead of retreating from the mortgage market as they have been doing since the financial crisis.” As part of that effort, Watt “ordered Fannie and Freddie to give banks more protection against the risk of being forced to buy back mortgages that go bad,” which could make banks “more willing to lend to riskier borrowers.”

WPost Criticizes Move, Senate Inaction On GSE Reform. In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M) says that reducing the Federal role in the housing market “is not a radical free-market notion,” but in fact has enjoyed support from within the Obama Administration in the past. However, Watt’s announcement is a “victory for defenders of the status quo.” The big winners, the Post says, “ironically, may be not the poor and the ‘underserved,’ but a group of giant hedge funds that snapped up millions of beaten-down Fannie and Freddie shares after the government bailout, and are now lobbying Congress — as well as suing in federal court — for a return to private ownership.” The Post says that the bailout of the GSEs will now “pave the way for a colossal windfall for bottom-feeding Wall Street types.”

Rising Home Prices Limiting Properties Available To Middle Class. [USA Today](#) (5/14, Davidson, Hoyer, 5.82M) reports that according to a new study from real estate research firm Trulia, “rising home prices and stagnant incomes are pushing homeownership beyond the reach of middle-class Americans in more cities.” The study found that in “20 of the 100 largest metro areas, a majority of homes on the market are not affordable for middle-income buyers,” up from only 10 metro areas in 2013.

MONIZ CONSIDERING END TO CRUDE OIL EXPORT BAN. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Nam, Kent, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports that Energy Secretary Moniz said on Tuesday that his department is considering easing the ban on crude oil exports. At a media briefing on Tuesday, **Moniz** said, “The issue of crude oil exports is under consideration. ... A driver for this consideration is that the nature of the oil we’re producing may not be well matched to our current refinery capacity.”

RETAIL SALES UP SLIGHTLY IN APRIL; HOUSEHOLD DEBT UP IN FIRST QUARTER. [Reuters](#) (5/13, Reuters) reports that retail sales rose just 0.1 percent in April, according to data released Tuesday by the Department of Commerce. That’s well below the 1.5 percent increase in March, and a disappointment, as economists expected an increase of 0.4 percent. Reuters says that the data is dampening hopes that growth would accelerate in the 2nd quarter after a very weak 1st quarter.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Shah, Subscription Publication, 5.51M), meanwhile, reports that household debt rose \$129 billion in the 1st quarter to \$11.65 trillion, according to data released on Tuesday by the New York Fed. The increase was driven by a \$116 billion increase in mortgage debt. The Journal says that the report suggests that consumer spending remains weak, as credit card debt fell \$24 billion to \$659 billion.

[ABC World News](#) (5/13, story 6, 2:40, Sawyer) reported that the average US family “owes \$109,000 if you include mortgage car loans student loans and credit cards.” Saying, “Imagine being able to climb out of that credit hole for good,” ABC (Janis) suggests ways for families to reduce their debt, such as ending the use of credit cards and avoiding late fees at all costs.

UP SLIGHTLY, DOW, S&P AGAIN HIT RECORDS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Kilgore, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports that both the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the S&P 500 hit new records on Tuesday, driven by better-than-expected corporate earnings. The Dow rose 19.97 points to 16715.44, while the S&P 500 was up 0.80 points to 1897.45. Meanwhile, the Nasdaq Composite Index fell 13.69 points to 4130.17.

In its lead story, the [CBS Evening News](#) (5/13, lead story, 2:05, Pelley, 5.08M) reported that “they were dancing on the street today to a couple of new records,” as the Dow hits its fourth record close of the year. CBS (Mason) says that “retail sales barely rose in April, a disappointing sign, but even bad news hasn’t been able to derail this rally.” CBS (Mason) adds, “Is it a bubble? Price to earnings ratios haven’t been this tie since 2010, but with momentum this strong, some traders, say, this rally could go on for a while yet.”

WSJournal Analysis: Tech Crash Not Imminent. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Ovide, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports that concerns have grown in recent months that another meltdown in tech stocks may be in the offing, but an analysis of tech firms by the paper found that, unlike during the 2000 crash, the firms have significant cash reserves to carry them forward.

SALLIE MAE REACHES SETTLEMENT WITH DOJ, FDIC. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports that student loan provider Sallie Mae and its loan servicing unit, now known as Navient, “has reached a \$60 million settlement with the Justice Department to resolve allegations that it charged members of the military excessive interest rates on their student loans,” the Federal government announced on Tuesday. In addition, the FDIC “also announced a \$30 million settlement arising from allegations that the company maximized consumer late fees.”

[Politico](#) (5/13, Grasgreen, Shah, 73K) reports that the DOJ “estimates that about 60,000 servicemembers will split the \$60 million.” The FDIC, Politico says, “announced a separate \$37 million settlement with Sallie Mae Bank and Navient Solutions, Inc., over deceptive lending practices and violations of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.”

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Bernard, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that the DOJ “said on Tuesday that beginning in 2005, the companies failed to cap interest on loans to military personnel at 6 percent — a ceiling they are entitled to as part of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.” In addition, the DOJ “asserted that the companies improperly obtained default judgments against service members.”

[USA Today](#) (5/14, Johnson, 5.82M) reports that Attorney General Eric Holder said, “This alleged overcharging appears to have been the rule, rather than the exception. According to an audit, excessive rates were charged to 93% of active-duty servicemembers who had loans owned or serviced by Sallie Mae.” The DOJ settlement “awaits approval by a federal judge in Delaware.”

Tennessee Promises Free Community College Tuition To All High School Graduates. The [CBS Evening News](#) (5/13, story 8, 2:15, Pelley, 5.08M) reported that Tennessee’s governor has signed a law “that promises free community college tuition to every high school graduate in the state.” CBS (Arenas) added that the law “will use \$34 million dollars a year from lottery funds” to cover tuition for a two-year degree. While one-third of Tennesseans have a college degree, Gov. Bill Haslam “wants to raise that to 55 percent.”

CITING EFFECT ON MINORITIES, ACTIVISTS CHALLENGE SCHOOL CLOSINGS NATIONWIDE. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Layton, 4.22M) reports that community activists filed three Federal civil rights complaints on Tuesday, arguing that “school closures in cities across the country disproportionately affect African American students,” challenging school closures in Newark, New Orleans and Chicago and calling on the Obama Administration “to halt similar efforts elsewhere.” The complaints, sent to the Justice Department and the Education Department’s Office for Civil Rights, allege that “students of color from Newark, Chicago and New Orleans have been disproportionately affected by school closures and charter-school expansions.” Newark has closed 13 public schools since 2009, and in Chicago, 111 schools have closed since 2001, while in New Orleans, “all the traditional public schools except five have shut down since 2003.” The District of Columbia has closed 39 traditional public schools since 2008, according to the Post.

Sixty Years Later, SCOTUS Desegregation Ruling Called A Success. In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Thernstrom, Thernstrom, Subscription Publication, 5.51M), Stephan Thernstrom, a history professor at Harvard University, and Abigail Thernstrom, an adjunct scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, write that on the upcoming 60th anniversary of the Supreme Court’s ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*, American schools have been fully desegregated, the existence of schools with heavy minority populations notwithstanding.

REUTERS ANALYSIS: NET NEUTRALITY PROPOSAL LIKELY TO SET OFF SERIOUS BATTLE. [Reuters](#) (5/14, Selyukh) reports that FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler’s decision to press ahead with new net neutrality rules is likely to set off a lengthy battle pitting Republicans and broadband providers, who oppose the rules, against a number of tech companies and consumer advocates on the others. The rules will formally be presented on Thursday, and Wheeler is still looking to win over the two Democrats on the five-member committees.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES DON’T LOSE POSITIONS DESPITE MISCONDUCT. The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, McElhatton, 455K) reports on cases of flagrant acts of misconduct on the job by Federal employees, who held onto their jobs despite their actions. The Times says that Federal employees “have come under scrutiny as reports of time and attendance fraud have mount.” The Times focuses on problems at HUD, listing several examples.

Administration Bringing Back Cash Awards For SES Members. In its “Federal Diary” section, the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Davidson, 4.22M) reports that after a year’s hiatus, an “awards program for senior level federal executives is stirring again.” The Presidential Rank Awards was ended due to the sequestration cuts, but the Administration is now bringing them back. Members of the Senior Executive Service “and their counterparts in scientific fields are eligible for the awards,” which can range from 20% to 35% of the individuals salary. The Post says that while the awards “have provided large monetary prizes, potentially more than \$63,000, the savings generated by the honored executives have been much greater.”

MCCONNELL, GRAHAM PUSH ABORTION RESTRICTION LEGISLATION. [The Hill](#) (5/14, Bolton, 237K) reports Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell and Sen. Lindsey Graham (R), “who are both facing primaries in the next month, on Tuesday called for legislation banning abortion after 20 weeks.” In a press conference, the pair called on Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to schedule a vote on the legislation. Graham said that worldwide, only seven nations, including the US, allow elective abortions “at the 20-week period and beyond. My goal is to make sure when this is over, there are six.”

WPost Approves Of McAuliffe Move To Roll Back Abortion Clinic Regulations. In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M) approves of Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe’s (D) move to “roll back absurd, baldly political rules imposed on the state’s abortion clinics with the transparent purpose of forcing many of them to close.” The “maneuver may mean a

reprieve for as many as half” of the 18 remaining clinics, which are “the only convenient option for thousands of women who seek abortions each year.”

SENATE REPUBLICANS NOT SWAYED BY ROMNEY’S ARGUMENT FOR MINIMUM WAGE HIKE. [Politico](#) (5/14, Everett, Kim, 73K) reports that “Senate Republicans of nearly all stripes are opposed to raising the hourly minimum wage to \$10.10 as Democrats demand,” and “recent public calls for a smaller increase by a trio of 2012 contenders” – Mitt Romney, Tim Pawlenty and Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania – “have done nothing to make them budge.” According to Politico, Romney, Santorum and Pawlenty argue that “by refusing to publicly advocate a minimum wage increase, congressional Republicans are ceding the national dialogue to Democrats on an issue that consistently draws majority support in polls.”

US CHAMBER LEADING SURGE IN “DARK MONEY” SPENDING IN CONGRESSIONAL RACES. [USA Today](#) (5/14, Schouten, 5.82M) reports that political spending by groups not required to disclose their donors, so-called “dark money,” “has ballooned to nearly five times the rate of the last election cycle — already topping \$23 million this week, new figures provided to USA TODAY show.” The US Chamber of Commerce “accounts for nearly \$12.2 million,” according to the Center for Responsive Politics.

AFP ANALYSIS: DESPITE EQUALITY PUSH, POOR KENTUCKIANS OPPOSE PRESIDENT. [AFP](#) (5/14, Couronne) reports that poor residents of Kentucky generally oppose President Obama, “who has made the fight against economic inequality one of his battle cries.” A major reason, AFP says, is the President’s opposition to the coal industry, a mainstay among the poorer parts of the state. Another motivation is their socially conservative views.

IN “WIN” FOR TEA PARTY, SASSE VICTORIOUS IN NEBRASKA’S GOP SENATE PRIMARY. Midland University President Ben Sasse (R), a former Bush Administration official, on Tuesday easily [won](#) Nebraska’s GOP Senate primary, and now will be heavily favored over attorney David Domina (D), the Democratic nominee, in the general election to succeed retiring Sen. Mike Johanns (R). Sasse won nearly 50% of the vote in the primary, easily outpacing banker Sid Dinsdale (R), state Treasurer Shane Osborn (R), and attorney Bart McLeay.

Sasse’s convincing victory is described in reports this morning as a win for the Tea Party. The [AP](#) (5/14), for example, reports, “The tea party scored a win” with Sasse’s capturing of the GOP nomination. Sasse was backed by several “outside conservative groups, Sarah Palin and Sen. Ted Cruz,” while Osborn, who finished in third, one point behind Dinsdale, was supported by “allies of Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.”

[Bloomberg News](#) (5/13, McCormick, 4.91M) reports, “The Tea Party scored a victory in” Tuesday’s contest, “a win that groups tied to the limited-government movement are banking will boost momentum heading into the heart of the 2014 nomination calendar.” The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Martin, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that Tuesday’s outcome provides “a much-needed victory for” GOP “anti-establishment forces, whose candidate lost in last week’s North Carolina Senate primary” and “are also expected to come up short next week in primaries in Georgia and Kentucky.”

The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Dinan, 455K) says that Tuesday’s result delivered “a win to insurgent conservative groups who said it served as a rebuke to GOP power brokers in Washington.” Running on “a campaign message firmly opposing Obamacare and vowing to fight against the Washington establishment,” Sasse far outpaced Osborn, “who had the backing of Washington establishment groups,” and Dinsdale.

Under the headline “Tea Party Gets A Win With Ben Sasse In Nebraska GOP Primary,” [The Hill](#) (5/14, Jaffe, 237K) reported on its website that Sasse’s victory gave “national conservative groups a much-needed win as they work to overcome early disappointments this cycle.” Sasse was backed by, among others, “the Senate Conservatives Fund and the Club for Growth,” as well as FreedomWorks, which had initially endorsed Osborn, but later withdrew its support after it was revealed that an organization with links to McConnell was financing ads attacking Sasse.

[Politico](#) (5/13, Parti, 73K) reported that Sasse’s win gives “conservative groups a victory in year that isn’t otherwise looking too promising for tea party candidates.” On its website, the [Washington Post](#) (5/13, Sullivan, 4.22M) reported that Sasse’s win gives “the national tea party groups that backed him a much-needed victory.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Epstein, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) offers similar coverage of Sasse’s win.

CANTOR’S PRIMARY OPPONENT GAINING ATTENTION. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Portnoy, Costa, 4.22M) reports that “tea party activist” David Brat may be gaining traction in his primary challenge to VA7 Rep. Eric Cantor (R), the House Majority Leader. Brat “is gaining national attention as a potential threat to Cantor’s hold on his solidly Republican, suburban Richmond district,” including support “some big-name conservatives.” While “most Republicans” believe that Cantor is “safe,” the “prospect of a competitive and bruising challenge to the second-ranking Republican in Congress is embarrassing to Cantor — and is rattling GOP leaders at a time when the party is trying to unify its divided ranks.”

COTTON-COMMISSIONED POLL SHOWS HIM LEADING PRYOR 42%-40%. On its website, [Roll Call](#) (5/13, Levinson, Subscription Publication, 76K) reported that an OnMessage Inc. (R) survey of 600 Arkansas likely voters, taken May 6-8,

shows AR4 Rep. Tom Cotton (R) Leading Arkansas Sen. Mark Pryor (D) 42%-40%. The survey, which was commissioned by Cotton's campaign, "comes after an NBC/Marist poll released Monday" showed Pryor leading the Congressman 51%-40%

MCCONNELL'S WIFE EXPECTED TO PLAY KEY ROLE IN HUSBAND'S REELECTION RACE. With Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) expected to beat back a primary challenge from businessman Matt Bevin (R), and then face Kentucky Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes (D) in this fall's general election, the [New York Times](#) (5/14, Horowitz, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) says that the senator is likely to rely heavily on campaign help from his wife, ex-Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, in his bid for another term. The Times says that Chao, who helped McConnell's "effort to neutralize" Bevin, "will be more crucial than ever as he turns to face a well-funded female candidate for the first time in his Senate career." McConnell aide Josh Holmes said that Chao "would be a key surrogate in ads and at speaking events." Holmes is quoted as saying that this would particularly be the case should Grimes seek "to paint a picture of Mitch McConnell as having some kind of a blind spot for women's issues."

AIKEN DECLARED WINNER IN NC2 DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY. [Politico](#) (5/13, Parti, 73K) reported that former "American Idol" contestant Clay Aiken (D) on Tuesday "was declared the winner" in the close NC2 House Democratic primary contest, one day after the sudden death of his leading opponent, ex-North Carolina Commerce Keith Crisco (D). Aiken led Crisco "by fewer than 400 votes," with outstanding ballots to be counted. In the final tally, Aiken wound up with "40.86 percent of the vote, while Crisco received 39.49 percent." Crisco, 71, "died Monday after suffering from injuries from a fall." In the general election, Aiken will face NC2 Rep. Renee Ellmers (R), who "is favored to keep the seat."

ELECTION OFFICIAL RULES CONYERS FAILED TO QUALIFY FOR MI13 PRIMARY BALLOT. Yesterday in Michigan, a Wayne County official ruled that veteran MI13 Rep. John Conyers failed to submit enough valid petitions to qualify for the Democratic primary ballot. Reports indicate that short of a successful appeal, Conyers' only hopes of returning to Congress next year appears to be a write-in candidacy. [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, story 10, 0:40, Williams, 7.86M) reported that Conyers "may have to leave Congress because of a screw-up." The Democrat "is being kept off the ballot in the primary because of invalid signatures on a petition."

The [Detroit News](#) (5/14, Nichols, Schultz, 643K) reports that Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett, a Democrat, on Tuesday said that Conyers "does not have enough signatures to remain on the Aug. 5 ballot," a ruling "that puts his half-century career in Congress at risk." Garrett's decision "confirms a staff investigation released Friday that found Conyers had 592 signatures — 408 less than the 1,000 required by state law." Over "640 signatures" were ruled invalid, "after a challenge by primary opponent the Rev. Horace Sheffield of Detroit resulted in a clerk office staff's finding that the petition circulators were not registered voters as required by state law."

The [Detroit Free Press](#) (5/14, Walker, Gray, 1.02M) reports that Conyers, who is planning "to file an appeal with the state office," could be facing "a write-in campaign." The Free Press added that, among the reasons some of Conyers' signatures were ruled invalid, included "petition signers not being registered to vote or not being residents of 13th District, a signature being improperly dated or having a bad address."

The [AP](#) (5/14) quotes Garrett as saying of her ruling, "It is a very unfortunate circumstance that an issue with a circulator of a petition would disqualify the signature of valid registered voter. However, I am bound by the current laws and statutes of the state of Michigan that set forth very specific and narrow instructions regarding candidate petitions."

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Bosman, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that state Sen. Bert Johnson (D), "who is running Mr. Conyers's campaign," told the Times on Tuesday "that the campaign was prepared to take legal action to ensure" the Congressman's "name would end up on the ballot." Meanwhile, the American Civil Liberties Union has "filed a lawsuit in federal court arguing that it is unconstitutional to require that signature collectors for campaigns be registered voters." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Dolan, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) also reports briefly on Conyers' plight.

COLORADO'S POLIS DRAWING FIRE FOR ANTI-FRACKING EFFORTS. The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Richardson, 455K) reports that Democratic Rep. Jared Polis "has become something of a persona non grata among top Colorado Democrats for funding an anti-fracking initiative." In addition, the Log Cabin Republicans, a gay rights group, is targeting Polis, "the first openly gay man to be elected to Congress," over the issue in a new ad. Polis originally jumped into the fight by opposing three wells near his vacation property, and he is now "providing the financial muscle behind Coloradans for Local Control, which has proposed 15 initiatives for the Nov. 4 ballot, including an environmental bill of rights."

BARAKA ELECTED MAYOR OF NEWARK. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Chen, Zernike, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that Councilman Ras Baraka (D) on Tuesday "was elected mayor of Newark." Baraka's win over law professor Shavar Jeffries (D), says the Times signals "a likely shift in the direction that New Jersey's largest city had embarked upon for most of the last decade." Luis Quintana (D), who had been serving as the interim mayor, did not run for a full term. He replaced Cory Booker (D), who won last year's special election to succeed the late Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D). In defeating Jeffries, who "enjoyed a sizable financial advantage thanks to outside groups, Mr. Baraka relied on his family's name and fervent union support, while tapping into misgivings about" Booker, who wasn't able to "erase lingering

suspicions among some of Newark's power brokers that he was an outsider.”

ROVE GETS BIPARTISAN PUSHBACK OVER HIS SPECULATION ON HILLARY CLINTON'S HEALTH. Karl Rove's speculation last week on former Secretary of State Clinton's health, in particular his reported suggestion that she may have “brain damage” as a result of a December 2012 fall – something Rove denies having said – generated a great deal of coverage on Tuesday, and nearly all of it was extremely critical of Rove's judgment in broaching the topic.

On [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, story 8, 2:45, Williams, 7.86M), Brian Williams described Rove's remarks as “some very nasty politics” and “a very personal attack.” Williams noted that Newt Gingrich called Rove's public speculation about Clinton's health “the type of thing that weakens the fabric of our democracy.” Chuck Todd went on to note that while the [New York Post](#) (5/12, Smith, 2.77M) initially reported that Rove “went there, using the highly charged phrase ‘brain-damage’ during a paid speech,” on Tuesday, Rove “disputed that account.” Rove was shown saying, “I didn't say she had ‘brain-damage.’ She had a serious health episode. This will be an issue in the 2016 race whether she likes it or not.” Todd went on to report that, “privately, many Republicans admit if [Clinton] runs, she will win,” so they “hope...going nasty early convinces her not to” actually mount a campaign.

The [AP](#) (5/14) reports that in December 2012, Clinton, then serving as secretary of state, “fell ill with a stomach bug...after returning from a trip to Europe.” According to the AP, Clinton “cancel[led] a planned visit to North Africa and the Middle East,” and then “while at home, she fainted and fell and suffered a concussion.” The AP goes on to report that “during a follow up examination...doctors discovered a blood clot in a vein that runs between the skull and the brain,” but Clinton was “released after a brief hospitalization.”

[McClatchy](#) (5/13, Douglas, Subscription Publication, 23K) reports that while the New York Post reported that Rove claimed Clinton spent “thirty days in the hospital,” Clinton “actually only spent three days in the hospital after the fall.”

[Politico](#) (5/13, Topaz, 73K) reported that in an appearance on Fox News Tuesday, Rove “said his main point was that [Clinton's] health will invariably come up on the campaign trail if she chooses to run for the Democratic nomination in 2016.” Politico also reports that Rove “accused Clinton's team of keeping quiet on the issue, saying ‘she's hidden a lot of this.’”

[Reuters](#) (5/13, Holland) reports that when asked about Rove's comments on Tuesday, White House press secretary Jay Carney said, “Here's what I would say about cognitive capacity, which is that ‘Dr. Rove’ might've been the last person in America on election night to recognize and acknowledge that the president had won re-election, including the state of Ohio, so we'll leave it at that.”

[Politico](#) (5/13, Mccalmont, 73K) reported that on Tuesday, Newt Gingrich said he is “deeply offended” by Rove's “comments questioning whether Hillary Clinton suffered a brain injury.” According to Politico, Gingrich “called on Rove to apologize and stop discussing Clinton's health.” The [Huffington Post](#) (5/13, Reilly, 11.54M) reported that on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) on Tuesday, former White House Communications Director Nicolle Wallace, “who worked with Rove in the George W. Bush administration, called Rove's comments ‘off the wall.’” Wallace is quoted as saying, “This was a deliberate strategy on his part to raise her health as an issue and, I think in his view, a legitimate line of questioning ahead of the next campaign.”

Jonathan Allen, in an article for [Bloomberg News](#) (5/13, 2.76M), reports that “since Clinton resigned from the State Department in February 2013, her aides have declined to respond to most Republican attacks,” but “the difference between Rove's comments and...others...is that health problems could disqualify a presidential candidate in the minds of voters.” According to Allen, “For that reason, Clinton had to respond quickly and forcefully.”

Karen Tumulty, in an analysis for the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M), notes that if elected president in 2016, Clinton “would be 69, only a little younger than Ronald Reagan when he won his first term in 1980.” Tumulty also reports that “the injury that Clinton suffered has been the subject of speculation by both her friends and her enemies.” Tumulty points out that in October of 1992, “New York Times medical writer Lawrence K. Altman noted that...Bill Clinton had been ‘less forthcoming about his health than any Presidential nominee in the last 20 years.’”

Cathleen Decker, in a piece for the [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/14, 3.46M), says Rove's remarks were “a joint assault on the minds of voters and the heart of the would-be White House contender, and it probably worked, at least minimally, by injecting into the conversation something no one had been talking about, and spreading a negative assertion without any proof.”

[Politico](#) (5/13, Levine, 73K) reported that neurologist Alexander Dromerick “said there was no outward sign the former secretary of State had any permanent injury from her 2012 health problems.”

RUBIO CALLS FOR ACCESS TO FEDERAL RETIREMENT PLAN FOR MORE AMERICANS. [McClatchy](#) (5/13, Adams, Subscription Publication, 23K) reports that in the latest in a series of policy speeches, potential 2016 candidate Sen. Marco

Rubio (R) “proposed allowing many Americans the option of enrolling in the retirement plan for government workers.” Rubio said on Tuesday that the Thrift Savings Plan “is one of the most efficient savings plans in America. It charges fees which are a fraction of those in most private defined-contribution plans, allowing beneficiaries to save more.” Rubio’s move is driven by “concern that large percentages of Americans have no savings and no access to a retirement plan.”

[Reuters](#) (5/14, DeBenedetti) reports Rubio said, “I believe the American dream my parents lived is still possible. But among too many of our people, there is now a nagging sense that achieving it has become more difficult than ever. Financial security has faded for millions Americans, and with it the hope of a stable and secure retirement.” Rubio made his announcement at the National Press Club, and adds that the speech is part of an effort to develop his policy priorities.

RUBIO ACCEPTS CLIMATE CHANGE, REJECTS LEGISLATIVE FIXES. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Lowery, 4.22M) reports that on Tuesday, Sen. Marco Rubio “acknowledged” that climate change “exists but questioned whether current legislative proposals could stop it.” On Sunday, Rubio “attracted attention with controversial comments about the environment.” On Tuesday, he said that “although climate change is a reality, he doesn’t see a solution in existing legislative proposals.” Rubio said, “Headlines notwithstanding, of course the climate is changing. The climate is always changing and that is a measurable that you can see. There is climate change.” He added, “The issue is whether there is legislative proposals before us that can do anything about it. What I have said and what I disagree with is the notion that if we pass cap and trade, it will stop this from happening.”

In her column for the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M), Ruth Marcus writes that by questioning whether humans are responsible for global climate change on Sunday, Rubio undermined “his other assertion, to ABC’s Jonathan Karl: that he is prepared to be president.” Marcus portrays the move as an effort to position himself for the GOP presidential primaries.

CHRISTIE SPOKESMAN SAYS HE WAS BLINDSIDED BY LANE CLOSURE REVELATIONS. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Zernike, Santora, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that Michael Drewniak, the chief spokesman for New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R), on Tuesday testified “that he was misled about why lanes leading to the George Washington Bridge were closed last September and was ‘shocked and disoriented’ when he learned that the motive appeared to be political vengeance.” Drewniak, testifying before a state legislative committee investigating the matter, “said that neither the governor nor any of his closest advisers in his office were involved in the lane closings.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Haddon, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports that Drewniak said, “The conduct, callousness and cavalier attitude expressed in them was like nothing I’ve witnessed in my entire working lifetime, and certainly not in this administration.”

[Reuters](#) (5/14, Cavaliere) reports that Drewniak told the panel that Port Authority official David Wildstein, a Christie appointee, told him that the lane closures were tied to a legitimate traffic study.

In an earlier preview, [Bloomberg News](#) (5/14, Dopp, 2.76M) reports that before the hearing, panel co-chair Loretta Weinberg (D) said, “We are not going in there with any preconceived notions other than learning the timing, what he did and when they learned about” the closings.

Christie Facing Difficult Decision On Ammo Restriction Bill. The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Chumley, 455K) reports that Christie “will face a difficult decision in the coming days over an ammunition restriction bill that’s nearly found its way to his desk.” The Times says that the pressure from gun-rights activists and gun-control proponents “could very well hang the fate of his White House aspirations.” The legislation, which reduces the allowed capacity for ammo magazines to 10 rounds from the current 15, has cleared the state Senate and is now heading to the state House, “where support is strong.”

APPEALS PANEL APPEARS SPLIT OVER VIRGINIA SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BAN. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Barnes, 4.22M) reports from Richmond, VA that Virginia’s ban on same-sex marriage and civil unions “got an emotional hearing” before a three-judge panel of the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals on Tuesday, “even as one of the judges described the court’s deliberations as a likely ‘way station’ on a journey to the Supreme Court.” The Post notes that two judges “with distinctly different views” on the issue “dominated questioning at the hearing on whether Virginia has a right to ban same-sex unions or whether marriage is a fundamental right protected by the constitution that must be offered regardless of sexual orientation.” The judges are “reviewing a February decision of a Norfolk federal district judge that Virginia’s comprehensive ban – it also bars recognition of same-sex marriages performed in states where it is legal and any legal arrangement that resembles marriage – violates constitutional guarantees of equal protection and due process.”

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Eckholm, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that in “sharp exchanges,” the judges “appeared to be divided on the issues in what legal experts consider a crucial case that could propel the marriage question to the Supreme Court in the coming year. ‘Is this a constitutional issue of magnitude or a democratic issue that can be decided by the states?’ asked the presiding judge, Paul V. Niemeyer, in one of several comments that seemed to suggest support for Virginia’s restrictive law.” Judge Roger L. Gregory “gave strong indications of support for equal treatment of gay and lesbian couples,” and as attorneys “defended Virginia’s restrictions as a reasonable attempt to foster procreation and child welfare, Judge Gregory pressed them, asking ‘Do same-sex couples have children? Do you think that child wants

less of the dignity of marriage than any other child?" The Times adds that Judge Henry F. Floyd, "who spoke relatively little, might provide the decisive vote," but his "few questions" suggest "support for overturning Virginia's ban."

The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Sherfinski, 455K) reports that Judge Niemeyer, "whose questioning was predominately aimed at attorneys supporting dismissal of the ban, at one point said that for argument's sake he didn't think it was useful to compare same-sex marriage to a traditional family unit 'that has been recognized throughout history.' 'To mix the two is to play with the language, I think,' he said. 'I think we have a brand new relationship we have to look at.'" Judge Gregory, "who took the opposite tack from Judge Niemeyer and engaged state attorneys defending the ban, asked during the proceedings whether sexual orientation precludes a person from the same right to marry as prisoners or 90-year-old couples with little chance of producing offspring."

[Reuters](#) (5/14, Robertson) reports that two same-sex couples, one male and one female, brought the initial challenge to the state's ban.

JUDGE STRIKES DOWN IDAHO'S SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BAN. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports from Boise, ID that US Magistrate Judge Candy Dale ruled on Tuesday evening that Idaho's ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional. Judge Dale wrote in the ruling that Idaho's laws "banning same-sex marriage unconstitutionally deny gay and lesbian citizens of their fundamental right to marry," saying that marriage "works a fundamental change on the lives of all who experience it, and holds immense personal and spiritual significance." She ruled that Idaho's laws "wrongly stigmatize gay and lesbian couples and relegate their families to second-class status without sufficient reason."

FIFTH CIRCUIT STAYS EXECUTION OF TEXAS INMATE. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Fernandez, Schwartz, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports from Huntsville, TX that the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans on Tuesday "granted a Texas inmate's request for a stay of execution hours before he was scheduled to die." The court granted the request from attorneys for Robert James Campbell, 41, "on the grounds that his execution be stopped because of intellectual disability." Campbell's attorneys "said that new information uncovered in state files showed that he had an intellectual disability and was ineligible for execution," arguing that state officials "withheld the results of two I.Q. tests" given to Campbell, "a 68 when he was a child and a 71 shortly after he arrived on death row at the age of 19." The Supreme Court has banned the execution "of those whom the law refers to as mentally retarded, and has said that an I.Q. score of 'approximately 70' indicates retardation."

The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Berman, 4.22M) reports that the court's opinion said, "Because of the unique circumstances of this case, Campbell and his attorneys have not had a fair opportunity to develop Campbell's claim of ineligibility for the death penalty. In light of the evidence we have been shown, we believe that Campbell must be given such an opportunity." Campbell was sentenced to death in 1992 for murdering Alexandra Rendon, a 20-year-old bank teller, in 1991.

UNFINISHED RECEIVERS BECOME FOCUS OF LATEST GUN DEBATE. The [Washington Post](#) (5/13, Horwitz, 4.22M) reports that John Zawahri was prevented from buying a firearm in California several years ago, so instead purchased an "unfinished receiver," and used that to build an assault rifle himself, which he then took on a killing spree. The Post says that such receivers are "unregulated and have become readily available for purchase online and at some gun stores." BATFE officials "view the spread of the receivers as an effort to get around strict gun-control laws, particularly in California," but "also acknowledge that they have no idea how many of the components have been made and sold."

NEXT GM SENATE HEARING EXPECTED AFTER COMPANY COMPLETES INVESTIGATION. [Reuters](#) (5/14) reports that the next round of hearings on GM's delayed ignition recalls will likely come after the company completes its internal probe, according to a Senate aide. The investigation is expected to be completed later this month. A House aide said that it has not yet set a date for its next hearing.

POLL FINDS LITTLE SUPPORT FOR EMANUEL OR HIS PROPERTY TAX HIKE. The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (5/14, Spielman, 1.1M) reports that Chicago aldermen say winning City Council approval for a \$350 million property tax increase has become "infinitely more difficult" for Mayor Rah Emanuel in the wake of a Sun-Times poll showing that only one percent of Chicagoans support the tax increase "as a solution to the city's pension crisis," and Emanuel's has the support of "a mere 29 percent support of likely Chicago voters." The Sun-Times notes that the poll gives aldermen "a tangible reason to fear political fall-out from a property tax increase," and "fewer reasons to fear retribution" from the mayor.

PROTESTS OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS RAISING FREE SPEECH CONCERNS. The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (5/14, Paulson, 566K) reports that decisions by both IMF director Christine Lagarde and Robert Birgeneau, former head of the University of California, Berkeley, "to withdraw as planned commencement speakers are only the latest in a rash of controversies this commencement season." Other high-profile figures have also either been "disinvited from speaking or withdrew in the face of significant student protest." It is a "trend that some believe is growing, and that many observers worry is shifting college campuses away from being a free marketplace of ideas."

Meanwhile, the [New York Times](#) (5/14, Pérez-Peña, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that on Tuesday, Haverford College "joined a growing list of schools to lose commencement speakers to protests from the left," when Birgeneau

“withdrew from this weekend’s event.” The Times adds that “some students and faculty members” objected “to the invitation to Mr. Birgeneau to speak and receive an honorary degree because, under him, the University of California police used batons to break up an Occupy protest in 2011.”

MILITARY TAKING ON JUST ONE-FIFTH OF APPLICANTS. The [Washington Times](#) (5/14, Ernst, 455K) reports that today, the US military “is only taking 20 percent of the applicants who walk into their local recruiter’s office intent on enlisting in the armed services.” The Army “hopes to hit 57,000 recruits for active duty this year. It’s on pace to do just that, even while applying a stricter set of standards as it pertains to physical fitness, appearance (i.e., tattoos), intelligence test results and an applicant’s criminal history.” The “tough environment for potential recruits” is mainly due to “troop reductions in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as the Pentagon’s plans to cut the size of the active duty Army.”

CALIFORNIA FACES EXTREME FIRE DANGER AMID HIGH WINDS, DROUGHT, HEAT WAVE. [ABC World News](#) (5/13, story 2, 1:40, Sawyer) reported that Californians are “under a red flag warning about the drought, low humidity and the wind and a choking heat wave.” ABC (Vega) added that amid “extremely dry conditions, triple digit temperature and heavy winds, California is bracing for danger.” With winds “expected to reach 50 mph,” red flag warnings are “in effect for more than 15 million people.”

INMATE SAYS JACKSON DOING A “FASTIDIOUS JOB” SCRUBBING TOILETS IN PRISON. The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (5/14, 1.1M) reported that an inmate who served time with former Rep. Jesse Jackson, says in a letter that the former lawmaker “is doing a ‘fastidious job’ scrubbing toilets, showers, and sinks.” The inmate, former Pennsylvania attorney John Karoly, wrote, “He’s doing a fastidious job — a toothbrush doing wonders on a clogged drain... I later learn the inmate considers this a part of his personal penance. ... But no matter how hard he scrubs, he later tells me that it doesn’t wipe his slate clean. He has embarrassed himself, his family name, and all those who counted on him to be different. Like the rest of us, he yearns for the forgiveness that has eluded him.”

BONAMICI INTRODUCES BILL TO CUT AGENCY REPORTS. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Fahrenthold, 4.22M) reports that Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D) “has introduced a bill to fix a problem that Congress itself created — an expensive pileup of written reports from federal agencies, many of them unnecessary and unread.” Her bill, which she wrote after reading about the problem in Sunday’s Washington Post, would, every five years, “get rid of almost all the reports and start over.”

STERLING COMMENTS ON JOHNSON, AIDS SEEN AS COMPOUNDING HIS PROBLEMS. All three network news broadcasts covered LA Clippers owner’s comments during an interview with CNN, in which he lashed out at Magic Johnson. All three were in agreement that Sterling’s comments only served to make his situation worse.

[ABC World News](#) (5/13, story 3, 1:50, Sawyer) reported that LA Clippers owner Donald Sterling “compounded his racist comments with a random assault on Magic Johnson.” ABC (Smith) added that Johnson “was one of the first to call for the NBA to ban Sterling after his racist rant.” On Monday, “Sterling was on CNN lashing out at the basketball legend.” Sterling: “What kind of guy goes over to every city and has sex with every girl and catches HIV? Is that someone we want to respect and tell our kids about? I say he should be ashamed of himself. ... What has he done? Can you tell me? Big Magic Johnson. What has he done? He’s got AIDS. Did he do any business? Did he help anybody in south LA?” ABC added that Johnson “seemed outraged at Sterling’s claim he’s done nothing to help people.” Johnson: “My whole life is dedicated to urban America, so I just wish he knew the facts when he’s talking.”

The [CBS Evening News](#) (5/13, story 7, 1:50, Pelley, 5.08M) reported that Sterling “may have made things worse” with the interview. CBS (Tracy) added that while Johnson “said he’d rather focus on the play-offs than Donald Sterling’s comments,” he “did directly respond to Sterling’s allegations that Magic Johnson has not helped black Americans.” Johnson: “My whole life is devoted to urban youth so, you know, I just wish he knew the facts when he’s talking but he’s a man who’s upset and he’s reaching. ... He’s trying to find something he can grab on to, to help him save his team, and it’s not going to happen. And, again, I’m going to pray for the man because even if I see him today, I’m going to say hello to — hello to Donald, and his wife as well. I’m not a guy who holds grudges and all that. Yes, am I upset, of course. But at the same time, I’m a God-fearing man. I’m going to pray for him and hope things work out for him.”

[NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, story 3, 2:50, Williams, 7.86M) reported that as Sterling tries “desperately” to “hang on to his team,” his comments about Johnson and AIDS have him “in more trouble.” Meanwhile, his wife is “speaking out in a new interview...reacting to her husband’s comments.” NBC (Guthrie) added that in the “puzzling” interview, Sterling “dug the hole deeper,” offering “extended criticism of NBA legend Magic Johnson.” Sterling’s estranged wife Shelly said of the interview, “He’s not the man I know or I knew. There’s something wrong. ... I really think personally he has dementia because I can’t believe anybody would answer questions like that.”

DICK, LYNNE CHENEY LAUNCH TOUR TO PROMOTE BOOK ON MADISON. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Roberts, 4.22M) reports that former Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife Lynne kicked off a tour to promote Mrs. Cheney’s new book on James Madison with an event at the American Enterprise Institute. The Cheneys are “scheduled to appear together at several book signings, including at the Nixon and Reagan presidential libraries, next week.”

DOWD: BOEHNER ON FUNDRAISING TOUR TO PROTECT GOP MAJORITY. In her column for the [New York Times](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 9.65M), Maureen Dowd writes that House Speaker Boehner is on a fundraising tour “to ensure that Republicans keep the House in November and he keeps his job.” Describing Boehner as the “G.O.P.’s Dean Martin,” Dowd notes some of the jokes offered by the Speaker during a golf outing with donors.

WSJOURNAL: MICHIGAN UNION MEMBERSHIP LIKELY TO DECLINE WITH RIGHT-TO-WORK LAW. In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) notes that membership in Michigan’s SEIU Healthcare affiliate declined after state lawmakers passed a law excluding home-care workers from the state’s definition of public employees and opines that union membership in the state will similarly decline since Michigan’s passage of a right-to-work law in 2012.

WSJOURNAL: ALLOW MERGER DECISIONS TO BE BASED ON BUSINESS INTERESTS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) editorializes that decisions regarding mergers should be left to shareholders and directors, who know the business, rather than governments and politicians.

International News:

US BEGINS DRONE FLIGHTS AS NIGERIA SIGNALS OPENNESS TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH BOKO HARAM. [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, story 4, 2:15, Williams, 7.86M) reported that a “US military Global Hawk drone flew its first surveillance mission over Nigeria today in the search for hundreds of kidnapped school girls.” Also Tuesday, the Nigerian government said that it “might negotiate with the terrorists.”

Hamish MacDonald reported on [ABC World News](#) (5/13, story 4, 1:35, Sawyer) that US forces “are peering down tonight from surveillance craft,” examining “a remote and rugged area the size of New England, in search of the missing girls. The plane is equipped with powerful cameras that give real time images of the ground as far away as 35,000 feet.” The plane “can also monitor phone calls below. Tonight, ABC News has learned a long-range US drone has also joined the search.”

On the [CBS Evening News](#) (5/13, story 2:20, Pelley, 5.08M), Debora Patta also reported on the US drone flight and noted that the Nigerian government “appears to be changing its minds on negotiating with Boko Haram. Yesterday, they said they wouldn’t talk. Today, the minister of special duties said they might. Exchanging the girls for Boko Haram prisoners seems to be a possible bargaining chip.”

The [AP](#) (5/14, Adigun, Umar) too says a “Nigerian government official” said “all options” are on the table, including negotiations or “a possible military operation with foreign help.” Meanwhile, Africom Commander Gen. David Rodriguez was in Abuja on Tuesday for talks with officials at the US Embassy.

Minister of Special Duties Tanimu Turaki told [Reuters](#) (5/14, Onuah) by telephone, “The window of negotiation is still open.”

But the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Gearan, 4.22M) reports the White House yesterday voiced its “opposition to any offer of ransom or other concessions.” Press Secretary Jay Carney said, “We, as a matter of policy, deny kidnapers the benefits of their criminal acts, and that includes ransoms or other concessions.” He acknowledged, however, that the Nigerian government is leading the search effort.

In a report titled “Doubts Emerge On Pace Of Nigerian Search,” the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Vogt, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports that officials in the Nigerian state of Borno where the girls were taken said Tuesday that no troops have arrived yet to search the Sambisa Forest, where Boko Haram is widely believed to be hiding them.

Sen. John McCain, [McClatchy](#) (5/14, Douglas, Subscription Publication, 23K) reports, said Tuesday that the US should send troops to rescue the girls, “even if it means doing so without permission from the Nigerian government.” Said the senator, “I wouldn’t be waiting for some kind of permission from some guy named Goodluck Jonathan.”

On its front page this morning, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, A1, Hinshaw, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) profiles Boko Haram’s leader, Abubakar Shekau, who it says had become Africa’s most notorious terrorist.

First Lady’s “Headline-Grabbing” Condemnation Of Nigerian Kidnappings Noted. [Politico](#) (5/13, Epstein, 73K) reports that the Administration’s “most headline-grabbing public condemnation” of the kidnapping of Nigerian school girls came from First Lady Michelle Obama. Politico notes the involvement by the First Lady is “unusual,” because she “selects her causes carefully” and has “never waded into a truly heated, foreign policy issue before,” and sourced indicated the “decision to act was her own.” Politico says “if the saga ends in tragedy,” the First Lady’s involvement could “have attracted more attention to another instance” when President Obama “failed to stop” human rights violations.

Jon Stewart Blasts Limbaugh’s Reaction To Social Media Campaign. [Politico](#) (5/13, Topaz, 73K) reports Comedy Central’s Jon Stewart “criticized” Rush Limbaugh for “his dismissal of the social media campaign that has expressed outrage” at the kidnappings. During the past week, Limbaugh “has railed against the Twitter campaign,” and “singled out”

the First Lady's photo holding a sign that read #BringBackOurGirls as "pathetic." Stewart said "hashtag activism...cannot force a crazy person to do something, but it can shame a less crazy person into not doing nothing."

Milbank: Conservatives Seek To Blame Hillary Clinton. In a [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Milbank, 4.22M) column, Dana Milbank argues that "conservatives have reached the firm conclusion that Hillary Clinton is to blame" for the kidnappings, but "all they have to do now is fill in the details." Milbank says the push to blame Clinton is "worth examining, because it shows how a scandal is born."

WPost, USA Today Weigh In On Nigerian Girls. The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M) editorializes that the "social media campaign in support" of the kidnapped children "is producing results." The Post notes Nigeria "has been shamed into accepting" international help in the search and Boko Haram has "shifted from a vow to sell off the girls" to a "proposal to trade them for prisoners." The Post says the US should use this incident to "alter Nigeria's self-defeating response" to Boko Haram.

[USA Today](#) (5/14, Board, 5.82M) editorializes that "educating girls is one of the least expensive and most effective ways to change" a country, but "in parts of the world this is seen not as progress but as a problem." USA Today says "educated girls become more independent and less subservient," making them a threat to "violent, ultraconservative religious groups." According to USA Today, the "war on terrorism will ultimately have to be won one schoolgirl's mind at a time."

KERRY REMAINS HOPEFUL FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE DEAL. In an interview Tuesday with the [Boston Globe](#) (5/14, Viser, 1.62M), Secretary of State Kerry "said...he holds out hope that peace talks can be revived between the Israelis and Palestinians." Said Kerry, "There's always hope. There's always hope. In the Middle East, the efforts to make peace don't end. They take a different shape or they take a different form." During talks Thursday in London with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Kerry "said he was not planning to make any specific offer, and he would not detail what he will ask of the Palestinian leader." Asked whether talks could continue if Abbas forms a unity government with Hamas, Kerry said Hamas would have to take steps, such as renouncing violence and recognizing Israel's right to exist.

Palestinians Begin Talks On Forming Unity Government. [Reuters](#) (5/14, Al-Mughrabi), meanwhile, reports that officials from Fatah and Hamas met in Gaza on Tuesday to discuss the formation of a unity government.

Survey: 26% Of Adults Worldwide Hold Anti-Semitic Views. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Gladstone, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that a survey by the Anti-Defamation League found that 26 percent "of all adults worldwide harbor anti-Semitic attitudes and nearly half have never heard of the Holocaust." the League described the survey as an "unprecedented and sobering" global assessment of "the level and intensity of hostility toward Jews." According to the survey, the "highest concentration of anti-Semitic attitudes was found in the Middle East and North Africa...led by the West Bank and Gaza, where 93 percent of respondents held such views, followed by Iraq at 92 percent, Yemen at 88 percent and Algeria at 87 percent."

Former Israeli Prime Minister Olmert Sentenced To Prison. [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/13, story 6, 0:35, Williams, 7.86M) reported that former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert "was sentenced to six years today for accepting bribes in a real estate scam before he became prime minister. At sentencing today in Israel the judge said quote, 'A public servant who accepts bribes is akin to a traitor.'"

The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Eglash, 4.22M) reports the charges were the result of actions when Olmert was mayor of Jerusalem. The Post notes this is the "first time such a high-level Israeli official has been found guilty of a breach-of-trust crime." Israeli President Shimon Peres said, "This is a sad day for me personally. But this is the legal process which is custom in democratic states."

US, IRANIANS WARN OF CHALLENGES AHEAD AS NUCLEAR TALKS RESUME. [AFP](#) (5/14, Sturdee) reports US and Iranian officials in Vienna for a fourth round of nuclear talks "cautioned Tuesday that there was still hard work to be done before a final deal can be reached." Arriving in Vienna for talks, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said "a lot of effort" was still needed. A "senior US official" too said that the talks would be "very, very difficult." The official added, "There are a range of complicated issues to address and we do not know if Iran will be able to make the tough decisions they must to assure the world that they will not obtain a nuclear weapon and that their program is for entirely peaceful purposes."

[Reuters](#) (5/14, Charbonneau, Dahl) notes that officials will begin drafting a final agreement this week.

HAGEL ARRIVES IN SAUDI ARABIA FOR TALKS ON IRAN, SYRIA. [AFP](#) (5/14) reports Defense Secretary Hagel arrived Tuesday in Saudi Arabia, the first stop on a "regional tour focusing on Iran's nuclear program and Syria's civil war." In addition to talks with Saudi officials, Hagel will also attend a Gulf Cooperation Council defense ministers meeting before traveling to Jordan and Israel.

Also noting Hagel's arrival in Saudi Arabia, the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Sly, Londoño, 4.22M) reports the kingdom said

yesterday that it has invited Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif to visit Riyadh, “breaking the ice in one of the most hostile relationships in the Middle East.” Speaking to reporters, Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal “said the kingdom was ready to host...Zarif ‘anytime he sees fit’ and indicated that Riyadh is willing to open negotiations” with Tehran “to make the region as safe as possible.” Speaking to reporters in Washington, Secretary of State **Kerry** said the US “played no role in the Saudi invitation,” but that “we encourage it, we welcome it.”

KERRY, NEW REPORT LINK CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATIONAL SECURITY. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Davenport, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports that a study released Tuesday by the Center for Naval Analyses Military Advisory Board warned that the “accelerating rate of climate change poses a severe risk to national security and acts as a catalyst for global political conflict.” In an interview, Secretary of State Kerry, who is expected to deliver a “major” speech this summer of the topic, “signaled that the report’s findings would influence American foreign policy.” Said **Kerry**, “Tribes are killing each other over water today. Think of what happens if you have massive dislocation, or the drying up of the waters of the Nile, of the major rivers in China and India. The intelligence community takes it seriously, and it’s translated into action.” He also said the Administration is “going to try to lay out to people legitimate options for action that are not bank-breaking or negative.”

CHINA CRITICIZES US, KERRY FOR ROLE IN SOUTH CHINA SEA CONFLICT. [Reuters](#) (5/14) reports China responded on Tuesday to Secretary of State Kerry’s characterization of its moves in the South China Sea as “provocative,” by blaming the US for the rising tensions in the disputed territory. The Chinese Foreign Ministry said other parties, rather than China, are taking provocative actions and the US is encouraging the actions. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said, “We hope the US side can carefully reflect...what kind of role do they actually want to play?” Hua said China urges Kerry to “objectively and fairly” examine the issue and “act and speak cautiously.”

In a separate story, [Reuters](#) (5/14, Mogato) reports the Philippines on Wednesday accused China of claiming land on a reef in the disputed Spratly Islands, with the intent of building an airstrip. Reuters notes it would be the first airstrip built by China on any of the land it occupies on the islands. Philippine Foreign Ministry spokesman Charles Jose said China began initial preparations for the project.

Kerry, Lew Expected To Participate In China Talks. [AFP](#) (5/14) reports China and the US “will hold annual strategic talks” in July, according to US officials. The sixth US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue will occur in Beijing. Secretary of State Kerry and Treasury Secretary Lew are “expected to attend.” In a statement, the Treasury Department said the talks will focus on a “wide range” of areas of “immediate and long-term economic and strategic interest.”

Lew Pushes China To Let Market Determine Exchange Rate. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Perlez, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports Treasury Secretary Lew “pushed China on Tuesday to let market forces decide its exchange rate,” and also asked China not to help Russia circumvent sanctions over their actions in Ukraine. In comments to Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang, **Lew** said a market-controlled rate “will help provide for more balanced domestic growth, and global trade.” **Lew** said he discussed with China “the impact our sanctions are having and the importance that they are not offset by others’ coming in.”

Report Shows Negative Quarter For Chinese Manufacturing, Property. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Maginer, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports newly released data indicates a negative first quarter of the year for Chinese manufacturing and property. The Journal notes home sales decreased, leading to an impact on manufacturing and retail.

The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Bradsher, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports “prices are falling” for Chinese apartments, the “volume of deals is drying up,” and “developers are pulling back.” The Times notes “housing starts plummeted 25 percent in April from a year ago.” The impact of the decreasing real estate market has “broad consequences for the country’s economy and possibly its politics,” according to the Times.

US SANCTIONS FIVE FORMER CAR OFFICIALS. [Reuters](#) (5/14, Rampton) reports the US on Tuesday imposed sanctions on former Central African Republic President François Bozizé and four other former officials tied to violence and human rights abuses in the country. Also among those sanctioned was former interim president Michel Djotodia. [AFP](#) (5/14) reports in addition to Bozize and Djotodia, the US targeted “the leader of the anti-Balaka militia, Levy Yakete; the Seleka militia’s number two Nourredine Adam; and Abdoulaye Miskine, also of the Seleka.”

The [AP](#) (5/14) says the move signals a “stepp[ed] up” US response to the crisis in CAR. In an executive order, President Obama declared a national emergency and “said a breakdown of law and order, widespread atrocities and forced use of child soldiers threatens security in the Central African Republic as well as in neighboring nations.”

CLAPPER ARRIVES IN SOUTH KOREA. [Yonhap](#) (5/14, 441) reports Director of National Intelligence James Clapper arrived in South Korea on Tuesday for discussions about “security issues, including North Korea’s nuclear programs.” A South Korea military source said the visit “is mainly to discuss the situation on the Korean Peninsula,” and the sides “are expected to exchange intelligence.”

North Korea Threatens To "Wipe Out" South Korea. The [AP](#) (5/14, Kim) reports North Korea threatened on Tuesday to "wipe out" South Korea in a "furious response" to South Korean Defense Ministry spokesman Kim Min-seok saying the North is not a "real country and existed for the benefit of only one person." North Korea's National Defense Commission said the comments by the South were an "intolerable" provocation that showed the South wants to take over the North."

ATTACK ON TWO US EMBASSY EMPLOYEES IN SANA'A RAISES SECURITY CONCERNS. On [CNN's Situation Room](#) (5/13, 554K), Mohammed Jamjoom reported on a recent "brazen attack in which al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula tried to kidnap two US Embassy employees," noting that the two Americans were at a local barbershop in Sana'a "when gunmen attacked them. Had one of the Americans not been carrying a gun, they may not have survived." The incident "is still raising questions. Why would US Embassy employees – more a target for terrorists than ever before in Yemen – break security protocol and venture out of their heavily secured compound for a haircut? Why would a simple State Department employee have a permit to carry a gun?" Jamjoom added that sources in Yemen are "are concerned that if it is revealed that these may have been CIA agents or special operations officers in Yemen, that that could cause a lot more questions by the Yemenis and cause Americans in Yemen be more of a target."

ICC: LIBYA MUST HAND OVER GADHAFI'S SON. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda told the UN Security Council Tuesday that Libya must surrender Moammar Gadhafi's son, Seif al-Islam, to the court, "despite its appeal of the handover and legal proceedings under way in Libya." Bensouda told the Council it was "a source of great concern" that Libya did not immediately hand over Seif al-Islam "as it was required to do following a ruling by pre-trial judges last year."

Jordanian Ambassador Freed By Libyan Kidnappers. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Sweis, Fahim, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports Jordan's ambassador to Libya, Fawaz al-Itan, was freed Tuesday after being kidnapped in Tripoli last month. According to Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh, Itan's captors "had ties" to Libyan Mohamed el-Dressi, "who was convicted in 2007 of plotting to blow up Jordan's main international airport," but "did not specify what those ties were."

CUBA TO RESUME SOME PASSPORT SERVICES IN WASHINGTON. [AFP](#) (5/14) reports the Cuban Interests Section in Washington said it will "begin renewing some citizens' expired passports" after halting services in February because it is "unable to find a US bank able to handle its finances." The consulate said it will resume renewing passports "that have expired or are about to expire" for people with trips to Cuba before Aug. 31.

SUDANESE COURT: WOMAN MUST RETURN TO ISLAM OR FACE DEATH PENALTY. [Reuters](#) (5/14) reports a Sudanese court threatened to sentence a woman to death unless she returns to Islam after converting to Christianity. Mariam Yahya Ibrahim was charged with apostasy and adultery, for marrying a Christian man. The court ordered Ibrahim to make a decision by Thursday in the first case of its kind in Sudan.

US BELIEVES THAI COUP IS UNLIKELY. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports senior Defense Department official Amy Searight said the US is "reasonably confident" the Thai military will not engage in a coup, although "analysts warned the nation's political crisis could trigger armed conflict." Searight said, "At this point in time we don't have reason to expect that the Thai military will change their current stance," which is to not intervene. The senior diplomat for Southeast Asia Scot Marciel said the crisis is "not something that foreigners can come in and magically fix. It has to be a Thai solution." Marciel added while the US does not have plans to intervene, the process of reaching a solution should be "constitutional and democratic."

URUGUAYAN PRISONER GAINS ACCESS TO US AMBASSADOR'S CELLPHONE MESSAGES. The [AP](#) (5/14) reports a prisoner in Uruguay "tapped into" Ambassador Julissa Reynoso's cellphone "and sent messages to some of her contacts in an attempt to commit a still undisclosed fraud." The prisoner gamed access to Reynoso's "voice mail password" and "voice messages." Uruguayan President Jose Mujica told Canal 10 TV that the prisoner "got access to some messages left by some of my friends. And he was able to...send certain messages from prison to some of my contacts."

KERRY TO VISIT CYPRUS AMID PEACE PUSH. [AFP](#) (5/14) reports Secretary of State Kerry is "planning to dip his toes into yet another of the world's intractable conflicts, announcing Tuesday he will visit Cyprus in the coming weeks." After talks in Washington with Cypriot Foreign Minister Ioannis Kasoulides, Kerry "praised" the island's current Greek Cypriot leadership for trying to reach a "long sought-after resolution" and said the US is "very supportive" of UN-led peace talks. AFP notes Vice President Biden is to visit Cyprus later this month "as part of efforts to find ways to counter what Washington sees as Russia's destabilizing actions in Ukraine."

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: TUNISIAN PROTESTS ILLUSTRATE CITIZEN'S REMAINING FRUSTRATIONS. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Gall, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports "protests have idled the phosphate mines" in the Tunisian towns of Moulares and Redeyef for most of the past three years. The Times notes "citizens regularly block roads and burn tires," and police and government officials "are barely tolerated." According to the Times, the complaints have endured since the overthrow of former President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali in 2011 and "point to what many here see as the unfinished business of their revolution, and...the failure to meet the aspirations of a youthful population." Protest leader Tarek Halimi said, "The revolution lost its way...because the demands were mainly social and economic."

COURT RULES GOOGLE MUST COMPLY WITH EU'S PRIVACY LAWS. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Kanter, Scott, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) reports the EU's high court ruled on Tuesday that "Google must grant users of its search engine a right to delete links themselves in some cases." The Times notes the European Court of Justice's decision "is a blow for Google, which has sought to avoid the obligation to remove links when requested by European users." The Times says that "by ruling that an Internet company...must comply with European privacy laws" in the EU, the court is "indicating that such companies must operate in a fundamentally different way" than they do in the US.

The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, Timberg, Birnbaum, 4.22M) reports the ruling "startled America's tech industry" and "has potentially wide-ranging consequences." The court said Google's search engine does not serve a "journalistic purpose," but rather "processing personal data," and because "of the massive distribution power of the Internet," it threatens "fundamental rights to privacy." The case "grew from the frustrations of a Spanish man unhappy that searches of his name featured links to a tax problem from 1998," and focused on the legal question of "whether the public's right to know outweighed a private citizen's desire to leave behind unpleasant personal history," otherwise known in Europe as "the right to be forgotten."

The [AP](#) (5/14, Sterling) reports Google issued a statement saying, "This is a disappointing ruling for search engines and online publishers in general." The AP notes the court "provided little guidance on exactly how" to implement the ruling.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Robinson, Schechner, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) reports the court's ruling was unexpected, because it contradicted an earlier ruling that said search engines are not responsible for personal data that is found when a user is searching the Internet for information.

[USA Today](#) (5/14, Hjelmgard, 5.82M) reports Trevor Hughes, of the International Association of Privacy Professionals, said the ruling is "groundbreaking," because, "Individuals now have the ability to...go in with a virtual black marker and redact their names."

NYTimes: Ruling Has Potential To Undermine Free Speech. The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) editorializes the ruling "could undermine press freedoms and free speech," as it means Internet search companies "could be forced to remove links even if the information" is "accurate and lawful." The Times says while "the desire to allow individuals to erase data they no longer wish to disclose is understandable...lawmakers should not create a right so powerful" that it acts to "limit press freedoms or allow individuals to demand that lawful information...be hidden."

TURKISH COAL MINE EXPLOSION LEADS TO CONFUSION ABOUT HOW MANY KILLED. The [CBS Evening News](#) (5/13, story 3, 1:05, Pelley, 5.08M) reported, "Scores are dead after an explosion and fire" at a Syrian coal mine. CBS (Williams) added "the local mayor is saying tonight that 157 minors have died in this explosion, in this disaster," but "the Turkish government so far is saying only that 17 men have lost their lives...They're saying that around 200 miners are still trapped. Other people...put the figure at 400 or 600 and the reason for that confusion seems to be" the explosion "occurred during a change in shift at the mine."

AFPC's Berman: US Ties With Turkey Are "On The Downswing." In a [USA Today](#) (5/14, Berman, 5.82M) op-ed, the vice president of the American Foreign Policy Council, Ilan Berman argues that US ties with Turkey "are unmistakably on the downswing" because of issues that "promise to keep the once-vibrant relationship at a low ebb...for the foreseeable future." USA Today notes that America's "receding strategic footprint in the Middle East," a difference in opinion regarding the Syrian civil war, and Turkey's "uncertain role in NATO," all contribute to the worsening relationship.

FRIEDMAN: "NEW GLOBAL FORCE" EMERGING FOR LIBERTY, ECONOMIC JUSTICE. In a [New York Times](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) column, Thomas Friedman argues that "a new global force" is being created. "The Square People," according to Friedman, are "mostly young, aspiring to a higher standard of living and more liberty...connected to one another either by massing in squares or through virtual squares or both."

MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER DEFENDS EFFORTS TO FIND MISSING PLANE. In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 5.51M), Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak defends Malaysia's efforts to find Malaysia Airlines flight 370, arguing that while it did not do everything right, history will show Malaysia did its best under very difficult circumstances.

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. "Ordering Google To Forget." The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) editorializes that a ruling by the EU's high court that Google must allow users to delete links to personal information about themselves "could undermine press freedoms and free speech," as it means Internet search companies "could be forced to remove links even if the information" is "accurate and lawful." The Times says while "the desire to allow individuals to erase data they no longer wish to disclose is understandable...lawmakers should not create a right so powerful" that it acts to "limit press freedoms or allow individuals to demand that lawful information...be hidden."

“A Call For Justice For Syrians” The [New York Times](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 9.65M) editorializes that a decision to “refer Syria to the International Criminal Court (ICC) for possible prosecution of war crimes,” will not end the civil war, but it “would underscore the world’s revulsion at atrocities by both sides.” The Times says “there is ample justification for an investigation,” but “there is no reason to believe Russia....or China will back the referral.”

“Common Sense At The Library.”

WASHINGTON POST. “Rescue The Girls.” The [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M) editorializes that the “social media campaign in support” of the kidnapped children “is producing results.” The Post notes Nigeria “has been shamed into accepting” international help in the search and Boko Haram has “shifted from a vow to sell off the girls” to a “proposal to trade them for prisoners.” The Post says the US should use this incident to “alter Nigeria’s self-defeating response” to Boko Haram.

“The Fannie-Freddie Status Quo.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M) says that reducing the Federal role in the housing market “is not a radical free-market notion,” but in fact has enjoyed support from within the Obama Administration in the past. However, Watt’s announcement is a “victory for defenders of the status quo.” The big winners, the Post says, “ironically, may be not the poor and the ‘underserved,’ but a group of giant hedge funds that snapped up millions of beaten-down Fannie and Freddie shares after the government bailout, and are now lobbying Congress — as well as suing in federal court — for a return to private ownership.” The Post says that the bailout of the GSEs will now “pave the way for a colossal windfall for bottom-feeding Wall Street types.”

“Protecting Abortion Access.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (5/14, 4.22M) approves of Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe’s (D) move to “roll back absurd, baldly political rules imposed on the state’s abortion clinics with the transparent purpose of forcing many of them to close.” The “maneuver may mean a reprieve for as many as half” of the 18 remaining clinics, which are “the only convenient option for thousands of women who seek abortions each year.”

WALL STREET JOURNAL. “Harry Reid’s Senate Blockade.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 5.51M), in an editorial blames Senate Majority Leader Reid for the demise of the Shaheen-Portman energy efficiency bill, and contends that his refusal to allow votes on amendments is attributable to his alliance with the White House. According to the Journal, the White House is fearful that centrist Democrats will join with Republicans to approve the Keystone project and roll back EPA regulations on coal plants.

“Pfizer And The Protectionists.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) editorializes that decisions regarding mergers should be left to shareholders and directors, who know the business, rather than governments and politicians.

“Michigan Union Collapse.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/14, Subscription Publication, 5.51M) notes that membership in Michigan’s SEIU Healthcare affiliate declined after state lawmakers passed a law excluding home-care workers from the state’s definition of public employees and opines that union membership in the state will similarly decline since Michigan’s passage of a right-to-work law in 2012.

The Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY’S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:

[US Backs Off Tight Mortgage Rules](#)
[EU Ruling On Google Could Tip Balance In Privacy Fight](#)
[Nigerian Militant Raises Profile Through Terror](#)
[Tech Firms’ Cash Piles Cool Fears of Meltdown](#)

New York Times:

[The 9/11 Story Told At Bedrock, Powerful As Punch To The Gut](#)
[Small Comfort As Parents See Girls On Video](#)
[European Court Lets Users Erase Records On Web](#)
[Girding For A Fight, McConnell Enlists His Wife](#)
[Ex-Israel Leader Is Given 6 Years In Bribery Case](#)
[After Booker, Newark’s Voters Choose New Mayor And A New Path](#)

Washington Post:

[Gun Part, Sold Separately, Lets Some Get Around Laws](#)
[Ruling In E.U. May Roil The Web](#)
[A Heart-Rending Homecoming](#)

[Tea Party Aftertaste Is Bitter For Cantor](#)
[In Shift, A Reprieve For Fannie And Freddie](#)

Financial Times:

[Pfizer Admits Astra Deal Would Mean Cuts](#)
[Web Groups Set For Flood Of Data Requests](#)
[Bloomberg Ally Revives NY Olympic Pitch](#)
[US Prosecutors Push For \\$3.5bn BNP Fine](#)
[Goldman's Twitter Banker Joins Hedge Fund](#)
[Clock Ticking On Google's Driverless Cars](#)
[Frontier Markets Storm Ahead](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: MERS Virus; California Drought; Donald Sterling Scandal; Nigeria-Kidnapped Girls; Medal Of Honor; American Debt.

CBS: Stock Market Rally; Veterans Affairs Scandal; Air Traffic Disaster; Turkey-Coal Mine Disaster; West Virginia-Coal Mine Explosion; Nigeria-Kidnapped Girls; Donald Sterling; Tennessee-Free Community College Tuition Proposal; MERS Virus; Medal Of Honor.

NBC: MERS Virus; Severe Weather; Air Traffic; Donald Sterling Scandal; Nigeria-Kidnapped Girls; Ukraine Conflict; Former Israeli Leader Sentenced To Prison; Medal Of Honor; Political Attacks; Russian Economic Sanctions-ISS; Michigan Democratic Primary.

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Nebraska-Republican Primary Results; Turkey-Coal Mine Disaster; California-San Diego Wildfire; California-Heat Wave; Idaho-Same-Sex Marriage Ban;

CBS: California-San Diego Wildfire; California-Heat Wave; California-Santa Barbara Wildfire; Report-Winter Flight Cancellations; Chicago Airports Temporarily Shut Down; Donald Sterling Scandal; Idaho-Same-Sex Marriage Ban' Stock Market Rally.

FOX: California-San Diego Wildfire; California-Santa Barbara Wildfire; Pentagon-Chelsea Manning Relocation; MERS Virus; Sports-NBA Playoffs.

NPR: California-San Diego Wildfire; California-Santa Barbara Wildfire; Russian Economic Sanctions-ISS; Syria Diplomat Resigns; Vietnam-Violent Protests; Nebraska-Republican Primary Results; West Virginia-Democratic Primary Results; New Jersey-Newark Mayoral Election Results; Kentucky-Soldiers Pleads Guilty To Fraud; Turkey-Coal Mine Disaster.

Washington's Schedule:

TODAY'S EVENTS IN WASHINGTON.

White House:

PRESIDENT OBAMA — Receives the Presidential Daily Briefing, Oval Office, closed press; depart the White House en route Joint Base Andrews; arrives in New York; delivers remarks on Infrastructure; attends a DNC event; delivers remarks and answers questions at a DSCC Event.

VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN — Attends the Presidential Daily Briefing in the Oval Office; meets with President Ivo Josipovic of Croatia at the White House, closed press; travels to Cleveland, Ohio; delivers remarks on infrastructure investment at the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Rail Complex.

US Senate: 9:30 a.m. — The Senate will convene and resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R.3474, the legislative vehicle for the Tax Extenders bill.

9:30 a.m. **RULES AND ADMINISTRATION** — Hearings to examine a collection, analysis and use of elections data, focusing on a measured approach to improving election administration. http://www.rules.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=CommitteeHearings&ContentRecord_id=c17675b3-00a6-4ef4-9282-73682b7e703b&ContentType_id14f995b9-dfa5-407a-9d35-56cc7152a7ed&Group_id1983a2a8-4fc3-4062-a50e-7997351c154b Location: 301 Russell.

10 a.m. **APPROPRIATIONS** — Defense Subcommittee, "Defense Research and Innovation." Witnesses: Alan Shaffer, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, Department of Defense; Arati Prabhakar, PhD, Director, DARPA, Department of Defense; David Walker, PhD, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Science, Technology, and Engineering, U.S. Air Force; Rear Admiral Matthew L. Klunder, Chief of Naval Research, U.S. Navy; Mary Miller, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Army for Research and Technology, U.S. Army; Terry Rauch, PhD, Director, Medical Research for the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense.

<http://www.appropriations.senate.gov/event/defense-subcommittee-defense-research-and-innovation> Location: 192 Dirksen.

10 a.m. **ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS** — Full Committee Hearing Entitled: "Nuclear Reactor Decommissioning:

Stakeholder Views.” Witnesses: Panel 1: Michael F. Weber, Deputy Executive Director for Operations Materials, Waste, Research, State, Tribal, and Compliance Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Don Mosier, Council Member, City of Del Mar, CA; Christopher Recchia, Commissioner, Vermont Public Service Department; Geoffrey H. Fettus, Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council; Marvin S. Fertel, President & Chief Executive Officer, Nuclear Energy Institute. http://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Hearing&Hearing_id=9db54d8c-c13f-e2da-d153-defb9e6bee55&CFID127411300&CFTOKEN73295270 Location: 406 Dirksen.

10 a.m. HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS — Executive Session to consider legislation to expand access to high-quality early learning programs as well as the nomination of Jane Chu to serve as National Endowment for the Arts Chairperson. 1) S.____, the Strong Start for Americas Children Act. 2) Jane Chu, of Missouri, to serve as Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts. 3) Any additional nominations cleared for action. <http://www.help.senate.gov/hearings/hearing/?id=65f69649-5056-a032-5238-b5e6e49b1de5> Location: 430 Dirksen.

10 a.m. HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS — Hearings to examine charting a path forward for the Chemical Facilities Anti-Terrorism Standards Program. Witnesses: Panel I: Suzanne E. Spaulding, Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; David M. Wulf, Director, Infrastructure Security Compliance Division, Office of Infrastructure Protection, National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Stephen L. Caldwell, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office. Panel II: Dana A. Shea, Ph.D., Specialist in Science and Technology Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Anna Fendley, MPH, Legislative Representative, United Steelworkers; Timothy J. Scott, Chief Security Officer, The Dow Chemical Company, Appearing on behalf of Dow and the American Chemistry Council. <http://www.hsgac.senate.gov/hearings/charting-a-path-forward-for-the-chemical-facilities-anti-terrorism-standards-program> Location: 342 Dirksen.

10 a.m. JUDICIARY — Hearing on The Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program: Supporting Law Enforcement Officers When it Matters Most. Witnesses: Officer Ann Carrizales, City of Stafford Police Department, Stafford, TX; Chief Yousry A. Zakhary, President, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Alexandria, VA. <http://www.judiciary.senate.gov/meetings/the-bulletproof-vest-partnership-grant-program-supporting-law-enforcement-officers-when-it-matters-most> Location: 226 Dirksen.

11 a.m. PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS — Background briefing by the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations for their Thursday hearing, “Online Advertising and Hidden Hazards to Consumer Security and Data Privacy,” Contacts: Brian Rogers (McCain) 202-224-7130 Tara Andringa (Levin) 202-228-2685

2 p.m. APPROPRIATIONS — Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee, “Strengthening Oversight and Integrity of the Financial Markets: FY 2015 Resource Needs of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission.” Witnesses: Mary Jo White, Chairman, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; Mark P. Wetjen, Acting Chairman, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission. <http://www.appropriations.senate.gov/event/fsgg-hearing-fy15-sec-and-cftc-budget-requests-0> Location: 138 Dirksen.

2:15 p.m. FINANCE — Hearings to examine the nomination of Sylvia Mathews Burwell, of West Virginia, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services. <http://www.finance.senate.gov/hearings/hearing/?id=db65b16f-5056-a032-52ae-4e20f0977c07> Location: 216 Hart.

2:30 p.m. COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION — Full Committee, “Promoting the Well-Being and Academic Success of College Athletes.” Location: 253 Russell.

2:30 p.m. HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS — Subcommittee on Emergency Management, Intergovernmental Relations, and the District of Columbia hearing on The Role of Mitigation in Reducing Federal Expenditures for Disaster Response. Witnesses: David Miller, Associate Administrator, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Christopher Currie, Director, Emergency Management and National Preparedness Issues, Government Accountability Office; Chad Berginnis, Executive Director, Association of State Floodplain Managers; Robert Detlefson, Vice President of Public Policy, National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies. <http://www.hsgac.senate.gov/subcommittees/emdc/hearings/the-role-of-mitigation-in-reducing-federal-expenditures-for-disaster-response> Location: 342 Dirksen.

2:30 p.m. INDIAN AFFAIRS — An oversight hearing to examine wildfires and forest management, focusing on how prevention is preservation. Witnesses: Panel 1: Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs-U.S. Department of the Interior; James Hubbard, Deputy Chief – State and Private Forestry, Forest Service-U.S. Department of Agriculture. Panel 2: Danny Breuninger Sr., President-Mescalero Apache Nation, Mescalero, NM; Philip Rigdon, President-Intertribal Timber Council, Portland, OR; Jonathan Brooks, Tribal Forest Manager-White Mountain Apache Tribe, White River, AZ; Dr. Adrian Leighton, Chair, Natural Resources Department-Salish Kootenai College, Pablo, MT. <http://www.indian.senate.gov/hearing/oversight-hearing-wildfires-and-forest-management-prevention-preservation> Location: 628 Dirksen.

2:30 p.m. SENATE DRUG CAUCUS — Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control hearing on e prescription drug abuse and the role it plays in the increased use of heroin in the United States, as well as how the federal government can help reduce opioid abuse. Speakers: Michael Botticelli, acting director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy; Dr. Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse; Dr. H. Westley Clark, director of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; Joseph Rannazzisi, deputy assistant administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration; Dr. Andrew Kolodny, chief medical officer of Phoenix House, a nonprofit drug rehabilitation organization. Location: 192 Dirksen.

10 p.m. FOREIGN RELATIONS — Nominations: Panel One Nominees: Mark Sobel of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund for a term of two years; Sunil Sabharwal of California, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund for a term of two years. Panel Two Nominees: Matthew T. McGuire of the District of Columbia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years; Mileydi Guilarte of the District of Columbia, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank.
<http://www.foreign.senate.gov/hearings/nominations/051414> Location: 419 Dirksen.

US House: May 12 – 16. — The House is in District work period for the week.

Other: May 12 – 14. AJC GLOBAL FORUM — The AJC Global Forum is a significant international platform that has been addressed by many presidents, foreign ministers, Members of Congress, and leading public figures. Speaker will include Hillary Clinton. <http://www.cvent.com/events/ajc-global-forum-2014/event-summary-b9bc036a00bc43dca76cf3a7f767225c.aspx?msourceGloFo040114> 10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Closing Plenary Featuring The Honorable John Baird, Foreign Minister of Canada; Hillary Rodham Clinton, Former Secretary of State. Location: Grand Hyatt Washington, D.C., 1000 H Street, NW.

PETERSON FOUNDATION FISCAL SUMMIT — 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The Peter G. Peterson Foundation will convene the 2014 Fiscal Summit: Our Economic Future at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium in Washington, DC. Participants include: President Bill Clinton; New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie; House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi; (2p.m.) Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA), Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee; Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH); Alan Greenspan, Former Chairman of the Federal Reserve; Erskine Bowles, President Emeritus of the University of North Carolina and Co-Chair of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform. http://www.fiscalsummit.org/?_cldee=c3N0aXBpY2V2aWNAcGdwZi5vcmc%3d Location: 1301 Constitution Avenue NW.

AEI – SEN. CORNYN — 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. The consequences of inaction: A conversation with Sen. John Cornyn. <http://aei.org/events/2014/05/14/the-consequences-of-inaction/> Location: AEI, Twelfth Floor, 1150 Seventeenth Street, NW.

DHS AWARD FOR VALOR — 9:30 a.m. Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson will present the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Award for Valor to employees who have “performed courageously in a dangerous or life-threatening situation to protect another’s life or to save significant assets or infrastructure from harm”. Credentialed media planning to attend must RSVP with their social security number, date of birth, country of citizenship, current city/state of residence and gender to Amanda.degroff@hq.dhs.gov by 5:00 PM EDT May 9, 2014. Location: South Court Auditorium, Eisenhower Executive Office Building, 1650 Pennsylvania Ave., NW.

WFPG – SUSAN RICE — 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. National Security Advisor Susan Rice to speak on “Major National Security Challenges Facing the US” at the Women’s Foreign Policy Group Luncheon. Susan Rice, U.S. National Security Advisor will have a conversation with Judy Woodruff, Co-Anchor and Managing Editor, PBS NewsHour. Media planning on attending the event should register with Jennifer Schrock or Patricia Ellis at programs@wfp.org, or call (202) 429-2692. Location: The Mayflower Renaissance Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, DC (Pre-set time for cameras: 11:00 a.m. from 17th Street loading dock entrance.)

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Roger Runningen (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)

Tue, 13 May 2014 10:43:13 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Barkoff, Kendra

Reply-To: Roger Runningen

Kendra: Bloomberg Newsroom got this press release concerning

Attachments: [biden for Kendra.docx](#) (16.0 KB)

Kendra: Bloomberg Newsroom got this press release concerning R. Hunter Biden.

We're not sure it's legitimate. For one thing, the Web site can't be accessed.

Can you advise whether this is real or fake?

(We haven't run anything so far) Thanks a bunch, Roger Runningen Bloomberg News/White House

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Prescott, Jeffrey

Mon, 12 May 2014 10:04:05 -0400

To: Barkoff, Kendra, Murray, Shailagh, Ricchetti, Steven, Sullivan, Jacob, Ricchetti, Steven, Murray, Shailagh, Barkoff, Kendra, Sullivan, Jacob

FW: Ukraine headline

Flagging

From: Debevoise, Lyn

Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:01 AM

To: Prescott, Jeffrey; Carpenter, Michael

Subject: Ukraine headline

Haven't read the article, but flagging this:

Hunter Biden, Vice President's son, appointed to board of Zlochevskyi's Burisma Holdings that develops gas in Ukraine

http://economics.lb.ua/business/2014/05/12/266147_sin_vitseprezidenta_ssha_stal.html

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Allen, Jessica

Wed, 14 May 2014 16:56:50 -0400

To: DL-WHO-Press, Aidinoff, Marc, Allen, Jessica, Aniskoff, Paulette, Barkoff, Kendra, Beirne Fallon, Katie, Carney, Jay, Carroll, Brad, Carson, Crystal, Clavel, Lise, Davidson, Josta, Edelman, R. David, Evans, Bess, Feldman, Stefanie G., Foster, Heather, Friedman, Jennifer, Hankins, Hannah R., Hart, Elizabeth, Hertz, Jessica R., Holst, Lindsay, Holzer, Benjamin, Hunn, Allison, Inouye, Shin, Jencks, Fae, Jenkins, Brad, Joseph, Jeremy, Kahan, Alex, Lachman, Sherry, Lambros, Demetra, Lawrence, Natasha, Lopez, Rafael, MacFarquhar, Rory, Murray, Shailagh, Palmieri, Jennifer, Parker, Steve, Patterson, Nicholas, Platkin, Alex, Price, Ryan, Rogers, Melissa, Russo, Bill, Sahgal, Rishi R., Schultz, Greg, Schwartz, Noah, Shoup, Lilly, Ricchetti, Steven, Trotter, Kingsley, Velz, Peter, Whisenant, Addie, Arguelles, Adam, Asen, Jonathan, Backemeyer, Christopher, Bartoloni, Kristen, Brookie, Graham, Brown, Sam, Canegallo, Kristie A., Click, John, Cloud, Donald, Coates, Kelsey, Cohen, Ilona, Cooper, Eric, Costa, Kristina, Dean, Laura, Debevoise, Lyn, Dickinson, Tammy, DMCOS, Earnest, Joshua R., Fenn, Sarah, Gianotti, Claire, Govashiri, Ferial, Hayden, Caitlin, Hedger, Stephen, Heinzelman, Kate, Jackson, Bartlett, Jimenez, Luis A., Kaden, David M., Keenan, Cody, Kim, Andrew, Kirchhoff, Christopher, Lee, Jesse C., Lee, Jonathan, Leweling, Tara, Lubin, Nathaniel, Lucas Magnuson, Laura, Lundeberg, Greta, McFarlin, Mac, McKeon, Brian P., Meehan, Bernadette, Moscoso, Patricia, Moussavian, Roxana, O'Connor, Kyle, Ortiz, Michael, Pfeiffer, Dan, Prescott, Jeffrey, Quillian, Natalie, Rangarajan, Taara, Rangel, Antoinette N., Rhodes, Benjamin J., Robertson, Michael, Rosenberger, Laura, Schulman, Loren DeJonge, Sherwood-Randall, Liz, Singh, Pavneet, Szuplat, Terry, Wagstaff, Jessica, Wang, Jenny, West, Thomas, Withers, Anne, Wozniak, Natalie S., Clavel, Marguerite, Jimenez, Luis A., Jenkins, Brad, DL-WHO-Press, Ricchetti, Steven, Hedger, Stephen, brian_d_highsmith@who.eop.gov, "Quillian, Natalie, kori_s_schulman@who.eop.gov, "Edelman, David, Meehan, Bernadette, alexander_b_wall@who.eop.gov, "Gianotti, Claire (Intern), carlyn_a_reichel@nsc.eop.gov, "Brookie, Graham, Holzer, Benjamin, Brown, Sam, Kahan, Alex, patrick_cunnane@who.eop.gov, "Holst, Lindsay, maurice_m_owens@who.eop.gov, "Earnest, Joshua R., Hertz, Jessica R., McFarlin, Robert, Murray, Shailagh, howli_j_ledbetter@who.eop.gov, "Hayden, Caitlin, rachel_j_racusen@who.eop.gov, "Lopez, Rafael, james_r_kvaal@who.eop.gov, megan_e_rooney@who.eop.gov, avra_siegel@who.eop.gov, "Schultz, Gregory, christina_tchen@who.eop.gov, tyler_a_lechtenberg@who.eop.gov, keith_r_maley@who.eop.gov, "Inouye, Shin, Dean, Laura, Govashiri, Ferial, Evans, Bess, lisa_o_monaco@who.eop.gov, sarah_k_hurwitz@who.eop.gov, "Ortiz, Michael, O'Connor, Kyle, caroline_e_adler@who.eop.gov, "Robertson, Michael, Lawrence, Natasha, DMCOS, robert_d_whithorne@who.eop.gov, "Russo, Bill, david_m_simas@who.eop.gov, "Rogers, Melissa, Foster, Heather, Szuplat, Terence P., Leweling, Tara, Carroll, Bradley, Patterson, Nicholas, MacFarquhar, Rory, mc_gonzalez@who.eop.gov, "Schwartz, Noah, anita_j_decker@who.eop.gov, "Allen, Jessica, Fallon, Katherine, and 67 more...

Yahoo: Why did an energy firm with big assets in Ukraine hire Joe Biden's son?

<https://news.yahoo.com/why-did-a-energy-firm-prospecting-for-gas-in-ukraine-hire-joe-biden-s-son-195339212.html>

Why did an energy firm with big assets in Ukraine hire Joe Biden's son?

Yahoo

May 14

In the span of a few weeks, an energy firm little-known inside the United States added two members to its board of directors — scoring connections to Secretary of State John Kerry and Vice President Joe Biden in the bargain.

On April 22, Cyprus-based Burisma announced that financier Devon Archer had joined its board. Archer, who shared a room in college with Kerry's stepson, Christopher Heinz, served as national finance co-chair for the former senator's 2004 presidential campaign.

Then, on Monday, the firm announced that Biden's younger son, R. Hunter Biden, would join the board of directors.

Why would the company, which bills itself as Ukraine's largest private gas producer, need such powerful friends in Washington?

The answer might be the company's holdings in Ukraine. They include, according to the firm's website, permits to explore in the Dnieper-Donets Basin in the country's eastern regions, home to an armed pro-Russian separatist movement. They also include permits to explore in the Azov-Kuban Basin of the strategic Crimean peninsula,

annexed earlier this year by Moscow.

It's not clear what will happen to energy firms, like Burisma, that aim to explore and exploit potential deposits in those areas. Neither the Archer nor the Biden announcement explicitly mentions the unrest, and it's not clear exactly when their discussions to join the board began. In an April 23 Q&A, the transcript of which appears on Burisma's website, Archer said he had been approached "a few months ago" about the opportunity to consult for the oil company. The announcement of his directorship came less than a month after the disputed vote in Crimea to rejoin Russia.

The White House and the vice president's office denied there was anything untoward about Biden's appointment.

"Hunter Biden and other members of the Biden family are obviously private citizens and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the Vice President or President," said President Barack Obama's press secretary, Jay Carney. "But I would refer you to the Vice President's office."

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer," the vice president's press secretary, Kendra Barkoff, said in a statement. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

The person who answered the telephone at Biden's office in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday cheerfully declared that Biden was traveling, that his return date was unknown, and that his assistant was also out of pocket.

An email to Burisma's public relations department did not elicit a reply.

But Archer coyly acknowledged the potential benefits of having him on the board in the April 23 Q&A.

Question: "In the American media you are often linked to the immediate circle of the U.S. Secretary of State Mr. John Kerry and the Vice-president of the United States Mr. Joe Biden."

Archer: "American journalists really think so (smiles). I do know them."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Bulletin Intelligence

15 May 2014 10:13:56

To: Cerda, Jose, Thompson, Kenny, Bianchi, Sarah, O'Brien, Sean, Feldman, Stefanie G., Spector, Stephen, O'Brien, Sean, >, "Thompson, Kenneth D., >", "Bianchi, Sarah, >", "Spector, Stephen, >", "Cerda, Jose, >", "Feldman, Stefanie G.

Cc: Everett, Aaron, [personal email address], "Escudero, Adrian V., Hornbrook, Alex, Kurren, Amy, Bernal, Anthony R., Stackpole, Avra, Woyak, Brian J., Lillard, Brooke, Bolduc, Chad, Fromstein, Charles, Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, Rosenzweig, Dana, Lienemann, David C., Cloud, Donald, Lambros, Demetra, Zikusoka, Dave, Regoli, Elizabeth A, Hart, Elizabeth, Amin, Faisal, Picos, Francisco, Person, Fran, Freeman, Gary, Schultz, Greg, Edwards, Hannah E., Lyons, Jamie, Joseph, Jeremy, Hertz, Jessica R., Doody, Jillian, Montoya, Jordan, Flynn, John S, Tejada, Jose, Prescott, Jeffrey, Sullivan, Jacob, Donley, Julia M, Richards, Kitty, Berner, Kate, Trotter, Kingsley, Clark, Katisha A, Barkoff, Kendra, Chung, Kathy, kcoconnor@whmo.mil", "Pietranton, Kelsey, McNellis, Kerry, Suber, Kellen, Aidinoff, Marc, Clavel, Lise, Carpenter, Michael, membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil", "Kaye, Melanie, Hill, Patty, Lysaght, Patrick J, Timko, Rachel, Ruffner, Richard, Eaton, Sarah, Baker, Sarah, sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov", "Rosenthal, Lynn, Nix, Sheila, Lachman, Sherry, Murray, Shailagh, Myers, Sam A., Ricchetti, Steven, Tennant, Thomas M, McNulty, Thomas P., Williams, Tonya, Reddy, Vinay, Dirksen, Ward, Russo2, Bill, Clavel, Marguerite, >", "Dirksen, Ward F., >", "Timko, Rachel, >", "Stackpole, Avra, >", "Rosenthal, Lynn, >", "Ricchetti, Steven, >", "Amin, Faisal, >", "Lienemann, David C., >", "Tejada, Jose, >", "Kaye, Melanie, >", "Escudero, Adrian V., >", "Hill, Patricia, >", "Zikusoka, David N., >", "Edwards, Hannah E., >", "Freeman, Gary, >", "Hertz, Jessica R., >", "Murray, Shailagh, >", "Berner, Katherine, >", "Lysaght, Patrick J, >", "Schultz, Gregory, >", "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez, >", "Donley, Julia M, >", "McNellis, Kerry, >", "Hornbrook, Alex, >", "Picos, Francisco, >", "Pietranton, Kelsey, >", "Clark, Katisha A, >", "Eaton, Sarah, >", "Hart, Elizabeth A., >", "Joseph, Jeremy, >", "Richards, Kitty, >", "Carpenter, Michael, >", "McNulty, Thomas P., >", "Flynn, John S, >", "Suber, Kellen C., >", "Doody, Jillian, >", "Baker, Sarah, >", "Everett, Aaron, >", "Williams, Tonya, >", "Aidinoff, Marc, >", "Person, Fran, >", "Reddy, Vinay, >", "Myers, Sam A., >", "Trotter, Katherine K., >", "Woyak, Brian J., >", "Barkoff, Kendra, >", "Rosenzweig, Dana, >", "Nix, Sheila, >", "Cloud, Donald, >", "Kurren, Amy, >", "Sullivan, Jacob, >", "Lyons, Jamie, >", "Tennant, Thomas M, >", "Ruffner, Richard, >", "Fromstein, Charles, >", "Bernal, Anthony R., >", "Lambros, Demetra, >", "Prescott, Jeffrey, >", "Bolduc, Chad, >", "Lillard, Brooke, >", "Regoli, Elizabeth A, >", "Chung, Kathy, >", "Russo, Bill, >", "Orbach Lachman, Sherry, >", "Montoya, Jordan

Bcc:

Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, May 15, 2014.

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:46:00 EST 2022

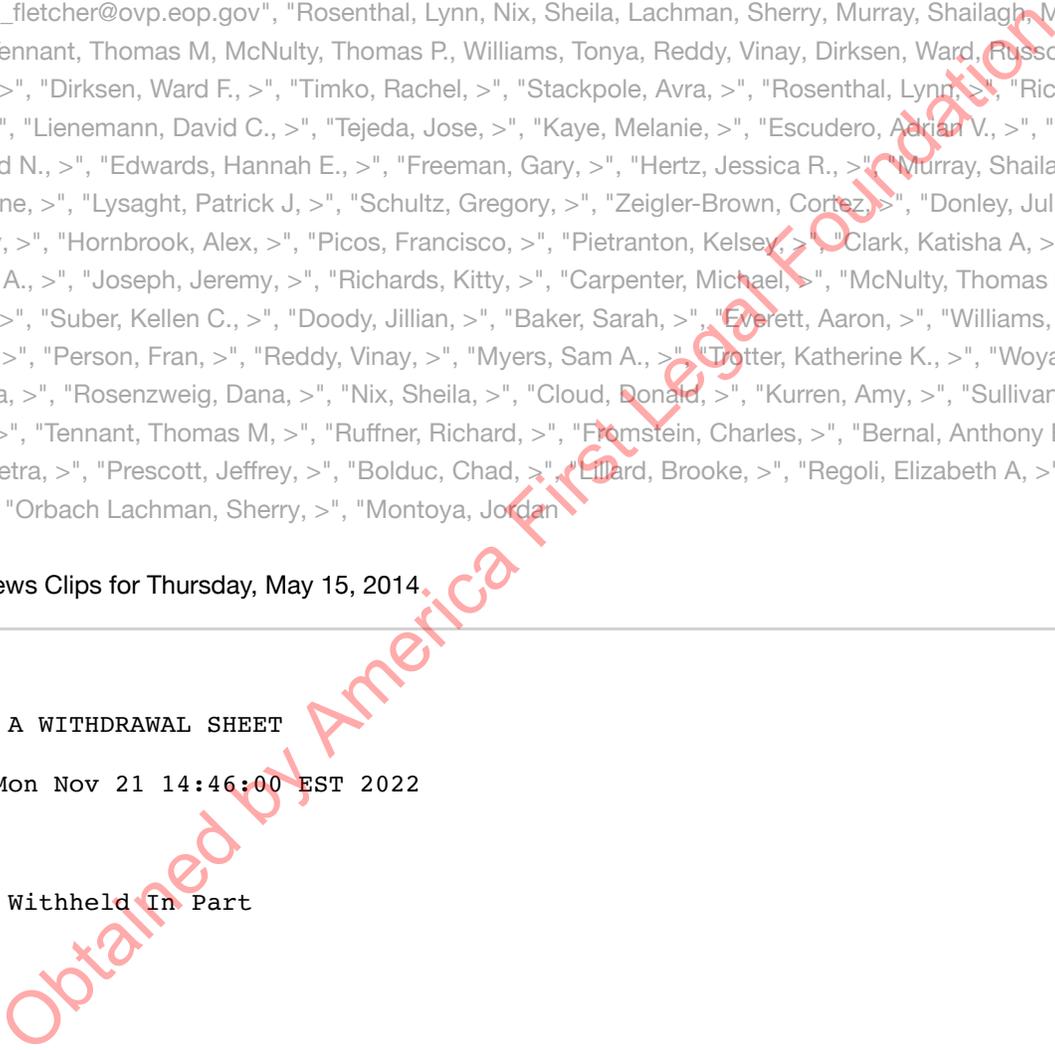
Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

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Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 9:40:22 AM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>
Subject: FW: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W. [mailto:Ann.W.Compton@abc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley
Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

###

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Allen, Jessica <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>

Sent: 5/13/2014 1:05:28 PM

To: "DL-WHO-Press" <dl-who-press@dsr.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Allen, Jessica" <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <paulette_l_aniskoff@who.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Beirne Fallon, Katie" <katie_fallon@who.eop.gov>; "Carney, Jay" <james_f_carney@who.eop.gov>; "Carroll, Brad" <bradley_carroll@who.eop.gov>; "Carson, Crystal" <crystal_m_carson@who.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Davidson, Josta" <josta_t_davidson@nsc.eop.gov>; "Edelman, R. David" <ross_d_edelman@ostp.eop.gov>; "Evans, Bess" <elisabeth_w_evans@ostp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Foster, Heather" <heather_j_foster@who.eop.gov>; "Friedman, Jennifer" <jennifer_b_friedman@who.eop.gov>; "Hankins, Hannah R." <hannah_r_hankins@who.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Holst, Lindsay" <lindsay_l_holst@who.eop.gov>; "Holzer, Benjamin" <benjamin_s_holzer@who.eop.gov>; "Hunn, Allison" <allison_d_hunn@who.eop.gov>; "Inouye, Shin" <shin_inouye@who.eop.gov>; "Jencks, Fae" <fae_m_jencks@ostp.eop.gov>; "Jenkins, Brad" <bradley_l_jenkins@who.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kahan, Alex" <alexandra_l_kahan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lawrence, Natasha" <natasha_s_lawrence@cea.eop.gov>; "Lopez, Rafael" <rafael_j_lopez@ostp.eop.gov>; "MacFarquhar, Rory" <rory_macfarquhar@who.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Palmieri, Jennifer" <jennifer_m_palmieri@who.eop.gov>; "Parker, Steve" <steven_l_parker@who.eop.gov>; "Patterson, Nicholas" <nicholas_j_patterson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Platkin, Alex" <alexandra_r_platkin@who.eop.gov>; "Price, Ryan" <ryan_l_price@who.eop.gov>; "Rogers, Melissa" <melissa_rogers@who.eop.gov>; "Russo, Bill" <william_m_russo@nsc.eop.gov>; "Sahgal, Rishi R." <rishi_r_sahgal@who.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schwartz, Noah" <noah_l_schwartz@nsc.eop.gov>; "Shoup, Lilly" <lillian_m_shoup@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Whisenant, Addie" <addie_m_whisenant@who.eop.gov>; "Arguelles, Adam" <adam_j_arguelles@who.eop.gov>; "Asen, Jonathan" <jonathan_asen@who.eop.gov>; "Backemeyer, Christopher" <christopher_r_backemeyer@nsc.eop.gov>; "Bartoloni, Kristen" <kristen_a_bartoloni@who.eop.gov>; "Brookie, Graham" <graham_h_brookie@nsc.eop.gov>; 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"Keenan, Cody" <cody_keen@who.eop.gov>; "Kim, Andrew" <andrew_kim@nsc.eop.gov>; "Kirchhoff, Christopher" <christopher_m_kirchhoff@who.eop.gov>; "Lee, Jesse C." <jesse_c_lee@who.eop.gov>; "Lee, Jonathan" <jonathan_l_lee@nsc.eop.gov>; "Leweling, Tara" <tara_a_leweling@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lubin, Nathaniel" <nathaniel_j_lubin@who.eop.gov>; "Lucas Magnuson, Laura" <laura_d_lucas@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lundeberg, Greta" <greta_j_lundeberg@nsc.eop.gov>; "McFarlin, Mac" <robert_w_mcfarlin@who.eop.gov>; "McKeon, Brian P." <brian_p_mckeon@nsc.eop.gov>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <bernadette_m_meehan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Moscoco, Patricia" <patricia_g_moscoco@who.eop.gov>; "Moussavian, Roxana" <roxana_moussavian@who.eop.gov>; "O'Connor, Kyle" <kocconnor@who.eop.gov>; "Ortiz, Michael" <michael_r_ortiz@nsc.eop.gov>; "Pfeiffer, Dan" <dan_pfeiffer@who.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_p_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Quillian, Natalie" <natalie_h_quillian@who.eop.gov>; "Rangarajan, Taara" <taara_a_rangarajan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Rangel, Antoinette N." <antoinette_n_rangel@who.eop.gov>; "Rhodes, Benjamin J." <benjamin_j_rhodes@who.eop.gov>; "Robertson, Michael" <michael_j_robertson@who.eop.gov>; "Rosenberger, Laura" <laura_m_rosenberger@nsc.eop.gov>; "Ruemmler, Kathryn H." <kathryn_h_ruemmler@who.eop.gov>; "Schulman, Loren DeJonge" <loren_schulman@nsc.eop.gov>; "Sherwood-Randall, Liz" <elizabeth_d_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov>; "Singh, Pavneet" <pavneet_singh@nsc.eop.gov>; "Szuplat, Terry" <terence_p_szuplat@nsc.eop.gov>; "Velz, Peter" <peter_t_velz@who.eop.gov>; "Wagstaff, Jessica" <jessica_e_wagstaff@who.eop.gov>; "Wang, Jenny" <ya_w_wang@who.eop.gov>; "West, Thomas" <thomas_w_west@ovp.eop.gov>; "Withers, Anne" <anne_m_withers@nsc.eop.gov>; "Wozniak, Natalie S." <natalie_s_wozniak@nsc.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Marguerite" <l.b8f>; "Jimenez, Luis A." <a.1e7>; "Jenkins, Brad" </cn=recipients/cn=bradley_l_jenkins>; "DL-WHO-Press" </cn=recipients/cn=dlwhopress21553275>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Hedger, Stephen" <c.b07>; brian_d_highsmith@who.eop.gov; "Quillian, Natalie" <h.bc8>; kori_s_schulman@who.eop.gov; "Edelman, David" <d.2e5>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <m.486>; alexander_b_wall@who.eop.gov; "Gianotti, Claire (Intern)" <claire79d>; carlyn_a_reichel@nsc.eop.gov; "Brookie, Graham" <h.c19>; "Holzer, Benjamin" </cn=recipients/cn=benjamin_s_holzer>; "Brown, Sam" <d.c8a>; "Kahan, Alex" <l.5fe>; patrick_cunnane@who.eop.gov; "Holst, Lindsay" <l.288>; maurice_m_owens@who.eop.gov; "Earnest, Joshua R." </cn=recipients/cn=joshuar.earnest67836121>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <r.562>; "McFarlin, Robert" <w.3d7>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; howli_j_ledbetter@who.eop.gov; "Hayden, Caitlin" </cn=recipients/cn=caitlin_m_hayden>; rachel_j_racusen@who.eop.gov; "Lopez, Rafael" <j.72b>; james_r_kvaal@who.eop.gov; megan_e_rooney@who.eop.gov; avra_siegel@who.eop.gov; "Schultz, Gregory" <c.084>; christina_tchen@who.eop.gov; tyler_a_lechtenberg@who.eop.gov; keith_r_maley@who.eop.gov; "Inouye, Shin" </cn=recipients/cn=shininouye75456365>; "Dean, Laura" </cn=recipients/cn=laura_a_dean>; "Govashiri, Ferial" </cn=recipients/cn=ferialgovashiril7161561>; "Evans, Bess" </cn=recipients/cn=elisabeth_w_evans>; lisa_o_monaco@who.eop.gov; sarah_k_hurwitz@who.eop.gov; "Ortiz, Michael" <r.889>; "O'Connor, Kyle" </cn=recipients/cn=kocconnor>; caroline_e_adler@who.eop.gov; "Robertson, Michael" <j.26c>; "Lawrence, Natasha" <s.111>; "DMCOS" </cn=recipients/cn=dmc>; robert_d_whithorne@who.eop.gov; "Russo, Bill" <m.f22>; david_m_simas@who.eop.gov; "Rogers, Melissa" <melissaf81>; "Foster, Heather" </cn=recipients/cn=heather_j_foster>; "Szuplat, Terence P." </cn=recipients/cn=terencep.szuplat27487457>; "Leweling, Tara" <a.aac>; "Carroll, Bradley" <bradley66d>; "Patterson, Nicholas" <j.7f9>; "MacFarquhar, Rory" </cn=recipients/cn=rory_macfarquhar>; mc_gonzalez@who.eop.gov; "Schwartz, Noah" <l.845>; anita_j_decker@who.eop.gov; "Allen, Jessica" <l.d4e>; "Fallon, Katherine" <b.311>; katherine_a_vargas@who.eop.gov; dagoberto_vega@who.eop.gov; "Keenan, Cody" </cn=recipients/cn=codykeen83443781>; "Withers, Anne" <m.94a>; mathew_s_nosanchuk@nsc.eop.gov; "Friedman, Jennifer" <b.a17>; "Wozniak, Natalie S." </cn=recipients/cn=natalies.wozniak52051125>; desiree_n_barnes@who.eop.gov; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>; "Hunn, Allison" <d.5ee>; "West, Thomas" <w.bf3>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremyc15>; taylor_j_lustig@who.eop.gov; "Carney, Jay" </cn=recipients/cn=james_f_carney>; "Rhodes, Benjamin J." </cn=recipients/cn=benjaminj.rhodes66704772>; "Kim, Andrew" <andrew88>; george_selim@nsc.eop.gov; caitria_l_mahoney@who.eop.gov; "Velz, Peter" <t.3a2>; "Price, Ryan" <l.abd>; "Whisenant, Addie" <m.03f>; "Rangel, Antoinette N." </cn=recipients/cn=antoinette_n_rangel>; "Fenn, Sarah" </cn=recipients/cn=sarahb.fenn64100553>; jessica_e_schumer@cea.eop.gov; johanna_maska@who.eop.gov; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <l.c19>; "Dickinson, Tammy" </cn=recipients/cn=tamara_l_dickinson>; shannon_n_green@nsc.eop.gov; "Davidson, Josta" <t.b87>; "Bartoloni, Kristen" </cn=recipients/cn=kristen_a_bartoloni>; amira_valliani@nsc.eop.gov; "Costa, Kristina" <l.f17>; "Ruemmler, Kathryn H." </cn=recipients/cn=kathrynh.ruemmler10175027>; david_m_litt@who.eop.gov; "Kaden, David M. (NSS)" <5a8>; agaarn_y_johnson@nsc.eop.gov; "Hankins, Hannah R." </cn=recipients/cn=hannah_r_hankins>; "Govashiri, Ferial" <ferial_govashiri@who.eop.gov>; "Cohen, Ilona" <r.76f>; "Platkin, Alexandra" <r.9fd>; "Kirchhoff, Christopher" <m.896>; "Debevoise, Lyn" <lync5f>; christine_s_abizaid@nsc.eop.gov; "Aidinoff, Marc" <f.f6c>; "Cooper, Eric" <m.43b>; jeffrey_d_tiller@who.eop.gov; "Lee, Jonathan" <l.f5d>; leah_b_katz-hernandez@who.eop.gov; "McKeon, Brian P." <p.2b3>; jonathan_p_lalley@nsc.eop.gov; "Singh, Pavneet" </cn=recipients/cn=pavneet_singh>; valerie_jarrett@who.eop.gov; cecilia_munoz@who.eop.gov; laura_a_schulz@nsc.eop.gov; "Schulman, Loren DeJonge" <loren4d7>; "Jackson, Bartlett" <w.599>; amy_brundage@who.eop.gov; tara_d_mcguinness@who.eop.gov; "Moscoco, Patricia" </cn=recipients/cn=patricia_g_moscoco>; joanna_s_rosholm@who.eop.gov; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Rangarajan, Taara" <a.29a>; hallie_m_ruvin@who.eop.gov; matthew_a_lehrich@who.eop.gov; "Parker, Steven" <l.87f>; "Wang, Jenny" <w.eb7>; "Lubin, Nathaniel" <j.d81>;

frances_a_holuba@nsc.eop.gov; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; patrick_h_ventrell@nsc.eop.gov; "Cloud, Donald" <w.359>; eric_h_schultz@who.eop.gov; "Rosenberger, Laura" <m.d7f>; jessica_r_santillo@who.eop.gov; "Lee, Jesse C." </cn=recipients/cn=jessec.lee74301331>; nathaniel_m_perkins@who.eop.gov; "Jencks, Fae" <m.771>; "Coates, Kelsey" <a.04d>; "Carson, Crystal" <m.b7f>; "Sahgal, Rishi R." </cn=recipients/cn=rishir.sahgal41360826>; warren_n_eggleston@who.eop.gov; brett_p_brueen@nsc.eop.gov; "Wagstaff, Jesica" </cn=recipients/cn=jesica_e_wagstaff>; ezra_l_mechaber@who.eop.gov; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; clay_a_dumas@who.eop.gov; "Click, John" </cn=recipients/cn=john_s_click>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>; "Heinzelman, Kate" <e.d3b>; "Asen, Jonathan" </cn=recipients/cn=jonathanasen37271556>; "Canegallo, Kristie A." <a.068>; "Sherwood-Randall, Liz" </cn=recipients/cn=elizabethd.sherwoodrandall41217251>; "Pfeiffer, Dan" </cn=recipients/cn=dpfeiffer>; "Lundeberg, Greta" </cn=recipients/cn=greta_j_lundeberg>; "Lucas, Laura" <d.49e>; "Palmieri, Jennifer" <m.cd6>; kaelan_e_richards@who.eop.gov; stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov; "Shoup, Lillian" <m.0c8>; clare_e_gallagher@nsc.eop.gov; "Moussavian, Roxana" <roxanae02>; "Backemeyer, Christopher" <r.073>; "Arguelles, Adam" </cn=recipients/cn=adam_j_arguelles>; jordan_m_burke@who.eop.gov; "Orbach Lachman, Sherry" <e.5f8>;

Subject: allison_burke@who.eop.gov Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/205992-white-house-bidens-son-to-ukraine-gas-company-isnt-us-endorsement>

WH: Biden's son to Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

The Hill // Justin Sink

05/13/14 02:42 PM EDT

Ukraine's largest private gas producer has hired Vice President Biden's youngest son, but White House press secretary Jay Carney insisted on Tuesday the move shouldn't be read as an official endorsement by the U.S. government.

"Hunter Biden and other members of the Biden family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president," Carney told reporters.

The vice president's office also defended the hire.

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office," said Kendra Barkoff, spokeswoman for Vice President Biden.

Burisma, which produces the equivalent of 10,500 barrels of oil daily, announced Biden's hire in a statement earlier Tuesday.

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," said Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors.

The younger Biden, for his part, said he believed his legal and corporate advice would "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Hunter Biden said.

But the hire could raise ethical questions – and diplomatic headaches – for the White House. During a visit to Kiev last month, the vice president discussed energy security with Ukraine's leaders, including ways the country could produce its own domestic production of natural gas.

"Imagine where you'd be today if you were able to tell Russia: keep your gas. It would be a very different world," the vice president told Ukrainian lawmakers.

The hire also came a day after Russian energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless the country prepaays for its energy. That announcement has sparked fears that energy costs could strain Ukraine's fragile economy.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/12/2014 8:07:31 AM
To: "Debevoise, Lyn" <lyn_debevoise@nsc.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <r.7b8>; "Debevoise, Lyn" <lync5f>
Subject: RE: Ukraine headline

Thanks for the flag

From: Debevoise, Lyn
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:01 AM
To: Prescott, Jeffrey; Carpenter, Michael
Subject: Ukraine headline

Haven't read the article, but flagging this:

Hunter Biden, Vice President's son, appointed to board of Zlochevskiyi's Burisma Holdings that develops gas in Ukraine
http://economics.lb.ua/business/2014/05/12/266147_sin_vitseprezidenta_ssha_stal.html

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Holzer, Benjamin <benjamin_s_holzer@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:06:54 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Platkin, Alex" <alexandra_r_platkin@who.eop.gov>; "Platkin, Alexandra" <r.9fd>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Fw: MoscowTimes: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

And flagging this too

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:05 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arquelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Rummier, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: MoscowTimes: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

[DRUDGE REPORT @DRUDGE_REPORT 1m](#)

Son of Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company... <http://drudge.tw/11ih37X>

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/son-of-us-vice-president-biden-joins-ukraine-gas-company/500062.html>

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

The Moscow Times

May. 13 2014 18:49 Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Gerlach, Alec <gerlachja2@state.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:30:24 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

202-736-4899

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:30 PM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

What's your number?

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:12 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Jen doesn't go out to brief until 1, but she has to staff something at 1230. Is now a good time for some guidance that I can relay to her?

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:53 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. Trying to get more info over here. Give me a little bit of time.

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks
We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?
Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing..

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along...

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board..

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 7:59:09 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: hey

Ok-
What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 8:33:34 AM
To: "Allen, Elizabeth M" <allenem@state.gov>; "Russo, Bill" <william_m_russo@nsc.eop.gov>; "Russo, Bill" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=russo, william" <m.f22>>; >
Subject: RE: POLITICO Playbook, presented by JPMorgan Chase & Co. -- ROVE: 'This will be an issue...whether she likes it or not' -- NICK MERRILL: 'its own form of sickness' -- HRC TO MARTIN O'MALLEY: Do what you need to do - MARK ZUCKERBERG is 30 -- HOWARD WOLFSON b

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:27:49 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal information

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Firsht, Elana (Intern) <elana_l_firsht_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 3:37:22 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>; "Reddy, Vinay" <c.ad8>; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Cc: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "O'Brien, Sean" <w.93f>
Subject: VPOTUS Afternoon Press Mentions--May 14, 2014
Attachments: [VPOTUS_PM_PRESS--05.14.2014.docx](#)

VPOTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

Associated Press

VP Joe BIDEN Talks Infrastructure Funding in CLE Today

May 14, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN is in Cleveland today to stress the importance of the U.S. spending money on infrastructure to keep roads and bridges safe.

Associated Press

BIDEN urges infrastructure spending in Cleveland speech as cities seek help maintaining roads

May 14, 2014

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe BIDEN are traveling the country saying the nation needs to invest billions of federal dollars in highways and bridges, but some Ohio city officials are left to wonder: Where's the money to fix our streets?

Bloomberg

Obama to Press for Highway Funds, Expedite Permit Process

By: Roger Runningen / May 14, 2014

... While Obama was in New York, Vice President Joe BIDEN was delivering a similar message at a rail center in Cleveland. He said the U.S. transportation system is crumbling and the nation is falling far behind.

Wall Street Journal

Obama to Speed Infrastructure Permits, Highlights Highway Funding Squeeze

By: Jeffrey Sparshott / May 14, 2014

... Mr. Obama spoke in Tarrytown, N.Y., near the Tappan Zee Bridge, an aging thoroughfare across the Hudson River that will be replaced with two new spans. The president's remarks, visits to Cleveland and St. Louis by Vice President Joe BIDEN and an earlier White House report are all meant to ratchet up pressure on lawmakers to approve new transportation funding.

Associated Press

Obama to Congress: OK New Cash for Roads, Bridges

May 14, 2014

... Vice President Joe BIDEN was in Cleveland Wednesday with a similar message, noting that the World Economic Forum ranked the United States 18th in the quality of the nation's roads.

WBNS-10TV

VP BIDEN To Speak In Cleveland About Spending For U.S. Infrastructure

May 14, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN will visit Cleveland to stress the importance of the U.S. spending money on infrastructure to keep roads and bridges safe.

Cleveland Plain Dealer

Vice President Joe BIDEN at RTA to discuss transit

By: James Ewinger / May 14, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN is expected here today to discuss infrastructure investment.

Cleveland Plain Dealer

BIDEN will tout spending for Rapid stations and the Cincinnati streetcar project

By: Stephen Koff / May 14, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN'S Cleveland visit today will put a spotlight on a University Circle rapid transit station being built with federal dollars. But the vice president could just as well have focused on a streetcar construction project in Cincinnati, a freight rail project across Ohio, a local bus depot in Kent or another Red Line rapid transit station in Cleveland.

Cleveland Plain Dealer

Amanda Berry, Gina DeJesus share White House moment with President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe BIDEN

By: Michael Norman / May 14, 2014

Cleveland kidnapping survivors Amanda Berry and Gina DeJesus took a slight detour when they were in Washington, D.C. May 6 to be honored at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children HOPE Awards dinner. The two women stopped by the White House earlier that day for a meeting with Vice President Joe BIDEN. They got a surprise visit from President Barack Obama, too, who dropped by BIDEN'S office and posed for a photo with the group.

People

Amanda Berry and Gina DeJesus Show Off Their White House Photos

By: Sandra Sobieraj Westfall / May 14, 2014

... The two Cleveland kidnap survivors met at the White House on May 6 with Vice President Joe BIDEN, a longtime supporter of legislation to end violence against women. And President Barack Obama dropped by his VP's West Wing office to say hello.

Cyprus Mail

BIDEN to stay in Limassol after football risk in Nicosia

By: Angelos Anastasiou / May 14, 2014

NEXT week's football cup final shaped decision-making in Tuesday's kick-off meeting between Cyprus police and members of the US vice-president's security detail, leading to a switch in the venue of Joe BIDEN'S stay from the Hilton in Nicosia to a Limassol hotel, according to reports.

PolicyMic

If You Suspected the White House Isn't Giving Us the Full Story on Ukraine, Now We Have Proof

By: Jenna Kagel / May 14, 2014

The U.S. political landscape is looking more like an episode of House of Cards than ever before. Ukraine's largest private gas provider, Burisma Holdings, announced Tuesday that R. Hunter BIDEN, son of Vice President Joe BIDEN, will be joining the board in charge of their legal unit. And with the current conflict in Ukraine, which has only been worsening, this announcement seems like a very curious ploy.

[Al-Jazeera America](#)

White House: No Conflict with BIDEN'S Son Working for Ukraine Gas Company

May 14, 2014

The White House brushed aside questions this week about whether the involvement of Vice President Joe BIDEN'S son in a Ukrainian natural gas company raised ethical issues at a time when the Obama administration is promoting energy diversity in the country, which is also currently mired in a gas-price spat with Moscow.

[NBC](#)

Ukraine Gas Producer Appoints R. Hunter BIDEN to Board

By: Javier David / May 14, 2014

Ukraine's largest private gas producer announced on Tuesday that it added R. Hunter BIDEN – the son of U.S. Vice President Joseph BIDEN – to its board of directors.

[Yahoo! News](#)

Why did an energy firm with big assets in Ukraine hire Joe BIDEN'S son?

By: Oliver Knox and Meredith Shiner / May 14, 2014

In the span of a few weeks, an energy firm little-known inside the United States added two members to its board of directors – scoring connections to Secretary of State John Kerry and Vice President Joe BIDEN in the bargain.

[Yahoo! News](#)

Rahm Emanuel votes Hillary over BIDEN for 2016

By: Jim Avila, Richard Coolidge and Jordyn Phelps / May 14, 2014

As a former White House insider in both the Clinton and Obama administrations, Rahm Emanuel has worked closely with Hillary Clinton and Vice President Joe BIDEN. But when it comes to who would be the better Democratic presidential candidate come 2016, his mind is made up.

[Associated Press](#)

VP Joe BIDEN Talks Infrastructure Funding in CLE Today

May 14, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN is in Cleveland today to stress the importance of the U.S. spending money on infrastructure to keep roads and bridges safe.

BIDEN is speaking at a Cleveland Regional Transit Authority rail complex to highlight the reconstruction of a light rail station near University Circle.

The area contains many of Cleveland's cultural landmarks, such as Severance Hall, the home of the Cleveland Orchestra, and Case Western Reserve University, a top research institution.

President Barack Obama's administration is highlighting infrastructure investment in the U.S. this week. Obama was scheduled to travel Wednesday to New York City, where the Tappan Zee Bridge is being replaced using a \$1.6 billion federal loan.

[Associated Press](#)

BIDEN urges infrastructure spending in Cleveland speech as cities seek help maintaining roads

May 14, 2014

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe BIDEN are traveling the country saying the nation needs to invest billions of federal dollars in highways and bridges, but some Ohio city officials are left to wonder: Where's the money to fix our streets?

Making the pitch Wednesday at a rail car repair shop in Cleveland, BIDEN said such investment is necessary for the United States to remain a pre-eminent economic force.

"Those in Congress who lack vision say we can't afford to make these investments," he said. "How can we not afford to make these investments?"

He said one study shows the U.S. needs \$3.6 trillion in infrastructure investment by 2020 but spends only 1 percent of its gross domestic product on infrastructure and ranks 18th in the world for the quality of its roads.

BIDEN was in Cleveland to highlight federal investment in a \$17.5 million new light rail station that will open in 2015. The president was in New York City, where the federal government has provided a \$1.6 billion loan to rebuild the Tappan Zee Bridge. Their message is that more money needs to be spent on infrastructure.

City officials in Ohio wish that a small share of those billions would trickle down to them for maintenance. Some Ohio cities are operating on the thinnest of margins as costs rise, tax receipts fall and state funding is reduced. Federal and state governments pay the lion's share of big road and interstate projects, but routine maintenance of surface streets is typically left to cities to pay.

Police and firefighters must continue to be paid, so budget items like street resurfacing are the first to be trimmed, said Paul Barnett, public works manager for the city of Akron.

Akron will spend about \$2 million on street resurfacing this year but needs to spend at least \$8 million to keep pace, Barnett said. The city will resurface only 11 of its 2,400 lane miles this year.

"It's OK if you plan on resurfacing your streets once every 30 years," he said.

The booming city of Columbus will spend \$33.5 million on street resurfacing this year. Cleveland will spend \$4.4 million. Toledo has upped its resurfacing budget to \$1 million compared with \$600,000 in 2013.

Still, Columbus is far from immune from the scourge of tire-crunching potholes that appeared like dandelions this spring thanks to Ohio's weather extremes, heavy rains and the asphalt-chewing phenomenon of freeze-thaw cycles. Bill Tilton, assistant director of public service for Columbus, said his crews have already repaired 105,000 potholes this year compared with 117,000 for all of 2013.

Toledo bought a machine so workers could replace entire stretches of pothole-pocked roadway, said Dave Welch, Toledo's commissioner of streets, bridges and harbor. "There are roads that are pothole patch after pothole patch," Welch said

The inability to properly maintain streets is a problem in smaller cities as well. In Euclid, a suburb east of Cleveland that stretches along Lake Erie, Mayor Bill Cervenik said the federal government needs to step in.

"I certainly believe the federal government has to take a look at communities like ours and understand the problems we're having and put together policies that help those communities that are built and aging and fix them," Cervenik said.

[Bloomberg](#)

Obama to Press for Highway Funds, Expedite Permit Process

By: Roger Runningen / May 14, 2014

With New York's aging and overburdened Tappan Zee Bridge in the background, President Barack Obama said the U.S. risks its economic supremacy by neglecting to repair and upgrade its transportation system.

Obama said his administration is streamlining the permit process for transportation projects to speed up construction even as the White House and Congress wrangle over how to replenish the Highway Trust Fund.

A modern, efficient transportation system is "one of the reasons that American became an economic superpower in the first place," Obama said today in Tarrytown, New York. While the U.S. has cut resources for infrastructure, he said, economic competitors such as European nations and China have been investing heavily.

The fast-track approach that Obama announced today would expand the process used for the Tappan Zee. Federal agencies approved plans to replace the three-mile-long span in 1.5 years, a process that typically takes three to five years, according to a White House statement.

The Highway Trust Fund, which is fed by fuel taxes, will be unable to keep up with all its bills as soon as July and will be down to \$1 billion by the end of September. While Congress is working on a short-term plan to keep it solvent at least through the end of the year, an interruption in funding would affect more than 112,000 construction projects and the jobs of almost 700,000 workers over a year, according to a White House analysis.

Economic Preeminence

While Obama was in New York, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** was delivering a similar message at a rail center in Cleveland. He said the U.S. transportation system is crumbling and the nation is falling far behind.

If the U.S. can't provide infrastructure to companies, "we will lose our economic preeminence in the world," **BIDEN** said.

He criticized members of Congress who opposed more spending on infrastructure, saying they "lack vision" and asking "how can we afford not to make these investments."

With both the White House and many lawmakers rejecting raising gasoline and diesel taxes, Obama has proposed a four-year, \$302 billion plan. About half the funding would come from the federal excise tax on motor fuels with the rest from revenue obtained by closing tax breaks for corporations, including taxing overseas earnings.

Senate Bill

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee filed a bipartisan bill that would renew highway and transit programs for six years, while leaving decisions on funding for the measure to the House and Senate's tax committees. The Senate panel was set to begin crafting a bill tomorrow.

Companies, including Caterpillar Inc. (CAT), United Parcel Service Inc. and Honeywell International Inc. (HON), are pushing for a long-term solution to infrastructure funding.

Business groups and labor unions are stepping up their own efforts starting this week. Most of those organizations favor a boost in the gasoline tax to finance a long-term highway bill, even though lawmakers in both chambers say that can't clear Congress in an election year.

The Tappan Zee is one of the nation's 63,522 bridges classified as "structurally deficient," according to the Federal Highway Administration. That means the bridge is safe, though in need of repair, closer monitoring or weight restrictions so that it doesn't become unsafe. There are more than 607,000 bridges in the U.S.

Replacement Bridge

The Tappan Zee is eight years past its designed 50-year lifespan and carries about 40 percent more traffic than intended. A replacement is scheduled for completion in 2018 at a cost of \$3.9 billion.

During the past three years, the administration has tried to expedite reviews and permitting for more than 50 projects, including bridges, mass transit, waterways, roads and railways, the White House fact sheet said. More than 30 of the projects have been given permits.

Later today, Obama turns his attention to fundraising for the midterm elections, beginning with a closed-door session to benefit the Democratic National Committee. Republicans need to win a net six seats to take control of the Senate.

A second fundraiser is hosted by Blair W. Effron, co-founder of investment bank Centerview Partners LLC, and former private-equity executive Jamie Rubin, son of former Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin. Guests can contribute as much as \$32,400, with proceeds going to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

On Thursday the president and the first lady tour the Sept. 11 Memorial and Museum before Obama gives a speech at the dedication ceremony.

Wall Street Journal

Obama to Speed Infrastructure Permits, Highlights Highway Funding Squeeze

By: Jeffrey Sparshott / May 14, 2014

President Barack Obama on Wednesday said he would cut red tape for projects to build roads, bridges and other major projects, part of a broader effort to prod Congress toward replenishing the nation's dwindling highway trust fund.

Mr. Obama spoke in Tarrytown, N.Y., near the Tappan Zee Bridge, an aging thoroughfare across the Hudson River that will be replaced with two new spans. The president's remarks, visits to Cleveland and St. Louis by Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and an earlier White House report are all meant to ratchet up pressure on lawmakers to approve new transportation funding.

"If they don't act by the end of the summer, federal funding for transportation projects will run out," Mr. Obama said Wednesday. "We'll run out. There will be no money. The cupboard will be bare."

The Highway Trust Fund, which pays for building and repairing roads, is expected to run dry as soon as August, a development that would force the federal government to cut payments to states, putting thousands of projects and nearly 700,000 jobs in jeopardy, according to the White House.

New funding coupled with the latest effort on permitting, designed to speed projects from design to completion by improving coordination among multiple federal agencies, would create jobs and ultimately encourage businesses to invest in the U.S., Mr. Obama said.

Lawmakers from both parties want to keep funds flowing but disagree over how to raise the money and how much to spend on infrastructure. Because of the approaching November election, Congress may opt for a short-term fix, effectively punting a broader debate until next year.

Republicans met the latest White House push with skepticism.

"It's a real challenge to listen to the president talk about reforming the permitting system when he's been sitting on the permit for the country's largest shovel-ready infrastructure program, the Keystone XL pipeline, for five years," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.).

The Keystone pipeline would bring oil from Canada to Gulf Coast refineries, creating jobs and boosting energy production. But it also has sparked environmental concerns, leading the Obama administration to repeatedly delay any final decision on approval.

Associated Press

Obama to Congress: OK New Cash for Roads, Bridges

May 14, 2014

With New York's aging Tappan Zee Bridge looming behind him, President Barack Obama challenged congressional Republicans to spend more money on the nation's crumbling roads, see-through bridges and outdated ports or face losing businesses to other countries.

"We've got ports that aren't ready for the next generation of cargo ships," Obama said against a backdrop of cranes that are being used to replace the 58-year-old Tappan Zee. "We've got more than 100,000 bridges that are old enough to qualify for Medicare."

Obama used the major Hudson River crossing point north of New York City and its \$3.9 billion replacement project to illustrate a fast-track system he initiated that he said cut the permitting time from five years to 1 1/2 years.

He blamed Republicans for not authorizing more money for construction and repairs and warned that without congressional action the Highway Trust Fund, used to pay for transportation projects, will run dry. He accused Republicans of voting against additional spending even as they gladly show up at ribbon cutting ceremonies for projects they refused to finance.

"They are more interested in saying 'no' because they are worried that maybe they'd have to be at a bill signing with me," Obama said.

Republicans contended Obama was hypocritical for claiming credit for the expedited process while his administration has yet to decide the fate of a proposed Canada-to-Texas oil pipeline. The GOP is using that up-in-the-air project to bash Democrats ahead of the November elections.

"It's a real challenge to listen to the president talk about reforming the permitting system when he's been sitting on the permit for the country's largest shovel-ready infrastructure program, the Keystone XL pipeline, for five years," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

Obama noted that over the last 50 years the United States' spending on transportation as a share of the economy has shrunk by 50 percent while European countries are spending twice as much.

"We shouldn't watch the top-rated airports and seaports, or the fastest rail lines or fastest Internet networks get built somewhere else," he said. "They need to be built right here in New York, right here in the United States."

Obama was introduced by New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who is high on Democrats' list of potential candidates to succeed Obama in 2016. Cuomo credited Obama for the advanced work on the bridge replacement, which is being financed largely by bonds paid for through higher tolls.

"This is a bridge that symbolizes what was and what can be," Cuomo said.

Obama, who was traveling with first lady Michelle Obama, also was to headline a pair of high-dollar fundraisers benefiting Democratic candidates in the November elections. On Thursday, the president and first lady planned to attend the dedication ceremony for the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center.

Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx kicked off the public works push Monday, warning that the Highway Trust Fund, which relies on gasoline taxes, could run dry in August. Those taxes haven't gone up in 20 years.

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** was in Cleveland Wednesday with a similar message, noting that the World Economic Forum ranked the United States 18th in the quality of the nation's roads.

"Folks, we cannot stand still," **BIDEN** said. "If we do, we will lose our economic prominence in the world."

Half of the administration \$302 billion transportation plan would be in addition to the programs paid for with fuel taxes. That extra spending would come from revenue raised by closing what the administration says are corporate tax loopholes and by making other changes in business taxes, a long shot in a politically divided Congress.

WBNS-10TV

VP BIDEN To Speak In Cleveland About Spending For U.S. Infrastructure

May 14, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will visit Cleveland to stress the importance of the U.S. spending money on infrastructure to keep roads and bridges safe.

BIDEN was scheduled to speak Wednesday afternoon at a Cleveland Regional Transit Authority rail complex to highlight the reconstruction of a light rail station near University Circle.

The area contains many of Cleveland's cultural landmarks, such as Severance Hall, the home of the Cleveland Orchestra, and Case Western Reserve University, a top research institution.

President Barack Obama's administration is highlighting infrastructure investment in the U.S. this week.

Obama was scheduled to travel Wednesday to New York City, where the Tappan Zee Bridge is being replaced using a \$1.6 billion federal loan.

Cleveland Plain Dealer

Vice President Joe BIDEN at RTA to discuss transit

By: James Ewinger / May 14, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is expected here today to discuss infrastructure investment.

He will use the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Rail Complex as his forum, and will talk about the regional significance of a rebuilt Little Italy-University Circle rapid station, due to open next year.

The vice president's appearance here is part of a week-long lobbying effort by the White House to create broad-based support for federal spending on infrastructure improvement.

According to the White House, the condition of 65 percent of the nation's major roadways is considered less than good and fully one quarter of all bridges will require significant work if they are to continue carrying the current volume of traffic.

The concern is that some Republicans in the House of Representative oppose further spending and if they get their way, there could be less money for much needed future projects.

BIDEN is considered a potential Democratic candidate for president in 2016.

Today he also is expected to meet with business owners and community stakeholders to discuss the local economy, but further details were not available.

Cleveland Plain Dealer
BIDEN will tout spending for Rapid stations and the Cincinnati streetcar project
By: Stephen Koff / May 14, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** Cleveland visit today will put a spotlight on a University Circle rapid transit station being built with federal dollars. But the vice president could just as well have focused on a streetcar construction project in Cincinnati, a freight rail project across Ohio, a local bus depot in Kent or another Red Line rapid transit station in Cleveland.

Each of these was built or is being built with money from the same federal program - one that critics want to cut substantially.

To supporters, the role of this federal program in paying for mass transit projects is particularly important. They say that Ohio and other Republican-run states seem more interested in building roads and highways than in supporting transportation that is efficient and environmentally sustainable.

Yet there's another side, from those who say that a disproportionate share of the program's dollars have gone to Democratic congressional districts - and that the awards have lacked the rigorous economic analysis that a competitive grant program should have.

All this, over a measly Red Line stop.

BIDEN will tout the Little Italy-University Circle Red Line station, which will open in 2015 with the help of a federal grant from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER, program. TIGER was passed originally as part of the 2009 economic stimulus act, but Congress so far has kept it going, with \$3.5 billion for 270 projects nationwide, including \$600 million this year, the White House says.

House of Representatives Republicans want to slice that sum and then restrict it to, in the words of an appropriations proposal, "projects that will address critical transportation needs, such as road, highway and bridge construction and improvement."

But **BIDEN** and his boss, President Barack Obama, want to expand the TIGER program and make it permanent, proposing to fold it into a broader transportation reauthorization act that would spend \$302 billion over four years for a variety of road, bridge and rail projects. The Senate is working on its own bill but won't start filling in the blanks - including the sources of money - until later this week. The Obama-**BIDEN** package, however, would use federal gasoline tax dollars and money from ending a tax provision that Democrats say encourages companies to shelter profits overseas.

That's the big picture, and **BIDEN** is likely to discuss it in Cleveland this afternoon. The Plain Dealer laid out the background in a story on Cleveland.com yesterday. Obama will promote the broader theme today, too, with a visit to the site of a structure to replace New York's Tappan Zee Bridge, over the Hudson River. Obama will also announce an executive action to streamline the review and permitting process for projects that involve multiple agencies.

Mention the TIGER program and fans and critics alike sound off. According to a U.S. Department of Transportation, or DOT, database, these Ohio projects have received TIGER money:

The Little Italy-University Circle Red Line station that the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority is building. A 2011 TIGER grant awarded it \$12.5 million, according to DOT.

Reconstruction of the University-Cedar RTA station, which DOT describes as the busiest east side bus terminal in Cleveland. It got \$10.5 million in 2010 TIGER funding.

A new bus transfer station in downtown Kent, which got \$20 million in a 2009 TIGER award.

Rail corridor improvements in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland. The \$98 million TIGER grant, awarded in 2009, was to help the CSX corridor accommodate double-stacked rail cars to better connect Midwest manufacturers with mid-Atlantic ports.

The Cincinnati Streetcar Riverfront Loop, which will reintroduce Cincinnati's central core to a form of transportation - electric streetcars - that went out of fashion five decades ago but are being tried again in a number of cities. DOT awarded a \$10.9 TIGER grant for the 3.9-mile project in 2011 - on top of \$29 million in other federal transit funding it will get.

Are these a good use of taxpayer money? This is where some Democrats and Republicans disagree. The Reason Foundation, a conservative think tank, has criticized the grants as going disproportionately to Democratic congressional districts. The foundation also says the TIGER grants have lacked transparency and solid economic analysts.

Sen. David Vitter, a Louisiana Republican whose ranking status on a public works committee gives him influence in transportation bills, has voiced similar complaints.

But TIGER defenders say that Democratic districts tend to get more grants because of the very nature of the program, helping to ease transportation problems in areas with the most congestion and need. Cities tend to vote Democratic while suburbs and rural areas are more inclined to elect Republicans. The DOT says the grants are awarded competitively and not on the basis of politics.

In Ohio, there is an additional defense of the TIGER grants. The state gasoline tax goes for roads, and without TIGER and a few other federal programs, mass transit would get nothing for capital projects, according to members of a coalition called Ohioans for Transportation Choice.

"These are projects that just would not get funded," said Akshai Singh, a Sierra Club organizer in Northeast Ohio who is involved in Ohioans for Transportation Choice. "They are doing a really good job here to plug the gap."

Amanda Woodrum, a researcher for Policy Matters Ohio, a liberal think tank, and co-chair of Ohioans for Transportation Choice, said that while Ohio is the seventh most populous state, it ranks 47th when measured by funding for public transportation.

"Ohio has a multi-billion-dollar transportation budget, but the vast majority of it goes to roads and highways," she said. "Less than 1 percent goes to public transit."

Ohio defends its focus on highways as a matter of priorities. In a 2012 review, it found that if it just built all the roads and bridges needed, it would have a \$1.2 billion budget hole, said Steve Faulkner, spokesman for the Ohio Department of Transportation.

So urban transit is funded locally rather than by the state, and with help from Washington. Without TIGER, the RTA station that **BIDEN** is visiting might not be built. And the Cincinnati streetcar project, a source of controversy from the start, might never get in gear.

People on either side of the political divide - and ultimately Congress - now must decide if that's good.

Cleveland Plain Dealer
Amanda Berry, Gina DeJesus share White House moment with President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe BIDEN
By: Michael Norman / May 14, 2014

Cleveland kidnapping survivors Amanda Berry and Gina DeJesus took a slight detour when they were in Washington, D.C. May 6 to be honored at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children HOPE Awards dinner. The two women stopped by the White House earlier

that day for a meeting with Vice President Joe **BIDEN**. They got a surprise visit from President Barack Obama, too, who dropped by **BIDEN'S** office and posed for a photo with the group.

Berry and DeJesus recently shared details of the Washington trip, plus other photos with PEOPLE magazine.

May 6 marked the one-year anniversary of their escape from the Cleveland home of Ariel Castro, who held them captive along with Michelle Knight, for more than a decade.

People

Amanda Berry and Gina DeJesus Show Off Their White House Photos

By: Sandra Sobieraj Westfall / May 14, 2014

Amanda Berry and Gina DeJesus brought home quite the souvenirs from their whirlwind visit to Washington last week - and are sharing the most special (photographic) ones with PEOPLE.

The two Cleveland kidnap survivors met at the White House on May 6 with Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, a longtime supporter of legislation to end violence against women. And President Barack Obama dropped by his VP's West Wing office to say hello.

In an email to PEOPLE, DeJesus called it an honor, adding of **BIDEN**, in particular: "I enjoyed our talk; he is very down-to-earth :-)"

Berry, who bought a special White House frame to showcase her presidential and vice-presidential photo op, said she appreciated how much time **BIDEN** spent with them. "It was one of the most unbelievable moments in my life," Berry said.

"They were just grinning from ear to ear," says Shannon Traore, the family-services specialist from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children accompanying the group, which included DeJesus's mom and dad and Berry's older sister, Beth Serrano.

Berry, 28, DeJesus, 24, and their families were treated to the trip - including their first plane ride and all the regular D.C. sightseeing - by donors to the NCMEC. The group honored the women at its annual HOPE Awards dinner on May 6, the one-year anniversary of their escape - along with Michelle Knight, 33 - from nearly 10 years of captivity. For the emotional, but uplifting, occasion, the women were also treated to a shopping spree and salon visit.

At the dinner, they met Katie Beers, who survived her own kidnapping and imprisonment in a hole for 16 days in 1993, at the age of 10.

It was a meaningful connection for DeJesus and Berry, says Traore. "They enjoyed being surrounded by other heroes, other people who have overcome - to know that they aren't alone but are cared for and valued."

Before heading home, they saw the pandas at the National Zoo, visited the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial and National Cathedral, and took a D.C. tour buzzing by the Capitol, Washington Monument, and Lincoln and Jefferson memorials.

"Amanda and Gina are both so well-connected to their families," says Traore, "that it was really special for them to experience the newness of being just normal tourists together - just people-watching, souvenir-shopping D.C. tourists."

Cyprus Mail

BIDEN to stay in Limassol after football risk in Nicosia

By: Angelos Anastasiou / May 14, 2014

NEXT week's football cup final shaped decision-making in Tuesday's kick-off meeting between Cyprus police and members of the US vice-president's security detail, leading to a switch in the venue of Joe **BIDEN'S** stay from the Hilton in Nicosia to a Limassol hotel, according to reports.

In the meeting to devise the security plan for the American number two's protection during his two-day stay, it was decided that **BIDEN** will be given head-of-state protection, meaning that for the duration of his 48-hour visit hundreds of police officers - led by the elite MMAD riot squad members - will be on red alert.

BIDEN will arrive in Cyprus on Wednesday, May 21, in an US government jet, which will carry two bulletproof limos - one for him and one for his escort.

Per head-of-state protocol, he will be accompanied by armed members of his security detail bearing identification badges. His general safety will be the remit of Cyprus police, it was established during the meeting.

Tuesday's meeting was the first in a series to follow in order to finalise every detail of **BIDEN'S** itinerary.

But Phileleftheros reported that while the visitors were scheduled to stay at the Hilton in Nicosia, it emerged at the meeting that a Limassol hotel would be best suited to host **BIDEN** and his entourage.

That is because the final whistle at football cup final, scheduled for the evening of May 21 between Nicosia-based APOEL and Aradippou club Ermis, may well find scores of APOEL's fans flocking to the club's headquarters - adjacent to the Hilton - in celebration, and the gathered crowd has been deemed a potentially serious security risk.

Police spokesman Andreas Angelides neither confirmed nor denied the report, and could only offer assurances that "all necessary security measures are being taken." But any truth to the paper's claims would mean the implicit admission by the police of its inability to control an anticipated crowd of a few hundred football fans, or even block their gathering altogether.

Meanwhile, a separate security mission was expected to arrive from the United States yesterday, in order to finalise the schedule for **BIDEN'S** two-day visit, while Foreign Minister Ioannis Kasoulides - as part of a four-day official visit to the U.S. - had a meeting with **BIDEN'S** National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, in which issues relating to the visit w [ARTICLE CUTS OFF]

PolicyMic

If You Suspected the White House Isn't Giving Us the Full Story on Ukraine, Now We Have Proof

By: Jenna Kagel / May 14, 2014

The U.S. political landscape is looking more like an episode of House of Cards than ever before. Ukraine's largest private gas provider, Burisma Holdings, announced Tuesday that R. Hunter **BIDEN**, son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, will be joining the board in charge of their legal unit. And with the current conflict in Ukraine, which has only been worsening, this announcement seems like a very curious ploy.

On a global scale, the decision suggests that U.S. governmental arbitration stems from what the U.S. can selfishly procure, politically and/or financially, through involvement in conflict areas abroad. By bringing the VP's offspring onto the board of a Ukrainian gas company, there is now strong indication of an affiliation between the U.S. and Ukraine, probably incentivized by both money and politics.

Russia may be Europe's largest supplier of natural gas, but Ukraine is the middle man. More than half of Russia's natural gas enters Europe through pipelines in Ukraine and then branches off into Germany, Italy and Austria. Through a few degrees of separation, there is huge potential, monetarily as well as politically, for the U.S. and Ukraine to sync up in the energy industry.

Seizing a window of opportunity. The U.S. now has a very tactically capable ally working closely with one of Ukraine's natural gas

providers. The VP has an essential role in foreign policy at the White House. In April, he traveled to Kiev to discuss how the U.S. could aid Ukraine in expanding their natural gas resources and avoid relying so heavily on Russia.

Russia currently supplies 60% of Ukraine's consumed natural gas. In March, however, the Russian natural gas company Gazprom announced that it was canceling discounted gas prices to Ukraine, partially to dissuade Ukraine from accepting a trade deal with the EU. And because of the ongoing strife between Ukraine and Russia, natural gas is a fundamental commodity not just for livelihood but in the grand scheme of international politics.

A question of ethical politicking. Incidentally, the involvement of the younger **BIDEN** in a Ukrainian gas company implies a link between money and U.S. involvement in conflicts. The U.S. government does appear to have more to gain from foreign engagement in Ukraine, which speaks volumes as to why the U.S. has continued to restrain engagement in Syria's 3-year-old civil war.

One conclusion to draw from this is simply that U.S. foreign policy is based on personal motivations, i.e. they are more enterprising when it is monetarily advantageous to do so. Money does make the world go round after all. And energy concerns are a growing trend internationally, which is obviously adding dollar signs to locations with many resources to trade, produce, import or export.

Still, the White House is denying any sort of involvement or conflict of interest. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said during a briefing Tuesday that "Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president."

As part of the legal unit, Hunter **BIDEN** will "provide support for the Company among international organizations," according to Burisma Holdings' announcement. By joining the board, **BIDEN** hopes to strengthen the Ukrainian economy and benefit the people through his consultancy on issues such as corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and transparency.

If that is truly what his appointment will entail, then with U.S. motivations aside, popular opinion about **BIDEN'S** new job would probably be different. Unfortunately, for now, Burisma's announcement, the timing of **BIDEN'S** new job and the implications of the union between these two countries are all smelling pretty fishy.

Al-Jazeera America

White House: No Conflict with **BIDEN'S** Son Working for Ukraine Gas Company

May 14, 2014

The White House brushed aside questions this week about whether the involvement of Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son in a Ukrainian natural gas company raised ethical issues at a time when the Obama administration is promoting energy diversity in the country, which is also currently mired in a gas-price spat with Moscow.

R. Hunter **BIDEN**, an attorney and chairman of the board of the World Food Program USA, was named this week to the board of directors of Burisma Holdings, a private company that has drilled for natural gas in Ukraine since 2002.

"I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," **BIDEN** said, according to a statement released by the company.

The announcement comes as Ukraine and the U.S. are looking to decrease Ukraine's reliance on Russian energy amid threats from Moscow to cut Ukraine off if it doesn't pay massive debts. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage over Ukraine if Europe were less dependent on Russian gas.

Amid the push to make Ukraine less dependent on Moscow, Kyiv is also mired in a conflict with pro-Russian rebels in its eastern region who voted Sunday for wider autonomy. The U.S. has placed sanctions on Russia for its alleged support of the rebels, but the pressure has done little to stop activists in the region from seeking more independence.

In April, Vice President **BIDEN** traveled to Kyiv to discuss how the U.S. could help provide technical expertise for expanding domestic production of natural gas.

Asked by a reporter Tuesday whether Hunter **BIDEN'S** appointment to the company presented a conflict of interest, White House spokesman Jay Carney said it did not.

"Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president," Carney said.

Kendra Barkoff, a spokeswoman for Vice President **BIDEN**, said he "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Ukraine-Russia gas spat

Ukraine, which depends on Russia for most of its natural gas, has accused Moscow of hiking natural gas prices as punishment for Kyiv's moving closer to the European Union.

On Tuesday, Russia's state-run natural gas company Gazprom demanded a \$1.7 billion prepayment from Ukraine for June gas deliveries, heightening a dispute over price that is pushing the two countries closer to another gas war that could cut supplies.

Ukraine also wants to change the conditions of a 2009 contract that locked Kyiv into buying a set volume, whether it needs it or not, at \$485 per 1,000 cubic meters – the highest price paid by any client in Europe.

Moscow dropped the price to \$268.50 after then-president Viktor Yanukovich turned his back on a trade and association agreement with the European Union last year, but reinstated the original price after Yanukovich was ousted in February.

Kyiv has so far refused to pay the higher price, saying gas is being used as a political tool by Moscow to punish Ukraine's new leaders for moving closer to the European Union.

As for the involvement in Burisma Holdings, Melanie Sloan, the head of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, a watchdog group on government ethics, told Reuters there was no inherent conflict in the younger **BIDEN'S** job.

"It can't be that because your dad is the vice president, you can't do anything," Sloan said. "The most important thing is for **BIDEN** not to be speaking about these issues with his dad, and for them to try and draw the lines."

NBC
Ukraine Gas Producer Appoints R. Hunter **BIDEN** to Board
By: Javier David / May 14, 2014

Ukraine's largest private gas producer announced on Tuesday that it added R. Hunter **BIDEN** – the son of U.S. Vice President Joseph **BIDEN** – to its board of directors.

In a statement on its website, Burisma Holdings said the younger **BIDEN** will be in charge of the company's legal unit, while providing support "among international organizations."

The release quoted Hunter **BIDEN** as saying that "my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate

governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

Large corporations frequently appoint well-connected marquee names of both major U.S. political parties as directors. Yet corporate governance experts are critical of the process, which can be fraught with conflicts of interests and the appearance of favoritism.

The arrangement raised questions about the propriety of his appointment, given the tense political standoff between Russia and the West over the future status of Ukraine, where fighting has resulted in the deaths of dozens of soldiers and civilians. Natural gas has factored heavily in tensions between Russia and Ukraine, both of which have political leadership that's intertwined with their respective energy industries.

Until a few years ago, the younger **BIDEN** was a senior vice president for financial services giant MBNA—an arrangement that drew criticism during the 2008 elections for potential conflict of interests. As a senator, the elder **BIDEN** spearheaded legislation that would have affected MBNA's business. Meanwhile, Vice President **BIDEN** has been a vocal supporter of a cross-border European natural gas pipeline.

Earlier Tuesday, White House spokesman Jay Carney referred questions on the appointment to the vice president's office.

In response to an inquiry from CNBC, a spokesperson for the vice president said, "Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

A representative at Rosemont Seneca told CNBC that **BIDEN** was traveling and not immediately available for comment.

With Moscow threatening to cut gas supplies to the former Soviet satellite, some have called for the U.S. to deepen its ties to Ukraine by shipping its own natural gas bounty to Eastern Europe.

Burisma touted **BIDEN'S** "public service and foreign policy," and is listed as a co-founder of Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment advisory company. He also served as executive director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under former Commerce Secretary William Daley, and co-chaired the 2008 Obama-**BIDEN** Inaugural Committee.

Yahoo! News

Why did an energy firm with big assets in Ukraine hire Joe BIDEN'S son?

By: Oliver Knox and Meredith Shiner / May 14, 2014

In the span of a few weeks, an energy firm little-known inside the United States added two members to its board of directors – scoring connections to Secretary of State John Kerry and Vice President Joe **BIDEN** in the bargain.

On April 22, Cyprus-based Burisma announced that financier Devon Archer had joined its board. Archer, who shared a room in college with Kerry's stepson, Christopher Heinz, served as national finance co-chair for the former senator's 2004 presidential campaign.

Then, on Monday, the firm announced that **BIDEN'S** younger son, R. Hunter **BIDEN**, would join the board of directors.

Why would the company, which bills itself as Ukraine's largest private gas producer, need such powerful friends in Washington?

The answer might be the company's holdings in Ukraine. They include, according to the firm's website, permits to explore in the Dnieper-Donets Basin in the country's eastern regions, home to an armed pro-Russian separatist movement. They also include permits to explore in the Azov-Kuban Basin of the strategic Crimean peninsula, annexed earlier this year by Moscow.

It's not clear what will happen to energy firms, like Burisma, that aim to explore and exploit potential deposits in those areas. Neither the Archer nor the **BIDEN** announcement explicitly mentions the unrest, and it's not clear exactly when their discussions to join the board began. In an April 23 Q&A, the transcript of which appears on Burisma's website, Archer said he had been approached "a few months ago" about the opportunity to consult for the oil company. The announcement of his directorship came less than a month after the disputed vote in Crimea to rejoin Russia.

The White House and the vice president's office denied there was anything untoward about **BIDEN'S** appointment.

"Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the Vice President or President," said President Barack Obama's press secretary, Jay Carney. "But I would refer you to the Vice President's office."

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer," the vice president's press secretary, Kendra Barkoff, said in a statement. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

The person who answered the telephone at **BIDEN'S** office in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday cheerfully declared that **BIDEN** was traveling, that his return date was unknown, and that his assistant was also out of pocket.

An email to Burisma's public relations department did not elicit a reply.

But Archer coyly acknowledged the potential benefits of having him on the board in the April 23 Q&A.

Question: "In the American media you are often linked to the immediate circle of the U.S. Secretary of State Mr. John Kerry and the Vice-president of the United States Mr. Joe **BIDEN**."

Yahoo! News

Rahm Emanuel votes Hillary over BIDEN for 2016

By: Jim Avila, Richard Coolidge and Jordyn Phelps / May 14, 2014

As a former White House insider in both the Clinton and Obama administrations, Rahm Emanuel has worked closely with Hillary Clinton and Vice President Joe **BIDEN**. But when it comes to who would be the better Democratic presidential candidate come 2016, his mind is made up.

Emanuel votes Hillary.

"If she chooses to run, I've already said I'm going to support her," the mayor of Chicago told "Power Players."

"Joe's a good friend, personally," said Emanuel. "He's obviously worthy of being considered because he's a great vice president, a great senator, has something to offer ... In this case, so does the former secretary of state, senator, and first lady."

Though Emanuel said he is confident that Clinton would win a hypothetical presidential matchup if she chooses to run, he added that Clinton is weighing the prospects of a presidential bid against other personal life factors.

"She's about to be a grandmother," he said. "And she cares about that, and making sure she has the time. Being a congressman, being a mayor, being a president, being a candidate for president, time is not one of the commodities you have a lot of."

Emanuel sat down with "Power Players" along with fellow Illinois Democrat Rep. Luis Gutierrez before a panel discussion on immigration reform at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C. He said that the Republican Party cannot survive on the national stage without changing course on immigration reform.

"I think the 'leaders of the Republican Party' know where the future is heading, the current of history is heading," Emanuel said. "The problem is to get there, the boat breaks that they're on. In national elections you cannot be a majority party and be hostile to immigrants."

For the GOP, Emanuel said, it's no longer a question of "will" the party change course, but "when."

Gutierrez described what he sees as a "fight within the Republican Party" between those who stand starkly in opposition to reform as a matter of principle and those who want reform for the sake of the party's national standing. He pointed to former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush as an example of a pro-reform voice within the GOP.

"I think when you hear Jeb Bush and other Republican leaders speak about immigration ... I don't want to question their motives of where their heart is at, many of them have their heart exactly where Rahm Emanuel and I have our heart," he said. "And that is to do well and to make sure people have a system that is fair."

Gutierrez also acknowledged that the slow pace of change on the issue and the record number of deportations under President Obama have not been helpful to Democrats. But, he said, President Obama is preparing to take executive action to reform the country's immigration system if Congress does not put forth legislation by the summer's end.

"If Republicans do not act, I assure them that this president will act, in a huge, very broad manner," Gutierrez said. "If it's the end of the summer, and, Jim, you look at me and say, 'Luis, for all your optimism, you know nothing's going to happen,' the president is going to act in a very expansive manner."

Emanuel also believes that Obama will "absolutely" act if Congress does not, "because certain issues are so urgent to the nation's future that a president must act."

"He can't legalize them, but he can stop their deportation, and put them in a safe place," Gutierrez added. "If they want to simply be a regional party, a party of little cities, and regions in a few states, okay, because that is your future. Abraham Lincoln ... first Republican president, George Bush, 2004, you watch, he's going to be the last Republican president for a long time."

For more of the interview with Emanuel and Gutierrez, including what sets Chicago apart as a "sanctuary city" for undocumented immigrants, check out this episode of "Power Players."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:05:51 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

En route

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 07:02 PM
To: Schrum, Michael
Subject: Fw: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 06:55 PM
To: Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin; Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657?mod=WSJ_LatestHeadlines

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 4:29:28 PM
To: "[personal email]" <address>
Subject: Fw: VPOTUS Afternoon Press Mentions--May 13, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:08:22 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Zezima, Katie <katie.zezima@washpost.com>
Sent: 5/14/2014 9:39:18 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden and Ukranian gas producer

Thanks, Kendra.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:00 AM
To: Zezima, Katie
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden and Ukranian gas producer

Thank you for reaching out

Here is my on the record statement:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

Kendra

From: Zezima, Katie [mailto:Katie.Zezima@washpost.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden and Ukranian gas producer

Hi Kendra,

Hope you're doing well. I'm wondering if you have any comment on Hunter Biden joining the board of directors of Burisma Holdings. Given that VP Biden has expressed support for pro-Western demonstrators that overthrew Mr. Yanukovych's government, does the VP see any conflict? Has the VP had any involvement with the company? Have Hunter Biden and Vice President Biden discussed the move?

Thanks so much.

Katie

Katie Zezima
White House reporter
The Washington Post
Office: 202-334-9607
Cell: 617-997-9221
Katie.zezima@washpost.com
@katiezez

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Ricchetti, Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:24:28 PM
To: "DMCOS" <dmcoss@who.eop.gov>; "DMCOS <" </cn=recipients/cn=dmcoss791>
Subject: FW: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Here is the story.

From: Murray, Shailagh
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 7:02 PM
To: Ricchetti, Steven
Subject: Fw: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 06:52 PM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

By
COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES
Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET
[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/16/2014 5:36:15 AM
To: "Kalishman, David (Intern)" <david_kalishman_intern@who.eop.gov>; "Kalishman, David (Intern) </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kalishman, david456>" <Intern>; >
Subject: RE: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, May 16, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:35:40 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 10/17/2014 4:14:26 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kcoconnor@whmo.mil" <Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern)" <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@whmo.mil>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Stennis, Michael" <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berlenbach, Sarah" <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ford, Sarah (Intern)" <sarah_l_ford_intern@whmo.mil>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas.p.mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nourse, Victoria" <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, October 17, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:48:58 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 9:34:22 AM
To: "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <e.67f>; "Nix, Sheila" <m.d38>; "Bernal, Anthony R." </cn=recipients/cn=anthonyr.bernal72748266>
Subject: fyi
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

The Moscow Times
May. 13 2014 18:49
Last edited 18:49



Joe Hunter / Twitter Joe Hunter (R) standing alongside his father, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden (L) and Republican lawmaker John McCain (C).

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 5/16/2014 4:13:28 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Fromstein, Charles" <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, May 16, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:43:36 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lederman, Josh <jlederman@ap.org>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:45:55 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Thanks Kendra. Safe travels

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:45 PM
To: Lederman, Josh
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:23 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. That's on the record, attributable to Kendra Barkoff, right?

Also - which of Hunter's offices are you directing me to? He is involved with a lot of companies.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:22 PM
To: Lederman, Josh
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Off the record (on the airplane, so having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including "Bush vs. Gore", and "U.S. vs. Microsoft". He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University's Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman's Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world's largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent - incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m3 of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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msk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p._mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/23/2014 5:56:36 AM
To: "[personal email]" <address>
Subject: Fw: Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, October 23, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:57:42 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email addresses

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 10/18/2014 4:02:45 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kcoconnor@whmo.mil" <Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern)" <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@whmo.mil>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Stennis, Michael" <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berlenbach, Sarah" <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Saturday, October 18, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:49:16 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/23/2014 3:07:29 PM
To: "Ford, Sarah (Intern)" <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>; "Ford, Sarah (Intern)" <ford_sl264a>
Subject: RE: Afternoon Press Clips- October 23, 2014

Clips!

From: Ford, Sarah (Intern)
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2014 5:01 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Hart, Liz; Murray, Shailagh; O'Brien, Sean; Pietranton, Kelsey; Reddy, Vinay; Schrum, Michael; Spector, Stephen
Subject: Afternoon Press Clips- October 23, 2014

VPOTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS
Thursday, October 23, 2014

KDAL 610

Vice President Visits Duluth To Praise Work Against Domestic Violence

By: Dave Strandberg / October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** made a stop in Duluth on Thursday to congratulate some of the people who developed and implemented a program to fight domestic violence.

WDIO-TV

BIDEN Praises 'Duluth Model' in Northland Visit

October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** praised the Duluth Model for dealing with domestic violence during a visit to the Northland today.

Associated Press

BIDEN To Campaign In Hibbing For Democrat Nolan

October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will visit the Iron Range for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan.

KEYC-TV

Hillary Clinton, Joe BIDEN to Campaign in Minnesota

By: Mitch Keegan / October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will visit the Iron Range for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan.

CNN

Hillary Clinton to Return to Iowa

October 23, 2014

A number of big name Democrats have come to Iowa to help Braley. Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will stump for the Senate hopeful at an event in Davenport on Monday and first lady Michelle Obama stumped for him earlier this week.

KSTP-TV

Joe BIDEN, Hillary Clinton Campaign in Minnesota for Fellow Dems.

By: Jennie Olson / October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and Hillary Rodham Clinton are both visiting Minnesota to give a late boost to Democrats on this fall's ballot.

BIDEN will visit the Iron Range for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan.

Queens Chronicle

Cuomo unveils plan to modernize airports

October 23, 2014

LaGuardia Airport may not stay in the third world after all.

On Monday, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and Gov. Cuomo unveiled a state plan to modernize and revitalize LaGuardia, JFK, Republic and Stewart airports.

The Daily Beast

Trump Travels to Iowa, Bashes New York

By: Ben Jacobs / October 23, 2014

Trump's comments echo those made by Joe **BIDEN** earlier this year in which the Vice President compared LaGuardia to a "third world country." **BIDEN** made the statement at an event in Philadelphia, where he pushed for an increase in federal infrastructure spending.

Huffington Post

Shining Light on Violence Against Women

By: Nancy C. Lee / October 23, 2014

At a recent event celebrating the 20th anniversary of VAWA, Vice President **BIDEN** (the original author of the law) voiced a goal that I believe is necessary and attainable: "We are not going to succeed until America embraces the notion... that under no circumstance does a man ever have a right to raise a hand to a woman other than in self-defense."

BCTV

A Tie in the U S Senate: Turning Even into Odd

By: G. Terry Madonna & Michael L. Young / October 23, 2014

The wild card in what is otherwise a horrific scenario is Vice President **BIDEN**. **BIDEN** is a creature of the Senate, long a part of the Senate establishment and someone with close relationships with Senate colleagues on both side of the aisle. **BIDEN** might make a tie work if anyone can.

ABC News

Bristol Palin Explains Brawl, Blames Media, Attacks BIDENs, Clintons (All In One Note!)

By: Shushannah Walshe / October 23, 2014

In her defense, Sarah Palin's eldest daughter blamed a liberal media bias for unfair and incorrect reporting on the incident. She aimed to set the record straight while also pointing out embarrassing incidents in other political families such as the Clintons and **BIDENs**.

The Daily Caller

Bristol Palin Claws Media With 10 Perfect Post Brawl Nails

By: Betsy Rothstein / October 23, 2014

She also graciously brings up Veep Joe **BIDEN**'s son, who got kicked out the Navy for testing positive for cocaine. She calls him the "real Vice President's kid." A quick Google search turns up more than 380,000 hits. From CNN to The Daily Beast to The National Enquirer, they all covered Hunter **BIDEN**'s cocaine scandal.

BIDEN nepotism? Follow your nose

By: Michelle Malkin / October 23, 2014

Everything you need to know about Beltway nepotism, corporate cronyism and corruption can be found in the biography of Robert Hunter **BIDEN**. Where are the Occupy Wall Street rabble-rousers and enemies of elitist privilege when you need them? Straining their neck muscles to look the other way.

KDAL 610

Vice President Visits Duluth To Praise Work Against Domestic Violence

By: Dave Strandberg / October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** made a stop in Duluth on Thursday to congratulate some of the people who developed and implemented a program to fight domestic violence. The program, called the Duluth Model, has since spread around the world as an effective community tool to deal with the problem. The Vice President says he contacted some of those people in Duluth when he was a U-S Senator and authored the Violence Against Women Act. The Duluth Model recently won the 2014 Future Policy Award from the World Future Council, UN Women and the Inter Parliamentary Union for its coordinated community response to end the violence against women and girls.

WDIO-TV

BIDEN Praises 'Duluth Model' in Northland Visit

October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** praised the Duluth Model for dealing with domestic violence during a visit to the Northland today.

In a midday speech at the Duluth Public Safety Building, **BIDEN** told people who have worked on the Duluth Model that they "have awakened the world." He said he has seen the Duluth Model's visual wheel for intervening in domestic abuse cases on visits to other countries.

The Duluth Model was named the world's best policy last week by the World Future Council, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and UN Women.

"Because of you, we've made real progress, we've saved lives," **BIDEN** said. "You made it clear that it is never, never, never, never the woman's fault. It is not the woman's fault."

BIDEN called on other men to intervene to stop domestic violence, saying, "We have to change the behavior, not only of the abuser, but of other men."

This afternoon, **BIDEN** will travel to Hibbing for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan at Hibbing Community College. He's hoping to give a boost to Nolan, a first-term Democratic incumbent who's locked in a tight race with GOP candidate Stewart Mills. It's one of the country's top five races in terms of outside spending.

We'll have full coverage of **BIDEN**'s visit on Eyewitness News at 5:00, 6:00, and 10:00 and on wdio.com.

Associated Press

BIDEN To Campaign In Hibbing For Democrat Nolan

October 23, 2014

HIBBING, Minn. (AP) — Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will visit the Iron Range for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan.

BIDEN speaks at Hibbing Community College on Thursday afternoon. He's hoping to give a boost to Nolan, a first-term Democratic incumbent who's locked in a tight race with GOP candidate Stewart Mills. It's one of the country's top five races in terms of outside spending.

Northeastern Minnesota's 8th Congressional District was long a Democratic stronghold but redistricting has added more conservative territory to it, turning it into a swing district.

BIDEN will travel to Hibbing after speaking at the Duluth Public Safety Building at an event on domestic violence. The White House says he'll highlight "The Duluth Model" of collaboration among domestic abuse intervention programs and government agencies.

KEYC-TV

Hillary Clinton, Joe BIDEN to Campaign in Minnesota

By: Mitch Keegan / October 23, 2014

Hillary Rodham Clinton will be in Minnesota today to give a boost to Democrats on this fall's ballot and renew ties that could help her in a possible presidential bid.

The former U.S. secretary of state, senator and first lady will headline a rally at Macalester College and hold a fundraiser for Gov. Mark Dayton.

Her appearance is geared toward energizing voters about to decide the re-election fates of Dayton and first-term Sen. Al Franken.

Dayton was a vocal Clinton backer when she sought the party's presidential nomination in 2008 and says he'd be in her corner if she runs in 2016.

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will visit the Iron Range for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan.

He's hoping to give a boost to Nolan, a first-term Democratic incumbent who's locked in a tight race with GOP candidate Stewart Mills.

It's one of the country's top five races in terms of outside spending.

Northeastern Minnesota's 8th Congressional District was long a Democratic stronghold but redistricting has added more conservative territory to it, turning it into a swing district.

CNN

Hillary Clinton to Return to Iowa

October 23, 2014

WASHINGTON — Hillary Clinton is heading back to Iowa on October 29, according to a Democratic source with knowledge of the trip.

The former first lady's visit comes just a little more than a month since she returned to Iowa after a six year hiatus. Clinton stumped for Bruce Braley, Iowa's Democratic Senate nominee, and other Iowa Democrats at the 37th annual — and final — Harkin Steak Fry in September. She had last visited the state in 2008.

Braley is currently locked in a tight race to succeed Harkin in the Senate with Republican Joni Ernst.

A number of big name Democrats have come to Iowa to help Braley. Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will stump for the Senate hopeful at an event in Davenport on Monday and first lady Michelle Obama stumped for him earlier this week.

Any visit Clinton makes to Iowa - the crucially important first-in-the-nation caucus state - is immediately seen through the lens of 2016 politics given that the former first lady is widely seen as the Democratic frontrunner for president and has admitted that she is considering a run.

Clinton's October visit to stump for Democrats in Iowa comes near the end of her prolonged push for Democrats across the country. Clinton has headlined political events in California, Colorado, Michigan, Kentucky, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Florida in the last month. And is expected to return to New Hampshire and Georgia by election day.

While all of these events have been for Democrats seeking to win in November, the campaigning is also a way for Clinton to satisfy Democrats who expect their potential future presidential nominee to help the party in the years before the run.

By election day, Clinton is expected to visit over 15 states in her midterm push.

KSTP-TV

Joe BIDEN, Hillary Clinton Campaign in Minnesota for Fellow Dems.

By: Jennie Olson / October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and Hillary Rodham Clinton are both visiting Minnesota to give a late boost to Democrats on this fall's ballot.

BIDEN will visit the Iron Range for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan.

BIDEN speaks at Hibbing Community College on Thursday afternoon. He's hoping to give a boost to Nolan, a first-term Democratic incumbent who's locked in a tight race with GOP candidate Stewart Mills. It's one of the country's top five races in terms of outside spending.

Northeastern Minnesota's 8th Congressional District was long a Democratic stronghold, but redistricting has added more conservative territory to it, turning it into a swing district.

BIDEN will travel to Hibbing after speaking at the Duluth Public Safety Building at an event on domestic violence. The White House says he'll highlight "The Duluth Model" of collaboration among domestic abuse intervention programs and government agencies.

Meanwhile, Clinton is hoping to help fellow Democrats while renewing ties that could help her in a possible presidential bid.

The former U.S. secretary of state, senator and first lady is headlining a rally Thursday at Macalester College and is later holding a fundraiser for Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton.

Her appearance was geared toward energizing voters about to decide the re-election fates of Dayton and first-term Democratic Sen. Al Franken.

Dayton was a vocal Clinton backer when she sought the party's presidential nomination in 2008 and says he'd be in her corner if she runs in 2016. In the prior campaign, Clinton lost Minnesota's caucuses to now-President Barack Obama.

Queens Chronicle

Cuomo unveils plan to modernize airports

October 23, 2014

LaGuardia Airport may not stay in the third world after all.

On Monday, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and Gov. Cuomo unveiled a state plan to modernize and revitalize LaGuardia, JFK, Republic and Stewart airports.

"The number one job of government is to promote economic growth and prosperity, and one of the best ways to drive commerce is by investing in infrastructure that connects New York with local, national and international markets," Cuomo said during a press conference at Vaughn College in East Elmhurst.

Cuomo revealed LaGuardia and JFK airports will partake in separate master plan design competitions.

For LaGuardia, designers from across the globe will be asked to envision a complete package of what the facility will look like and how it will function. Cuomo said the competition should produce a project that will improve transportation to the airport, including the possibility of a high-speed ferry, a redesigned airport layout to increase access and more resilient infrastructure.

For JFK, the competition will call on applicants to submit designs that will enhance the transportation network - including the AirTrain, improved parking areas and the subway and LIRR - exploring the idea of increasing hotel capacity in the immediate area and upgrading facilities across the board.

Plans for Republic Airport on Long Island and Stewart International Airport in the Hudson Valley are much smaller in scale and include improving accessibility and utilizing space more efficiently.

"Build the greatest infrastructure in the world," **BIDEN**, who recently compared LaGuardia Airport to that of a third-world country, said. "It's like, build it and they will come. Nobody knows that better than the city of New York. I think this will be, for the rest of the nation, a blueprint about how they have to move. Thank you for having the courage to step up and think big and move."

In January, Cuomo announced in his State of the State Address that New York needed to assume management responsibility for construction at LaGuardia and JFK to help break gridlock.

"This is more important for New York than ever before, which is why the state is ambitiously investing in roads, bridges and tunnels on a scale that we haven't seen in decades," Cuomo said. "Our airport modernization plan not only enhances how our individual airports look and act in the 21st century, but addresses how they must fundamentally work together to strategically grow in New York's economy."

According to the Governor's Office, the Port Authority Board of Commissioners will select the best three designs for each airport. The finalists will receive up to \$500,000 to further develop their concept.

The contest will begin in 30 days and design firms will have 60 days to develop plans, which must include a project implementation timeline to ensure that work begins quickly.

Funding may come from both private and public sectors, though additional details of the competitions and the end cost were unavailable as of press time.

The governor added that the new design contest would "complement" an existing LaGuardia Airport terminal project put out to bid this year. In September, officials announced they had not selected a winner yet, but estimated that within the year, a terminal design would be chosen.

"New York is the product of our built environment," Cuomo said. "We took a very small piece of land that happened to have a great location as a harbor and a seaport and we built more than was ever imaginable. We just relished in taking engineering feats that

they said we couldn't do and doing it just to show that we could."

The Daily Beast

Trump Travels to Iowa, Bashes New York

By: Ben Jacobs / October 23, 2014

Donald Trump has gone all the way to Iowa to insult New York.

The bombastic New York-based millionaire held a press conference with Iowa Republican Rep. Steve King in Des Moines Tuesday, where he proclaimed that LaGuardia and JFK were "like third world airports." In contrast, Trump praised Qatar, Saudi Arabia and China for having airports "the likes of which we've never seen in this country."

Trump's comments echo those made by Joe **BIDEN** earlier this year in which the Vice President compared LaGuardia to a "third world country." **BIDEN** made the statement at an event in Philadelphia, where he pushed for an increase in federal infrastructure spending.

In addition to bashing New York's airports, Trump praised King, notorious for his comments about illegal immigrants with "calves the size of cantaloupes," as "a smart person with really the right views on almost everything."

At the time, the Vice President's comment provoked some backlash from New York Mayor Bill DeBlasio, as well as from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates LaGuardia. While there was universal agreement that LaGuardia badly needed renovation, DeBlasio thought that the phrasing of **BIDEN**'s critique was "inappropriate."

Unlike **BIDEN**, Trump wasn't making a plea for greater federal spending on transportation when he slammed his home state's two biggest airports. Instead the reality show star, who flirted with running for Governor of New York earlier this year, had travelled to Iowa to announce his endorsement of King, a controversial six-term Republican incumbent.

In addition to bashing New York's airports, Trump praised King, notorious for his comments about illegal immigrants with "calves the size of cantaloupes," as "a smart person with really the right views on almost everything."

However, for all the controversy around him, King has always been smart enough not to bash his home state's two biggest airports. After all, unlike Donald Trump, he's actually running for office.

Huffington Post

Shining Light on Violence Against Women

By: Nancy C. Lee / October 23, 2014

Domestic violence has been in the news a lot lately. Intimate partner violence (also known as IPV or domestic violence) is not new, but it is widespread. New research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows how staggering the problem is: over 38 million women in the United States experience violence at the hand of a husband, boyfriend, or other partner during their lifetime. But what many people don't know is that the number declined significantly in the last 20 years, in part because of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (VAWA).

Prior to VAWA, in many states physical and sexual violence against a woman by someone she knew was not considered as serious a crime as was an attack by a stranger. Thinking about it now, it's hard to believe.

VAWA was a major national recognition of the severity of partner violence against women and the need for change. Renewed last year, the law provides funding for criminal investigation, prosecution, and harsher penalties for abusers. It also supports programs and services such as the National Domestic Violence Hotline, rape crisis centers, violence prevention programs, legal aid for survivors, and protections for traditionally underserved populations such as Native Americans, undocumented individuals, women with disabilities, and lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women.

VAWA has had a big impact -- IPV declined by 67 percent between 1993 and 2010, due in part to changes like these:

All 50 states have updated their laws so that rape is now subject to the same punishment whether or not the victim knows the perpetrator.

Police, prosecutors, and judges now receive training on handling IPV cases.

If police officers have reason to suspect IPV, they may now arrest someone for committing the crime without an arrest warrant. Victims no longer have to pay for their own rape exams or to have a protection order (also called a restraining order) served to their abuser.

Perhaps the most important change to come from VAWA was the acknowledgment that domestic violence exists. Historically, we avoided the topic, preferring to think of it as a "private" or "family" issue that only happens to other people, when it actually affects people of all ages, races, ethnicities, and educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. The more we talk openly about the reality of domestic violence -- the more we let sunlight shine on this issue -- the more progress we can make.

At a recent event celebrating the 20th anniversary of VAWA, Vice President **BIDEN** (the original author of the law) voiced a goal that I believe is necessary and attainable: "We are not going to succeed until America embraces the notion... that under no circumstance does a man ever have a right to raise a hand to a woman other than in self-defense." In order to reach this goal, we must start with open, honest discussion about the painful problem of domestic violence. Not only is this discussion good for society, it can help women caught in violent relationships and the children that live in these abusive homes. When we talk openly about the many forms abuse can take and deem these actions wrong and criminal, we help others identify abuse in their lives and show them a path to change.

How can you help? Start a dialogue. Share this simple, easy-to-read infographic with friends and family and post it on your social networks in whatever way feels right for you. Don't be surprised if your doctor asks questions about your relationships and home life. IPV screening is covered under all Marketplace and most other health coverage plans, at no additional cost. And don't forget the girls in your life; at least 1 in 10 teens experience physical violence in their relationships. Talk to them about healthy relationships, abuse, and what they should do if someone hurts them.

If we open up this problem to the sunlight, we can make a difference for millions of women.

BCTV

A Tie in the U S Senate: Turning Even into Odd

By: G. Terry Madonna & Michael L. Young / October 23, 2014

Think things can't get any worse with the approval rating of Congress polling as low as a 7 percent while national problems pile up and an increasingly dysfunctional House and Senate continue to set new records for sheer futility?

If so, you would be wrong. They can get a lot worse. And they just might after Election Day, Nov. 4th.

The problem is the Senate and the issue is whether either party will win the 51 votes minimally needed to organize and operate that body for the next two years. The prospect for a tied senate at 50 to 50 after Nov. 4 is very real as we enter the final days of campaigning.

Right now, 45 seats are probably safe for Democrats, 47 for Republicans. Another 8 seats are competitive meaning either party could win. So Republicans have to win 4 of them to win the Senate, while fewer could give the body to Democrats or even produce a 50-50 tie.

The GOP is well positioned. In fact, most assessments by independent analysts forecast Republican's will pick up between four and eight senate seats.

The fly in the Republican ointment, however, is that there are two "Independents" with a prospect for victory—Kansas and South Dakota. If at least one of them is victorious, it becomes dicey - enough so that a 50 to 50 split might occur, producing chaos across Congress.

If a tie should exist after Election Day, Article I, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution would be invoked giving the vice president, one Joseph **BIDEN**, the power to vote and break ties that exist. In normal times the vice president constitutionally presides over the Senate but does not vote on matters before the Senate unless a tie exists.

A constitutional tie in the Senate would be profoundly troubling, given the disarray in national politics. It would either intensify the extreme polarization already stultifying our politics - or as bad, bring government to even more of a standstill than already exists. As a country, the prospects of a Senate tie makes us similar to an already ill patient suddenly faced with an even more calamitous sickness.

The worst precedent in Senate history of a divided chamber occurred after the election of 1880. The possible parallels to 2014 are chilling. Then the Senate was split 37 Republicans, 37 Democrats, with two Independents. With the new session in 1881, reorganization of the Senate took place. The two Independents went their separate ways, Illinois Senator David A. Davis, joined the Democrats while Virginian William Mahone caucused with the Republicans.

The tiebreaker was newly elected Vice President Republican Chester Arthur, but Republicans, lacking sufficient members in the chamber, were not able to organize properly. Consequently, Democrats maintained control of the committee chairmanships they had held previously, as the operations of the U.S. Senate descended into a farce.

Ultimately, it took the Senate two years to finally resolve its leadership crisis, blessedly ending one of the stranger moments in Senate history.

The most recent 50 to 50 Senate split occurred in the tumult of January 2001, in the aftermath of the disputed Bush-Gore presidential election. Al Gore, as Clinton' outgoing vice president, was the tiebreaker for the first 17 days of the new Congress. When Dick Cheney became vice president on January 20, he became the tiebreaker. Cheney broke several ties during his years in office, but only two in the period when the Senate party composition was equally divided.

Awkward as that was, some amity still existed in Congress and both sides worked out arrangement to make it all work.

If you think a similar tie would work in 2014 then you might be interested in buying a slightly used bridge in Brooklyn.

Let's be clear: given the extreme polarization and excessive partisanship in Washington today, nothing good at all is going to happen with a 50-50 Senate split. Challenges the Senate will likely confront in the new Congress -- immigration, energy, foreign policy, amendments to the Affordable Care Act, deciding executive appointments and Supreme court confirmations --are simply not going to be met with an evenly split Senate.

The wild card in what is otherwise a horrific scenario is Vice President **BIDEN**. **BIDEN** is a creature of the Senate, long a part of the Senate establishment and someone with close relationships with Senate colleagues on both side of the aisle. **BIDEN** might make a tie work if anyone can.

We should all hope he doesn't need to do it - and we don't need to find out if he can.

ABC News

Bristol Palin Explains Brawl, Blames Media, Attacks BIDENS, Clintons (All In One Note!)

By: Shushannah Walshe / October 23, 2014

Two days after audio from a brawl involving the Palin family was released, Bristol Palin has defended herself and her family in writing, explaining her side of what happened on the evening of Sept. 6.

"Instead of listening to all the people who weren't there... let me tell you what actually happened," she writes in a post on Patheos.

In her defense, Sarah Palin's eldest daughter blamed a liberal media bias for unfair and incorrect reporting on the incident. She aimed to set the record straight while also pointing out embarrassing incidents in other political families such as the Clintons and **BIDENS**. She alleged coverage of those moments was downplayed because they involved Democratic families.

Some details of the Palins' run-in already emerged on that audio earlier this week and in other accounts.

But here are the five best parts of Bristol Palin's new post:

Palin Attacks **BIDENS** and Clintons, Says They Don't Get Same Negative Coverage as Conservative Women

Bristol Palin asserted media bias leads to coverage of her family, but claimed there is not the same kind of coverage of Democratic family scandals:

"In the meantime, did you even hear about Vice President Joe **BIDEN**'s adult son who kicked out of the Navy for cocaine? (That's the real Vice President's kid...) So pause for a moment and consider the hysteria over our stupid 'incident', compared to our actual Vice President's son not even being able to hold on to a position in the Navy Reserve.

"I'm sure you heard the happy news that Chelsea Clinton had a baby. But did you know her father-in-law and Clinton family pal Edward Mezvinsky is a convicted felon because of committing bank, wire, and mail fraud? Of course, you didn't. Because the friends and family of the revered liberal elite are treated like delicate China. Don't handle too roughly. They are precious. They are off limits. Don't push on them too hard. In the meantime, I was pushed and held down by some guy ... and the media salivates like a dog that's just been given a bone," she wrote.

Palin said the tough coverage stems from her being a conservative woman:

"Violence against women is never okay," Palin wrote. "Even if that violence occurs against conservative women. Imagine for a second the outrage that would happen if Chelsea Clinton had gotten pushed by some guy. Had she tried to defend herself, the liberal media would've held her up as some feminist hero. But it wasn't Chelsea. It wasn't Hillary. It wasn't someone they liked or someone they agreed with. It was a conservative. And once again, the hypocrisy of the media is laid bare."

The Daily Caller

Bristol Palin Claws Media With 10 Perfect Post Brawl Nails

By: Betsy Rothstein / October 23, 2014

Sarah Palin's daughter, Bristol, doesn't just hate the media. She despises it. But today, in a first-person account on the "Palin family brawl," she sounded the typical rallying cry of many conservative websites out there: It's the liberal media - they're all biased! Specifically, she claims that the media has revealed its bias against conservative women like herself.

Bristol, please.

She describes the dramatic battleground in which her little sister, Willow, was knocked to the ground by a grown woman and her friend got "knocked out" and needed 10 stitches. When she tried to defend her sister, she was also shoved to the ground by a 200-

pound man who kept her down while she lay there helpless. She wrote that he yelled at her, saying, "You c-nt!"

Bristol goes on to correct details she says the media got wrong. No, she says, she didn't swing at the man seven times, as evidenced by-no joke-her fingernails: "After this incident, I still had a perfect manicure on all ten of my nails."

She expected the media to sit back and what, not cover this? Is she delusional?

And yet she goes to describe a media that would've obviously brushed all this off had it been the Clintons.

Specifically, Chelsea Clinton.

Excuse me, Bristol, but have you read the stories about how bad a job Chelsea did at NBC and the outrage many felt by a \$600,000 paycheck they said she didn't deserve? But even if you don't think those stories were negative enough, how about Chelsea as a teenager, when there were stories and late-night jokes about how ugly and awkward she was. Or Chelsea's father, former President Bill Clinton, getting impeached because he lied about sexual relations he'd had with an intern named Monica Lewinsky. From start to finish, the press didn't ignore the Clintons. Further, Monica blames Matt Drudge, a conservative, for ruining her life. Hillary Clinton hates the media so much that among the reported reasons why she may not run for President involves having to deal with the media.

Columbia Daily Tribune

BIDEN nepotism? Follow your nose

By: Michelle Malkin / October 23, 2014

Everything you need to know about Beltway nepotism, corporate cronyism and corruption can be found in the biography of Robert Hunter **BIDEN**. Where are the Occupy Wall Street rabble-rousers and enemies of elitist privilege when you need them? Straining their neck muscles to look the other way.

The youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN** made news last week after The Wall Street Journal revealed he had been booted from the Navy Reserve for cocaine use. His drug abuse was certainly no surprise to the Navy, which issued him a waiver for a previous drug offense before commissioning him as a public affairs officer at the age of 43. The Navy also bent over backward a second time with an age waiver so he could secure the cushy part-time job.

Papa **BIDEN** loves to tout his middle-class, "Average Joe" credentials. But rest assured, if his son had been "Hunter Smith" or "Hunter Jones" or "Hunter Brown," the Navy's extraordinary dispensations would be all but unattainable. Oh, and if he had been "Hunter Palin," The New York Times would be on its 50th front-page investigative report by now.

Despite the disgraceful ejection from our military, Hunter's Connecticut law license won't be subject to automatic review. Because, well, **BIDEN**.

BIDEN's bennies are not just one-offs. Skating by, flouting rules and extracting favors are the story of Hunter's life.

Hunter's first job, acquired after Joe **BIDEN** won his 1996 Senate re-election bid in Delaware, was with MBNA. That's the credit card conglomerate and top campaign finance donor that forked over nearly \$63,000 in bundled primary and general contributions from its employees to then Sen. **BIDEN**. As I've reported previously, Daddy **BIDEN** secured his custom-built, multimillion-dollar house in Delaware's ritziest Chateau Country neighborhood with the help of a leading MBNA corporate executive. Average Joe went on to carry legislative water for MBNA in the Senate for years.

Hunter zoomed up to senior vice president by early 1998 and then scored a plum position in the Clinton administration's Commerce Department, specializing in "electronic commerce" before returning to MBNA three years later as a high-priced "consultant." While he collected those "consulting" (translation: nepotistic access-trading) fees, Hunter became a "founding partner" in the lobbying firm of Oldaker, **BIDEN** and Belair in 2002.

William Oldaker was Papa **BIDEN's** former fundraiser, campaign treasurer and general counsel - a Beltway barnacle whose Democratic machine days dated back to Teddy Kennedy's 1980 presidential bid. Under Oldaker's tutelage, Hunter lobbied for drug companies, universities and other deep-pocketed clients to the tune of nearly \$4 million billed to the company by 2007.

Coincidentally, then-Illinois Sen. Barack Obama personally requested and secured cozy taxpayer-subsidized earmarks for several of Hunter's clients.

Hunter got himself appointed to multiple corporate board positions, including a directorship with Eudora Global. It's an investment firm founded by one Jeffrey Cooper, head of one of the biggest asbestos-litigation firms in the country. SimmonsCooper, based in Madison County, Ill., donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to **BIDEN** the Elder's various political campaigns over the past decade - all while the firm poured \$6.5 million into lobbying against a key tort-reform bill, which former Sen. **BIDEN** worked hard to defeat. Cooper also contributed to the Delaware attorney-general campaign of Hunter's older brother, Beau, and paid Beau for legal work on lucrative asbestos-litigation cases.

Hunter also was previously a top official at Paradigm Global Advisors, a hedge fund holding company founded with Vice President **BIDEN's** brother, James, and marketed by convicted finance fraudster Allen Stanford. As Paradigm chairman, Hunter oversaw half a billion dollars of client money invested in hedge funds while remaining a lobbyist at Oldaker, **BIDEN** and Belair. Cooper chipped in \$2 million for the ill-fated venture, which went bust amid nasty fraud lawsuits.

Continually failing upward, Hunter snagged a seat on the board of directors of taxpayer-subsidized, stimulus-inflated Amtrak, where he pretended not to be a lobbyist but rather an "effective advocate" for the government railroad system serving the 1 percenters' D.C.-NYC corridor.

So, where does a coke-abusing influence peddler go after raking in gobs of Daddy-enabled dough and abusing the U.S. Navy's ill-considered generosity? Back to Cronyland! Hunter joined Ukrainian natural gas company Burisma Holdings - owned by a powerful Russian government sympathizer who fled to Russia in February - this spring. The hypocritical lobbyist-bashers at the White House deny he will be lobbying and deny any conflict of interest.

Meanwhile, Just Like You Joe was whipping up class envy in South Carolina last week. "Corporate profits have soared," he railed, thanks to "these guys running hedge funds in New York," who are to blame for "income inequality."

You know, like his son and brother and their Beltway back-scratching patrons.

The **BIDENs**: They're not like us.

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:16:36 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <r.562>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

AP: VP Biden's son joins Ukrainian gas company's board

WASHINGTON (AP) - Vice President Joe Biden's youngest son, Hunter Biden, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine.
That's according to Burisma Holdings. The company says Biden will head the company's legal unit and seek support for Burisma among international organizations.
The announcement comes as Ukraine is looking to decrease its reliance on Russian energy. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage in the crisis with Ukraine if Europe was less dependent on Russian gas.
Burisma says it's the largest private gas producer in Ukraine, but a state-owned company controls most gas production there. Securities and Exchange Commission records show Burisma is based in Cyprus. The vice president will visit Cyprus next week and has been a key player in the U.S. response to the Ukraine crisis.

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:27 PM
To: Spector, Stephen; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.
Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

+ others

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:23 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley
Subject: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis
<http://www.nationaljournal.com/white-house/another-biden-has-waded-into-the-ukraine-crisis-20140513>

By Marina Koren

Joe Biden has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only Biden involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

It's unclear whether the entry of another Biden into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 6/26/2014 8:57:02 AM
To: hbiden@rosemontseneca.com
Bcc: shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov
Subject: Re: hey

Thanks for letting me know. What about tomorrow?

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2014 10:55 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

K-
I am really sorry but I have to cancel call today.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 2:23 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Been giving out this statement:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 02:20 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

If anything beyond referring questions to my office is required from you or counsel you can contact Heather King at Boise Schiller.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 6:00 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Eric Schwerin [mailto:eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:58 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: Re: hey

Kendra, I am around the next few days if you need me.

Eric D. Schwerin
Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC
1010 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Suite 705
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 333-1880
eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com

P Consider the environment before printing this email.

On May 13, 2014, at 10:39 AM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:39 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Eric Schwerin
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Re: hey

Ok-

What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB

202.333.1880

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Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff

Press Secretary

Office of the Vice President

(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)

kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Sent: 6/26/2014 8:55:52 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: hey

K-
I am really sorry but I have to cancel call today.

RHB
202.333.1880

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Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:33:00 PM
To: "Lucas Magnuson, Laura" <laura_d_lucas@nsc.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Lucas, Laura" <d.49e>
Cc: "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <r.7b8>
Subject: Re: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Thanks
Yes. Answering them now

From: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:17 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley
Cc: Carpenter, Michael
Subject: FW: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Want me to have State forward all queries to you?

And are you saying anything? Thanks!

From: Singer, Matthew A [mailto:SingerMA@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:15 PM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Cc: Ferencevych, Yaryna N; Schtele, Luke A; Sessums, Michael D; Smith, Brian T; Bouldin, Megan T; EUR-PD-Dirs-DL
Subject: FW: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Hello, Laura,

Can we discuss? Post has gotten an inquiry about this (fortunately, just to confirm whether it's true, nothing too loaded), and they need to know if they should forward inquiries to NSC.

Thank you,

-MS

Matthew Singer • Public Diplomacy Desk Officer for Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus • Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs • U.S. Dept. of State

2201 C St NW, Room 4427, Washington, DC 20520 | Direct 202-647-7861 | SingerMA@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Smith, Brian T
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:13 PM
To: EUR-UMB-DL; EUR-RUS-POL-DL
Cc: Ukraine Neg Narratives; Ukraine-Russia Coordination; Kyiv, PAS FSOs
Subject: RE: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Now being covered in English by the Moscow Times.

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/son-of-us-vice-president-biden-joins-ukraine-gas-company/500062.html>

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Smith, Brian T
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:10 AM
To: EUR-UMB-DL; EUR-RUS-POL-DL
Cc: Ukraine Neg Narratives; Ukraine-Russia Coordination
Subject: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Colleagues - FYSA, The below Russian news article, that VP Biden's son, Hunter, has been named a board member of the energy company Burisma, which has rights to hydrocarbon reserves in Ukraine, is being retweeted by Russian elites, including Aleksey Pushkov and Vladislav Surkov. It has 100 retweets as of 1100 EST.

<http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/13/biden/>

Brian T. Smith
EUR/UMB (TDY)
202.647.2979 | HST 4427A

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:07:19 AM
To: "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <f.f6c>
Subject: Fw: MoscowTimes: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

...

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:05 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoco, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: MoscowTimes: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

[DRUDGE REPORT @DRUDGE_REPORT_1m](#)

Son of Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company... <http://drudge.tw/1lih37X>

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/son-of-us-vice-president-biden-joins-ukraine-gas-company/500062.html>

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

The Moscow Times

May. 13 2014 18:49 Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 12/12/2014 3:31:04 PM
To: "FN-OVP-Press" <ovppress@ovp.eop.gov>; "FN-OVP-Press" <"/cn=recipients/cn=ovppress>
Subject: Emailing: VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.08.14, VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.09.14, VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.10.14, VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.11.14, VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.12.14, VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.15.14, VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.16.14, VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.17.14, VPOTUS PM PRESS- 09.18.14, VP
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VPOTUS PM PRESS- 12.11.14

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

From: Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:35:49 PM
To: "Ellison, Janine M" <ellisonjm@state.gov>
Cc: "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: FW: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Just flagging that this is swirling.

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:33 PM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Trotter, Kingsley
Cc: Carpenter, Michael
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Thanks
Yes. Answering them now

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To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley
Cc: Carpenter, Michael
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From: Singer, Matthew A [<mailto:SingerMA@state.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:15 PM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Cc: Ferencevych, Yaryna N; Schtele, Luke A; Sessums, Michael D; Smith, Brian T; Bouldin, Megan T; EUR-PD-Dirs-DL
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Matthew Singer • Public Diplomacy Desk Officer for Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus • Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs • U.S. Dept. of State

2201 C St NW, Room 4427, Washington, DC 20520 | Direct 202-647-7861 | SingerMA@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Smith, Brian T
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:13 PM
To: EUR-UMB-DL; EUR-RUS-POL-DL
Cc: Ukraine Neg Narratives; Ukraine-Russia Coordination; Kyiv, PAS FSOs
Subject: RE: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

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<http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/13/biden/>

Brian T. Smith
EUR/UMB (TDY)
202.647.2979 | HST 4427A

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 5/14/2014 4:13:02 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

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"McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen.c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; "membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil"; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov"; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_p_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, May 14, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:32:13 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

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Notes:

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Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

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From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 4:52:04 PM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

By
COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

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From: Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>
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Subject: Fw: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, October 17, 2014

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CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kcoconnor@whmo.mil" <Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern)" <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@whmo.mil>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Stennis, Michael" <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berlenbach, Sarah" <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ford, Sarah (Intern)" <sarah_l_ford_intern@whmo.mil>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas.p.mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nourse, Victoria" <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, October 17, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:48:22 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 11:00:45 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Do we have a response?

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:54 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sangal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchhoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeborg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Rummeler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Politico // Lucy McCalmont

May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

From: Nelson, Colleen McCain <colleen.nelson@wsj.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:22:01 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: question from The Wall Street Journal on Hunter Biden

Hi Kendra -

Thanks so much for getting back to me. Any chance you can tell me any more about Hunter's role or whether he consulted his father before taking this appointment?

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:14 PM
To: Nelson, Colleen McCain
Subject: RE: question from The Wall Street Journal on Hunter Biden

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Nelson, Colleen McCain [mailto:Colleen.Nelson@wsj.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:29 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: question from The Wall Street Journal on Hunter Biden

Hi Kendra -

We're writing something today about Hunter Biden joining the board of directors of Burisma Holdings. Would you be able to answer a few questions about this?

Thanks so much for your help.

Best,

Colleen

Colleen McCain Nelson
The Wall Street Journal
Office: 202.862.9289
Cell: 214.957.0632

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 10/22/2014 4:12:56 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, October 22, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:54:51 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Max Seddon <max.seddon@buzzfeed.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 4:25:39 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

thanks for getting back to me, here's the piece

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/maxseddon/bidens-son-polish-ex-president-quietly-sign-on-to-ukrainian>

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 9:35 PM, Barkoff, Kendra
<Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

> OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having
> email issues)
> Here is a statement for your use from me:

> "Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not
> endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company.
> For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

> Off the record:

> The VP didn't meet with anyone from Burisma when he was in Ukraine.

> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:47 AM

> To: Barkoff, Kendra

> Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas
> company

> Hi Kendra,

> Am about to get on a plane so just wanted to send you a couple other
> questions: Ukrainian media have reported Mr. Zlochinsky is on a visa ban
> list. Is this true? Did the VP or any of his people meet with Burisma
> representatives while he was in Ukraine and discuss this? Why does the
> Burisma site seem so proud of its apparent connections to the Biden family,
> including from before today's announcement? What, if anything, has the VP
> discussed with Hunter about Burisma, Mr. Zlochinsky, or other matters
> related to the Ukrainian gas industry?

> Thanks in advance - will be online again in about two hours or so. Phone is
> +380684586856

> Best

> Max

> On Tuesday, May 13, 2014, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov>
> wrote:

>> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

>> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM

>> To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

>> Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas
>> company

>> Dear Laura,

>> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press
>> release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company,
>> claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of
>> directors:

>> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

>> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly
>> glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy -
>> particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was
>> energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovych.

>> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

>> Thanks and best

>> Max

>> --

>> Max Seddon

>> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed

>> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)

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>> --

> Sent from Gmail Mobile

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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 7/8/2014 11:08:40 AM
To: "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>
Subject: RE: Time: Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist

Ah. That's who I've been wondering about, probably. But I'm still not sure.

From: Feldman, Stefanie G.
Sent: Tuesday, July 08, 2014 1:08 PM
To: Clavel, Lise
Subject: Fw: Time: Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist

Different chris heinz?

have worked as business partners with Kerry's son-in-law, Christopher Heinz, the founding partner of Rosemont Capital, a private-equity company.

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, July 08, 2014 10:12 AM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Camacho, Cara; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Earnest, Joshua R.; Edelman, R. David; Etienne, Ashley; Evans, Bess; Feddersen, Brett; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Liz; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Pietranton, Kelsey; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Reddy, Vinay; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Tess, Caroline; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jacob, Susannah; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Peterlin, Katherine; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Schulman, Loren; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Velz, Peter; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Time: Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist

<http://time.com/2964493/ukraine-joe-biden-son-hunter-burisma/>

Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist

TIME // Michael Scherer @michaelscherer

July 7, 2014

An obscure private Ukrainian natural gas company has been hiring friends and family of Secretary of State John Kerry and Vice President Joe Biden, while seeking to influence Congress

When Vice President Joe Biden's son, R. Hunter Biden, joined the board of a private Ukrainian oil and natural gas company this spring, he explained his new job as a legal one, disconnected from any effort to influence the Obama Administration. In a press release, the younger Biden boasted of his abilities on issues like improving corporate transparency.

But the company, Burisma Holdings, did not disclose at the time the scope of their plans for influencing the U.S. government. Recently released documents show that Biden's hiring coincided with the launch of a new effort to lobby members of Congress about the role of the company in Ukraine and the country's quest for energy independence.

David Leiter, a former Senate chief of staff to Secretary of State John Kerry, signed on to work as a lobbyist for Burisma on May 20, 2014, about a week after Biden announced he was joining the company, according to lobbying disclosures filed this month.

Leiter's involvement in the firm rounds out a power-packed team of politically-connected Americans that also includes a second new board member, Devon Archer, a Democratic bundler and former adviser to John Kerry's 2004 presidential campaign. Both Archer and Hunter Biden have worked as business partners with Kerry's son-in-law, Christopher Heinz, the founding partner of Rosemont Capital, a private-equity company.

Biden's office referred questions to a Burisma spokesman, who says Biden has not been involved in contacting members of Congress or the Obama Administration about the company. "His role, like all board members, is to provide strategic guidance to Burisma," said Lawrence Pacheco, who works in Washington D.C. for FTI Consulting, a communications firm that is also employed by Burisma.

But Burisma is contacting officials in Washington through Leiter's lobbying firm, ML Strategies. "ML Strategies is working with Burisma to educate U.S. officials about the company and its role in creating a stable and secure energy future for Ukraine, not any specific policy or legislation," Pacheco said. "Burisma supports energy independence, economic growth, national sovereignty and regional stability and will engage as needed to encourage efforts to further these goals."

Some Democratic senators, meanwhile, have been working to secure more U.S. funding, either directly or through entities like the Export-Import Bank, to improve Ukraine's domestic energy production potential. On June 27, Sen. Edward Markey of Massachusetts, wrote President Obama a letter with three other Democratic senators calling for increased aid. "We should leverage the full resources and expertise of the U.S. government to assist Ukraine in improving its energy efficiency, increasing its domestic production, and reforming its energy markets," wrote Markey, who has also proposed legislation with about \$40 million in additional aid for Ukrainian energy development.

Markey's letter was trumpeted by Burisma Holdings as a commendable move towards securing the future security of Ukraine. "Burisma Holdings today applauded the range of U.S. legislative support for development of Ukraine's broad and untapped resources and an increase in transparency and good governance," the company said in a statement on the day the letter was released.

An aide in Markey's office told TIME that Leiter, Biden and Archer were not part of discussions that led to the drafting of the letter or the legislation. Staff for the other senators who signed the letter, Ron Wyden of Oregon, Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire and Christopher Murphy of Connecticut, also said they did not have contact with Leiter, who could not be reached for comment.

Burisma Holdings is owned by a Cypriot holding firm, Brociti Investments Limited, which is controlled Nikolai Zlochevskiy, a former Ukrainian government minister, according to Cypriot records. It controls government development licenses in three regions of Ukraine, and sells to industrial customers in the country, according to the company.

By taking a job with Burisma, the younger Biden has put himself in the middle of a struggle between the United States and Russia, which currently provides the bulk of the natural gas supplies to Ukraine. Both the White House and European nations have recently emphasized the strategic interest in making Ukraine less dependent on Russia.

Since Hunter Biden took the new job, his father, Vice President Joe Biden, has continued to serve as the Obama Administration's point person on Ukraine, traveling to the country as recently as June for the inauguration of President Petro Poroshenko and talking to Poroshenko by phone at least five times in the last month.

"I've spent a considerable amount of time in the last two months in Ukraine," the elder Biden said on June 19. "You see what the Russians are doing relative to using gas as a foreign policy tool to try to alter behavior. And so it's - around the world in varying degrees it's of significant consequence in terms of security, both economic and political security of a nation."

There is no legal barrier to prohibit Hunter Biden from working with a company that can be impacted by the policy decisions of his father, and the White House has maintained that the Vice President has not been influenced by his son's employment. "The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company," said his spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff.

But Hunter Biden's new job, along with the association with Burisma of other politically-connected businessmen, has raised concerns among some Ukraine watchers. "It's unhelpful when we are trying to get across to the Ukrainians to clean up corruption and special deals for special folks," said Ed Chow, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a U.S. think tank. "It maybe sends the wrong message that Westerners are just hypocritical."

Additional reporting by Alex Rogers and Zeke Miller/Washington

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 1:21:20 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: hey

Her email is:
hking@BSFLLP.com

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 6:00 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Eric Schwerin [<mailto:eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:58 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: Re: hey

Kendra, I am around the next few days if you need me.

Eric D. Schwerin
Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC
1010 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Suite 705
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 333-1880
eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com

P Consider the environment before printing this email.

On May 13, 2014, at 10:39 AM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:39 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Eric Schwerin
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

Ok-
What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:41:20 PM
To: stacey.klein@nbcuni.com
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden to Oil Compnay w Holdings in Ukraine?

Sorry. The off the record part was the part about me apologizing for the delay. The part in quotes is on the record from me. Make sense?

From: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Stacey.Klein@nbcuni.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:39 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden to Oil Compnay w Holdings in Ukraine?

Thank you! Safe travels.
Just to clarify - I can use the comment from you or it's off the record?

Stacey P. Klein
NBC News - The White House
202-573-0328 (cell)
202-885-4363 (office)

On May 13, 2014, at 2:34 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Stacey.Klein@nbcuni.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:56 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden to Oil Compnay w Holdings in Ukraine?

Hi Kendra,
Wondering if you have any comment on allegations Hunter Biden has taken a seat on the board of an oil and gas company with holdings in Ukraine? Carney pushed us all to you all - any comment?
Thanks in advance!

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Here's their release:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Stacey P. Klein
NBC News - The White House
202-885-4363 (office)
202-573-0328 (cell)

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 1:34:50 PM
To: "Gerlach, Alec" <gerlachja2@state.gov>
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Do you mind giving me a quick ring when you get this?
Thanks
202-456-4390

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:30 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

202-736-4899

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:30 PM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

What's your number?

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:12 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Jen doesn't go out to brief until 1, but she has to staff something at 1230. Is now a good time for some guidance that I can relay to her?

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:53 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. Trying to get more info over here. Give me a little bit of time.

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks
We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?
Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing...

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along...

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board..

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bruce, Mary K. <mary.k.bruce@abc.com>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:11:28 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden

Thank you.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 7:09 PM
To: Bruce, Mary K.
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden

Off the record:

I'm going to refer you to Hunter's lawyer Tom Gallagher: gallagher@pepperlaw.com

From: Bruce, Mary K. [mailto:Mary.K.Bruce@abc.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 07:08 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden

Any comment? Thanks.

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657>

Lawyer Pursued Military Service Relatively Late as a Public-Affairs Officer

Hunter Biden, right, attends a basketball game with his father, Vice President Joe Biden, center, and President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C., in 2010. ENLARGE

Hunter Biden, right, attends a basketball game with his father, Vice President Joe Biden, center, and President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C., in 2010. ASSOCIATED PRESS

By COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And JULIAN E. BARNES
Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

WASHINGTON—Vice President Joe Biden's son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Write to Colleen McCain Nelson at colleen.nelson@wsj.com

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Franklin, Andrew (Intern) <andrew_l_franklin_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 6/9/2014 11:51:57 AM
To: "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>
Subject: Ukraine Clips
Attachments: [Ukraine June 2014 Clips.docx](#)

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Vice President Biden's trip to Ukraine

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Source: The White House



Source: AP



Source: AP



Source: AP



Source: Ukrainian Updates





Source: Reuters



Source: The White House



The Hill
USA chants welcome Biden to Ukraine
By Rachel Huggins / June 7, 2014

Vice President Biden and U.S. officials attending inaugural events honoring Ukraine's new leader were warmly greeted as they walked the streets of Kiev.

After Petro Poroshenko was sworn into office on Saturday, Biden and Sen. McCain (R-Ariz.) ditched the presidential motorcade and opted to walk to the new president's reception when crowds lined the streets cheering, "thank you" and "USA."

Members of the delegation include: Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Geoffrey Pyatt, Daniel B. Baer, ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Victoria Nuland, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs.

Biden greeted everyone he encountered as he and other presidential

delegation members walked the red carpet leading to the ceremony.

“How are you? You’re a handsome boy. I’d like to borrow that tie,” Biden told a young boy, according to a White House pool report. He also said hello to several officials and introduced McCain, saying, “You know my friend the senator.”

Poroshenko and Biden spoke for a few minutes at the reception.

“Mr. President, congratulations,” Biden said before posing for photos. McCain embraced the chocolate tycoon-turned president with a hug.

“It’s wonderful to stand with you,” Murphy told the new president.

Radio Free Europe

Biden Meets Moldovan, Georgian Leaders In Kyiv

By: RFE/RL / June 9, 2014

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has met with Moldovan President Nicolae Timofti during his visit to Kyiv for the inauguration of new Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

The U.S. White House said in a statement that, during the meeting on June 7, Biden announced an additional \$8 million in assistance to Moldova, pending consultations with the U.S. Congress.

The assistance is to support Moldova's European choice and mitigate vulnerabilities to external pressure.

The White House said the package will build upon \$2.7 million in U.S. assistance announced on March 3 which is helping Moldovan businesses to increase productivity and competitiveness so they are better positioned to take advantage of European markets.

When added to funds previously budgeted, the United States is providing approximately \$31 million in assistance to Moldova this year.

While in Kyiv, Biden also met Georgian President Giorgi Margvelashvili.

The White House said that, during the meeting, Biden announced an additional \$5 million in assistance for Georgia, pending consultations with the U.S. Congress.

This assistance will help individuals affected by Russia's "borderization" of the Administrative Boundary Lines (ABLs) of Georgia's occupied territories, increase access to independent information in the region, promote national unity, and help Tbilisi conduct reforms to strengthen justice sector institutions.

This follows the \$1.5 million ABL assistance announced by Secretary of State John Kerry at the U.S.-Georgia Strategic Partnership meeting on February 26.

When added to funds previously budgeted, Washington is now providing approximately \$65 million in assistance to Georgia this year.

Bloomberg

Ukrainian Leader Says Eastern Violence Must End This Week

By: Daria Marchak, Daryna Krasnolutska and Volodymyr Verbyany / June 9, 2014

Ukraine's new leader, Petro Poroshenko, said the violence that's rocked the former Soviet republic's easternmost regions must end this week as peace talks began involving an envoy of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Poroshenko, who took the oath of office June 7, said negotiations should be held daily. Yesterday's three-way talks in Kiev included the Ukrainian ambassador to Germany, Pavlo Klimkin, the Russian envoy to Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov, and Heidi Tagliavini, a special representative of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

"We must stop the violence this week," Poroshenko said on his website. "Every day when people die, every day when Ukraine pays such a high price is unacceptable."

Poroshenko, who was sworn in a day after discussing cease-fire proposals with Putin, used his inauguration speech to present a plan to bring peace after more than six months of unrest that's pitted the U.S. and Europe

against Russia in the worst standoff since the Cold War. After his May 25 election victory, the 48-year-old billionaire's ability to repair relations with Russia will be key to success in pacifying the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, where the military is battling a separatist insurgency.

Gas Talks

Talks between Russia's gas export monopoly, OAO Gazprom (OGZD), and Ukraine's state-run NAK Naftogaz Ukrainy on resolving a dispute over prices and money owed for past supplies were set to take place in Brussels today, Ukrainian Energy Minister Yuri Prodan said by phone. Russia has set a deadline of tomorrow for Ukraine to start pre-paying for gas. Russia's Vedomosti newspaper reported that Ukraine will pay \$1 billion today for gas supplied in November and December.

Russia's Micex stock index rose 0.3 percent as of 4:15 p.m. in Moscow. It's climbed more than 20 percent from a March 14 low. The ruble headed for the strongest level in two weeks, appreciating 0.4 percent to 39.8907 against the central bank's target basket of dollars and euros.

Ukrainian government dollar bonds gained to a five-month high, with the yield on debt due in July 2017 falling 13 basis points to 8.84 percent, down from 14.7 percent five weeks ago.

Meanwhile, unrest continued in eastern Ukraine. Insurgents attacked a military building in Torez, 70 kilometers (45 miles) east of Donetsk, and two people died from gas inhalation after a fire broke out, the local Ostrov news service reported late yesterday.

Base Attacked

Ukrainian soldiers repelled an insurgent attack on a military base in Artemivsk, about 80 kilometers north of Donetsk, Vladyslav Seleznyov, the spokesman for the military operation, said on his Facebook page today. The rebels have changed tactics and are now working in small groups attacking military convoys, he said.

In his speech, Poroshenko switched between languages to address Russian speakers in their mother tongue, pledging to "preserve and strengthen Ukrainian unity and ensure lasting peace." He said he'd steer the nation toward closer ties with the European Union, create jobs and

stamp out graft.

Poroshenko, a businessman with investments including chocolates and media who's Ukraine's fifth president since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, has said he's not seeking revenge, offering safe corridors for "Russian mercenaries" to leave the country and an amnesty for those who didn't kill. He's said he'll present a plan to decentralize power and urged early parliamentary elections.

Peace Window

"There's a window for peace now, but it won't stay indefinitely," U.S. Vice President Joe Biden said at a meeting with Poroshenko. "We look for Mr. Putin to meet his end of the commitments and deliver on the pledge to actually work with your government."

Pro-Russian separatist leaders denounced Poroshenko, with Alexander Boroday, leader of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, saying he's the "president of another country," according to the Russian state-owned RIA Novosti news service. Boroday and his Luhansk counterpart, Valeriy Bolotov, said the Kiev government must withdraw its army before any talks are possible, RIA reported.

Putin ordered security services to enforce the border with Ukraine on June 7, according to RIA. The two countries earlier agreed to close sections of the frontier, Poroshenko said June 6. The Foreign Ministry in Moscow said it was notified by the authorities in Kiev that eight checkpoints were shut.

Obama Meeting

Poroshenko and Putin had a brief meeting June 6 in France, where the Russian president also spoke face-to-face with U.S. President Barack Obama for the first time since the crisis in Ukraine escalated in February. The U.S. and its European allies say Putin is behind the unrest in eastern Ukraine, where hundreds have died. Russia has condemned the administration in Kiev's use of armed forces against its own people.

"The Ukrainian leadership must show its goodwill and wisdom," Putin said at a news conference in Normandy June 6. "They have to immediately stop the operation and announce a cease-fire. There is no other way to create

the conditions for negotiations.”

Bloomberg

Russia-Ukraine Talks to Start as Poroshenko Seeks Peace

By: Daryna Krasnolutska and Kateryna Choursina / June 07, 2014

Ukraine’s new leader, Petro Poroshenko, has agreed to start talks with an envoy of Russian President Vladimir Putin about ending separatist violence in the former Soviet republic’s easternmost regions.

Poroshenko took the oath of office as Ukraine’s president yesterday, a day after he discussed with Putin his proposals for the first steps toward a cease-fire. In his inauguration speech, he presented a plan to bring peace to the nation after more than six months of unrest that’s pitted the U.S. and Europe against Russia in the worst standoff since the Cold War.

“I know that peace is the most important thing that Ukrainian people desire now,” Poroshenko, 48, said yesterday in parliament in Kiev.

Poroshenko, switching between languages to address Russian speakers in their mother tongue, pledged to “preserve and strengthen Ukrainian unity and ensure lasting peace” in the country ravaged by separatist violence. The billionaire, who said he became a grandfather for the first time yesterday, vowed to steer the former Soviet republic toward closer ties with the European Union, create jobs and stamp out corruption.

“There’s a window for peace now, but it won’t stay indefinitely,” U.S. Vice President Joe Biden said yesterday at a meeting with Poroshenko in Kiev. “We look for Mr. Putin to meet his end of the commitments and deliver on the pledge to actually work with your government.”

‘Adequate, Realistic’

After his May 25 landslide election victory, Poroshenko’s ability to repair relations with the country’s eastern neighbor will be key to his success in pacifying Ukraine’s easternmost regions, where the military is battling a separatist insurgency. Ukraine is awaiting the arrival of Putin’s envoy for talks, Andriy Zhigulin, Poroshenko’s spokesman, said today by phone.

Poroshenko's speech addressed "all the pressing issues," Yuriy Yakymenko, head of political research at the Razumkov Center, said by phone from Kiev. "The plan of action proposed to stabilize the internal Ukrainian situation is entirely adequate and realistic. Poroshenko clearly prioritized and targeted foreign policy. He also called a spade a spade, what really is happening, and this is important."

Poroshenko promised safe corridors for "Russian mercenaries" to leave the country and pledged an amnesty for those who didn't kill servicemen or civilians. The president said he'll present a plan to decentralize power and urged early parliamentary elections. He also vowed to crush the insurgency, protect Ukraine as a "unitary state," while guaranteeing the rights of Russian speakers.

'Authority, Decisiveness'

"The head of state has a wide spectrum of different instruments to ensure territorial integrity and peace," Poroshenko said. "There will be no shortage of authority and decisiveness. I do not seek revenge."

Pro-Russian separatist leaders denounced Poroshenko, with Alexander Boroday, leader of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, saying he's the "president of another country," according to the Russian state-owned RIA Novosti news service. Boroday and his Luhansk counterpart, Valeriy Bolotov, said the Kiev government must withdraw its army before any talks are possible, according to the news service.

Poroshenko's remarks "look hopeful" and Russia will continue to have working relations with Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov, Russia's ambassador in Kiev, said yesterday, RIA reported. The issue of Crimea, annexed by Russia from Ukraine in March, will be peripheral while the two parties work to restore links, Zurabov said, according to RIA.

Border Controls

Putin yesterday ordered security services to enforce the border with Ukraine, according to RIA. The two countries earlier agreed to jointly close sections of the border in the conflict regions, Poroshenko said June 6 in a statement. The Foreign Ministry in Moscow said it received notification by the authorities in Kiev of eight checkpoints having been shut.

The U.S. yesterday pledged a \$48 million assistance package to Ukraine for tasks including strengthening the border guard service and “confidence-building measures that enhance national unity, particularly in the East and South,” according to a statement from the White House.

Poroshenko and Putin had a brief meeting June 6 in France, where the Russian president also spoke face-to-face with U.S. President Barack Obama for the first time since the crisis in Ukraine escalated in February. Putin welcomed Poroshenko’s commitment to ending the bloodshed and said the government in Kiev must call off its military campaign against pro-Russian separatists.

Asset Rally

The diplomatic flurry pushed Russian financial markets higher. The benchmark stock index jumped 1 percent June 6, extending its gain since a mid-March low to 20 percent. The ruble added 0.8 percent against the dollar. The Ukrainian hryvnia, this year’s worst performer against the U.S. currency with a 30 percent plunge, advanced 0.8 percent.

Meanwhile, unrest continued in Ukraine’s easternmost regions. The army open fire on the insurgents’ base in the city of Slovyansk, forcing them to move their weapons stocks elsewhere, the local Novosti Donbassa newswire reported, without citing anyone. Government forces also used artillery on some occupied buildings, it said, without providing details of casualties.

Three crew members from a Ukrainian plane shot down near the city of Slovyansk two days ago died, three have been hospitalized and two are missing, Vladyslav Seleznyov, a Defense Ministry spokesman, said today on Facebook.

‘Goodwill, Wisdom’

The U.S. and its European allies say Putin is behind the unrest in eastern Ukraine, where hundreds have died in the separatist insurgency. Russia accuses them of backing what it considers an illegitimate administration in Kiev that’s using armed force against its own people.

“The Ukrainian leadership must show its goodwill and wisdom,” Putin said at a news conference in Normandy June 6. “They have to immediately stop the operation and announce a cease-fire. There is no other way to create the conditions for negotiations.”

Poroshenko, a businessman with investments including chocolates and media, became Ukraine’s fifth president since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Biden and European Union President Herman Van Rompuy were among leaders attending yesterday’s ceremony at parliament in Kiev.

“All neighbors stand to benefit from a return to stability in Ukraine and the promotion of growth and development,” Van Rompuy said yesterday in an e-mailed statement. “All neighbors also need to respect its sovereign choices, including stronger ties with the European Union, and its territorial integrity.”

The Wall Street Journal

Petro Poroshenko Sworn In as Ukraine President

By: Paul Sonne and Colleen McCain Nelson / June 7, 2014

KIEV—Chocolate tycoon Petro Poroshenko reached out to residents of Ukraine's restive east on Saturday, promising to end a separatist rebellion in their region that has left hundreds dead and pushed the former Soviet republic to the edge of civil war.

Mr. Poroshenko's ability to carry through with his promise of peace, to salvage Ukraine's economy and push the country toward Europe will determine the success of his presidency for the broad mass of pro-Europe demonstrators who rallied on Kiev's main square to topple Kremlin-friendly President Viktor Yanukovich in late February.

"I don't want war. I don't want revenge. I want peace," Mr. Poroshenko said at Ukraine's parliament, after being sworn in as the country's fifth president. The 48-year-old billionaire, who supported the anti-Yanukovich protests since their start late last year, said he was entering the presidency "to preserve and strengthen the unity of the nation."

The challenge facing Mr. Poroshenko comes amid the worst crisis in Ukraine's independent history, which has pitted the U.S. and Europe

against Russia and driven the widest chasm between Washington and Moscow since the Cold War.

It isn't immediately clear how Mr. Poroshenko can stem the violence, however, seeing as he has ruled out talks with separatist officials and has said there aren't competent regional leaders with whom Kiev can negotiate.

In his speech, Mr. Poroshenko reached out to Ukrainians in the country's Russian-speaking Donetsk and Luhansk regions, part of the Donbas basin, where armed rebels have declared independent republics and denounced Kiev's plans to move toward Europe. Many have demanded to become part of Russia.

The separatist rebels have engaged in bloody clashes with the Ukrainian army since April, when Kiev launched a military offensive to quell the revolt. So far, the offensive has reclaimed some ground but failed to retake the bulk of the region. Meanwhile, it has angered locals upset by civilian casualties and caused many residents to flee their homes.

Kiev and its Western allies have accused Moscow of fomenting the unrest, a charge the Kremlin has denied. Mr. Poroshenko, whose confectionary firm Roshen saw its candies banned in Russia last year, hinted at the accusation of Russian involvement in his speech.

"On the path to the colossal possibilities that have opened up for the European modernization of Ukraine with the fall of tyranny, has arisen a real war, instigated and carried out on Ukrainian territory," he said. Ukrainians won't be made "slaves of criminality and bureaucracy, the servants of colonial authorities," the new president said. He wore a tie the colors of the Ukrainian flag.

Switching into Russian during his speech, Mr. Poroshenko made a direct plea to residents of the rebel-held areas, calling on all who had taken up weapons to lay down their arms and presenting what he called a plan for peace.

He promised more powers of self-governance for the regions by reforming the constitution and decentralizing control but denied calls, including by the Kremlin, to transform Ukraine into a federation of states. He vowed to respect easterners' right to speak Russian but said Ukrainian would remain

the only official state language.

A former foreign minister, Mr. Poroshenko said rebels had not only engaged in looting and abuse of civilians but had also brought the region's economy to the "brink of complete catastrophe." He vowed to bring new jobs to the region, where the economy relies on coal mines and Soviet-era heavy industrial factories. The new president also promised to visit Donbas soon but made clear he wouldn't be negotiating with the separatist movement's leaders as the Kremlin has proposed.

"Today we need a legitimate partner for dialogue. We will not speak with bandits," Mr. Poroshenko said. "But the acting local legislators already don't represent anyone. We're prepared to call emergency local elections in Donbas."

Separatist leaders denounced Mr. Poroshenko's speech on Saturday. Alexander Borodai, a Moscow public-relations consultant leading the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, described the new Ukrainian president's comments as rhetorical propaganda and said he couldn't guarantee Mr. Poroshenko's safety on a trip to the region.

"Why on earth should we guarantee his security if he's the head of an enemy state?" Mr. Borodai said in an interview with the Russian tabloid website LifeNews. He said he would negotiate with Mr. Poroshenko only if he removed the Ukrainian military from Donetsk.

The Donetsk rebel defense commander, Igor Strelkov, told LifeNews he expected the violence to grow worse now that Mr. Poroshenko had assumed his duties. He said that Kiev had asked its Western allies for military aid in a move that the rebel leader said presaged more deaths.

Mr. Poroshenko said Kiev would permit each region to choose its own heroes and craft its own historical memory—an implicit reference to the general distaste in the country's east for Ukrainian nationalists primarily from the country's west.

Mr. Poroshenko guaranteed amnesty for locals without "the blood of Ukrainian soldiers and civilians on their hands" or a history of financing the separatists. He offered safe passage for rebel fighters from Russia to return to their home country.

Russia annexed the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea in March in response to the toppling of Mr. Yanukovich, provoking sanctions against Russian officials by the U.S. and the EU. Russian President Vladimir Putin met Mr. Poroshenko briefly Friday at a D-Day remembrance ceremony in Normandy, France. The new Ukrainian president said he told Mr. Putin that Crimea is Ukrainian but said he wanted to cooperate with Russia.

"There can be no compromises on questions of Crimea, our European choice and our structure of government," Mr. Poroshenko said, regarding Russia. "But all other things we should discuss and decide at the negotiating table."

Mr. Putin, who has pledged to work with Mr. Poroshenko, issued an order Saturday to Russia's Federal Security Service to step up controls on the country's border with Ukraine and prevent people from crossing illegally, according to the Interfax news agency. Ukraine has been forced to abandon border posts where the Luhansk and Donetsk regions meet Russia because guards there have come under fire by separatists. Weapons and reinforcements have flowed over the border, propping up the rebel militants.

The U.S. sent Vice President Joe Biden to Saturday's ceremony. Russia, meanwhile, sent its ambassador to Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov. Mr. Biden met with Mr. Poroshenko after the speech and pledged \$48 million more in U.S. aid, bringing the total U.S. assistance to Ukraine this year to more than \$184 million. The U.S. also has provided a \$1 billion loan guarantee to help salvage Ukraine's troubled finances.

Mr. Poroshenko spent part of his speech going after his predecessor, Mr. Yanukovich, saying the Donetsk native had betrayed his own people, robbed the region of its wealth and had turned to financing separatists from exile in Russia.

"It's precisely him who carries full responsibility for the political and socio-economic situation in the region," Mr. Poroshenko said. "And for the joblessness, for the poverty, for the refugees. And for the killed citizens and the mothers' tears." Mr. Yanukovich, who has been issuing statements from exile in the Russian city of Rostov-on-Don, didn't immediately respond.

During Mr. Yanukovich's inauguration in 2010, the doors to the Ukrainian parliament began closing as he tried to walk in the door, an accident many Ukrainians later said served as a harbinger of his ultimate rejection by the country's people.

On Saturday morning, as Mr. Poroshenko walked up to the same doors, a soldier standing guard dropped his gun and stumbled amid the sweltering heat, looking as if he was about to faint. Mr. Poroshenko continued on into the parliament. On his way out of the building, the new Ukrainian president stopped to check on the soldier's health.

During his speech, Mr. Poroshenko pledged to return Ukraine to its natural place in Europe, saying he would sign the economic portion of an integration pact with the European Union as soon as possible.

"The pen is in my hand," he said. He also vowed to fulfill all necessary requirements so Ukrainians can travel to Europe without visas starting in January 2015 and one day become citizens of the EU. To do that, he promised to snuff out corruption.

"We are a people who were separated from our great homeland of Europe," he said. "We are returning. Finally and irrevocably."

The additional U.S. aid will be directed at helping Ukraine make reforms necessary to comply with an International Monetary Fund assistance package. It will also go to building law enforcement capacity, particularly within the State Border Guard Service, among a number of other projects, the White House said.

One of those projects is the fight against corruption. Mr. Biden emphasized the importance of that fight in joint comments with Mr. Poroshenko on Saturday.

"Corruption is cancer," Mr. Biden said. "It eats away at the fabric of democracy." He said Mr. Poroshenko has shown the will to deal with the problem, as well as the political courage to take necessary steps that may prove unpopular on their face.

The U.S. vice president emphasized the need for Russia to help stop

border incursions streaming into eastern Ukraine. "There's a window for peace," he said, appearing alongside Mr. Poroshenko. "And you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely."

The New York Times

Poroshenko Takes Ukraine Helm With Tough Words for Russia

By: David Herszenhorn / June 7, 2014

KIEV, Ukraine — Petro Oleksiyovych Poroshenko, a pro-European, billionaire confectioner, was sworn in on Saturday as the fifth president of Ukraine, promising to put an end to a separatist insurrection in the east that has divided the country for months.

He also expressed new resolve, saying Ukraine would never accept Russia's annexation of Crimea, a point he also made in a face-to-face meeting with President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia on Friday.

In a forceful inaugural address, Mr. Poroshenko, 48, called on rebel fighters in eastern Ukraine to put down their weapons and promised safe passage for "Russian mercenaries" who wished to return home. But he said there would be no negotiations with armed insurgents, raising the prospect of further bloodshed as the Ukrainian military seeks to quash the rebellion.

Though the United States and its Western allies expressed new hope of a diplomatic resolution after meetings with Mr. Putin in France at a commemoration of the 70th anniversary of D-Day, Russia's intentions in Ukraine remain unclear, and there have been mixed signals on whether there is consensus among Western nations over further sanctions if diplomatic efforts fail.

Mr. Poroshenko, after being installed in a mostly solemn ceremony at the Ukrainian Parliament, said he hoped to mend relations with Russia. "Citizens of Ukraine will never enjoy the beauty of peace unless we settle down our relations with Russia," he said.

At the same time, however, he voiced no willingness to tolerate recent Russian aggression or the annexation of Crimea, which Mr. Putin has described as the righting of a historical accident that separated the peninsula from its Russian roots.

“Russia occupied Crimea, which was, is and will be Ukrainian soil,” Mr. Poroshenko told an audience that included Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. and other international dignitaries. “Yesterday, in the course of the meeting in Normandy, I told this to President Putin: Crimea is Ukraine soil. Period. There can be no compromise on the issues of Crimea, European choice and state structure.”

Mr. Poroshenko also said he would move swiftly to sign political and economic agreements with the European Union that Ukraine’s former government, under heavy Russian pressure, backed away from in November, setting off the civil unrest. “My pen is in my hands,” he said, adding later, “European democracy, for me, is the best form of government invented by mankind.”

In a sign of outreach, Russia returned its ambassador, Mikhail Y. Zurabov, to Kiev to attend the inaugural festivities. Mr. Zurabov had been recalled to Russia after the ouster of the former Ukrainian president, Viktor F. Yanukovich.

And a day after President Obama demanded that Russia stop the flow of weapons and fighters into Ukraine, Russian news agencies reported that Mr. Putin had ordered tighter controls on the border to prevent people from crossing illegally.

Still, violence continued to flare in eastern Ukraine. An assassination attempt on Denis Pushilin, a pro-Russian, separatist leader in Donetsk, on Saturday resulted in the shooting death of an assistant, Maksym Petruhin. Photographs on Ukrainian news sites showed Mr. Petruhin, wearing a business suit, lying face down on a street alongside a parked car with at least seven bullet holes in the rear door panel.

Mr. Poroshenko won the presidency in a landslide on May 25, in a special election that was called after months of civil unrest toppled Mr. Yanukovich, who fled to Russia.

For many years, Mr. Poroshenko served in Parliament, including a stint as speaker. He was foreign minister under President Viktor A. Yushchenko and trade and economics minister under Mr. Yanukovich.

He earned his fortune making chocolate, and Russia is a major market for his company, Roshen, which has factories and other facilities there. His deep business ties in Russia and his long experience in Ukrainian politics had led to hope that he could negotiate successfully with the Kremlin.

In his inaugural speech, however, he was resolute against Russian intervention. “The issue of territorial integrity of Ukraine is not subject to discussion,” he said. “I have just sworn ‘with all my deeds to protect the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine,’ and I will always be faithful to this sacred promise.”

The ceremony was imbued with ritual. Mr. Poroshenko swore the oath of office with his hand on the 16th-century Peresopnytsia Gospel. He was presented with a bejeweled presidential necklace, which framed his tie of sky blue and yellow, Ukraine’s national colors. He was also given the bulava, a scepter that is a historical symbol of power.

Mr. Poroshenko opened his speech by recognizing the so-called Heavenly Hundred demonstrators who were killed in clashes with the police in Kiev in the days before Mr. Yanukovych was forced from power.

“Many people thought that we got independence without any difficulty,” he said. “It is not true.”

After calling for a moment of silence, he turned his attention to the pro-Russian violence in the east and switched from speaking Ukrainian to Russian.

He promised amnesty for fighters who put down their weapons and safe passage for Russian insurgents who wanted to go home. To the peaceful citizens of eastern Ukraine, he said he would welcome dialogue.

He offered conciliatory actions, promising to go to eastern Ukraine “with peace, with a project of government decentralization, with a guarantee of free usage of Russian language in your region, with the strong intention not to divide people into right and wrong Ukrainians, with respect for the specifics of regions, for the right of local communities to their peculiarities in the issues of historic memory, pantheon of heroes, religious traditions.”

Mr. Poroshenko also promised to pursue a jobs program and to fight the

corruption that has plagued Ukraine throughout its post-Soviet history. He said he would push for parliamentary elections later this year, aiming to meet a demand of demonstrators — many of whom are still camping out in Independence Square in the center of Kiev — who say that changing presidents is not sufficient.

He also acknowledged that the uprising had deeply altered the country. “The victorious revolution of dignity not only changed the government,” he said. “The country has changed. People have changed.”

In conjunction with Mr. Biden’s visit, the White House announced \$48 million in new aid to Ukraine, as well as \$8 million for Moldova and \$5 million for Georgia. Moldova and Georgia are also expected to sign agreements with the European Union this month and have come under Russian pressure as a result.

Meeting with Mr. Poroshenko, Mr. Biden saluted his efforts to combat corruption. “Corruption is a cancer,” he said. “It eats away the fabric of democracy.”

He also reiterated American support for Ukraine. “America’s with you,” Mr. Biden said. “That is not hyperbole.”

Associated Press

Poroshenko sworn in as Ukraine's president

By: Laura Mills and Jim Heintz / June 7, 2014

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine’s new president on Saturday called for pro-Russian rebels in the country’s east to lay down their arms and welcomed dialogue with the insurgents, but said he wouldn’t negotiate with those he called “gangsters and killers” and struck a defiant tone on the Russian-annexed Crimean Peninsula.

Petro Poroshenko’s inaugural address after taking the oath of office in parliament gave little sign of a quick resolution to the conflict in the east, which Ukrainian officials say has left more than 200 people dead.

He also firmly insisted that Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula annexed by Russia in March, “was, is and will be Ukrainian.” He gave no indication of

how Ukraine could regain control of Crimea, which Russian President Vladimir Putin has said was allotted to Ukraine unjustly under Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev.

Hours after the speech, Putin ordered security tightened along Russia's border with Ukraine to prevent illegal crossings, Russian news agencies said. Ukraine claims that many of the insurgents in the east have come from Russia; Poroshenko on Saturday said he would offer a corridor for safe passage of "Russian militants" out of the country.

Rebel leaders in the east dismissed Poroshenko's speech.

"At the moment it's impossible for him to come (to Donetsk for talks)," said Denis Pushilin, a top figure in the self-declared Donetsk People's Republic. "Perhaps with security, a group, so people won't tear him to pieces."

Poroshenko offered amnesty to rebels who "don't have blood on their hands." But "I don't believe it," said Valery Bolotov, the insurgent leader in the Luhansk region. Rebels in both Luhansk and Donetsk have declared their regions independent.

The new president promised "I will bring you peace," but did not indicate whether Ukrainian forces would scale back their offensives against the insurgency, which Ukraine says is fomented by Russia.

Russia has insisted on Ukraine ending its military operation in the east. Ambassador Mikhail Zurabov, representing Moscow at the inauguration, said Poroshenko's statements "sound reassuring," but "for us the principal thing is to stop the military operation," adding that the insurgents should also stop fighting in order to bolster the delivery of humanitarian aid, RIA Novosti reported.

As president, the 48-year-old Poroshenko is commander-in-chief of the military and appoints the defense and foreign ministers. The prime minister is appointed by the parliament.

Poroshenko, often called "The Chocolate King" because of the fortune he made as a confectionery tycoon, was elected May 25. He replaces Oleksandr Turchynov, who served as interim president after Russia-friendly president Viktor Yanukovich fled the country in February after months of

street protests against him.

The fall of Yanukovych aggravated long-brewing tensions in eastern and southern Ukraine, whose majority native Russian speakers denounced the new government as a nationalist putsch that aimed to suppress them.

Within a month, the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea was annexed by Russia after a secession referendum and an armed insurgency arose in the eastern provinces of Donetsk and Luhansk.

In his inaugural address, attended by dignitaries including U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Sen. John McCain and Democratic Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Poroshenko promised amnesty “for those who do not have blood on their hands” and called for dialogue with “peaceful citizens” in the east.

“I am calling on everyone who has taken arms in their hands — please lay down your arms,” he said, according to an interpreter. He also called for early regional elections in the east and promised to push for new powers to be allotted to regional governments, but he rejected calls for federalization of Ukraine, which Moscow has advocated. Federalization would make regions more independent of the central government.

Biden later met with Poroshenko and said “there is a window for peace and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely ... America is with you.”

He also promised an additional \$48 million in US aid to Ukraine to carry out economic and constitutional reforms and strengthen the border guard service. Washington previously announced \$50 million in “crisis response” aid and \$23 million for security assistance.

Poroshenko also said he would seek early parliamentary elections because “the current composition of the parliament is not consistent with the aspirations of the nation.” The current parliament, elected in 2012 with a large contingent from Yanukovych’s former party, is to stay in place until 2017.

Poroshenko insisted that Ukrainian would remain the sole state language of the country, but promised “the free use of the Russian language.” He assumed power a day after meeting Putin at D-Day commemoration

ceremonies in France.

Putin has denied allegations by Kiev and the West that Russia has fomented the rebellion in the east, and he insisted Friday that Poroshenko needs to speak directly to representatives from the east.

After the low-key inauguration ceremony, which included a choir in traditional national costume singing the national anthem, Poroshenko went to the square outside the landmark Sophia Cathedral for a ceremonial troop inspection.

Taras Danchuk, a 37-year-old spectator at the square who was wearing a traditional embroidered tunic, said he supported Poroshenko's strategy for trying to negotiate an end the eastern conflict.

"Out of emotion I would like to say that we should destroy the terrorists, but that is not possible without sacrificing the civilians who live there, so there will have to be negotiations," he said.

The protests against Yanukovich were set off by his decision to shelve a long-anticipated agreement to deepen political and economic ties with the European Union and seek closer relations with Russia. The protests grew hugely after police violently dispersed some early gatherings.

Poroshenko said Saturday he wants to sign the economic portion of the EU "association agreement" in the near future.

No major fighting was reported on Saturday, but the Donetsk People's Republic said one of Pushilin's aides was fatally shot in Donetsk city, the region's capital.

Also Saturday, Russian officials including the ambassador and Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu complained that two journalists from a TV channel belonging to the ministry had been detained by national guard forces in Ukraine and called for their release.

Associated Press

Poroshenko sworn in as Ukraine's president, welcomes talks with insurgents

By: Laura Mills and Jim Heintz / June 7, 2014

KIEV, UKRAINE — Petro Poroshenko, Ukraine's new president, on Saturday called for pro-Russian rebels in the country's east to lay down their arms and welcomed dialogue with the insurgents, but he said he wouldn't negotiate with those he called "gangsters and killers" and struck a defiant tone on the Russian-annexed Crimean peninsula.

In his inaugural address, attended by dignitaries including Vice President Joe Biden, Republican Sen. John McCain and Democratic Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Poroshenko promised amnesty "for those who do not have blood on their hands" and called for dialogue with "peaceful citizens" in the east. Biden later met with Poroshenko and said, "There is a window for peace, and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely. ... America is with you."

Biden also promised an additional \$48 million in U.S. aid to Ukraine to carry out economic and constitutional reforms and strengthen the border guard service. Washington previously announced \$50 million in "crisis response" aid and \$23 million for security assistance.

Crimea in dispute

Poroshenko's inaugural address after taking the oath of office in parliament gave little sign of a quick resolution to the conflict in the east, which Ukrainian officials say has left more than 200 people dead.

He also firmly insisted that Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula annexed by Russia in March, "was, is and will be Ukrainian." He gave no indication of how Ukraine could regain control of Crimea, which Russian President Vladimir Putin has said was allotted to Ukraine unjustly under Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev.

Hours after the speech, Putin ordered security tightened along Russia's border with Ukraine to prevent illegal crossings, Russian news agencies said. Ukraine claims that many of the insurgents in the east have come from Russia; Poroshenko on Saturday said he would offer a corridor for safe passage of "Russian militants" out of the country.

Rebel leaders in the east dismissed Poroshenko's speech.

“At the moment it’s impossible for him to come (to Donetsk for talks),” said Denis Pushilin, a top figure in the self-declared Donetsk People’s Republic. “Perhaps with security, a group, so people won’t tear him to pieces.”

Biden's son

Biden’s visit Saturday to support Ukraine’s fragile democracy came soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

Yet that company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea and is owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine’s ousted pro-Russian president.

The hiring of Hunter Biden, 44, by Burisma Holdings Limited in April was approved by the company’s owner, a former senior minister and political ally of Viktor Yanukovich, the exiled Ukrainian president. Yanukovich fled to Russia in February after protests erupted over his efforts to establish closer economic ties with Moscow.

Hunter Biden’s employment means he will be working as a director and top lawyer for a Ukrainian energy company during the period when his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine’s new government, especially on energy issues.

White House officials declined to comment on Hunter Biden’s association with Burisma and the company’s holdings in Crimea and east Ukraine.

The vice president’s spokeswoman, Kendra Barkoff, previously said that Biden’s son is a private citizen and a lawyer, and that Joe Biden “does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company.”

Demands on Russia

The U.S-Russian standoff over Ukraine moves into a new phase this weekend, with fresh rules and an uncertain path forward.

During this week’s trip to Europe, President Barack Obama and Group of

Seven colleagues made new demands on Russian President Putin and threatened new sanctions if he did not cut off support for pro-Russian separatists in Ukraine.

“They need to stop financing and arming separatists who have been wreaking havoc in the eastern part of the country,” Obama told NBC News in an interview broadcast Friday. “If Russia begins to act in accordance with basic international principles, then I’m confident that the United States-Russia relationship will improve.”

Putin, who spoke Friday with new Ukrainian President Poroshenko, has pledged to seek peace.

Aid to Moldova, Georgia

The U.S. is offering new financial assistance to Moldova and Georgia, two former Soviet republics the West seeks to lure toward Europe.

Vice President Biden announced the aid in Kiev during meetings with both nations’ presidents on the sidelines of the new Ukrainian president’s inauguration.

Both Moldova and Georgia are pursuing association agreements with the European Union amid a regional crisis over Russia’s actions in Ukraine.

The White House says an additional \$8 million will help Moldova “advance its European aspirations.” The U.S. is also sending \$5 million to Georgia to help economically vulnerable people living near Russian-controlled breakaway regions.

The aid follows Obama’s announcement that the U.S. will work to boost the military capacity of non-NATO countries near Russia, including Moldova and Georgia.

Associated Press

U.S. Pledges Millions More in Aid to Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia June 8, 2014

The United States pledged millions of dollars in additional aid to Ukraine,

Moldova and Georgia on Saturday, deepening American support to the Western-leaning countries on Russia's border.

Vice President Joe Biden announced the extra aid, which must be approved by Congress, during a visit to Kiev for the inauguration of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

Washington pledged \$48 million to Ukraine, \$8 million to Moldova and \$5 million to Georgia after Biden met the presidents of the three countries. Russia's annexation of the Crimea region from Ukraine in March, after weeks of protests ousted Poroshenko's pro-Moscow predecessor Victor Yanukovich, has provoked the most serious crisis in relations with the West since the end of the Cold War.

As with Ukraine, there are sharp tensions between Moscow and Moldova and Georgia, where regions have formed breakaway states in reaction to ethnic nationalist regimes, aligning themselves with Russia: Transdnestr in the case of Moldova, and Abkhazia and South Ossetia in the case of Georgia.

The additional Ukraine aid follows Poroshenko's meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama on Wednesday in Warsaw and will go toward economic reforms, the White House said in a statement.

In Moldova, the U.S. aid will target programs to democratic institutions and the economy as the country implements a trade pact reached with the European Union last summer, it said. The new aid is in addition to the \$2.7 million announced in March.

The collapse of a proposed trade agreement with the European Union has been at the heart of Ukraine's political crisis over the past six months as Russia and western countries compete to assert dominance in the region. The proposed aid packages follow a U.S. announcement Tuesday that it would help build the defense capacity of Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia, all on Russia's western border.

The new aid also will support better ties between Moldova and Russian-speaking Transdnestr, the White House said.

Similarly, it said the \$5 million to Georgia will help people living along

the border with Russia and "increase access to objective information by populations in the occupied territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia."

Associated Press

US to offer financial assistance to Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia June 7, 2014

The United States pledged millions of dollars in additional aid to Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia on Saturday, deepening American support to the Western-leaning countries on Russia's border.

Vice-president Joe Biden announced the extra aid, which must be approved by Congress, during a visit to Kiev for the inauguration of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

Washington pledged \$48m to Ukraine, \$8m to Moldova and \$5m to Georgia after Biden met the presidents of the three countries.

Secretary of state John Kerry, meanwhile, said on Saturday he was hoping for steps to ease tensions in Ukraine now that the new president has been sworn in.

Both Moldova and Georgia are pursuing association agreements with the European Union amid a regional crisis over Russia's actions in Ukraine.

The White House says the aid will target programs to demcoratic institutions and the economy, which will help Moldova "advance its European aspirations". The new aid is in addition to the \$2.7m announced in March. The US is also sending \$5m to Georgia to help economically vulnerable people living near Russian-controlled breakaway regions, and "increase access to objective information by populations in the occupied territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia"

The aid follows President Barack Obama's announcement that the US will work to boost the military capacity of non-Nato countries near Russia, including Moldova and Georgia.

Kerry told reporters in France he was "confident there are ways forward" and that included Russia's help in getting separatists to put away their

weapons and relinquish buildings they are occupying.

He said the hope was not to impose tougher penalties against Russia over its actions in Ukraine.

Earlier Saturday, Ukraine's new president Petro Poroshenko said he wanted a dialogue with his country's east, where a separatist insurgency has taken hold.

Kerry raised the possibility of a ceasefire and said it's important to begin to build Ukraine.

He spoke in the French seaside town of Saint Briac that is home to his family's ancestral estate, on the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

A day after attending international ceremonies to mark the allied invasion of France in Normandy, Kerry traveled to Saint Briac in the neighboring province of Brittany, where his mother's family has long owned property.

Three US soldiers were killed during the liberation of the town in August, 1944, and Kerry placed a wreath at a monument "To the Americans" that overlooks the harbour.

Associated Press

US OFFERS NEW AID TO EX-SOVIET EUROPEAN NATIONS

June 7, 2014

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — The United States is offering new financial assistance to Moldova (mawl-DOH'-vah) and Georgia, two former Soviet nations the West seeks to lure toward Europe.

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Press TV

US stands with new Ukrainian president in talks with Russia, Biden says

June 9, 2014

US Vice President Joe Biden has told Ukraine's new President Petro Poroshenko that the United States is standing with him on his efforts to bring peace in the country and in talks with Russia, but warning that the window for peace will not remain open for ever.

Biden made the remarks on Saturday in Kiev during a meeting with Poroshenko at the Presidential Administrative Building, hours after he was inaugurated as Ukraine's fifth president.

"There's a window for peace, and you know as well as anyone, that it will not stay open indefinitely," Biden said.

"America's with you," the US vice president added. "That is not hyperbole." Biden also promised an additional \$48 million in assistance to Ukraine to carry out economic and constitutional reforms and strengthen the border guard service on top of a previous \$1 billion in loan guarantees and \$73 million in security and crisis-response aid.

The financial package must get Congress approval.

Earlier, Poroshenko offered a peace plan to resolve the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, but he warned that Russia's "occupation" of Crimea was not acceptable.

"Russia occupied Crimea, which is and will be Ukrainian," Poroshenko said at the inauguration ceremony. "Yesterday during the meeting in Normandy [France], I said exactly that to [Russian] President [Vladimir] Putin, that Crimea belongs to Ukraine."

"I know that peace is the main thing the Ukrainian people want today," he said. "I don't want war. I don't want revenge, despite the massive casualties sustained by Ukraine's people.... I want peace, and I will achieve Ukraine's unity."

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea declared independence from Ukraine on March 17 and formally applied to become part of Russia following a referendum a day earlier, in which nearly 97 percent of the participants voted in favor of the move. On March 21, Crimea officially became part of the Russian territory.

On April 17, Russia, Ukraine, the US and the European Union agreed over steps to "de-escalate" the crisis in eastern Ukraine, where anti-Kiev protesters seized buildings in several towns and cities.

But, Ukrainian authorities have ordered military operations against pro-Russian protesters in both eastern and southern Ukraine, claiming that Russian special forces are fueling unrest in the country.

Moscow has dismissed as "nonsense" claims that Russian special forces are fomenting unrest in Ukraine.

The Voice of Russia

US pledges \$48 mln in additional aid to Ukraine

June 8, 2014

The United States has reaffirmed its commitment to assist Ukraine in carrying out drastic democratic reforms and promoting economic development, as well as to support the country's "sovereignty and territorial integrity," the White House said in a statement.

Consequently, during a visit to Kiev for the inauguration of Ukrainian President Petr Poroshenko US Vice President Joe Biden announced that Ukraine will receive an additional "to help the Ukrainian Government

conduct key reforms, build law enforcement capacity, and strengthen national unity."

The new aid package follows the \$1 billion loan guarantee, \$50 million crisis-response package, and \$23 million in security assistance. Thus, the overall US aid to Ukraine this year exceeds \$184 million.

The \$48 million assistance package is aimed at economic reforms that will ensure that IMF and World Bank programs are successfully implemented and put the country "on a path towards economic growth."

Another set of measures involves "constitutional reforms, decentralization, and confidence-building" that should "enhance national unity, particularly in the East and South."

The package also seeks to strengthen Ukraine's state border guard service, to assist the country's government, civil society, and the private sector in tackling corruption, as well as diversifying its trade and enhancing its energy security.

The additional Ukraine aid follows Poroshenko's meeting with US President Barack Obama on Wednesday in Warsaw.

Associated Press

Complex Times for VP's Son to Work at Ukraine Firm

By: Stephen Braun / June 7, 2014

Vice President Joe Biden's visit Saturday to support Ukraine's fragile democracy came soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

Yet that company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea and is owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president.

The hiring of Hunter Biden, 44, by Burisma Holdings Limited in April was approved by the company's owner, a former senior minister and political ally of Viktor Yanukovich, the exiled Ukrainian president. Yanukovich fled to Russia in February after protests erupted over his efforts to establish

closer economic ties with Moscow.

Hunter Biden's employment means he will be working as a director and top lawyer for a Ukrainian energy company during the period when his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine's new government, especially on energy issues.

There's no indication that Hunter Biden, his father or Burisma is crossing any legal or ethical lines, although ethics experts appear divided over the implications of Hunter Biden's new job.

American conflict-of-interest laws and federal ethics rules essentially do not regulate the business activities of adult relatives of those who work in the White House.

"The primary problem here is the fact that Hunter Biden has set up a financial arrangement with someone who might have business pending before this administration," said Craig Holman, an ethics expert with Public Citizen, a Washington-based government reform organization.

Joe Biden led the U.S. delegation at Saturday's inauguration of Ukraine's new president, Petro Poroshenko, and announced \$48 million in additional aid for the Kiev government. Biden met Poroshenko and said "there is a window for peace and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely ... America is with you."

Ukraine is an important natural-gas and petroleum-liquids transit country. Two major pipeline systems carry Russian gas through Ukraine to Western Europe.

Burisma is headed by Nikolai Zlochevskyi, who held senior posts over natural resources, environment and defense in Ukraine. The company has aggressively bought up Ukrainian oil and natural gas leases and companies.

Hunter Biden's new company says it aims to reduce Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas and oil, a goal that parallels U.S. efforts to aid Ukraine's energy industry.

As a Burisma director and the company's top lawyer, the younger Biden

has yet to take any public actions on behalf of the company.

But the timing of his hiring is politically awkward for the administration's efforts to shore up Ukraine's pro-Western government, and poses potential complications from Burisma's growing energy interests and the background of Hunter Biden's new boss, Zlochevskyi.

At least two oil and natural gas fields leased by subsidiaries of Burisma are in Ukrainian territories where pro-Russian sentiments remain strong, according to government and media releases, independent energy maps and Burisma's website.

One is in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea; the other is in the eastern Ukrainian Kharkiv region. Instability there could force the younger Biden's new company to coordinate with pro-Russian separatists whom the U.S. considers illegitimate.

White House officials declined to comment on Hunter Biden's association with Burisma and the company's holdings in Crimea and east Ukraine. The vice president's spokeswoman, Kendra Barkoff, previously said that Biden's son is a private citizen and a lawyer, and that Joe Biden "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Presidents and vice presidents have long been vexed by relatives rewarded for family ties.

Political loan troubles shadowed Vice President Richard Nixon's brother, Donald, during the 1960 election, and President Jimmy Carter's brother, Billy, who accepted a \$220,000 stipend in 1981 from Libya's Moammar Gadhafi.

In recent years, several Bush and Clinton relatives were caught in a string of murky financial and political dealings.

But "unless there's solid evidence that Hunter Biden got his job to influence American foreign policy, there's no clear line that's been crossed," said Melanie Sloan, executive director of the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

A former Washington lobbyist, the vice president's son is effectively exempt from most rules that would require him to describe publicly the legal work he does on behalf of Burisma.

Hunter Biden will not lobby for the company, said Lawrence Pacheco, an official with FTI Consulting, a Washington government affairs company recently hired by Burisma.

Pacheco did not say whether Biden might oversee or advise on any future Burisma lobbying strategy in the U.S. Pacheco said the company "does not take positions on political matters."

But Biden's company may have to deal with Ukrainian enclaves that the U.S. does not recognize diplomatically or are threatened by instability. One Burisma subsidiary, KrymTopEnergoServis, operates natural gas fields and has headquarters in the Crimea, which seceded from Ukraine this year and now aligns with Russia.

A second subsidiary, Esco-Pivnich, produces oil and natural gas just west of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, which was the site of several protests and borders on separatist-controlled provinces. The company's website confirms that Burisma operates oil and natural gas sites in Crimea and east Ukraine, as well as elsewhere in Ukraine.

"While he's just at the beginning of his involvement with this company, Ukraine is volatile right now and there are all sorts of problems that might crop up down the line," said Bill Allison, the editorial director of the Sunlight Foundation, a nonpartisan watchdog group.

Pacheco said the company's western and eastern operations have been unaffected by Ukraine's unrest but that its Crimea subsidiary is not operating currently. He did not explain further, but confirmed KrymTopEnergoServis is based and leases gas deposits in Crimea. Hunter Biden, Zlochevskyi and other company officials would not comment publicly, Pacheco said.

Hunter Biden is a managing director with Rosemont Seneca Partners, a private equity firm, and worked as a Washington lobbyist for seven years until his father was elected vice president. He lobbied primarily for colleges, hospitals and tech firms.

Pacheco said Biden's son came to Burisma's attention after he was introduced by Devon Archer, another new Burisma board member, to Alan Apter, Burisma's board chairman. Archer works with Hunter Biden at Rosemont and was a top fundraiser for now-Secretary of State John Kerry when Kerry ran for president in 2004. Zlochevskyi approved Biden's hiring, Pacheco said.

Zlochevskyi, 48, worked as minister of natural resources and environment under Yanukovych and most recently was deputy secretary of Ukraine's national security and defense council, which advised Yanukovych on defense matters.

Zlochevskyi also served in the Ukrainian parliament from 2007 to 2011 as a member of the Party of Regions, the political party affiliated with Yanukovych and traditionally aligned with pro-Russian interests. Zlochevskyi's name is missing from Burisma's web site, but financial documents in Cyprus as well as U.S. Securities and Exchange records show that he owns the bulk of Burisma's shares. Zlochevskyi's Cyprus-based Brociti Investments Limited controls Burisma.

Hunter Biden joined Burisma in April, the same month his father visited Kiev to show support for the new interim government.

Fox News

Ukraine energy firm hiring Biden's son raises ethical concerns June 8, 2014

Vice President Joe Biden's visit Saturday to Ukraine in support of the country's new democratic government is renewing concerns about his youngest son being hired by a Ukraine company promoting energy independence from Moscow.

Hunter Biden will be working for the company while his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence energy policies and other issues of the new government, which is gripped in a struggle with Russia and pro-Russian separatists to control the county.

The company, Burisma Holdings Limited, says it wants to reduce Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas and oil, a goal that parallels U.S. efforts to aid Ukraine's energy industry.

The other major issues are Hunter Biden's new employer leases natural gas fields in Crimea, an eastern Ukraine peninsula being controlled by Russia in the country's months-long political upheaval. And the company is owned by a former Ukraine government minister, Nikolai Zlochevskyi, who has ties to the country's ousted pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovich.

The 44-year-old Biden was hired in April and will be a director and lawyer for the company.

American conflict-of-interest laws and federal ethics rules essentially do not regulate the business activities of adult relatives of those who work in the White House, and there's no indication that the situation crosses legal or ethical lines.

But ethics experts appear divided over the implications.

"The primary problem here is the fact that Hunter Biden has set up a financial arrangement with someone who might have business pending before this administration," said Craig Holman, an ethics expert with Public Citizen, a Washington-based government reform organization.

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The Office of the Vice President said some of the money will help Ukraine "enhance its energy security."

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according to government and media releases, independent energy maps and Burisma's website.

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The Wire

It's Totally Normal That Joe Biden's Son Works for a Ukrainian Energy Company

By: Adam Chandler / June 7, 2014

The inauguration of Petro Poroshenko as Ukraine's new president was Europe's biggest story today. The billionaire confectioner promised to bring Ukraine closer to Europe and the West. He also had some tough words about Crimea, which he delivered in the presence of Mikhail Zurabov, the recently restored Russian ambassador to Ukraine.

Russia occupied Crimea, which was, is and will be Ukrainian soil.

Yesterday in the course of the meeting in Normandy, I told this to President Putin: Crimea is Ukraine soil. Period. There can be no compromise on the issues of Crimea, European choice and state structure.”

Among the dignitaries in attendance was Vice President Joe Biden, which is where the story gets interesting. It hardly seems noteworthy that, given the scope of the crisis, Biden took his second trip to Ukraine in the past six weeks.

However, Biden's trip also coincided with a story about his youngest son. Hunter Biden was tapped last month to join the board of Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer. At the time, The Guardian wryly explained the oddity of Biden-spawn's new gig.

“Isn't that a bit fishy? Why do you say that?

Because he's the vice-president's son! That's a coincidence. "This is totally based on merit," said Burisma's chairman, Alan Apter.

He doesn't sound very Ukrainian. He's American, as is the other new board member, Devon Archer.

Who? Devon Archer, who works with Hunter Biden at Rosemont Seneca partners, which is half owned by Rosemont Capital, a private equity firm founded by Archer and Christopher Heinz.

Who? Christopher Heinz ... John Kerry's stepson.”

As the Associated Press reports today, there is more fishiness yet. While Hunter Biden's new company is said to be working to get Ukraine off its

dependence on Russia for energy, Burisma also reportedly "leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea."

The company is also owned by Nikolai Zlochevskyi, whose "ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president" include serving as a senior minister in several government posts under Viktor Yanukovich. At the time of the appointment, Hunter Biden said this:

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

Said transparency seems to be elusive on the American side of this deal.

Beltway ethicists seem to be mixed about whether this arrangement is kosher or not. What is clear is that relatives of high-level American political figures have benefited from their ties for generations now. It's practically a tradition at this point.

Associated Press

Ukrainian energy firm hires Biden son as lawyer

June 7, 2014

WASHINGTON — Vice President Joe Biden's weekend trip to support Ukraine's fragile democracy comes soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

The company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea. It's owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president.

Hunter Biden will be working as a director and top lawyer for the energy company during the period when his father and the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine's new government, especially on energy issues.

There's no indication that Hunter Biden, his father or Burisma are crossing any legal or ethical lines.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, May 14, 2014

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Notes:

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Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Meehan, Bernadette <bernadette_m_meehan@nsc.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:00:36 PM
To: "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Earnest, Joshua R." <joshua_r_earnest@who.eop.gov>; "Hayden, Caitlin" <caitlin_m_hayden@nsc.eop.gov>; "Earnest, Joshua R." </cn=recipients/cn=joshuar.earnest67836121>; "Hayden, Caitlin" </cn=recipients/cn=caitlin_m_hayden>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>
Cc: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Thanks. We'll refer any inquiries to you and Kendra.

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 6:56 PM
To: Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin; Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657?mod=WSJ_LatestHeadlines

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET
[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy,"

she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 11:08:55 AM
To: "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Can you also keep an eye out on twitter for the state dept briefing?
Twitter isn't working on my computer right now for some reason

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:06 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

nothing

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:06 PM
To: Spector, Stephen
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Nothing from the briefing yet?

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:03 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Thanks

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:02 PM
To: Spector, Stephen
Subject: Re: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Waiting for Jay to brief before I give it out

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:00 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Do we have a response?

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:54 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchhoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Rummel, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board
Politico // Lucy McCalmont
May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve

these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Franklin, Andrew (Intern) <andrew_l_franklin_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 6/9/2014 11:54:08 AM
To: "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>
Subject: Ukraine Clips
Attachments: [Ukraine June 2014 Clips.docx](#)

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

Vice President Biden's trip to Ukraine

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Source: The White House



Source: AP



Source: AP



Source: AP



Source: Ukrainian Updates



Source: Reuters



Source: Reuters



Source: The White House



The Hill
USA chants welcome Biden to Ukraine
By Rachel Huggins / June 7, 2014

Vice President Biden and U.S. officials attending inaugural events honoring Ukraine's new leader were warmly greeted as they walked the streets of Kiev.

After Petro Poroshenko was sworn into office on Saturday, Biden and Sen. McCain (R-Ariz.) ditched the presidential motorcade and opted to walk to the new president's reception when crowds lined the streets cheering, "thank you" and "USA."

Members of the delegation include: Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Geoffrey Pyatt, Daniel B. Baer, ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Victoria Nuland, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs.

Biden greeted everyone he encountered as he and other presidential

delegation members walked the red carpet leading to the ceremony.

“How are you? You’re a handsome boy. I’d like to borrow that tie,” Biden told a young boy, according to a White House pool report. He also said hello to several officials and introduced McCain, saying, “You know my friend the senator.”

Poroshenko and Biden spoke for a few minutes at the reception.

“Mr. President, congratulations,” Biden said before posing for photos. McCain embraced the chocolate tycoon-turned president with a hug.

“It’s wonderful to stand with you,” Murphy told the new president.

Radio Free Europe

Biden Meets Moldovan, Georgian Leaders In Kyiv

By: RFE/RL / June 9, 2014

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has met with Moldovan President Nicolae Timofti during his visit to Kyiv for the inauguration of new Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

The U.S. White House said in a statement that, during the meeting on June 7, Biden announced an additional \$8 million in assistance to Moldova, pending consultations with the U.S. Congress.

The assistance is to support Moldova's European choice and mitigate vulnerabilities to external pressure.

The White House said the package will build upon \$2.7 million in U.S. assistance announced on March 3 which is helping Moldovan businesses to increase productivity and competitiveness so they are better positioned to take advantage of European markets.

When added to funds previously budgeted, the United States is providing approximately \$31 million in assistance to Moldova this year.

While in Kyiv, Biden also met Georgian President Giorgi Margvelashvili.

The White House said that, during the meeting, Biden announced an additional \$5 million in assistance for Georgia, pending consultations with the U.S. Congress.

This assistance will help individuals affected by Russia's "borderization" of the Administrative Boundary Lines (ABLs) of Georgia's occupied territories, increase access to independent information in the region, promote national unity, and help Tbilisi conduct reforms to strengthen justice sector institutions.

This follows the \$1.5 million ABL assistance announced by Secretary of State John Kerry at the U.S.-Georgia Strategic Partnership meeting on February 26.

When added to funds previously budgeted, Washington is now providing approximately \$65 million in assistance to Georgia this year.

Bloomberg

Ukrainian Leader Says Eastern Violence Must End This Week

By: Daria Marchak, Daryna Krasnolutska and Volodymyr Verbyany / June 9, 2014

Ukraine's new leader, Petro Poroshenko, said the violence that's rocked the former Soviet republic's easternmost regions must end this week as peace talks began involving an envoy of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Poroshenko, who took the oath of office June 7, said negotiations should be held daily. Yesterday's three-way talks in Kiev included the Ukrainian ambassador to Germany, Pavlo Klimkin, the Russian envoy to Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov, and Heidi Tagliavini, a special representative of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

"We must stop the violence this week," Poroshenko said on his website. "Every day when people die, every day when Ukraine pays such a high price is unacceptable."

Poroshenko, who was sworn in a day after discussing cease-fire proposals with Putin, used his inauguration speech to present a plan to bring peace after more than six months of unrest that's pitted the U.S. and Europe

against Russia in the worst standoff since the Cold War. After his May 25 election victory, the 48-year-old billionaire's ability to repair relations with Russia will be key to success in pacifying the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, where the military is battling a separatist insurgency.

Gas Talks

Talks between Russia's gas export monopoly, OAO Gazprom (OGZD), and Ukraine's state-run NAK Naftogaz Ukrainy on resolving a dispute over prices and money owed for past supplies were set to take place in Brussels today, Ukrainian Energy Minister Yuri Prodan said by phone. Russia has set a deadline of tomorrow for Ukraine to start pre-paying for gas. Russia's Vedomosti newspaper reported that Ukraine will pay \$1 billion today for gas supplied in November and December.

Russia's Micex stock index rose 0.3 percent as of 4:15 p.m. in Moscow. It's climbed more than 20 percent from a March 14 low. The ruble headed for the strongest level in two weeks, appreciating 0.4 percent to 39.8907 against the central bank's target basket of dollars and euros.

Ukrainian government dollar bonds gained to a five-month high, with the yield on debt due in July 2017 falling 13 basis points to 8.84 percent, down from 14.7 percent five weeks ago.

Meanwhile, unrest continued in eastern Ukraine. Insurgents attacked a military building in Torez, 70 kilometers (45 miles) east of Donetsk, and two people died from gas inhalation after a fire broke out, the local Ostrov news service reported late yesterday.

Base Attacked

Ukrainian soldiers repelled an insurgent attack on a military base in Artemivsk, about 80 kilometers north of Donetsk, Vladyslav Seleznyov, the spokesman for the military operation, said on his Facebook page today. The rebels have changed tactics and are now working in small groups attacking military convoys, he said.

In his speech, Poroshenko switched between languages to address Russian speakers in their mother tongue, pledging to "preserve and strengthen Ukrainian unity and ensure lasting peace." He said he'd steer the nation toward closer ties with the European Union, create jobs and

stamp out graft.

Poroshenko, a businessman with investments including chocolates and media who's Ukraine's fifth president since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, has said he's not seeking revenge, offering safe corridors for "Russian mercenaries" to leave the country and an amnesty for those who didn't kill. He's said he'll present a plan to decentralize power and urged early parliamentary elections.

Peace Window

"There's a window for peace now, but it won't stay indefinitely," U.S. Vice President Joe Biden said at a meeting with Poroshenko. "We look for Mr. Putin to meet his end of the commitments and deliver on the pledge to actually work with your government."

Pro-Russian separatist leaders denounced Poroshenko, with Alexander Boroday, leader of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, saying he's the "president of another country," according to the Russian state-owned RIA Novosti news service. Boroday and his Luhansk counterpart, Valeriy Bolotov, said the Kiev government must withdraw its army before any talks are possible, RIA reported.

Putin ordered security services to enforce the border with Ukraine on June 7, according to RIA. The two countries earlier agreed to close sections of the frontier, Poroshenko said June 6. The Foreign Ministry in Moscow said it was notified by the authorities in Kiev that eight checkpoints were shut.

Obama Meeting

Poroshenko and Putin had a brief meeting June 6 in France, where the Russian president also spoke face-to-face with U.S. President Barack Obama for the first time since the crisis in Ukraine escalated in February. The U.S. and its European allies say Putin is behind the unrest in eastern Ukraine, where hundreds have died. Russia has condemned the administration in Kiev's use of armed forces against its own people.

"The Ukrainian leadership must show its goodwill and wisdom," Putin said at a news conference in Normandy June 6. "They have to immediately stop the operation and announce a cease-fire. There is no other way to create

the conditions for negotiations.”

Bloomberg

Russia-Ukraine Talks to Start as Poroshenko Seeks Peace

By: Daryna Krasnolutska and Kateryna Choursina / June 07, 2014

Ukraine’s new leader, Petro Poroshenko, has agreed to start talks with an envoy of Russian President Vladimir Putin about ending separatist violence in the former Soviet republic’s easternmost regions.

Poroshenko took the oath of office as Ukraine’s president yesterday, a day after he discussed with Putin his proposals for the first steps toward a cease-fire. In his inauguration speech, he presented a plan to bring peace to the nation after more than six months of unrest that’s pitted the U.S. and Europe against Russia in the worst standoff since the Cold War.

“I know that peace is the most important thing that Ukrainian people desire now,” Poroshenko, 48, said yesterday in parliament in Kiev.

Poroshenko, switching between languages to address Russian speakers in their mother tongue, pledged to “preserve and strengthen Ukrainian unity and ensure lasting peace” in the country ravaged by separatist violence. The billionaire, who said he became a grandfather for the first time yesterday, vowed to steer the former Soviet republic toward closer ties with the European Union, create jobs and stamp out corruption.

“There’s a window for peace now, but it won’t stay indefinitely,” U.S. Vice President Joe Biden said yesterday at a meeting with Poroshenko in Kiev. “We look for Mr. Putin to meet his end of the commitments and deliver on the pledge to actually work with your government.”

‘Adequate, Realistic’

After his May 25 landslide election victory, Poroshenko’s ability to repair relations with the country’s eastern neighbor will be key to his success in pacifying Ukraine’s easternmost regions, where the military is battling a separatist insurgency. Ukraine is awaiting the arrival of Putin’s envoy for talks, Andriy Zhigulin, Poroshenko’s spokesman, said today by phone.

Poroshenko's speech addressed "all the pressing issues," Yuriy Yakymenko, head of political research at the Razumkov Center, said by phone from Kiev. "The plan of action proposed to stabilize the internal Ukrainian situation is entirely adequate and realistic. Poroshenko clearly prioritized and targeted foreign policy. He also called a spade a spade, what really is happening, and this is important."

Poroshenko promised safe corridors for "Russian mercenaries" to leave the country and pledged an amnesty for those who didn't kill servicemen or civilians. The president said he'll present a plan to decentralize power and urged early parliamentary elections. He also vowed to crush the insurgency, protect Ukraine as a "unitary state," while guaranteeing the rights of Russian speakers.

'Authority, Decisiveness'

"The head of state has a wide spectrum of different instruments to ensure territorial integrity and peace," Poroshenko said. "There will be no shortage of authority and decisiveness. I do not seek revenge."

Pro-Russian separatist leaders denounced Poroshenko, with Alexander Boroday, leader of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, saying he's the "president of another country," according to the Russian state-owned RIA Novosti news service. Boroday and his Luhansk counterpart, Valeriy Bolotov, said the Kiev government must withdraw its army before any talks are possible, according to the news service.

Poroshenko's remarks "look hopeful" and Russia will continue to have working relations with Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov, Russia's ambassador in Kiev, said yesterday, RIA reported. The issue of Crimea, annexed by Russia from Ukraine in March, will be peripheral while the two parties work to restore links, Zurabov said, according to RIA.

Border Controls

Putin yesterday ordered security services to enforce the border with Ukraine, according to RIA. The two countries earlier agreed to jointly close sections of the border in the conflict regions, Poroshenko said June 6 in a statement. The Foreign Ministry in Moscow said it received notification by the authorities in Kiev of eight checkpoints having been shut.

The U.S. yesterday pledged a \$48 million assistance package to Ukraine for tasks including strengthening the border guard service and “confidence-building measures that enhance national unity, particularly in the East and South,” according to a statement from the White House.

Poroshenko and Putin had a brief meeting June 6 in France, where the Russian president also spoke face-to-face with U.S. President Barack Obama for the first time since the crisis in Ukraine escalated in February. Putin welcomed Poroshenko’s commitment to ending the bloodshed and said the government in Kiev must call off its military campaign against pro-Russian separatists.

Asset Rally

The diplomatic flurry pushed Russian financial markets higher. The benchmark stock index jumped 1 percent June 6, extending its gain since a mid-March low to 20 percent. The ruble added 0.8 percent against the dollar. The Ukrainian hryvnia, this year’s worst performer against the U.S. currency with a 30 percent plunge, advanced 0.8 percent.

Meanwhile, unrest continued in Ukraine’s easternmost regions. The army open fire on the insurgents’ base in the city of Slovyansk, forcing them to move their weapons stocks elsewhere, the local Novosti Donbassa newswire reported, without citing anyone. Government forces also used artillery on some occupied buildings, it said, without providing details of casualties.

Three crew members from a Ukrainian plane shot down near the city of Slovyansk two days ago died, three have been hospitalized and two are missing, Vladyslav Seleznyov, a Defense Ministry spokesman, said today on Facebook.

‘Goodwill, Wisdom’

The U.S. and its European allies say Putin is behind the unrest in eastern Ukraine, where hundreds have died in the separatist insurgency. Russia accuses them of backing what it considers an illegitimate administration in Kiev that’s using armed force against its own people.

“The Ukrainian leadership must show its goodwill and wisdom,” Putin said at a news conference in Normandy June 6. “They have to immediately stop the operation and announce a cease-fire. There is no other way to create the conditions for negotiations.”

Poroshenko, a businessman with investments including chocolates and media, became Ukraine’s fifth president since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Biden and European Union President Herman Van Rompuy were among leaders attending yesterday’s ceremony at parliament in Kiev.

“All neighbors stand to benefit from a return to stability in Ukraine and the promotion of growth and development,” Van Rompuy said yesterday in an e-mailed statement. “All neighbors also need to respect its sovereign choices, including stronger ties with the European Union, and its territorial integrity.”

The Wall Street Journal

Petro Poroshenko Sworn In as Ukraine President

By: Paul Sonne and Colleen McCain Nelson / June 7, 2014

KIEV—Chocolate tycoon Petro Poroshenko reached out to residents of Ukraine's restive east on Saturday, promising to end a separatist rebellion in their region that has left hundreds dead and pushed the former Soviet republic to the edge of civil war.

Mr. Poroshenko's ability to carry through with his promise of peace, to salvage Ukraine's economy and push the country toward Europe will determine the success of his presidency for the broad mass of pro-Europe demonstrators who rallied on Kiev's main square to topple Kremlin-friendly President Viktor Yanukovich in late February.

"I don't want war. I don't want revenge. I want peace," Mr. Poroshenko said at Ukraine's parliament, after being sworn in as the country's fifth president. The 48-year-old billionaire, who supported the anti-Yanukovich protests since their start late last year, said he was entering the presidency "to preserve and strengthen the unity of the nation."

The challenge facing Mr. Poroshenko comes amid the worst crisis in Ukraine's independent history, which has pitted the U.S. and Europe

against Russia and driven the widest chasm between Washington and Moscow since the Cold War.

It isn't immediately clear how Mr. Poroshenko can stem the violence, however, seeing as he has ruled out talks with separatist officials and has said there aren't competent regional leaders with whom Kiev can negotiate.

In his speech, Mr. Poroshenko reached out to Ukrainians in the country's Russian-speaking Donetsk and Luhansk regions, part of the Donbas basin, where armed rebels have declared independent republics and denounced Kiev's plans to move toward Europe. Many have demanded to become part of Russia.

The separatist rebels have engaged in bloody clashes with the Ukrainian army since April, when Kiev launched a military offensive to quell the revolt. So far, the offensive has reclaimed some ground but failed to retake the bulk of the region. Meanwhile, it has angered locals upset by civilian casualties and caused many residents to flee their homes.

Kiev and its Western allies have accused Moscow of fomenting the unrest, a charge the Kremlin has denied. Mr. Poroshenko, whose confectionary firm Roshen saw its candies banned in Russia last year, hinted at the accusation of Russian involvement in his speech.

"On the path to the colossal possibilities that have opened up for the European modernization of Ukraine with the fall of tyranny, has arisen a real war, instigated and carried out on Ukrainian territory," he said. Ukrainians won't be made "slaves of criminality and bureaucracy, the servants of colonial authorities," the new president said. He wore a tie the colors of the Ukrainian flag.

Switching into Russian during his speech, Mr. Poroshenko made a direct plea to residents of the rebel-held areas, calling on all who had taken up weapons to lay down their arms and presenting what he called a plan for peace.

He promised more powers of self-governance for the regions by reforming the constitution and decentralizing control but denied calls, including by the Kremlin, to transform Ukraine into a federation of states. He vowed to respect easterners' right to speak Russian but said Ukrainian would remain

the only official state language.

A former foreign minister, Mr. Poroshenko said rebels had not only engaged in looting and abuse of civilians but had also brought the region's economy to the "brink of complete catastrophe." He vowed to bring new jobs to the region, where the economy relies on coal mines and Soviet-era heavy industrial factories. The new president also promised to visit Donbas soon but made clear he wouldn't be negotiating with the separatist movement's leaders as the Kremlin has proposed.

"Today we need a legitimate partner for dialogue. We will not speak with bandits," Mr. Poroshenko said. "But the acting local legislators already don't represent anyone. We're prepared to call emergency local elections in Donbas."

Separatist leaders denounced Mr. Poroshenko's speech on Saturday. Alexander Borodai, a Moscow public-relations consultant leading the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, described the new Ukrainian president's comments as rhetorical propaganda and said he couldn't guarantee Mr. Poroshenko's safety on a trip to the region.

"Why on earth should we guarantee his security if he's the head of an enemy state?" Mr. Borodai said in an interview with the Russian tabloid website LifeNews. He said he would negotiate with Mr. Poroshenko only if he removed the Ukrainian military from Donetsk.

The Donetsk rebel defense commander, Igor Strelkov, told LifeNews he expected the violence to grow worse now that Mr. Poroshenko had assumed his duties. He said that Kiev had asked its Western allies for military aid in a move that the rebel leader said presaged more deaths.

Mr. Poroshenko said Kiev would permit each region to choose its own heroes and craft its own historical memory—an implicit reference to the general distaste in the country's east for Ukrainian nationalists primarily from the country's west.

Mr. Poroshenko guaranteed amnesty for locals without "the blood of Ukrainian soldiers and civilians on their hands" or a history of financing the separatists. He offered safe passage for rebel fighters from Russia to return to their home country.

Russia annexed the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea in March in response to the toppling of Mr. Yanukovich, provoking sanctions against Russian officials by the U.S. and the EU. Russian President Vladimir Putin met Mr. Poroshenko briefly Friday at a D-Day remembrance ceremony in Normandy, France. The new Ukrainian president said he told Mr. Putin that Crimea is Ukrainian but said he wanted to cooperate with Russia.

"There can be no compromises on questions of Crimea, our European choice and our structure of government," Mr. Poroshenko said, regarding Russia. "But all other things we should discuss and decide at the negotiating table."

Mr. Putin, who has pledged to work with Mr. Poroshenko, issued an order Saturday to Russia's Federal Security Service to step up controls on the country's border with Ukraine and prevent people from crossing illegally, according to the Interfax news agency. Ukraine has been forced to abandon border posts where the Luhansk and Donetsk regions meet Russia because guards there have come under fire by separatists. Weapons and reinforcements have flowed over the border, propping up the rebel militants.

The U.S. sent Vice President Joe Biden to Saturday's ceremony. Russia, meanwhile, sent its ambassador to Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov. Mr. Biden met with Mr. Poroshenko after the speech and pledged \$48 million more in U.S. aid, bringing the total U.S. assistance to Ukraine this year to more than \$184 million. The U.S. also has provided a \$1 billion loan guarantee to help salvage Ukraine's troubled finances.

Mr. Poroshenko spent part of his speech going after his predecessor, Mr. Yanukovich, saying the Donetsk native had betrayed his own people, robbed the region of its wealth and had turned to financing separatists from exile in Russia.

"It's precisely him who carries full responsibility for the political and socio-economic situation in the region," Mr. Poroshenko said. "And for the joblessness, for the poverty, for the refugees. And for the killed citizens and the mothers' tears." Mr. Yanukovich, who has been issuing statements from exile in the Russian city of Rostov-on-Don, didn't immediately respond.

During Mr. Yanukovich's inauguration in 2010, the doors to the Ukrainian parliament began closing as he tried to walk in the door, an accident many Ukrainians later said served as a harbinger of his ultimate rejection by the country's people.

On Saturday morning, as Mr. Poroshenko walked up to the same doors, a soldier standing guard dropped his gun and stumbled amid the sweltering heat, looking as if he was about to faint. Mr. Poroshenko continued on into the parliament. On his way out of the building, the new Ukrainian president stopped to check on the soldier's health.

During his speech, Mr. Poroshenko pledged to return Ukraine to its natural place in Europe, saying he would sign the economic portion of an integration pact with the European Union as soon as possible.

"The pen is in my hand," he said. He also vowed to fulfill all necessary requirements so Ukrainians can travel to Europe without visas starting in January 2015 and one day become citizens of the EU. To do that, he promised to snuff out corruption.

"We are a people who were separated from our great homeland of Europe," he said. "We are returning. Finally and irrevocably."

The additional U.S. aid will be directed at helping Ukraine make reforms necessary to comply with an International Monetary Fund assistance package. It will also go to building law enforcement capacity, particularly within the State Border Guard Service, among a number of other projects, the White House said.

One of those projects is the fight against corruption. Mr. Biden emphasized the importance of that fight in joint comments with Mr. Poroshenko on Saturday.

"Corruption is cancer," Mr. Biden said. "It eats away at the fabric of democracy." He said Mr. Poroshenko has shown the will to deal with the problem, as well as the political courage to take necessary steps that may prove unpopular on their face.

The U.S. vice president emphasized the need for Russia to help stop

border incursions streaming into eastern Ukraine. "There's a window for peace," he said, appearing alongside Mr. Poroshenko. "And you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely."

The New York Times

Poroshenko Takes Ukraine Helm With Tough Words for Russia

By: David Herszenhorn / June 7, 2014

KIEV, Ukraine — Petro Oleksiyovych Poroshenko, a pro-European, billionaire confectioner, was sworn in on Saturday as the fifth president of Ukraine, promising to put an end to a separatist insurrection in the east that has divided the country for months.

He also expressed new resolve, saying Ukraine would never accept Russia's annexation of Crimea, a point he also made in a face-to-face meeting with President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia on Friday.

In a forceful inaugural address, Mr. Poroshenko, 48, called on rebel fighters in eastern Ukraine to put down their weapons and promised safe passage for "Russian mercenaries" who wished to return home. But he said there would be no negotiations with armed insurgents, raising the prospect of further bloodshed as the Ukrainian military seeks to quash the rebellion.

Though the United States and its Western allies expressed new hope of a diplomatic resolution after meetings with Mr. Putin in France at a commemoration of the 70th anniversary of D-Day, Russia's intentions in Ukraine remain unclear, and there have been mixed signals on whether there is consensus among Western nations over further sanctions if diplomatic efforts fail.

Mr. Poroshenko, after being installed in a mostly solemn ceremony at the Ukrainian Parliament, said he hoped to mend relations with Russia. "Citizens of Ukraine will never enjoy the beauty of peace unless we settle down our relations with Russia," he said.

At the same time, however, he voiced no willingness to tolerate recent Russian aggression or the annexation of Crimea, which Mr. Putin has described as the righting of a historical accident that separated the peninsula from its Russian roots.

“Russia occupied Crimea, which was, is and will be Ukrainian soil,” Mr. Poroshenko told an audience that included Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. and other international dignitaries. “Yesterday, in the course of the meeting in Normandy, I told this to President Putin: Crimea is Ukraine soil. Period. There can be no compromise on the issues of Crimea, European choice and state structure.”

Mr. Poroshenko also said he would move swiftly to sign political and economic agreements with the European Union that Ukraine’s former government, under heavy Russian pressure, backed away from in November, setting off the civil unrest. “My pen is in my hands,” he said, adding later, “European democracy, for me, is the best form of government invented by mankind.”

In a sign of outreach, Russia returned its ambassador, Mikhail Y. Zurabov, to Kiev to attend the inaugural festivities. Mr. Zurabov had been recalled to Russia after the ouster of the former Ukrainian president, Viktor F. Yanukovich.

And a day after President Obama demanded that Russia stop the flow of weapons and fighters into Ukraine, Russian news agencies reported that Mr. Putin had ordered tighter controls on the border to prevent people from crossing illegally.

Still, violence continued to flare in eastern Ukraine. An assassination attempt on Denis Pushilin, a pro-Russian, separatist leader in Donetsk, on Saturday resulted in the shooting death of an assistant, Maksym Petruhin. Photographs on Ukrainian news sites showed Mr. Petruhin, wearing a business suit, lying face down on a street alongside a parked car with at least seven bullet holes in the rear door panel.

Mr. Poroshenko won the presidency in a landslide on May 25, in a special election that was called after months of civil unrest toppled Mr. Yanukovich, who fled to Russia.

For many years, Mr. Poroshenko served in Parliament, including a stint as speaker. He was foreign minister under President Viktor A. Yushchenko and trade and economics minister under Mr. Yanukovich.

He earned his fortune making chocolate, and Russia is a major market for his company, Roshen, which has factories and other facilities there. His deep business ties in Russia and his long experience in Ukrainian politics had led to hope that he could negotiate successfully with the Kremlin.

In his inaugural speech, however, he was resolute against Russian intervention. “The issue of territorial integrity of Ukraine is not subject to discussion,” he said. “I have just sworn ‘with all my deeds to protect the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine,’ and I will always be faithful to this sacred promise.”

The ceremony was imbued with ritual. Mr. Poroshenko swore the oath of office with his hand on the 16th-century Peresopnytsia Gospel. He was presented with a bejeweled presidential necklace, which framed his tie of sky blue and yellow, Ukraine’s national colors. He was also given the bulava, a scepter that is a historical symbol of power.

Mr. Poroshenko opened his speech by recognizing the so-called Heavenly Hundred demonstrators who were killed in clashes with the police in Kiev in the days before Mr. Yanukovych was forced from power.

“Many people thought that we got independence without any difficulty,” he said. “It is not true.”

After calling for a moment of silence, he turned his attention to the pro-Russian violence in the east and switched from speaking Ukrainian to Russian.

He promised amnesty for fighters who put down their weapons and safe passage for Russian insurgents who wanted to go home. To the peaceful citizens of eastern Ukraine, he said he would welcome dialogue.

He offered conciliatory actions, promising to go to eastern Ukraine “with peace, with a project of government decentralization, with a guarantee of free usage of Russian language in your region, with the strong intention not to divide people into right and wrong Ukrainians, with respect for the specifics of regions, for the right of local communities to their peculiarities in the issues of historic memory, pantheon of heroes, religious traditions.”

Mr. Poroshenko also promised to pursue a jobs program and to fight the

corruption that has plagued Ukraine throughout its post-Soviet history. He said he would push for parliamentary elections later this year, aiming to meet a demand of demonstrators — many of whom are still camping out in Independence Square in the center of Kiev — who say that changing presidents is not sufficient.

He also acknowledged that the uprising had deeply altered the country. “The victorious revolution of dignity not only changed the government,” he said. “The country has changed. People have changed.”

In conjunction with Mr. Biden’s visit, the White House announced \$48 million in new aid to Ukraine, as well as \$8 million for Moldova and \$5 million for Georgia. Moldova and Georgia are also expected to sign agreements with the European Union this month and have come under Russian pressure as a result.

Meeting with Mr. Poroshenko, Mr. Biden saluted his efforts to combat corruption. “Corruption is a cancer,” he said. “It eats away the fabric of democracy.”

He also reiterated American support for Ukraine. “America’s with you,” Mr. Biden said. “That is not hyperbole.”

Associated Press

Poroshenko sworn in as Ukraine's president

By: Laura Mills and Jim Heintz / June 7, 2014

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine’s new president on Saturday called for pro-Russian rebels in the country’s east to lay down their arms and welcomed dialogue with the insurgents, but said he wouldn’t negotiate with those he called “gangsters and killers” and struck a defiant tone on the Russian-annexed Crimean Peninsula.

Petro Poroshenko’s inaugural address after taking the oath of office in parliament gave little sign of a quick resolution to the conflict in the east, which Ukrainian officials say has left more than 200 people dead.

He also firmly insisted that Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula annexed by Russia in March, “was, is and will be Ukrainian.” He gave no indication of

how Ukraine could regain control of Crimea, which Russian President Vladimir Putin has said was allotted to Ukraine unjustly under Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev.

Hours after the speech, Putin ordered security tightened along Russia's border with Ukraine to prevent illegal crossings, Russian news agencies said. Ukraine claims that many of the insurgents in the east have come from Russia; Poroshenko on Saturday said he would offer a corridor for safe passage of "Russian militants" out of the country.

Rebel leaders in the east dismissed Poroshenko's speech.

"At the moment it's impossible for him to come (to Donetsk for talks)," said Denis Pushilin, a top figure in the self-declared Donetsk People's Republic. "Perhaps with security, a group, so people won't tear him to pieces."

Poroshenko offered amnesty to rebels who "don't have blood on their hands." But "I don't believe it," said Valery Bolotov, the insurgent leader in the Luhansk region. Rebels in both Luhansk and Donetsk have declared their regions independent.

The new president promised "I will bring you peace," but did not indicate whether Ukrainian forces would scale back their offensives against the insurgency, which Ukraine says is fomented by Russia.

Russia has insisted on Ukraine ending its military operation in the east. Ambassador Mikhail Zurabov, representing Moscow at the inauguration, said Poroshenko's statements "sound reassuring," but "for us the principal thing is to stop the military operation," adding that the insurgents should also stop fighting in order to bolster the delivery of humanitarian aid, RIA Novosti reported.

As president, the 48-year-old Poroshenko is commander-in-chief of the military and appoints the defense and foreign ministers. The prime minister is appointed by the parliament.

Poroshenko, often called "The Chocolate King" because of the fortune he made as a confectionery tycoon, was elected May 25. He replaces Oleksandr Turchynov, who served as interim president after Russia-friendly president Viktor Yanukovich fled the country in February after months of

street protests against him.

The fall of Yanukovych aggravated long-brewing tensions in eastern and southern Ukraine, whose majority native Russian speakers denounced the new government as a nationalist putsch that aimed to suppress them.

Within a month, the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea was annexed by Russia after a secession referendum and an armed insurgency arose in the eastern provinces of Donetsk and Luhansk.

In his inaugural address, attended by dignitaries including U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Sen. John McCain and Democratic Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Poroshenko promised amnesty “for those who do not have blood on their hands” and called for dialogue with “peaceful citizens” in the east.

“I am calling on everyone who has taken arms in their hands — please lay down your arms,” he said, according to an interpreter. He also called for early regional elections in the east and promised to push for new powers to be allotted to regional governments, but he rejected calls for federalization of Ukraine, which Moscow has advocated. Federalization would make regions more independent of the central government.

Biden later met with Poroshenko and said “there is a window for peace and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely ... America is with you.”

He also promised an additional \$48 million in US aid to Ukraine to carry out economic and constitutional reforms and strengthen the border guard service. Washington previously announced \$50 million in “crisis response” aid and \$23 million for security assistance.

Poroshenko also said he would seek early parliamentary elections because “the current composition of the parliament is not consistent with the aspirations of the nation.” The current parliament, elected in 2012 with a large contingent from Yanukovych’s former party, is to stay in place until 2017.

Poroshenko insisted that Ukrainian would remain the sole state language of the country, but promised “the free use of the Russian language.” He assumed power a day after meeting Putin at D-Day commemoration

ceremonies in France.

Putin has denied allegations by Kiev and the West that Russia has fomented the rebellion in the east, and he insisted Friday that Poroshenko needs to speak directly to representatives from the east.

After the low-key inauguration ceremony, which included a choir in traditional national costume singing the national anthem, Poroshenko went to the square outside the landmark Sophia Cathedral for a ceremonial troop inspection.

Taras Danchuk, a 37-year-old spectator at the square who was wearing a traditional embroidered tunic, said he supported Poroshenko's strategy for trying to negotiate an end the eastern conflict.

"Out of emotion I would like to say that we should destroy the terrorists, but that is not possible without sacrificing the civilians who live there, so there will have to be negotiations," he said.

The protests against Yanukovich were set off by his decision to shelve a long-anticipated agreement to deepen political and economic ties with the European Union and seek closer relations with Russia. The protests grew hugely after police violently dispersed some early gatherings.

Poroshenko said Saturday he wants to sign the economic portion of the EU "association agreement" in the near future.

No major fighting was reported on Saturday, but the Donetsk People's Republic said one of Pushilin's aides was fatally shot in Donetsk city, the region's capital.

Also Saturday, Russian officials including the ambassador and Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu complained that two journalists from a TV channel belonging to the ministry had been detained by national guard forces in Ukraine and called for their release.

Associated Press

Poroshenko sworn in as Ukraine's president, welcomes talks with insurgents

By: Laura Mills and Jim Heintz / June 7, 2014

KIEV, UKRAINE — Petro Poroshenko, Ukraine's new president, on Saturday called for pro-Russian rebels in the country's east to lay down their arms and welcomed dialogue with the insurgents, but he said he wouldn't negotiate with those he called "gangsters and killers" and struck a defiant tone on the Russian-annexed Crimean peninsula.

In his inaugural address, attended by dignitaries including Vice President Joe Biden, Republican Sen. John McCain and Democratic Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Poroshenko promised amnesty "for those who do not have blood on their hands" and called for dialogue with "peaceful citizens" in the east. Biden later met with Poroshenko and said, "There is a window for peace, and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely. ... America is with you."

Biden also promised an additional \$48 million in U.S. aid to Ukraine to carry out economic and constitutional reforms and strengthen the border guard service. Washington previously announced \$50 million in "crisis response" aid and \$23 million for security assistance.

Crimea in dispute

Poroshenko's inaugural address after taking the oath of office in parliament gave little sign of a quick resolution to the conflict in the east, which Ukrainian officials say has left more than 200 people dead.

He also firmly insisted that Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula annexed by Russia in March, "was, is and will be Ukrainian." He gave no indication of how Ukraine could regain control of Crimea, which Russian President Vladimir Putin has said was allotted to Ukraine unjustly under Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev.

Hours after the speech, Putin ordered security tightened along Russia's border with Ukraine to prevent illegal crossings, Russian news agencies said. Ukraine claims that many of the insurgents in the east have come from Russia; Poroshenko on Saturday said he would offer a corridor for safe passage of "Russian militants" out of the country.

Rebel leaders in the east dismissed Poroshenko's speech.

“At the moment it’s impossible for him to come (to Donetsk for talks),” said Denis Pushilin, a top figure in the self-declared Donetsk People’s Republic. “Perhaps with security, a group, so people won’t tear him to pieces.”

Biden's son

Biden’s visit Saturday to support Ukraine’s fragile democracy came soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

Yet that company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea and is owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine’s ousted pro-Russian president.

The hiring of Hunter Biden, 44, by Burisma Holdings Limited in April was approved by the company’s owner, a former senior minister and political ally of Viktor Yanukovich, the exiled Ukrainian president. Yanukovich fled to Russia in February after protests erupted over his efforts to establish closer economic ties with Moscow.

Hunter Biden’s employment means he will be working as a director and top lawyer for a Ukrainian energy company during the period when his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine’s new government, especially on energy issues.

White House officials declined to comment on Hunter Biden’s association with Burisma and the company’s holdings in Crimea and east Ukraine.

The vice president’s spokeswoman, Kendra Barkoff, previously said that Biden’s son is a private citizen and a lawyer, and that Joe Biden “does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company.”

Demands on Russia

The U.S-Russian standoff over Ukraine moves into a new phase this weekend, with fresh rules and an uncertain path forward.

During this week’s trip to Europe, President Barack Obama and Group of

Seven colleagues made new demands on Russian President Putin and threatened new sanctions if he did not cut off support for pro-Russian separatists in Ukraine.

“They need to stop financing and arming separatists who have been wreaking havoc in the eastern part of the country,” Obama told NBC News in an interview broadcast Friday. “If Russia begins to act in accordance with basic international principles, then I’m confident that the United States-Russia relationship will improve.”

Putin, who spoke Friday with new Ukrainian President Poroshenko, has pledged to seek peace.

Aid to Moldova, Georgia

The U.S. is offering new financial assistance to Moldova and Georgia, two former Soviet republics the West seeks to lure toward Europe.

Vice President Biden announced the aid in Kiev during meetings with both nations’ presidents on the sidelines of the new Ukrainian president’s inauguration.

Both Moldova and Georgia are pursuing association agreements with the European Union amid a regional crisis over Russia’s actions in Ukraine.

The White House says an additional \$8 million will help Moldova “advance its European aspirations.” The U.S. is also sending \$5 million to Georgia to help economically vulnerable people living near Russian-controlled breakaway regions.

The aid follows Obama’s announcement that the U.S. will work to boost the military capacity of non-NATO countries near Russia, including Moldova and Georgia.

Associated Press

U.S. Pledges Millions More in Aid to Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia June 8, 2014

The United States pledged millions of dollars in additional aid to Ukraine,

Moldova and Georgia on Saturday, deepening American support to the Western-leaning countries on Russia's border.

Vice President Joe Biden announced the extra aid, which must be approved by Congress, during a visit to Kiev for the inauguration of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

Washington pledged \$48 million to Ukraine, \$8 million to Moldova and \$5 million to Georgia after Biden met the presidents of the three countries. Russia's annexation of the Crimea region from Ukraine in March, after weeks of protests ousted Poroshenko's pro-Moscow predecessor Victor Yanukovich, has provoked the most serious crisis in relations with the West since the end of the Cold War.

As with Ukraine, there are sharp tensions between Moscow and Moldova and Georgia, where regions have formed breakaway states in reaction to ethnic nationalist regimes, aligning themselves with Russia: Transdnestr in the case of Moldova, and Abkhazia and South Ossetia in the case of Georgia.

The additional Ukraine aid follows Poroshenko's meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama on Wednesday in Warsaw and will go toward economic reforms, the White House said in a statement.

In Moldova, the U.S. aid will target programs to democratic institutions and the economy as the country implements a trade pact reached with the European Union last summer, it said. The new aid is in addition to the \$2.7 million announced in March.

The collapse of a proposed trade agreement with the European Union has been at the heart of Ukraine's political crisis over the past six months as Russia and western countries compete to assert dominance in the region. The proposed aid packages follow a U.S. announcement Tuesday that it would help build the defense capacity of Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia, all on Russia's western border.

The new aid also will support better ties between Moldova and Russian-speaking Transdnestr, the White House said.

Similarly, it said the \$5 million to Georgia will help people living along

the border with Russia and "increase access to objective information by populations in the occupied territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia."

Associated Press

US to offer financial assistance to Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia June 7, 2014

The United States pledged millions of dollars in additional aid to Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia on Saturday, deepening American support to the Western-leaning countries on Russia's border.

Vice-president Joe Biden announced the extra aid, which must be approved by Congress, during a visit to Kiev for the inauguration of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

Washington pledged \$48m to Ukraine, \$8m to Moldova and \$5m to Georgia after Biden met the presidents of the three countries.

Secretary of state John Kerry, meanwhile, said on Saturday he was hoping for steps to ease tensions in Ukraine now that the new president has been sworn in.

Both Moldova and Georgia are pursuing association agreements with the European Union amid a regional crisis over Russia's actions in Ukraine.

The White House says the aid will target programs to demcoratic institutions and the economy, which will help Moldova "advance its European aspirations". The new aid is in addition to the \$2.7m announced in March. The US is also sending \$5m to Georgia to help economically vulnerable people living near Russian-controlled breakaway regions, and "increase access to objective information by populations in the occupied territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia"

The aid follows President Barack Obama's announcement that the US will work to boost the military capacity of non-Nato countries near Russia, including Moldova and Georgia.

Kerry told reporters in France he was "confident there are ways forward" and that included Russia's help in getting separatists to put away their

weapons and relinquish buildings they are occupying.

He said the hope was not to impose tougher penalties against Russia over its actions in Ukraine.

Earlier Saturday, Ukraine's new president Petro Poroshenko said he wanted a dialogue with his country's east, where a separatist insurgency has taken hold.

Kerry raised the possibility of a ceasefire and said it's important to begin to build Ukraine.

He spoke in the French seaside town of Saint Briac that is home to his family's ancestral estate, on the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

A day after attending international ceremonies to mark the allied invasion of France in Normandy, Kerry traveled to Saint Briac in the neighboring province of Brittany, where his mother's family has long owned property.

Three US soldiers were killed during the liberation of the town in August, 1944, and Kerry placed a wreath at a monument "To the Americans" that overlooks the harbour.

Associated Press

US OFFERS NEW AID TO EX-SOVIET EUROPEAN NATIONS

June 7, 2014

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — The United States is offering new financial assistance to Moldova (mawl-DOH'-vah) and Georgia, two former Soviet nations the West seeks to lure toward Europe.

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Press TV

US stands with new Ukrainian president in talks with Russia, Biden says

June 9, 2014

US Vice President Joe Biden has told Ukraine's new President Petro Poroshenko that the United States is standing with him on his efforts to bring peace in the country and in talks with Russia, but warning that the window for peace will not remain open for ever.

Biden made the remarks on Saturday in Kiev during a meeting with Poroshenko at the Presidential Administrative Building, hours after he was inaugurated as Ukraine's fifth president.

"There's a window for peace, and you know as well as anyone, that it will not stay open indefinitely," Biden said.

"America's with you," the US vice president added. "That is not hyperbole." Biden also promised an additional \$48 million in assistance to Ukraine to carry out economic and constitutional reforms and strengthen the border guard service on top of a previous \$1 billion in loan guarantees and \$73 million in security and crisis-response aid.

The financial package must get Congress approval.

Earlier, Poroshenko offered a peace plan to resolve the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, but he warned that Russia's "occupation" of Crimea was not acceptable.

"Russia occupied Crimea, which is and will be Ukrainian," Poroshenko said at the inauguration ceremony. "Yesterday during the meeting in Normandy [France], I said exactly that to [Russian] President [Vladimir] Putin, that Crimea belongs to Ukraine."

"I know that peace is the main thing the Ukrainian people want today," he said. "I don't want war. I don't want revenge, despite the massive casualties sustained by Ukraine's people.... I want peace, and I will achieve Ukraine's unity."

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea declared independence from Ukraine on March 17 and formally applied to become part of Russia following a referendum a day earlier, in which nearly 97 percent of the participants voted in favor of the move. On March 21, Crimea officially became part of the Russian territory.

On April 17, Russia, Ukraine, the US and the European Union agreed over steps to "de-escalate" the crisis in eastern Ukraine, where anti-Kiev protesters seized buildings in several towns and cities.

But, Ukrainian authorities have ordered military operations against pro-Russian protesters in both eastern and southern Ukraine, claiming that Russian special forces are fueling unrest in the country.

Moscow has dismissed as "nonsense" claims that Russian special forces are fomenting unrest in Ukraine.

The Voice of Russia

US pledges \$48 mln in additional aid to Ukraine

June 8, 2014

The United States has reaffirmed its commitment to assist Ukraine in carrying out drastic democratic reforms and promoting economic development, as well as to support the country's "sovereignty and territorial integrity," the White House said in a statement.

Consequently, during a visit to Kiev for the inauguration of Ukrainian President Petr Poroshenko US Vice President Joe Biden announced that Ukraine will receive an additional "to help the Ukrainian Government

conduct key reforms, build law enforcement capacity, and strengthen national unity."

The new aid package follows the \$1 billion loan guarantee, \$50 million crisis-response package, and \$23 million in security assistance. Thus, the overall US aid to Ukraine this year exceeds \$184 million.

The \$48 million assistance package is aimed at economic reforms that will ensure that IMF and World Bank programs are successfully implemented and put the country "on a path towards economic growth."

Another set of measures involves "constitutional reforms, decentralization, and confidence-building" that should "enhance national unity, particularly in the East and South."

The package also seeks to strengthen Ukraine's state border guard service, to assist the country's government, civil society, and the private sector in tackling corruption, as well as diversifying its trade and enhancing its energy security.

The additional Ukraine aid follows Poroshenko's meeting with US President Barack Obama on Wednesday in Warsaw.

Associated Press

Complex Times for VP's Son to Work at Ukraine Firm

By: Stephen Braun / June 7, 2014

Vice President Joe Biden's visit Saturday to support Ukraine's fragile democracy came soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

Yet that company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea and is owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president.

The hiring of Hunter Biden, 44, by Burisma Holdings Limited in April was approved by the company's owner, a former senior minister and political ally of Viktor Yanukovich, the exiled Ukrainian president. Yanukovich fled to Russia in February after protests erupted over his efforts to establish

closer economic ties with Moscow.

Hunter Biden's employment means he will be working as a director and top lawyer for a Ukrainian energy company during the period when his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine's new government, especially on energy issues.

There's no indication that Hunter Biden, his father or Burisma is crossing any legal or ethical lines, although ethics experts appear divided over the implications of Hunter Biden's new job.

American conflict-of-interest laws and federal ethics rules essentially do not regulate the business activities of adult relatives of those who work in the White House.

"The primary problem here is the fact that Hunter Biden has set up a financial arrangement with someone who might have business pending before this administration," said Craig Holman, an ethics expert with Public Citizen, a Washington-based government reform organization.

Joe Biden led the U.S. delegation at Saturday's inauguration of Ukraine's new president, Petro Poroshenko, and announced \$48 million in additional aid for the Kiev government. Biden met Poroshenko and said "there is a window for peace and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely ... America is with you."

Ukraine is an important natural-gas and petroleum-liquids transit country. Two major pipeline systems carry Russian gas through Ukraine to Western Europe.

Burisma is headed by Nikolai Zlochevskyi, who held senior posts over natural resources, environment and defense in Ukraine. The company has aggressively bought up Ukrainian oil and natural gas leases and companies.

Hunter Biden's new company says it aims to reduce Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas and oil, a goal that parallels U.S. efforts to aid Ukraine's energy industry.

As a Burisma director and the company's top lawyer, the younger Biden

has yet to take any public actions on behalf of the company.

But the timing of his hiring is politically awkward for the administration's efforts to shore up Ukraine's pro-Western government, and poses potential complications from Burisma's growing energy interests and the background of Hunter Biden's new boss, Zlochevskiy.

At least two oil and natural gas fields leased by subsidiaries of Burisma are in Ukrainian territories where pro-Russian sentiments remain strong, according to government and media releases, independent energy maps and Burisma's website.

One is in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea; the other is in the eastern Ukrainian Kharkiv region. Instability there could force the younger Biden's new company to coordinate with pro-Russian separatists whom the U.S. considers illegitimate.

White House officials declined to comment on Hunter Biden's association with Burisma and the company's holdings in Crimea and east Ukraine. The vice president's spokeswoman, Kendra Barkoff, previously said that Biden's son is a private citizen and a lawyer, and that Joe Biden "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Presidents and vice presidents have long been vexed by relatives rewarded for family ties.

Political loan troubles shadowed Vice President Richard Nixon's brother, Donald, during the 1960 election, and President Jimmy Carter's brother, Billy, who accepted a \$220,000 stipend in 1981 from Libya's Moammar Gadhafi.

In recent years, several Bush and Clinton relatives were caught in a string of murky financial and political dealings.

But "unless there's solid evidence that Hunter Biden got his job to influence American foreign policy, there's no clear line that's been crossed," said Melanie Sloan, executive director of the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

A former Washington lobbyist, the vice president's son is effectively exempt from most rules that would require him to describe publicly the legal work he does on behalf of Burisma.

Hunter Biden will not lobby for the company, said Lawrence Pacheco, an official with FTI Consulting, a Washington government affairs company recently hired by Burisma.

Pacheco did not say whether Biden might oversee or advise on any future Burisma lobbying strategy in the U.S. Pacheco said the company "does not take positions on political matters."

But Biden's company may have to deal with Ukrainian enclaves that the U.S. does not recognize diplomatically or are threatened by instability. One Burisma subsidiary, KrymTopEnergoServis, operates natural gas fields and has headquarters in the Crimea, which seceded from Ukraine this year and now aligns with Russia.

A second subsidiary, Esco-Pivnich, produces oil and natural gas just west of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, which was the site of several protests and borders on separatist-controlled provinces. The company's website confirms that Burisma operates oil and natural gas sites in Crimea and east Ukraine, as well as elsewhere in Ukraine.

"While he's just at the beginning of his involvement with this company, Ukraine is volatile right now and there are all sorts of problems that might crop up down the line," said Bill Allison, the editorial director of the Sunlight Foundation, a nonpartisan watchdog group.

Pacheco said the company's western and eastern operations have been unaffected by Ukraine's unrest but that its Crimea subsidiary is not operating currently. He did not explain further, but confirmed KrymTopEnergoServis is based and leases gas deposits in Crimea. Hunter Biden, Zlochevskyi and other company officials would not comment publicly, Pacheco said.

Hunter Biden is a managing director with Rosemont Seneca Partners, a private equity firm, and worked as a Washington lobbyist for seven years until his father was elected vice president. He lobbied primarily for colleges, hospitals and tech firms.

Pacheco said Biden's son came to Burisma's attention after he was introduced by Devon Archer, another new Burisma board member, to Alan Apter, Burisma's board chairman. Archer works with Hunter Biden at Rosemont and was a top fundraiser for now-Secretary of State John Kerry when Kerry ran for president in 2004. Zlochevskyi approved Biden's hiring, Pacheco said.

Zlochevskyi, 48, worked as minister of natural resources and environment under Yanukovych and most recently was deputy secretary of Ukraine's national security and defense council, which advised Yanukovych on defense matters.

Zlochevskyi also served in the Ukrainian parliament from 2007 to 2011 as a member of the Party of Regions, the political party affiliated with Yanukovych and traditionally aligned with pro-Russian interests. Zlochevskyi's name is missing from Burisma's web site, but financial documents in Cyprus as well as U.S. Securities and Exchange records show that he owns the bulk of Burisma's shares. Zlochevskyi's Cyprus-based Brociti Investments Limited controls Burisma.

Hunter Biden joined Burisma in April, the same month his father visited Kiev to show support for the new interim government.

Fox News

Ukraine energy firm hiring Biden's son raises ethical concerns June 8, 2014

Vice President Joe Biden's visit Saturday to Ukraine in support of the country's new democratic government is renewing concerns about his youngest son being hired by a Ukraine company promoting energy independence from Moscow.

Hunter Biden will be working for the company while his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence energy policies and other issues of the new government, which is gripped in a struggle with Russia and pro-Russian separatists to control the county.

The company, Burisma Holdings Limited, says it wants to reduce Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas and oil, a goal that parallels U.S. efforts to aid Ukraine's energy industry.

The other major issues are Hunter Biden's new employer leases natural gas fields in Crimea, an eastern Ukraine peninsula being controlled by Russia in the country's months-long political upheaval. And the company is owned by a former Ukraine government minister, Nikolai Zlochevskyi, who has ties to the country's ousted pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovich.

The 44-year-old Biden was hired in April and will be a director and lawyer for the company.

American conflict-of-interest laws and federal ethics rules essentially do not regulate the business activities of adult relatives of those who work in the White House, and there's no indication that the situation crosses legal or ethical lines.

But ethics experts appear divided over the implications.

"The primary problem here is the fact that Hunter Biden has set up a financial arrangement with someone who might have business pending before this administration," said Craig Holman, an ethics expert with Public Citizen, a Washington-based government reform organization.

Joe Biden led the U.S. delegation at Saturday's inauguration of Ukraine's new president, Petro Poroshenko, and announced \$48 million in additional aid for the Kiev government. Biden met Poroshenko and said "there is a window for peace and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely ... America is with you."

The Office of the Vice President said some of the money will help Ukraine "enhance its energy security."

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according to government and media releases, independent energy maps and Burisma's website.

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The Wire

It's Totally Normal That Joe Biden's Son Works for a Ukrainian Energy Company

By: Adam Chandler / June 7, 2014

The inauguration of Petro Poroshenko as Ukraine's new president was Europe's biggest story today. The billionaire confectioner promised to bring Ukraine closer to Europe and the West. He also had some tough words about Crimea, which he delivered in the presence of Mikhail Zurabov, the recently restored Russian ambassador to Ukraine.

Russia occupied Crimea, which was, is and will be Ukrainian soil.

Yesterday in the course of the meeting in Normandy, I told this to President Putin: Crimea is Ukraine soil. Period. There can be no compromise on the issues of Crimea, European choice and state structure.”

Among the dignitaries in attendance was Vice President Joe Biden, which is where the story gets interesting. It hardly seems noteworthy that, given the scope of the crisis, Biden took his second trip to Ukraine in the past six weeks.

However, Biden's trip also coincided with a story about his youngest son. Hunter Biden was tapped last month to join the board of Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer. At the time, The Guardian wryly explained the oddity of Biden-spawn's new gig.

“Isn't that a bit fishy? Why do you say that?

Because he's the vice-president's son! That's a coincidence. "This is totally based on merit," said Burisma's chairman, Alan Apter.

He doesn't sound very Ukrainian. He's American, as is the other new board member, Devon Archer.

Who? Devon Archer, who works with Hunter Biden at Rosemont Seneca partners, which is half owned by Rosemont Capital, a private equity firm founded by Archer and Christopher Heinz.

Who? Christopher Heinz ... John Kerry's stepson.”

As the Associated Press reports today, there is more fishiness yet. While Hunter Biden's new company is said to be working to get Ukraine off its

dependence on Russia for energy, Burisma also reportedly "leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea."

The company is also owned by Nikolai Zlochevskyi, whose "ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president" include serving as a senior minister in several government posts under Viktor Yanukovich. At the time of the appointment, Hunter Biden said this:

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

Said transparency seems to be elusive on the American side of this deal.

Beltway ethicists seem to be mixed about whether this arrangement is kosher or not. What is clear is that relatives of high-level American political figures have benefited from their ties for generations now. It's practically a tradition at this point.

Associated Press

Ukrainian energy firm hires Biden son as lawyer June 7, 2014

WASHINGTON — Vice President Joe Biden's weekend trip to support Ukraine's fragile democracy comes soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

The company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea. It's owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president.

Hunter Biden will be working as a director and top lawyer for the energy company during the period when his father and the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine's new government, especially on energy issues.

There's no indication that Hunter Biden, his father or Burisma are crossing any legal or ethical lines.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Усенко Наталья Валерьевна <nusenko@ntv.ru>
Sent: 5/15/2014 5:13:13 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Russian Television

Dear Ms. Barkoff,

NTV Russian Television and a Central Television program send you best regards and kindly ask your assistance.

Central Television program with Vadim Takmenev is the 1st news program combining all TV genres. The program presents the real life, political, social and cultural events. In our program took part a lot of famous persons of show-business and politics: Tom Cruise, Angelina Jolie, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Daniel Craig, Lara Fabian, Alain Delon, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Jackie Chan, Benicio Del Toro, Til Schweiger, Vin Diesel, James Cameron, Lars von Trier, Scarlett Johansson, Daniel Radcliffe, Stephen Fry, Vladimir Putin, Dmitry Medvedev.

Mr. Hunter Biden has recently become a member of Committee of Directors of Burisma company. We would like to congratulate him and wish him good luck! Would you be so kind to help us to organize an interview with Mr. Joseph Biden so that he could tell us his attitude towards and tell us if it will influence the foreign policy of the USA. We would like to organize this shooting this week (May, 15 - 16) any time and place suitable for Mr. Biden as our program will be on air this Saturday (May, 17). Thank you and looking forward your answer!

Sincerely,
Natalya Usenko
Producer
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NTV Broadcasting Company is the largest non-governmental TV-network in Russia. It covers the audience of approx. 100 million people in countries of former Soviet Union. It is also the main Russian language channel broadcasted all over the world via satellite. NTV journalists interviewed George Bush, Condoleezza Rice, John Ashcroft, James Baker, Mikhail Gorbachev, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Ariel Sharon, Mikhail Saakashvili, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Paul McCartney, Madonna, Nicole Kidman and many others. NTV covers all main political, social and cultural events every day and brings the top news stories from around the world which are produced by dedicated staff in Moscow working with colleagues at NTV's world bureaus worldwide including New York, London, Berlin, Brussels, Paris, Kyiv etc.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 5/14/2014 4:13:02 AM

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CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Fromstein, Charles" <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, May 14, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:44:56 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Gerlach, Alec <gerlachja2@state.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:11:12 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

FYI - Psaki was just asked about this

She was asked a couple times about whether people in the building had concerns of how it would be perceived by Ukrainians - she said he's a private citizen and when he asked again, she said 'nope'

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:30 PM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

What's your number?

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:12 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Jen doesn't go out to brief until 1, but she has to staff something at 1230. Is now a good time for some guidance that I can relay to her?

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:53 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. Trying to get more info over here. Give me a little bit of time.

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks
We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?
Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing...

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along...

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board...

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as

a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 7/7/2014 12:23:09 PM
To: zeke.miller@time.com
Subject: RE: burisma

Here is my statement

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Zeke.Miller@time.com [mailto:Zeke.Miller@time.com]
Sent: Monday, July 07, 2014 2:06 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: burisma

<http://burisma.com/burisma-holdings-commends-us-lawmakers-efforts-support-ukrainian-energy-independence/>
http://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2014-06-27_PresidentObama_Ukraine_energy.pdf

--
Zeke Miller
Political Reporter
TIME
@ZekeJMiller
c: 516-581-9301
w: 202-861-4096

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Compton, Ann W. <ann.w.compton@abc.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:35:12 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Cc: "Bruce, Mary K." <mary.k.bruce@abc.com>; "Karl, Jonathan D." <jonathan.d.karl@abc.com>; "Klein, Rick" <rick.klein@abc.com>
Subject: I know you are travelling. OFF the record doesnt help. I would however be willing to use this with or without quoting YOU.

And Hunter's office cannot answer: was the WH counsel's office consulted, or informed as a courtesy?

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:27 PM
To: Compton, Ann W.; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen
Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick
Subject: RE: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W. [mailto:Ann.W.Compton@abc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:16 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen
Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick
Subject: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

Can you tell us whether the WH counsel's office was consulted? Informed? Even as a courtesy?
And was Vice President Biden aware of the hiring when he visited Ukraine April 21-22?

Would appreciate a timely response... Thanks, as always.

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:50 PM
To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'
Subject: ?? Any reply ?? Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM
To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'
Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

. The Moscow Times
. May. 13 2014 18:49
. Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer - a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

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From: Highsmith, Brian <brian_d_highsmith@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:57:01 AM
To: "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>
Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeborg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoco, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Politico // Lucy McCalmont

May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 5/15/2014 4:13:56 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <addres>>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Fromstein, Charles" <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia_donley@whmo.mil>; "Richards, Kitty" <katharine_r_richards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "kcoconnor@whmo.mil" <Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen.c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil" <Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov" <Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, May 15, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:45:25 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 5/16/2014 4:13:28 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Fromstein, Charles" <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, May 16, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:47:14 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 4:59:15 PM
To: roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden / Ukraine oil+gas company

Thanks
Otr:
Don't have anything else for you beyond what I sent you earlier

From: roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 05:58 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden / Ukraine oil+gas company

Belatedly, thanks for the info.
I wrote a short story (below) - but am now seeing this BuzzFeed story with info about the company's owners. If you had any info and comment beyond what you sent earlier, I'm definitely interested.
Thanks / Roberta

White House says no issue with Biden's son, Ukraine gas company - RTRS
13-May-2014 18:28
WASHINGTON, May 13 (Reuters) - The White House on Tuesday brushed aside questions about whether the involvement of Vice President Joe Biden's son in a Ukrainian natural gas company raised ethical issues at a time when the administration is promoting energy diversity in the country.
R. Hunter Biden, a lawyer and a partner in an investment firm, was named this week to the board of directors of Burisma Holdings, a private company that has drilled for natural gas in Ukraine since 2002.
In a statement on Burisma's website, Hunter Biden said he would help the company with "transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion," and other issues.
Ukraine depends on Russia for most of its natural gas, and has accused Moscow of hiking natural gas prices as punishment for moving closer to the European Union. (Full Story)
In April, the vice president traveled to Kiev and discussed how the United States could help provide technical expertise for expanding domestic production of natural gas. (Full Story)
Asked by a reporter whether Hunter Biden's appointment to the company presented a conflict, White House spokesman Jay Carney said it did not.
"Hunter Biden and other members of the Biden family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president," Carney said.
Kendra Barkoff, a spokeswoman for Vice President Biden said he "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."
The head of a watchdog group on government ethics said there was no inherent conflict in Biden's job.
"It can't be that because your dad is the vice president, you can't do anything," said Melanie Sloan, executive director of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.
"The most important thing is for Biden not to be speaking about these issues with his dad, and for them to try and draw the lines," she said.

(Reporting by Roberta Rampton; Editing by Ken Wills) (roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com) (Twitter @robertarampton) (+202 898 8392) (Reuters Messaging: roberta.rampton.reuters.com@reuters.net)

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/maxseddon/bidens-son-polish-ex-president-quietly-sign-on-to-ukrainian>

Biden's Son, Polish Ex-President Quietly Sign On To Ukrainian Gas Company

DONETSK, Ukraine - U.S. Vice President Joe Biden's youngest son has joined the board of a gas company owned by an ally of Ukraine's fugitive ex-president Viktor Yanukovich and a key European interlocutor with Kiev who was previously president of Poland.

The move raises questions about a potential conflict of interest for Joe Biden, who was the White House's main interlocutor with Yanukovich while the latter was president and has since spearheaded Western efforts to wean Ukraine off Russian gas.

Company documents in Cyprus show that Joe Biden's son, R. Hunter Biden, became a member of the board of directors of Burisma Holdings, which describes itself as Ukraine's largest private natural gas producer, on April 18. Burisma announced Hunter Biden's appointment in a [press release](#) Monday on its website which was quickly picked up by Russian state media.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement on Burisma's website. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

Hunter Biden could not be immediately reached for comment. An assistant at Rosemont Seneca Partners, the investment firm where he is partner, said he was out of the office. A woman who answered the phone at the London number listed for Burisma on its website appeared to have no idea who either Biden was. By late Tuesday, however, Burisma had reacted quickly enough to remove a link to a *New York Times* [story](#) from April, when Biden visited Kiev and urged it to reduce its dependence on Russian gas, from a prominent position on the homepage.

Kendra Barkoff, a spokesperson for Joe Biden, denied to comment on the vice president's son's appointment. "Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer," she said. "The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with

this company.”

It proved difficult to discern at first whether the Burisma website carrying the press release was even real. Its photos of Hunter Biden and Rosemont co-founder Devon Archer, who is listed as a member of the Burisma board, are lifted from Rosemont’s website. The company site carries a bizarre [interview](#) with Archer – apparently first [published](#) in the Ukrainian newspaper *Kapital*, then translated badly into English with Slavic syntax left intact – in which he tacitly acknowledges his connections to the Biden family and says Burisma “reminds [him] of Exxon in its early days.” The Burisma site was registered anonymously through the domain service GoDaddy in 2010, according to the [who.is](#) service.

Company registration documents for Burisma show, however, that both Hunter Biden and Archer joined its board of directors in April. Burisma is completely owned by another Cypriot offshore company, Brociti Investments Limited, which, records show, belongs to Mykola Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy national security council chair under Yanukovich, deposed in February. While in government, Zlochevsky claimed that he had sold his energy assets, though an [investigation](#) in Ukrainian *Forbes* later showed this was untrue.

As well as the other directors listed on Burisma’s website, Cypriot records list a man named Aleksandr Kwasniewski – the name of Poland’s president from 1995 to 2005 – as having become a director Jan 2. Kwasniewski was a key figure in the European Union’s attempts to draw Ukraine closer to Brussels during Yanukovich’s presidency: he and former European Parliament president Pat Cox visited Kiev 27 times in failed attempts to secure the release of Yanukovich’s rival, former prime minister and current presidential candidate Yulia Tymoshenko, from prison.

While it was not immediately possible to confirm that the Burisma director was the same Kwasniewski, the address provided in the company documents, Wilanowska 5/2 in Warsaw, matches [addresses](#) provided for Kwasniewski’s wife Jolanta’s [real estate company](#), Royal Wilanow Agency, according to [Polish media reports](#). Other [Polish media reports](#) list the address as the Kwaniewski family’s [private apartment](#). Jolanta Kwasniewska left the firm while her husband was in office, but returned to manage it after his term ended.

Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov told BuzzFeed that Russia saw no conflict of interest in Joe Biden working to wean Ukraine off Russian gas – which makes up about 60 percent of the country’s energy supply – while his son worked in the Ukrainian gas industry.

“Anyway, as everyone knows, there’s no gas in Ukraine,” he added. “The gas in Ukraine is Russian.”

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:34 PM
To: Rampton, Roberta (Reuters News)
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden / Ukraine oil+gas company

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:59 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden / Ukraine oil+gas company

Hi Kendra – I’m not certain we’re going to be writing about this – but if you have a statement about this, would appreciate it. Jay referred q on whether it is a conflict to your office in the briefing.

Thanks / Roberta

Roberta Rampton
White House Correspondent
Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8392
Mobile: 202 329 3769
roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

Twitter: @robertarampton

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 1:23:38 PM
To: hbiden@rosemontseneca.com
Subject: Re: hey

Been giving out this statement:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 02:20 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

If anything beyond referring questions to my office is required from you or counsel you can contact Heather King at Boise Schiller.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 6:00 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Eric Schwerin [mailto:eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:58 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: Re: hey

Kendra, I am around the next few days if you need me.

Eric D. Schwerin
Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC
1010 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Suite 705
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 333-1880
eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com

P Consider the environment before printing this email.

On May 13, 2014, at 10:39 AM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:39 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Eric Schwerin
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

Ok-
What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 9:50:18 AM
To: "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <r.562>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:47 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Hi Kendra,

Am about to get on a plane so just wanted to send you a couple other questions: Ukrainian media have reported Mr. Zlochinsky is on a visa ban list. Is this true? Did the VP or any of his people meet with Burisma representatives while he was in Ukraine and discuss this? Why does the Burisma site seem so proud of its apparent connections to the Biden family, including from before today's announcement? What, if anything, has the VP discussed with Hunter about Burisma, Mr. Zlochinsky, or other matters related to the Ukrainian gas industry?

Thanks in advance - will be online again in about two hours or so. Phone is +380684586856

Best

Max

On Tuesday, May 13, 2014, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:
Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

-----Original Message-----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Dear Laura,

Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company, claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of directors:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.

Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

Thanks and best

Max

--
Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 7/25/2014 4:11:59 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward.f.dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; "Russo2, Bill" <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; >; "Rosenthal, Lynn" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>>; >; "Ricchetti, Steven" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven" <j.534>>; >; "Amin, Faisal" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, " <faisalc7c>>; >; "Lienemann, David C." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>>; 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>; "Everett, Aaron" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=everett, aaron" <r.492>>; >; "Noblitt, Karly" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=noblitt, karly m." <noblitt.ke6e>>; >; "Williams, Tonya" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=tonya_n_williams>>; >; "Aidinoff, Marc" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=aidinoff, marc" <f.f6c>>; >; "Person, Fran" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=franperson76671426>>; >; "Reddy, Vinay" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=reddy, vinay" <c.ad8>>; >; "Myers, Sam A." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=sama.myers20454560>>; >; "Trotter, Katherine K." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=trotter, katherine" <k.5b4>>; >; "Woyak, Brian J." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=brianj.woyak46686068>>; >; "Barkoff, Kendra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>>; >; "Rosenzweig, Dana" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=rosenzweig, dana" <e.fc6>>; >; "Nix, Sheila" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group

/cn=recipients/cn=nix, sheila" <m.d38>>; >; "Cloud, Donald </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=cloud, donald" <w.359>>; >; "Kurren, Amy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kurren, amy" <m.791>>; >; "Sullivan, Jacob </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sullivan, jacob" <j.6b6>>; >; "Lyons, Jamie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lyons, jamie" <e.ef0>>; >; "Tennant, Thomas M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=whca_13140822>>; >; "Ruffner, Richard </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ruffner, richard" <b.7aa>>; >; "Bernal, Anthony R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=anthonyr.bernal72748266>>; >; "Lambros, Demetra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lambros, demetra" <d.8b8>>; >; "Prescott, Jeffrey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>>; >; "Bolduc, Chad </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=chad_m_bolduc>>; >; "Lillard, Brooke </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lillard, brooke" <m.cel>>; >; "Regoli, Elizabeth A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=whca_13231520c2>>; >; "Chung, Kathy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chung, kathy" <s.3c7>>; >; "Russo, Bill </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=russo, william" <m.11f>>; >; "Orbach Lachman, Sherry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=orbach lachman, sherry" <e.5f8>>; >; "Montoya, Jordan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=montoya, jordan" <r.a75>>; >

Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, July 25, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:46:35 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 5:18:58 AM
To: "[personal email]" <address>
Subject: Fw: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, May 14, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:31:47 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Gerlach, Alec <gerlachja2@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:13 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Jen doesn't go out to brief until 1, but she has to staff something at 1230. Is now a good time for some guidance that I can relay to her?

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:53 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. Trying to get more info over here. Give me a little bit of time.

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks

We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?
Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing...

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [<mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along....

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board...

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

From: Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2014 1:08 PM
To: Clavel, Lise; Clavel, Marguerite
Subject: Fw: Time: Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist

Different chris heinz?

have worked as business partners with Kerry's son-in-law, Christopher Heinz, the founding partner of Rosemont Capital, a private-equity company.

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, July 08, 2014 10:12 AM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Camacho, Cara; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Earnest, Joshua R.; Edelman, R. David; Etienne, Ashley; Evans, Bess; Feddersen, Brett; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Liz; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Pietranton, Kelsey; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Reddy, Vinay; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Tess, Caroline; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jacob, Susannah; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Peterlin, Katherine; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Schulman, Loren; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Velz, Peter; Wagstaff, Jesica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Time: Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist

<http://time.com/2964493/ukraine-joe-biden-son-hunter-burisma/>
Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist
TIME // Michael Scherer @michaelscherer
July 7, 2014

An obscure private Ukrainian natural gas company has been hiring friends and family of Secretary of State John Kerry and Vice President Joe Biden, while seeking to influence Congress

When Vice President Joe Biden's son, R. Hunter Biden, joined the board of a private Ukrainian oil and natural gas company this spring, he explained his new job as a legal one, disconnected from any effort to influence the Obama Administration. In a press release, the younger Biden boasted of his abilities on issues like improving corporate transparency.

But the company, Burisma Holdings, did not disclose at the time the scope of their plans for influencing the U.S. government. Recently released documents show that Biden's hiring coincided with the launch of a new effort to lobby members of Congress about the role of the company in Ukraine and the country's quest for energy independence.

David Leiter, a former Senate chief of staff to Secretary of State John Kerry, signed on to work as a lobbyist for Burisma on May 20, 2014, about a week after Biden announced he was joining the company, according to lobbying disclosures filed this month.

Leiter's involvement in the firm rounds out a power-packed team of politically-connected Americans that also includes a second new board member, Devon Archer, a Democratic bundler and former adviser to John Kerry's 2004 presidential campaign. Both Archer and Hunter Biden have worked as business partners with Kerry's son-in-law, Christopher Heinz, the founding partner of Rosemont Capital, a private-equity company.

Biden's office referred questions to a Burisma spokesman, who says Biden has not been involved in contacting members of Congress or the Obama Administration about the company. "His role, like all board members, is to provide strategic guidance to Burisma," said Lawrence Pacheco, who works in Washington D.C. for FTI Consulting, a communications firm that is also employed by Burisma.

But Burisma is contacting officials in Washington through Leiter's lobbying firm, ML Strategies. "ML Strategies is working with Burisma to educate U.S. officials about the company and its role in creating a stable and secure energy future for Ukraine, not any specific policy or legislation," Pacheco said. "Burisma supports energy independence, economic growth, national sovereignty and regional stability and will engage as needed to encourage efforts to further these goals."

Some Democratic senators, meanwhile, have been working to secure more U.S. funding, either directly or through entities like the Export-Import Bank, to improve Ukraine's domestic energy production potential. On June 27, Sen. Edward Markey of Massachusetts, wrote President Obama a letter with three other Democratic senators calling for increased aid. "We should leverage the full resources and expertise of the U.S. government to assist Ukraine in improving its energy efficiency, increasing its domestic production, and reforming its energy markets," wrote Markey, who has also proposed legislation with about \$40 million in additional aid for Ukrainian energy development.

Markey's letter was trumpeted by Burisma Holdings as a commendable move towards securing the future security of Ukraine. "Burisma Holdings today applauded the range of U.S. legislative support for development of Ukraine's broad and untapped resources and an increase in transparency and good governance," the company said in a statement on the day the letter was released.

An aide in Markey's office told TIME that Leiter, Biden and Archer were not part of discussions that led to the drafting of the letter or the legislation. Staff for the other senators who signed the letter, Ron Wyden of Oregon, Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire and Christopher Murphy of Connecticut, also said they did not have contact with Leiter, who could not be reached for comment.

Burisma Holdings is owned by a Cypriot holding firm, Brociti Investments Limited, which is controlled Nikolai Zlochevskiy, a former Ukrainian government minister, according to Cypriot records. It controls government development licenses in three regions of Ukraine, and sells to industrial customers in the country, according to the company.

By taking a job with Burisma, the younger Biden has put himself in the middle of a struggle between the United States and Russia, which currently provides the bulk of the natural gas supplies to Ukraine. Both the White House and European nations have recently emphasized the strategic interest in making Ukraine less dependent on Russia.

Since Hunter Biden took the new job, his father, Vice President Joe Biden, has continued to serve as the Obama Administration's point person on Ukraine, traveling to the country as recently as June for the inauguration of President Petro Poroshenko and talking to Poroshenko by phone at least five times in the last month.

"I've spent a considerable amount of time in the last two months in Ukraine," the elder Biden said on June 19. "You see what the Russians are doing relative to using gas as a foreign policy tool to try to alter behavior. And so it's — around the world in varying degrees it's of significant consequence in terms of security, both economic and political security of a nation."

There is no legal barrier to prohibit Hunter Biden from working with a company that can be impacted by the policy decisions of his father, and the White House has maintained that the Vice President has not been influenced by his son's

employment. “The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company,” said his spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff.

But Hunter Biden’s new job, along with the association with Burisma of other politically-connected businessmen, has raised concerns among some Ukraine watchers. “It’s unhelpful when we are trying to get across to the Ukrainians to clean up corruption and special deals for special folks,” said Ed Chow, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a U.S. think tank. “It maybe sends the wrong message that Westerners are just hypocritical.”

Additional reporting by Alex Rogers and Zeke Miller/Washington

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 8:35 PM
To: robinware456@gmail.com
Subject: WSJ story

/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657?mod=WSJ_LatestHeadlines

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES
Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET
0 COMMENTS

WASHINGTON—Vice President Joe Biden's son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter. Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After

Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 18, 2014 11:03 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Mackler, Alexander <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r._bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian.j._woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Twigg, Carri <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Anderson, David <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Graves, Don <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Gleeson, James <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Noblitt, Karly <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern) <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@who.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Stennis, Michael <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; Berlenbach, Sarah <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti,

Cc:

Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Nourse, Victoria <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>; >; Timko, Rachel </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel.m.350>; >; Stackpole, Avra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra.w.f8f>; >; Rosenthal, Lynn </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>; >; Ricchetti, Steven </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven.j.534>; >; Amin, Faisal </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, faisal.c7c>; >; Lienemann, David C. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>; >; Tejada, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=josetejada55772522>; >; Kaye, Melanie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=melanie_a.kaye>; >; Mackler, Alexander </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=mackler, alexander.s.snyder-mackler_a2377>; >; Gleeson, James </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=gleeson, james.m.gleeson.j20f> (Intern); >; Escudero, Adrian V. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=adrianv.escudero11120257>; >; Hill, Patricia </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hill, patricia.j.6b5>; >; Person, Anne </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=person, anne.m.aae>; >; Zikusoka, David N. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidn.zikusoka74383180>; >; Stennis, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stennis, michael.j.stennis.me93>; >; Edwards, Hannah E. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=edwards, hannah.e.bc9>; >; Nourse, Victoria </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nourse, victoria.f.nourse.vb11>; >; Freeman, Gary </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=freeman, gary.d.653>; >; Hertz, Jessica R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hertz, jessica.r.562>; >; Murray, Shailagh </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=shailagh.murray>; >; Berner, Katherine </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berner, katherine.k.f0e>; >; Lysaght, Patrick J </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13193785c4>; >; Schultz, Gregory </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schultz, gregory.c.084>; >; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=zeigler-brown, cortez.r.075>; > (Intern); Schrum, Evan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schrum, evan.m.schrum.ea9f>; >; Donley, Julia M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_132187096e>; >; McNellis, Kerry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kerry_j.mcnellis1>; >; Berlenbach, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berlenbach, sarah.f.berlenbach.sf948>; >; Hornbrook, Alex </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=alexhornbrook51765131>; >; Picos, Francisco </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=picos, francisco.c.412>; >; Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey.l.c25>; >; Clark, Katisha A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13209188d2>; >; Eaton, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarahfletcher70386533>; >; Hart, Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth.a.ffe>; >; Joseph, Jeremy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=joseph, jeremyc15>; >; Carpenter, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=carpenter, michael.r.7b8>; >; McNulty, Thomas P. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thomasp.mcnulty41242486>; >; Flynn, John S </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_1318036>; >; Suber, Kellen C. </o=eop/ou=exchange

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Saturday, October 18, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:50:22 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:52 PM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Murray, Shailagh
Subject: FW: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Here is the first reference to Zlochewsky

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:15 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra
Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

----- Original Message -----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 09:11 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
> To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
> Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas
> company

>

> Dear Laura,

>

> Hope this finds you well, Russian state media is loving this press
> release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company,
> claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of
> directors:

>

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

>

> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's
> role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochewsky, who was energy minister
> and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.

>

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

>

> Thanks and best

>

> Max

>

>

> --

> Max Seddon
> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
> twitter.com/maxseddon

--
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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Allen, Jessica <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 7:38 AM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jesica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.; Clavel, Marguerite; Jimenez, Luis A.; Jenkins, Brad; DL-WHO-Press; Ricchetti, Steven; Hedger, Stephen; brian_d_highsmith@who.eop.gov; Quillian, Natalie; kori_s_schulman@who.eop.gov; Edelman, David; Meehan, Bernadette; alexander_b_wall@who.eop.gov; Gianotti, Claire (Intern); carlyn_a_reichel@nsc.eop.gov; Brookie, Graham; Holzer, Benjamin; Brown, Sam; Kahan, Alex; patrick_cunnane@who.eop.gov; Holst, Lindsay; maurice_m_owens@who.eop.gov; Earnest, Joshua R.; Hertz, Jessica R.; McFarlin, Robert; Murray, Shailagh; howli_j_ledbetter@who.eop.gov; Hayden, Caitlin; rachel_j_racusen@who.eop.gov; Lopez, Rafael; james_r_kvaal@who.eop.gov; megan_e_rooney@who.eop.gov; avra_siegel@who.eop.gov; Schultz, Gregory; christina_tchen@who.eop.gov; tyler_a_lechtenberg@who.eop.gov; keith_r_maley@who.eop.gov; Inouye, Shin; Dean, Laura; Govashiri, Ferial; Evans, Bess; lisa_o_monaco@who.eop.gov; sarah_k_hurwitz@who.eop.gov; Ortiz, Michael; O'Connor, Kyle; caroline_e_adler@who.eop.gov; Robertson, Michael; Lawrence, Natasha; DMCOS; robert_d_whithorne@who.eop.gov; Russo, Bill; david_m_simas@who.eop.gov; Rogers, Melissa; Foster, Heather; Szuplat, Terence P.; Leweling, Tara; Carroll, Bradley; Patterson, Nicholas; MacFarquhar, Rory; mc_gonzalez@who.eop.gov; Schwartz, Noah; anita_j_decker@who.eop.gov; Allen, Jessica; Fallon, Katherine; katherine_a_vargas@who.eop.gov; dagoberto_vega@who.eop.gov; Keenan, Cody; Withers, Anne; mathew_s_nosanchuk@nsc.eop.gov; Friedman, Jennifer; Wozniak, Natalie S.; desiree_n_barnes@who.eop.gov; Hart, Elizabeth A.; Hunn, Allison; West, Thomas; Joseph, Jeremy; taylor_j_lustig@who.eop.gov; Carney, Jay; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Kim, Andrew; george_selim@nsc.eop.gov; caitria_l_mahoney@who.eop.gov; Velz, Peter; Price, Ryan; Whisenant, Addie; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Fenn, Sarah; jessica_e_schumer@cea.eop.gov; johanna_maska@who.eop.gov; Aniskoff, Paulette; Dickinson, Tammy; shannon_n_green@nsc.eop.gov; Davidson, Josta; Bartoloni, Kristen; amira_valliani@nsc.eop.gov; Costa, Kristina; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; david_m_litt@who.eop.gov; Kaden, David M. (NSS); agaarn_y_johnson@nsc.eop.gov; Hankins, Hannah R.; Govashiri, Ferial; Cohen, Ilona; Platkin, Alexandra; Kirchoff, Christopher; Debevoise, Lyn; christine_s_abizaid@nsc.eop.gov; Aidinoff, Marc; Cooper, Eric; jeffrey_d_tiller@who.eop.gov; Lee, Jonathan; leah_b_katz-hernandez@who.eop.gov; McKeon, Brian P.; jonathan_p_lalley@nsc.eop.gov; Singh, Pavneet; valerie_jarrett@who.eop.gov; cecilia_munoz@who.eop.gov; laura_a_schulz@nsc.eop.gov; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Jackson, Bartlett; amy_brundage@who.eop.gov; tara_d_mcguinness@who.eop.gov; Moscoso, Patricia;

To: joanna_s_rosholm@who.eop.gov; Trotter, Katherine K.; Rangarajan, Taara; hallie_m_rubin@who.eop.gov; matthew_a_lehrich@who.eop.gov; Parker, Steven; Wang, Jenny; Lubin, Nathaniel; frances_a_holuba@nsc.eop.gov; Barkoff, Kendra; patrick_h_ventrell@nsc.eop.gov; Cloud, Donald; eric_h_schultz@who.eop.gov; Rosenberger, Laura; jessica_r_santillo@who.eop.gov; Lee, Jesse C.; nathaniel_m_perkins@who.eop.gov; Jencks, Fae; Coates, Kelsey; Carson, Crystal; Sahgal, Rishi R.; brett_p_brueen@nsc.eop.gov; Wagstaff, Jessica; ezra_l_mechaber@who.eop.gov; Feldman, Stefanie G.; clay_a_dumas@who.eop.gov; Click, John; Lambros, Demetra; melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov; Prescott, Jeffrey; Heinzelman, Kate; Asen, Jonathan; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Pfeiffer, Dan; Lundeberg, Greta; Lucas, Laura; Palmieri, Jennifer; kaelan_e_richards@who.eop.gov; stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov; Shoup, Lillian; clare_e_gallagher@nsc.eop.gov; Moussavian, Roxana; Backemeyer, Christopher; Arguelles, Adam; jordan_m_burke@who.eop.gov; Orbach Lachman, Sherry; allison_b_lessne@who.eop.gov

Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son, Kerry Family Friend Join Ukrainian Gas Producer's Board

http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303851804579560542284706288?mod=WSJ_hp_RightTopStories&mg=reno64-wsj

Biden's Son, Kerry Family Friend Join Ukrainian Gas Producer's Board

Ukraine's Burisma Holdings Is Controlled by Former Energy Official Under Yanukovich
Wall Street Journal // PAUL SONNE And JAMES V. GRIMALDI

Vice President Joe Biden's son and a close friend of Secretary of State John Kerry's stepson have joined the board of a Ukrainian gas producer controlled by a former top security and energy official for deposed President Viktor Yanukovich.

The move has attracted attention given Messrs. Biden's and Kerry's public roles in diplomacy toward Ukraine, where the U.S. expressed support for pro-Western demonstrators who toppled Mr. Yanukovich's Kremlin-backed government in February. The uprising provoked a pro-Russia backlash that has plunged the post-Soviet republic into conflict and brought it to the brink of civil war.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training and the younger of the vice president's two sons, joined the board of directors of Ukrainian gas firm Burisma Holdings Ltd. this month and took on responsibility for the company's legal unit, according to a statement issued by the closely held gas producer.

His appointment came a few weeks after Devon Archer — college roommate of the secretary of state's stepson, H.J. Heinz Co. ketchup heir Christopher Heinz — joined the board to help the gas firm attract U.S. investors, improve its corporate governance and expand its operations. A State Department spokesman declined to comment.

"The fact that I joined the board of directors is largely based on the company's will to grow," Mr. Archer said in an interview with Ukrainian media published on Burisma's website. "Last year alone witnessed a lot of transformations." He vowed to make the company more transparent.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, and Mr. Archer, 39, work for Rosemont Seneca Partners, a U.S. investment company. It is affiliated with Rosemont Capital, a private-equity firm Mr. Archer co-founded with Mr. Heinz.

Two people familiar with Mr. Heinz's involvement in the firms said he isn't involved with the day-to-day operation of Rosemont Seneca, which is 50%-owned by Rosemont Capital. The people also said there was no financial investment by the firms in Burisma, just board memberships for Messrs. Biden and Archer.

Messages were left for Hunter Biden at his offices in Washington and New York and at offices of a law firm where he is of counsel. A person answering the phone at his office in Washington said Messrs. Biden and Archer were unavailable and promised to pass along a message.

The White House press secretary and the vice president's office described Hunter Biden's activities as those of a private citizen, bearing no endorsement of the U.S. government.

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer," said Kendra Barkoff, a spokeswoman for Joe Biden's office. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

The board appointments come amid a broader push at Burisma to step up standards and investment. Alan Apter, an American investment banker who has worked in the former Soviet Union, joined Burisma as chairman of the board last year and received a mandate to improve the company's corporate governance and attract foreign capital. He said he met Mr. Archer, a longtime financier and entrepreneur, through mutual friends and invited him and later Mr. Biden to join the board.

"This is totally based on merit," Mr. Apter said. He said none of the independent directors holds a stake in the company. He said they would receive a salary for independent directorship commensurate with world-class experience but declined to name the sum.

Burisma is one of a handful of privately owned gas companies that together account for a little more than 10% of Ukraine's domestic production. The rest of the production comes from gas companies fully or partially owned by the Ukrainian state. Burisma's biggest subsidiary, Esko Pivnich, pumps gas from the Poltava region east of Kiev.

The gas producer is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, a former member of Parliament for Mr. Yanukovich's Party of Regions, according to a person familiar with the matter. He served as Mr. Yanukovich's minister of environmental protection from July 2010 and then became minister of ecology and natural resources in December 2010, key positions with influence over the oil and gas industry.

Mr. Zlochevsky was removed from the post in April 2012 and appointed deputy secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, a role he held until Mr. Yanukovich's government collapsed in late February. During his tenure as a government minister, Burisma and entities associated with the firm received a large number of permits for oil and gas exploration in Ukraine and stepped up their output considerably, according to Ukrainian press reports.

Mr. Zlochevsky couldn't be reached for comment.

Mr. Yanukovich, who was sanctioned by the U.S. in March, has taken refuge in Russia.

Burisma produced about 450 million cubic meters of gas in 2013 and became the largest independent gas producer in Ukraine by volume in the first quarter of this year, according to a company spokesman. The production figures couldn't be independently verified.

The Ukrainian company sells its gas domestically. It is poised to benefit from the rising gas prices the country is likely to see in the future, now that Russia has removed a discount on gas deliveries for Ukraine in response to what it sees as the rise of anti-Kremlin authorities in Kiev.

Ukrainian regulatory authorities cap gas prices for domestic industrial customers. The cap averaged about \$425 per thousand cubic meters of gas last year. Though Burisma doesn't reveal financial figures, calculations suggest the company's production last year would have commanded more than \$191 million in revenue on the domestic market at those rates.

Mr. Apter said Burisma's expansion could help reduce Ukraine's energy dependence and thereby help ease its political problems.

"The country is quite gas dependent and one would expect, like most countries, there is a desire to be independent of foreign sources, be they in Russia or elsewhere," Mr. Apter said. "It helps the country."

Burisma has now added deep U.S. political connections to its arsenal.

In addition to being Mr. Heinz's college roommate at Yale, Mr. Archer was an adviser to Mr. Kerry's presidential campaign in 2004 and co-chaired his National Finance Committee. According to his biography, he serves as a trustee of the Heinz Family Office, which manages the family business.

Hunter Biden's business activities have attracted attention before.

His work as a lobbyist when his father was in the U.S. Senate came under scrutiny. Shortly after his father became Barack Obama's running mate in 2008, he gave up his lobbying career and resigned his partnership at a Washington lobbying firm.

When he had been senator, Mr. Obama sought more than \$3.4 million in earmarks for clients of Hunter Biden, and succeeded in getting \$192,000 for St. Xavier University near Chicago, according to public disclosure records.

At the time, a spokesman for Mr. Obama said Hunter Biden hadn't met with the senator himself but rather with office staff. The spokesman also said it wasn't surprising to see Mr. Obama was fighting for interests and institutions in his home state of Illinois.

In early 2009, The Wall Street Journal reported that Hunter Biden and his uncle had run a fund of funds that was being marketed exclusively by Texas financier R. Allen Stanford's companies. Mr. Stanford later was sentenced to 110 years in prison for masterminding a \$7 billion Ponzi scheme.

At the time of the Journal article, a lawyer for the Bidens said the fund terminated the relationship and offered to return \$2.7 million in investment that companies controlled by Mr. Stanford had given the fund. He said the Bidens had never met Mr. Stanford.

—Colleen McCain Nelson contributed to this article.

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:50 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.; Hertz, Jessica R.; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Katherine K.; Barkoff, Kendra; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Prescott, Jeffrey
Subject: WT: Joe Biden's son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

Joe Biden's son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

By [Jessica Chasmar](#)

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/may/13/joe-bidens-son-hunter-head-legal-unit-ukraines-lar/>

The Washington Times

Vice President [Joseph R. Biden](#)'s youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at [Ukraine](#)'s largest private gas producer.

Burisma Holdings [said in a statement](#) that Hunter [Biden](#) will be in charge of the [company's](#) legal unit and will provide support for the company among international organizations.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in [Ukraine](#)," [Mr. Biden](#) said.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and [benefit](#) the people of [Ukraine](#)," he said.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said Tuesday that [Mr. Biden](#)'s new position "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration," [Time magazine's Zeke Miller reported](#).

The announcement comes [just one day](#) after Russia's state energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to [Ukraine](#) unless the country pays in advance for supplies.

The vice president has condemned Russia for its intervention in [Ukraine](#) and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy, [The Moscow Times reported](#).

Read more: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/may/13/joe-bidens-son-hunter-head-legal-unit-ukraines-lar/#ixzz31cgyEE5E>

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From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:17 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.
Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

AP: VP Biden's son joins Ukrainian gas company's board

WASHINGTON (AP) - Vice President Joe Biden's youngest son, Hunter Biden, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine.

That's according to Burisma Holdings. The company says Biden will head the company's legal unit and seek support for Burisma among international organizations.

The announcement comes as Ukraine is looking to decrease its reliance on Russian energy. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage in the crisis with Ukraine if Europe was less dependent on Russian gas.

Burisma says it's the largest private gas producer in Ukraine, but a state-owned company controls most gas production there.

Securities and Exchange Commission records show Burisma is based in Cyprus. The vice president will visit Cyprus next week and has been a key player in the U.S. response to the Ukraine crisis.

From: Barkoff, Kendra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:27 PM

To: Spector, Stephen; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.

Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

[+ others](#)

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:23 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley

Subject: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/white-house/another-biden-has-waded-into-the-ukraine-crisis-20140513>

By Marina Koren

Joe Biden has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only Biden involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

It's unclear whether the entry of another Biden into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks

We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?

Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing...

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along....

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board...

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2014 11:12 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean.w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth.d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen.i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Noblitt, Karly <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti, Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; Russo2, Bill <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Marguerite

Cc:

</o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>; >; Timko, Rachel </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel m.350>; >; Stackpole, Avra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra w.f8f>; >; Rosenthal, Lynn </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>; >; Ricchetti, Steven </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven j.534>; >; Amin, Faisal </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, faisalc7c>; >; Lienemann, David C. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>; >; Tejada, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=josetejada55772522>; >; Kaye, Melanie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=melanie_a_kaye>; >; Escudero, Adrian V. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=adrianv.escudero11120257>; >; Hill, Patricia </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hill, patricia j.6b5>; >; Person, Anne </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=person, anne m.aae>; >; Zikusoka, David N. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidn.zikusoka74383180>; >; Edwards, Hannah E. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=edwards, hannah e.bc9>; >; Freeman, Gary </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=freeman, gary d.653>; >; Hertz, Jessica R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hertz, jessica r.562>; >; Murray, Shailagh </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; >; Berner, Katherine </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berner, katherine k.f0e>; >; Lysaght, Patrick J </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13193785c4>; >; Schultz, Gregory </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schultz, gregory c.084>; >; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=zeigler-brown, cortez r.075>; >; Schrum, Evan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schrum, evan m. schrum_ea9f>; >; Donley, Julia M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_132187096e>; >; McNellis, Kerry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kerry_j_mcnellis1>; >; Hornbrook, Alex </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=alexhornbrook51765131>; >; Picos, Francisco </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=picos, francisco c.412>; >; Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey l.c25>; >; Clark, Katisha A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13209188d2>; >; Eaton, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarahfletcher70386533>; >; Hart, Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth a.ffe>; >; Joseph, Jeremy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=joseph, jeremyc15>; >; Carpenter, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=carpenter, michael r.7b8>; >; McNulty, Thomas P. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thomasp.mcnulty41242486>; >; Flynn, John S </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_1318036>; >; Suber, Kellen C. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kellenc.suber67657165>; >; Doody, Jillian </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jilliandoody82705650>; >; Baker, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=baker, sarah e.67f>; >; Everett, Aaron </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=everett, aaron r.492>; >; Noblitt, Karly </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=noblitt, karly m. noblitt_ke6e>; >; Williams, Tonya </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=tonya_n_williams>; >; Aidinoff, Marc </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=aidinoff, marc f.f6c>; >; Person, Fran </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=franperson76671426>; >; Reddy, Vinay </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=reddy, vinay c.ad8>; >; Myers, Sam A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sama.myers20454560>; >; Trotter, Katherine K.

Cc: </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=trotter, katherine k.5b4>; >; Woyak, Brian J. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=brianj.woyak46686068>; >; Barkoff, Kendra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; >; Rosenzweig, Dana </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=rosenzweig, dana e.fc6>; >; Nix, Sheila </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nix, sheila m.d38>; >; Cloud, Donald </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=cloud, donald w.359>; >; Kurren, Amy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kurren, amy m.791>; >; Sullivan, Jacob </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sullivan, jacob j.6b6>; >; Lyons, Jamie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lyons, jamie e.ef0>; >; Tennant, Thomas M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13140822>; >; Ruffner, Richard </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ruffner, richard b.7aa>; >; Bernal, Anthony R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=anthonyr.bernal72748266>; >; Lambros, Demetra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lambros, demetra d.8b8>; >; Prescott, Jeffrey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>; >; Bolduc, Chad </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chad_m_bolduc>; >; Lillard, Brooke </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lillard, brooke m.ce1>; >; Regoli, Elizabeth A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13231520c2>; >; Chung, Kathy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chung, kathy s.3c7>; >; Russo, Bill </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=russo, william m.11f>; >; Orbach Lachman, Sherry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=orbach lachman, sherry e.5f8>; >; Montoya, Jordan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=montoya, jordan r.a75>; >
Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, July 25, 2014

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Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:44:57 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Matt Schiavenza <m.schiavenza@ibtimes.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 5:05 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Query: Hunter Biden at Burisma

Dear Kendra,

This is Matt Schiavenza, International Business Times at the International Business Times. I'm writing to ask a few questions about the news that Hunter Biden has taken a position as the head of legal affairs at Burisma. Here they are:

1. When did the courtship between Burisma and Hunter Biden begin?
2. Does Hunter Biden represent a White House endorsement in any capacity?

Any response to this would be greatly appreciated! Thanks.

Matt

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:18 PM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Murray, Shailagh
Subject: FW: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W. [mailto:Ann.W.Compton@abc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:16 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen
Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick
Subject: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

Can you tell us whether the WH counsel's office was consulted? Informed? Even as a courtesy?
And was Vice President Biden aware of the hiring when he visited Ukraine April 21-22?

Would appreciate a timely response... Thanks, as always.

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:50 PM
To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'
Subject: ?? Any reply ?? Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM
To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'
Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

· The Moscow Times
· May. 13 2014 18:49
· Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer — a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

###

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Mackler, Alexander <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r._bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian.j._woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Twigg, Carri <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Anderson, David <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Graves, Don <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Gleeson, James <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Noblitt, Karly <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern) <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@who.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Stennis, Michael <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; Berlenbach, Sarah <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti,

Cc:

Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Nourse, Victoria <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>; >; Timko, Rachel </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel.m.350>; >; Stackpole, Avra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra.w.f8f>; >; Rosenthal, Lynn </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>; >; Ricchetti, Steven </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven.j.534>; >; Amin, Faisal </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, faisal.c7c>; >; Lienemann, David C. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>; >; Tejada, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=josetejada55772522>; >; Kaye, Melanie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=melanie_a.kaye>; >; Mackler, Alexander </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=mackler, alexander.s.snyder-mackler_a2377>; >; Gleeson, James </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=gleeson, james.m.gleeson.j20f> (Intern); >; Escudero, Adrian V. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=adrianv.escudero11120257>; >; Hill, Patricia </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hill, patricia.j.6b5>; >; Person, Anne </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=person, anne.m.aae>; >; Zikusoka, David N. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidn.zikusoka74383180>; >; Stennis, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stennis, michael.j.stennis.me93>; >; Edwards, Hannah E. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=edwards, hannah.e.bc9>; >; Nourse, Victoria </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nourse, victoria.f.nourse.vb11>; >; Freeman, Gary </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=freeman, gary.d.653>; >; Hertz, Jessica R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hertz, jessica.r.562>; >; Murray, Shailagh </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=shailagh.murray>; >; Berner, Katherine </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berner, katherine.k.f0e>; >; Lysaght, Patrick J </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13193785c4>; >; Schultz, Gregory </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schultz, gregory.c.084>; >; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=zeigler-brown, cortez.r.075>; > (Intern); Schrum, Evan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schrum, evan.m.schrum.ea9f>; >; Donley, Julia M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_132187096e>; >; McNellis, Kerry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kerry.j.mcnellis1>; >; Berlenbach, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berlenbach, sarah.f.berlenbach.sf948>; >; Hornbrook, Alex </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=alexhornbrook51765131>; >; Picos, Francisco </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=picos, francisco.c.412>; >; Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey.l.c25>; >; Clark, Katisha A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13209188d2>; >; Eaton, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarahfletcher70386533>; >; Hart, Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth.a.ffe>; >; Joseph, Jeremy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=joseph, jeremyc15>; >; Carpenter, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=carpenter, michael.r.7b8>; >; McNulty, Thomas P. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thomasp.mcnulty41242486>; >; Flynn, John S </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_1318036>; >; Suber, Kellen C. </o=eop/ou=exchange

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, October 23, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:56:49 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:27 PM
To: Spector, Stephen; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.; Hertz, Jessica R.; Murray, Shailagh; Spector, Stephen; Trotter, Katherine K.; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Prescott, Jeffrey
Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

+ others

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:23 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley
Subject: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/white-house/another-biden-has-waded-into-the-ukraine-crisis-20140513>

By Marina Koren

Joe Biden has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only Biden involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

It's unclear whether the entry of another Biden into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: [personal email address]
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2014 11:17 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; >
Subject: Re: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:49:36 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address and personal information

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Fromstein, Charles <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; Hart, Elizabeth <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Richards, Kitty <katharine_r_richards@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti, Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; Russo2, Bill <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, May 20, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:34:35 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

Additional Information:

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From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean.w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth.d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen.i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Fromstein, Charles <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; Hart, Elizabeth <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Richards, Kitty <katharine_r_richards@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti, Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; Russo2, Bill <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group

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Cc: dana e.fc6>; >; Nix, Sheila </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nix, sheila m.d38>; >; Cloud, Donald </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=cloud, donald w.359>; >; Kurren, Amy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kurren, amy m.791>; >; Sullivan, Jacob </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sullivan, jacob j.6b6>; >; Lyons, Jamie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lyons, jamie e.ef0>; >; Tennant, Thomas M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13140822>; >; Ruffner, Richard </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ruffner, richard b.7aa>; >; Fromstein, Charles </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=fromstein, charles a.b6e>; >; Bernal, Anthony R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=anthonyr.bernal72748266>; >; Lambros, Demetra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lambros, demetra d.8b8>; >; Prescott, Jeffrey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>; >; Bolduc, Chad </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chad_m_bolduc>; >; Lillard, Brooke </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lillard, brooke m.ce1>; >; Regoli, Elizabeth A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13231520c2>; >; Chung, Kathy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chung, kathy s.3c7>; >; Russo, Bill </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=russo, william m.11f>; >; Orbach Lachman, Sherry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=orbach lachman, sherry e.5f8>; >; Montoya, Jordan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=montoya, jordan r.a75>; >

Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, May 16, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:48:03 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Rosie Gray <rosie@buzzfeed.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:05 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden

Hi,

I'm a reporter for BuzzFeed. I know my colleague Max Seddon has already reached out to your office but we're looking to get answers about whether or not Hunter Biden has joined the board of Burisma. Can you confirm? Is the VP's office going to say anything about this?

thanks,
Rosie

--
Reporter, BuzzFeed
@rosiegray
c: 646 369 9351
rosie@buzzfeed.com

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:52 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.; Hertz, Jessica R.; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Katherine K.; Barkoff, Kendra; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Prescott, Jeffrey
Subject: WE: Jay Carney: Joe Biden's son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

Jay Carney: Joe Biden's son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

Susan Crabtree

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/carney-bidens-son-accepted-position-with-ukrainian-gas-company-as-private-citizen/article/2548379>

Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son, Hunter Biden, has accepted a position with [Ukraine](#)'s largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the [White House](#) signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman [Jay Carney](#) said Tuesday.

Burisma Holdings announced Tuesday that Hunter Biden, Biden's youngest son, would serve on the company's board of directors.

The company in a news release on its website said Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Burisma's legal unit and will "provide support" among international organizations. [The Moscow Times](#) first reported the news Tuesday.

Asked about the hiring by a reporter Tuesday, Carney referred questions about it to the vice president's office and noted that it did not indicate that Obama was involved or approved of it.

"Hunter Biden and other members of the family are obviously private citizens and where they work is not an endorsement by the president or vice president," he said.

Amid the escalating tensions between Ukraine and [Russia](#) in recent weeks, the European Commission, the executive body of the [European Union](#), has tried to step in to try to prevent Russia from halting [natural gas](#) shipments to Ukraine unless it pays \$3.5 billion in debts.

Ukraine has so far refused to pay in protest of Moscow's decision to nearly double the price it charges Kiev for gas imports.

In the company's release, Alan Apter, the chairman of the company's board of directors, said: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Hunter Biden works at Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York. He is also a co-founder and a managing partner of investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and serves as director of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, a network of 400 businesses, nonprofits and foreign policy experts, and the chairman of the advisory board for the National Democratic Institute, a non-profit that works to support democratic institutions and elections around the world.

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:50 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.

Subject: WT: Joe Biden's son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

Joe Biden's son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

By [Jessica Chasmar](#)

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/may/13/joe-bidens-son-hunter-head-legal-unit-ukraines-lar/>

The Washington Times

Vice President [Joseph R. Biden](#)'s youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at [Ukraine](#)'s largest private gas producer.

Burisma Holdings [said in a statement](#) that Hunter [Biden](#) will be in charge of the [company's](#) legal unit and will provide support for the company among international organizations.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in [Ukraine](#)," [Mr. Biden](#) said.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and [benefit](#) the people of [Ukraine](#)," he said.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said Tuesday that [Mr. Biden](#)'s new position "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration," Time magazine's [Zeke Miller reported](#).

The announcement comes [just one day](#) after Russia's state energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to [Ukraine](#) unless the country pays in advance for supplies.

The vice president has condemned Russia for its intervention in [Ukraine](#) and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy, The Moscow Times [reported](#).

Read more: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/may/13/joe-bidens-son-hunter-head-legal-unit-ukraines-lar/#ixzz31cgyEE5E>

Follow us: [@washtimes on Twitter](#)

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:17 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz,

Jessica R.

Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

AP: VP Biden's son joins Ukrainian gas company's board

WASHINGTON (AP) - Vice President Joe Biden's youngest son, Hunter Biden, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine.

That's according to Burisma Holdings. The company says Biden will head the company's legal unit and seek support for Burisma among international organizations.

The announcement comes as Ukraine is looking to decrease its reliance on Russian energy. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage in the crisis with Ukraine if Europe was less dependent on Russian gas.

Burisma says it's the largest private gas producer in Ukraine, but a state-owned company controls most gas production there.

Securities and Exchange Commission records show Burisma is based in Cyprus. The vice president will visit Cyprus next week and has been a key player in the U.S. response to the Ukraine crisis.

From: Barkoff, Kendra

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:27 PM

To: Spector, Stephen; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.

Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

+ others

From: Spector, Stephen

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:23 PM

To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley

Subject: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/white-house/another-biden-has-waded-into-the-ukraine-crisis-20140513>

By Marina Koren

Joe Biden has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only Biden involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

It's unclear whether the entry of another Biden into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

From: Allen, Elizabeth M <allenem@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 2:13 PM
To: Russo, Bill <william_m_russo@nsc.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Russo, Bill </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=russo, william m.f22>; >; Trotter, Katherine K. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=trotter, katherine k.5b4>; >
Subject: FW: POLITICO Playbook, presented by JPMorgan Chase & Co. -- ROVE: 'This will be an issueâ€¦ whether she likes it or not' -- NICK MERRILL: 'its own form of sickness' -- HRC TO MARTIN O'MALLEY: Do what you need to do â€” MARK ZUCKERBERG is 30 -- HOWARD WOLFS

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:28:07 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal information

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:34 PM
To: jsink@thehill.com
Subject: Re: hunter / ukraine

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

“Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

From: Justin Sink [mailto:jsink@thehill.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:04 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: hunter / ukraine

Hey-

Since Jay kicked to you in the briefing, wondering if you had any comment on the VP's son joining Burisma, and if it poses any political risks or conflicts - thanks!

-Justin

--
Justin Sink
The Hill | Staff Writer
o) 202.407.8013
c) 703.772.1865
jsink@thehill.com
Twitter: @JTSTheHill

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Mackler, Alexander <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r._bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian.j._woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Twigg, Carri <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Anderson, David <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Graves, Don <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Gleeson, James <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Noblitt, Karly <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern) <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@who.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Stennis, Michael <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; Berlenbach, Sarah <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti,

Cc:

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, October 22, 2014

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Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

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Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lederman, Josh <jlederman@ap.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

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Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R. Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including "Bush vs. Gore", and "U.S. vs. Microsoft". He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University's Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman's Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world's largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent – incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m3 of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 18, 2014 11:03 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Mackler, Alexander <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r._bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian.j._woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Twigg, Carri <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Anderson, David <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Graves, Don <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Gleeson, James <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Noblitt, Karly <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern) <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@who.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Stennis, Michael <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; Berlenbach, Sarah <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti,

Cc:

Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Nourse, Victoria <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>; >; Timko, Rachel </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel.m.350>; >; Stackpole, Avra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra.w.f8f>; >; Rosenthal, Lynn </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>; >; Ricchetti, Steven </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven.j.534>; >; Amin, Faisal </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, faisal.c7c>; >; Lienemann, David C. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>; >; Tejada, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=josetejada55772522>; >; Kaye, Melanie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=melanie_a.kaye>; >; Mackler, Alexander </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=mackler, alexander.s.snyder-mackler_a2377>; >; Gleeson, James </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=gleeson, james.m.gleeson.j20f> (Intern); >; Escudero, Adrian V. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=adrianv.escudero11120257>; >; Hill, Patricia </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hill, patricia.j.6b5>; >; Person, Anne </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=person, anne.m.aae>; >; Zikusoka, David N. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidn.zikusoka74383180>; >; Stennis, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stennis, michael.j.stennis.me93>; >; Edwards, Hannah E. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=edwards, hannah.e.bc9>; >; Nourse, Victoria </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nourse, victoria.f.nourse.vb11>; >; Freeman, Gary </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=freeman, gary.d.653>; >; Hertz, Jessica R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hertz, jessica.r.562>; >; Murray, Shailagh </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=shailagh.murray>; >; Berner, Katherine </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berner, katherine.k.f0e>; >; Lysaght, Patrick J </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13193785c4>; >; Schultz, Gregory </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schultz, gregory.c.084>; >; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=zeigler-brown, cortez.r.075>; > (Intern); Schrum, Evan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schrum, evan.m.schrum.ea9f>; >; Donley, Julia M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_132187096e>; >; McNellis, Kerry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kerry_j.mcnellis1>; >; Berlenbach, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berlenbach, sarah.f.berlenbach.sf948>; >; Hornbrook, Alex </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=alexhornbrook51765131>; >; Picos, Francisco </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=picos, francisco.c.412>; >; Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey.l.c25>; >; Clark, Katisha A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13209188d2>; >; Eaton, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarahfletcher70386533>; >; Hart, Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth.a.ffe>; >; Joseph, Jeremy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=joseph, jeremyc15>; >; Carpenter, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=carpenter, michael.r.7b8>; >; McNulty, Thomas P. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thomasp.mcnulty41242486>; >; Flynn, John S </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_1318036>; >; Suber, Kellen C. </o=eop/ou=exchange

Cc: administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kellenc.suber67657165>; >; Doody, Jillian </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jilliandoody82705650>; >; Baker, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=baker, sarah e.67f>; >; Everett, Aaron </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=everett, aaron r.492>; >; Noblitt, Karly </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=noblitt, karly m. noblitt_ke6e>; >; Williams, Tonya </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=tonya_n_williams>; >; Aidinoff, Marc </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=aidinoff, marc f.f6c>; >; Person, Fran </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=franperson76671426>; >; Reddy, Vinay </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=reddy, vinay c.ad8>; >; Myers, Sam A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sama.myers20454560>; >; Ford, Sarah (Intern) </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ford, sarah l. ford_sl264a>; >; Trotter, Katherine K. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=trotter, katherine k.5b4>; >; Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern) </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nickoloff, lauren e. nickoloff_l06d>; >; Woyak, Brian J. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=brianj.woyak46686068>; >; Barkoff, Kendra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; >; Rosenzweig, Dana </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=rosenzweig, dana e.fc6>; >; Nix, Sheila </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nix, sheila m.d38>; >; Cloud, Donald </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=cloud, donald w.359>; >; Kurren, Amy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kurren, amy m.791>; >; Sullivan, Jacob </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sullivan, jacob j.6b6>; >; Graves, Don </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=graves, donet d.2aa>; >; Lyons, Jamie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lyons, jamie e.ef0>; >; Tennant, Thomas M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13140822>; >; Ruffner, Richard </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ruffner, richard b.7aa>; >; Bernal, Anthony R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=anthonyr.bernal72748266>; >; Twigg, Carri </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=twigg, carri b. twigg_cb173>; >; Lambros, Demetra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lambros, demetra d.8b8>; >; Prescott, Jeffrey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>; >; Bolduc, Chad </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chad_m_bolduc>; >; Anderson, David </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=anderson, david c. anderson_dc92b>; >; Lillard, Brooke </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lillard, brooke m.ce1>; >; Regoli, Elizabeth A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13231520c2>; >; Chung, Kathy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chung, kathy s.3c7>; >; Orbach Lachman, Sherry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=orbach lachman, sherry e.5f8>; >; Montoya, Jordan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=montoya, jordan r.a75>; >

Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Saturday, October 18, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:50:38 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:47 PM
To: jlederman@ap.org
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Off the record:

Hunter is not traveling with the vp to Cyprus and Romania. Since the VP has no association with the company it has nothing to do with his trip

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:47 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Following up on this because the company is based in Cyprus. Two questions for you:

- 1) Is this related to the vice president's visit to Cyprus next week?
- 2) Is Hunter Biden traveling on the VP's trip to Cyprus?

Thanks, Josh

From: Lederman, Josh
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: 'Barkoff, Kendra'
Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency,

corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.”

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: “The company’s strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we’re delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals.”

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including “Bush vs. Gore”, and “U.S. vs. Microsoft”. He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University’s Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman’s Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world’s largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent – incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m3 of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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[IP_US_DISC]

msk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

From: London, Ref <reflond@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 8:28 AM
To: Adams-Smith, Steven P <adamssmiths@state.gov>; Adelson, Robert <adelsonr@state.gov>; Allen, Sara J <allensj@state.gov>; Bazarnic, Zoja <bazarniczd@state.gov>; Brechbill, Alan M <brechbill@state.gov>; Breisler, Jodi R <breislerjr@state.gov>; Burton, Taryn E <burtonte@state.gov>; Clayton McCleskey <clayton.m.mccleskey.civ@mail.mil>; Coffey, Rachel <coffeyr@state.gov>; Coley, Bradley S <coleybs@state.gov>; Colleran, Ellen A <colleranea@state.gov>; Connell, Patrick D <connellpd@state.gov>; Cordero, Barbara H <corderobh@state.gov>; Curran, Patrick J <curranpj@state.gov>; Deb MacLean [personal email address]; Dena Brownlow [personal email address]; Dibble, Elizabeth L <dibbleel@state.gov>; Dickerson, Tai A <dickersonta@state.gov>; Dreilinger, David C <dreilingerd@state.gov>; Dubray, Michael R <dubraymr@state.gov>; Evans, John-Paul <evansjp@state.gov>; Fallin, Leanne S <fallinls@state.gov>; Garratt, Robert W <garrattrw@state.gov>; Gregory Olsavsky <gregory.a.olsavsky@cbp.dhs.gov>; Gresham, Callece V <greshamcv@state.gov>; Halisky, Joseph G <haliskyjg@state.gov>; Hamilton, Sharon (Belfast) <hamiltons@state.gov>; Hartnoll, David J <hartnoldj@state.gov>; Hidea, Carolina <carolina_hidea@nsc.eop.gov>; Holcombe, A Diane <holcombead@state.gov>; Hurwitz, Kyle R <hurwitzkr@state.gov>; jennifer.kane@trade.gov; john.breidenstine@trade.gov; Kingham, Sarah L <kinghamsl@state.gov>; Lea, Michael J. <leamj@state.gov>; Leary, Thomas M <learytm@state.gov>; Lodinsky, Jeffrey P <lodinskyjp@state.gov>; London, Exec <london-executive@state.gov>; LondonEcon <londonecon@state.gov>; Lyddall, Martin D <lyddallmd@state.gov>; Macia, Mary X <maciamx@state.gov>; MacLean, Deborah <macleanda@state.gov>; Madar, Daniel P <madardp@state.gov>; Martin, Jamie <martinj2@state.gov>; Maxfield, Karen B <maxfieldkb@state.gov>; May, David N <maydn@state.gov>; Mayhew, Sarah-Jane <mayhewsj@state.gov>; McGregor, Robbie <mcmgregorr@state.gov>; McKittrick, Peter (Belfast) <mckittrickp@state.gov>; McManis, S Lee <mcmmanissl@state.gov> (Belfast); Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; Miller, Caroline H <millerch@state.gov>; Miller, Fay K <millerfk@state.gov>; Moore, Bradley A <mooreb@state.gov>; Mulley, Matthew S. <mulleym@state.gov>; Mulot, Stephanie M <mulotsm@state.gov>; Nauta, Brian <nautab@state.gov>; Nunnink, Tiley R <nunninktr@state.gov>; Nutter, Julie H <nutterjh@state.gov>; Parvin, Claire <parvincx@state.gov>; Paschall, Robert D <paschallrd@state.gov>; Pease, Leah M <peasel@state.gov>; Peccia, Jonathan R <pecciajr@state.gov>; Petersen, Michele L <petersenml@state.gov>; Platt, Lynne G <plattlg@state.gov>; Plowden, Marisa L <plowdenml@state.gov>; Poves, Richard J <povesrj@state.gov>; Prosser, Michael R <prossermr@state.gov>; Quesada, Monique V <quesadamv@state.gov>; Quintas, John T <quintasjt@state.gov>; Rana, Aroosha Z <ranaaz@state.gov>; Rapp, Cynthia L <rappcl@state.gov>; Reidhead, Van E <reidheadve@state.gov>; Richmond, Lucy V <richmondlv@state.gov>; Richter, Lawrence <richterlg@state.gov>; Roundy, Brian A <roundyba@state.gov>; Sanderson de Flores, Mary A <sandersonma@state.gov>; stephanie.mulot@trade.gov; Stracener, David A <stracenerda@state.gov>; Leweling, Tara <tara_a_leweling@nsc.eop.gov>; tom.mcquade@occ.treas.gov; Tomlinson, Christina <tomlinsonc@state.gov>; Traub, Herbert S <traubhs@state.gov>; Volk, Carol J <volkcj@state.gov>; Wedlake, Susan J <wedlakesj@state.gov>; Willis, Travis A <willista1@state.gov>; Wilson, Sandra F <wilsonsf@state.gov>; Zajac, Wojciech <zajacw@state.gov>; Hidea, Carolina </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hidea, carolina7f5>; >; Leweling, Tara </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=leweling, tara a.aac> (Belfast); >; Carpenter, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=carpenter, michael r.7b8>; >
Cc: Yehl, Ashley C <yehlac@state.gov>; Johnson, Glen D (S) <johnsongd@state.gov>; Turley, Melissa K <turleymk@state.gov>

Subject: UK News Alert May 15th 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:33:31 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email addresses

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Kalishman, David (Intern) <david_kalishman_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 12:31 PM
To: Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lyons, jamie e.ef0>; >
Subject: RE: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, May 16, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:48:50 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

From: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal) <stacey.klein@nbcuni.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:40 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden to Oil Company w Holdings in Ukraine?

Thank you! Safe travels.
Just to clarify - I can use the comment from you or it's off the record?

Stacey P. Klein
NBC News - The White House
202-573-0328 (cell)
202-885-4363 (office)

On May 13, 2014, at 2:34 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal) [<mailto:Stacey.Klein@nbcuni.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:56 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden to Oil Company w Holdings in Ukraine?

Hi Kendra,
Wondering if you have any comment on allegations Hunter Biden has taken a seat on the board of an oil and gas company with holdings in Ukraine? Carney pushed us all to you all - any comment?
Thanks in advance!

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Here's their release:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Stacey P. Klein
NBC News - The White House
202-885-4363 (office)
202-573-0328 (cell)

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2014 11:14 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Mackler, Alexander <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r._bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian.j._woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Twigg, Carri <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Anderson, David <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Graves, Don <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Gleeson, James <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Noblitt, Karly <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern) <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@who.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Stennis, Michael <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; Berlenbach, Sarah <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti,

Cc:

Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Nourse, Victoria <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>; >; Timko, Rachel </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel.m.350>; >; Stackpole, Avra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra.w.f8f>; >; Rosenthal, Lynn </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>; >; Ricchetti, Steven </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven.j.534>; >; Amin, Faisal </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, faisal.c7c>; >; Lienemann, David C. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>; >; Tejada, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=josetejada55772522>; >; Kaye, Melanie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=melanie_a.kaye>; >; Mackler, Alexander </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=mackler, alexander.s.snyder-mackler_a2377>; >; Gleeson, James </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=gleeson, james.m.gleeson.j20f> (Intern); >; Escudero, Adrian V. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=adrianv.escudero11120257>; >; Hill, Patricia </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hill, patricia.j.6b5>; >; Person, Anne </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=person, anne.m.aae>; >; Zikusoka, David N. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidn.zikusoka74383180>; >; Stennis, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stennis, michael.j.stennis.me93>; >; Edwards, Hannah E. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=edwards, hannah.e.bc9>; >; Nourse, Victoria </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nourse, victoria.f.nourse.vb11>; >; Freeman, Gary </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=freeman, gary.d.653>; >; Hertz, Jessica R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hertz, jessica.r.562>; >; Murray, Shailagh </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=shailagh.murray>; >; Berner, Katherine </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berner, katherine.k.f0e>; >; Lysaght, Patrick J </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13193785c4>; >; Schultz, Gregory </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schultz, gregory.c.084>; >; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=zeigler-brown, cortez.r.075>; > (Intern); Schrum, Evan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schrum, evan.m.schrum.ea9f>; >; Donley, Julia M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_132187096e>; >; McNellis, Kerry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kerry_j.mcnellis1>; >; Berlenbach, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berlenbach, sarah.f.berlenbach.sf948>; >; Hornbrook, Alex </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=alexhornbrook51765131>; >; Picos, Francisco </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=picos, francisco.c.412>; >; Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey.l.c25>; >; Clark, Katisha A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13209188d2>; >; Eaton, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarahfletcher70386533>; >; Hart, Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth.a.ffe>; >; Joseph, Jeremy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=joseph, jeremyc15>; >; Carpenter, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=carpenter, michael.r.7b8>; >; McNulty, Thomas P. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thomasp.mcnulty41242486>; >; Flynn, John S </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_1318036>; >; Suber, Kellen C. </o=eop/ou=exchange

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, October 17, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:45:31 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Saturday, December 20, 2014 1:26 AM
To: [personal email address]
Subject: FW: Ukraine Clips

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:57:12 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:28 PM
To: Lederman, Josh
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Yes, from me
The one in DC. Sorry, on the plane give me a few min

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:23 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. That's on the record, attributable to Kendra Barkoff, right?

Also – which of Hunter's offices are you directing me to? He is involved with a lot of companies.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:22 PM
To: Lederman, Josh
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Off the record (on the airplane, so having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including "Bush vs. Gore", and "U.S. vs. Microsoft". He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University's Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman's Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world's largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent – incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m³ of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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[IP_US_DISC]

msk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

From: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:30 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Interesting. Burisma is completely independent of Ukrainian government with an independent board of directors. NZ served as Minister of Ecology and resigned in 2010. I joined the board as legal adviser and Burisma also engaged the law firm I am of counsel to Boies Schiller Flexner on matters pertaining to corporate governance, transparency and expansion. Alana Apter former head of Morgan Stanley Europe is chairman of the board.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:04 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <[Kendra A Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov](mailto:Kendra.A.Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov)> wrote:

-----Original Message-----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Dear Laura,

Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company, claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of directors. The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovych.

Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

Thanks and best

Max

Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

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Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed

+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 8, 2014 11:25 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean.w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth.d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen.i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Fromstein, Charles <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti, Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; Russo2, Bill <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen,

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Sunday, June 8, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:42:29 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Compton, Ann W. <ann.w.compton@abc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:44 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen; Spector, Stephen; Trotter, Katherine K.; Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick
Subject: thank you Kendra.... enjoy St Louis today --

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:37 PM
To: Compton, Ann W.; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen
Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick
Subject: Re: I know you are travelling. OFF the record doesnt help. I would however be willing to use this with or without quoting YOU.

Off the record:

The lawyers weren't consulted because Hunter is a private citizen and the VP has no association with this company.

----- Original Message -----

From: Compton, Ann W. [mailto:Ann.W.Compton@abc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:35 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen
Cc: Bruce, Mary K. <Mary.K.Bruce@abc.com>; Karl, Jonathan D. <Jonathan.D.Karl@abc.com>; Klein, Rick <Rick.Klein@abc.com>
Subject: I know you are travelling. OFF the record doesnt help. I would however be willing to use this with or without quoting YOU.

And Hunter's office cannot answer: was the WH counsel's office consulted, or informed as a courtesy?

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:27 PM
To: Compton, Ann W.; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen
Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick
Subject: RE: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W. [mailto:Ann.W.Compton@abc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:16 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley; Spector, Stephen
Cc: Bruce, Mary K.; Karl, Jonathan D.; Klein, Rick
Subject: Kendra - in the WH briefing Jay Carney is referring questions on Hunter Biden to you.

Can you tell us whether the WH counsel's office was consulted? Informed? Even as a courtesy?
And was Vice President Biden aware of the hiring when he visited Ukraine April 21-22?

Would appreciate a timely response... Thanks, as always.

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:50 PM

To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'

Subject: ?? Any reply ?? Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM

To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'

Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer — a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

###

From: Macdonald, Elizabeth M <macdonalde@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 1:32 AM
To: Moscow Ukraine News DL
Subject: May 14 print, social media and TV summary on Ukraine

Print Media Summary, compiled by Consulate Vladivostok

Fire attacks in Slavyansk, Victims in Kramatorsk; Yuriy Lebed Captured by Donetsk self-defense forces

May 14, 00:46 Ukrainian forces renewed fire attacks in Slavyansk. Lately, these fire attacks on behalf of Ukrainian militants have been happening least once a day, Ria-Novosti reporters claim. (<http://kommersant.ru/doc/2470126>)

Seven Ukrainian soldiers died in Kramatorsk (<http://www.interfax.ru/world/376035>,
<http://www.kp.ru/online/news/1734241/>)

May 13, 17:05 Military showdowns between are reported to renew in Kramatorsk neighborhood. Meanwhile, Ukrainian media is silent (<http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/13/btr/>)

Donetsk self-defense forces informed they captured one of the heads of anti-terror operations, colonel Yuriy Lebed (<http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/13/lebed/>, <http://www.kp.ru/online/news/1734288/>)

Self-defense forces of Donetsk republic kicked out the mayor of Gorlovka from his post (<http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/13/gorlovka/>)

Siloviki started fire attacks again (<http://ria.ru/world/20140514/1007669171.html>)

Slavyansk attacks national forces (<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26229.5/3112428/>)

“People’s Governor of Lugansk” assassination attempt

“People’s governor” of Lugansk region was wounded in an assassination attempt, which was Kiyev’s response to referendum (<http://www.interfax.ru/world/375992>, <http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/13/bolotov/>,
<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26229/3112894/>), however he the governor is going to resume his duties soon (<http://www.interfax.ru/world/376012>)

Referenda follow-up, Novorossiya Party establishment, Russian Block closure order

The heads of the self-styled People’s Republic of Donetsk plan to form a new body entitled to negotiate with Moscow and Kiyev about region’s future. Official authorities of Donetsk region plan to host another referendum on June 15 about federalization and status of Russian language. (<http://kommersant.ru/doc/2469746>)

People’s governor of Donetsk Republic announced about the establishing of a new party “Novorossiya” (<http://www.interfax.ru/world/376042>, <http://www.kp.ru/online/news/1734286/>)

Donetsk Republic postponed its plans to enter Russia (<http://www.novayagazeta.ru/news/1681977.html>)

Kyiv court forbid the party “Russian block” (<http://www.interfax.ru/world/376026>)

Pavel Gubarev will establish a party “Novorossiya” (<http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/14/gubarev/>,
<http://ria.ru/world/20140514/1007667864.html>)

Russia hasn’t helped us but we are sure it won’t leave us: Boris Livtinov (<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26229/3112907/>)

GPS stations closure in Russia, International Space Station project closure

In response to the friction between Russia and the USA, Russia might stop all GPS stations on its territory if Washington doesn’t agree to locate GLONASS stations on the territory of the USA, missile engine deliveries will be fulfilled only for civic purposes under the corresponding legal support, international space station to be closed by 2020 (<http://kommersant.ru/doc/2469806>, <http://www.vedomosti.ru/tech/news/26449161/rossiya-grozit-gps> ,
<http://www.interfax.ru/russia/376013> ,)

UN labeled aircrafts in Ukraine

Ukrainian military uses UN labeled planes in Kramatorsk (<http://www.kp.ru/online/news/1734266/>)

UN: Kiyev broke agreements if used helicopters with UN emblems (<http://www.novayagazeta.ru/news/1682009.html>)

Round-tables

OSCE plans to establish a dialogue between Kiyev authorities and representatives of the country’s East. OSCE negotiator arrived in Kyiv on May 13. (<http://kommersant.ru/doc/2469700>)

The first all-Ukrainian round table will take place on May 14 in Verkhovna Rada (<http://www.interfax.ru/world/375990>,
<http://ria.ru/world/20140514/1007679032.html>)

Angela Merkel supported the round-tables in Ukraine (<http://www.kp.ru/online/news/1734292/>)

Kerry: USA, Russia and Germany try to promote national dialogue in Ukraine. Ukrainian government suggested “round tables”, OSCE send new negotiator. (<http://ria.ru/world/20140514/1007679032.html>,
<http://www.novayagazeta.ru/news/1681986.html>)

Miscellaneous (Crimea, analytics of the referendum and overall situation, international reaction, Berkut, Ukraine presidential elections)

Government is ready to sacrifice investors for Crimea: region will get the promised money for the bridge construction (<http://www.vedomosti.ru/politics/news/26448871/dlya-kryma-ne-zhalko>)

Media: Ukraine recognized the fact it cut the water in the North-Crimea Channel (<http://ria.ru/world/20140513/1007625574.html>)

Where the prepayment for gas takes Ukraine: Russia and Ukraine survived through two gas wars and the current confrontation is a threat for the third conflict. (<http://www.vedomosti.ru/opinion/news/26448381/166-mlrd#ixzz31e4vovja>)

Pseudo-reaction to pseudo-referendum: questions regarding Russia’s official reaction on referenda in Southeastern Ukraine (<http://www.vedomosti.ru/opinion/news/26389261/citata-nedeli>)

Ukrainian militia reported a theft of the voters lists in Lugansk. (<http://www.interfax.ru/world/376046>)

USA expressed their concerns about the presence of Russian troops by Ukrainian border (<http://www.interfax.ru/world/376043>)

Western Ukraine can follow the Eastern way: address of Hungary regarding the status of Hungarians living in Ukraine. Kiyev doesn't want to hear anything about federalization (http://www.ng.ru/cis/2014-05-14/1_ukraina.html)

Tyranny of the minority: new Kiyev authorities follow the principle of "revolutionary viability" (http://www.ng.ru/cis/2014-05-14/2_tyrany.html)

US Special Envoy for Anti-Semitism Ira Forman to visit Ukraine (<http://ria.ru/world/20140514/1007679324.html>)

NATO is using situation in Ukraine to rehabilitate itself (<http://ria.ru/world/20140513/1007665209.html>)
Polish MFA is ready to introduce visa-free regime for the citizens of Ukraine (<http://ria.ru/world/20140514/1007673240.html>)

"Berkut" never shot the "Nebesnaya Sotnya" concluded special commission of Verkhovna Rada. It looks like Ukrainian government will never give a clear answer (<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26229/3112844/>,
<http://www.novayagazeta.ru/news/1682000.html>)

"West shoots its own foot and recognizes that," President of "Politica" fund shares his view on Ukrainian referenda (<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26229/3112786/>)

Self-named President of Ukraine Alexander Turchinov required to punish the communist party for the truth about shootings in Mariupol (<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26229/3112975/>)

"Thanks to Yanukovich Europe has learnt to fight money laundering in off-shores," says head of Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in his interview to "Novaya" and "Independent" (<http://www.novayagazeta.ru/news/1681998.html>)

Social Media Summary Compiled by Yekaterinburg.

News on social media this morning. A group of 10 high-profile Ukrainian journalists, including editor in chief of the "Maidan" website propose that the Ukrainian government should revoke visas of all foreign journalists refusing to use the word 'terrorist' in their Eastern Ukraine coverage.

Video and stills from May 9 in Mariupol. Ukrainian army enters Mariupol. Locals turn out, shout 'fascist' at Ukraine army as they move through city Gunfire. Locals allege up to 50 killed inside Mariupol police HQ

7 Ukrainian soldiers were killed in an ambush near Kramatorsk

Gunfight in Slavyansk

Joe Biden's son Hunter is on the board of a company owned by a Yanukovych ally alongside Poland's former president

Rogozin demand for GPS Shut-Down

Russia says Gazprom Gas Deal with China Almost Done

Crimea lacks water

Maxim Eristavi @MaximEristavi 3h

Ukraine: "If you instigate & talk about possible civil war, sooner or later it happens" my latest for @CJR
_cjr.org/behind_the_new_____

Expand

GrahamWPhillips @GrahamWP_UK 5h

First #Mariupol video - around 11.30am on May 9th and the Ukrainian army are moving through the city, gunfire heard- [_youtube.com/watch?v=Mcxk42...](#)

[View media](#)

GrahamWPhillips @GrahamWP_UK 5h

Still from May 9 vid to come.Ukr 'army' leave police HQ in #Mariupol- locals allege up to 50 killed inside building. [pic.twitter.com/b6h669YVHn](#)



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GrahamWPhillips @GrahamWP_UK 8h

My blog on #Mariupol May 9th will be in 3 parts - 1. What Happened and Who Did It? 2. What Mariupol people think. 3. My Conclusions.

[Expand](#)

Olga Tokariuk @olgatokariuk 6h

Today, 7 Ukrainian soldiers were killed in an ambush near Kramatorsk. If those attacking them are not terrorists, then how to call them?

[Expand](#)

GrahamWPhillips @GrahamWP_UK 7h

Taken less than 5 minutes ago, as a gunfight goes on at north city limits of #Slavyansk - [_youtube.com/watch?v=_mT4ta...](#)

[View media](#)

max seddon @maxseddon 5h

Joe Biden's son Hunter is on the board of a company owned by a Yanukovich ally alongside Poland's former president: [_buzzfeed.com/maxseddon/bide_____](#)

[View summary](#)

Myroslava Petsa @myroslavapetsa 7h

Hello, #Moscow, it's #Biden speaking burisma.com/hunter-biden-j.....

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The Interpreter @Interpreter_Mag 8h

Russian Industry Minister Surprised at @Rogozin Demand for GPS Shut-Down, Says It's Useful; Russians Slam Proposal interpretermag.com/russia-this-we.....

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The Interpreter @Interpreter_Mag 8h

Ukraine Liveblog: Gazprom Gas Deal with China Almost Done, Says Russia bit.ly/1v0HDum

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Anshel Pfeffer @AnshelPfeffer 8h

This could be major, Crimea lacks water @MaidanOnline Ukraine Stops Water Supply to Crimea wp.me/p4bJDw-4I0 fb.me/1i1sveyer

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TV Summary, compiled by Embassy Moscow

BBC Russia News Service

13/05/2014 **Russian TV news: No let-up in anti-Ukrainian, anti-Western coverage**

Main themes on Russian primetime TV news on Channel One, Rossiya 1 and NTV on 13 May

Ukraine still dominated primetime bulletins on the main Russian TV channels on 13 May as they continued to drive home the Kremlin propaganda machine's key messages:

Ukraine's central government is "fascist" and lacks legitimacy;

the "self-defence forces" that oppose it represent the people of southeast Ukraine;

the West, especially the United States, is primarily responsible for the Ukrainian crisis.

Of the three main channels, official state channel Rossiya 1, as usual, made these points most stridently, while Gazprom Media-owned NTV was perhaps the least extreme in its coverage.

"Self-defence forces", Ukrainian "reprisals"

All three channels led with what they called an "assassination attempt" on Valeriy Bolotov, the self-proclaimed "people's governor" of Luhansk Region in eastern Ukraine. Separatist figures were interviewed blaming the central government for the attack, in which Bolotov was reported to have suffered relatively minor gunshot wounds.

In these and other reports, the separatists were referred to variously as "self-defence forces" and "insurgents". State-controlled Channel One referred to a separatist figure released from custody in Kharkiv as a "resistance leader". Channel One's regular commentator Mikhail Leontyev announced that the self-rule "referendums" held in parts of eastern Ukraine on 11 May were a "political reality", which he suggested should be accepted.

In contrast, various interviewees, including State Duma members and pro-Russian deputies of the Ukrainian parliament, called the government in Kiev a "junta" and "fascist regime", which was conducting a campaign of "terror" against its own people. The Ukrainian government's military operations in the east of the country were described as "reprisals". Ukrainian troops were accused of opening fire on "unarmed civilians" in the port town of Mariupol last week. After Ukrainian Communist leader Petro Symonenko mentioned this in the Ukrainian parliament, the parliament speaker and acting president, Oleksandr Turchynov, ordered Symonenko's microphone to be switched off and even threatened to have the Communist Party banned, Russian TV channels said.

"Nazis", "fascists"

Of the three main channels, Rossiya 1 was the most vociferous in its condemnation of Ukrainian "fascists". One report revisited the Odessa tragedy of 2 May, in which dozens of people were killed in a fire at the Trade Unions House and in clashes between rival demonstrators, and suggested that the Ukrainian authorities were responsible for the deaths, comparing their actions to Nazi crimes.

Rossiya 1 drew further parallels between Ukraine and Nazi Germany in a trailer for a film by veteran Kremlin propagandist Arkadiy Mamontov. It said that the film was about "Ukrainian national socialism" during World War II and Ukraine's modern-day "Banderites", a loose term commonly used by the Russian media to attack pro-Kiev activists. Its narrow definition covers supporters of wartime Ukrainian nationalist leader Stepan Bandera, whom Russia regards as a Nazi collaborator.

Rossiya 1 mentioned collaboration with the Nazis in another report, according to which "German uniforms" have been delivered to Ukrainian troops carrying out "reprisals" in the east of the country. Presenter Ernest Matskyavichyus went on to make an outrageous comparison by saying that during World War II, Nazi collaborators in Ukraine "also wore German-made uniforms". He ended the report by suddenly announcing that "Washington has delivered barbed wire" to the Ukrainian authorities.

West's role

Rossiya 1 was at the forefront of Russian TV's anti-Western rhetoric. Reporting on the latest developments in the investigation into the deadly sniper attacks in central Kiev in February, Rossiya 1 called the shootings "the first tragic result of Western policy" in Ukraine.

Another anti-US report on Rossiya 1 ridiculed US State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki, who appeared to be unable to explain the meaning of the Russian term "carousels" she had used previously while discussing voting irregularities in the "referendums" held by pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine. Psaki was also shown being repeatedly challenged by a journalist over Ukraine's failure to pay for Russian gas.

All the main channels covered Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk's visit to Brussels, during which he signed a 1.3bn-euro aid deal with the EU. Some of the reports took swipe at Yatsenyuk and European officials. They also suggested that the amount of EU aid was too small to make a difference to the woeful state of the Ukrainian economy.

In a report about a State Duma statement on Ukraine, Rossiya 1 went off at a tangent to attack Conchita Wurst, the Austrian winner of this year's Eurovision Song Contest, whom the channel described as a "performer of indeterminate sex". State Duma member Oleg Nilov was shown condemning Europe's "dark forces embodied" by Wurst. Europe "does not like our girls because they have plaits, but no beard", Nilov told parliament before going on to deliver a rousing rendition of a Russian folk song.

Elizabeth MacDonald
Consul for Political and Economic Affairs
United States Consulate General
Vladivostok, Russia
32 Pushkinskaya Street 690001
Vladivostok, Russia
(423)230-00-70

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This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Kendra Barkoff [personal email address]
Sent: Saturday, June 7, 2014 10:31 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Barkoff, Kendra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; >
Subject: [no subject line]

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Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:40:12 EST 2022

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Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

From: Susan Crabtree <scrabtree@washingtonexaminer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:58 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden's hiring by Burisma Holdings

Hi there Kendra,

I just posted a story about the brief mention of Hunter Biden's hiring by Jay during the briefing.

He directed questions to the vice president's office so I am wondering if you can answer a couple.

Wondering if Hunter talked to Biden about this hiring when he received the offer, how much compensation Hunter Biden will receive and whether the vice president gave his seal of approval to the hiring, i.e. whether his son asked for Biden's approval before accepting the offer and whether Biden gave it.

Thanks so much, Kendra. Know you must be inundated with questions about this.

Thanks,

Susan Crabtree

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:53 AM
To: gerlachja2@state.gov
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. Trying to get more info over here. Give me a little bit of time.

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks

We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?
Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing...

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [<mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along....

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board...

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:15 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra; Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra
Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

----- Original Message -----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 09:11 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura
<Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura
>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
> To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
> Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company
>

> Dear Laura,
>

> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company, claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of

> directors:
>

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>
>

> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.
>

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?
>

> Thanks and best
>

> Max
>

>

> --

> Max Seddon
> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
> twitter.com/maxseddon

--

Max Seddon

Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Fromstein, Charles <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; Hart, Elizabeth <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Richards, Kitty <katharine_r_richards@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti, Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; Russo2, Bill <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group

Cc:

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Cc: dana e.fc6>; >; Nix, Sheila </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nix, sheila m.d38>; >; Cloud, Donald </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=cloud, donald w.359>; >; Kurren, Amy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kurren, amy m.791>; >; Sullivan, Jacob </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sullivan, jacob j.6b6>; >; Lyons, Jamie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lyons, jamie e.ef0>; >; Tennant, Thomas M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13140822>; >; Ruffner, Richard </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ruffner, richard b.7aa>; >; Fromstein, Charles </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=fromstein, charles a.b6e>; >; Bernal, Anthony R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=anthonyr.bernal72748266>; >; Lambros, Demetra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lambros, demetra d.8b8>; >; Prescott, Jeffrey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>; >; Bolduc, Chad </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chad_m_bolduc>; >; Lillard, Brooke </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lillard, brooke m.ce1>; >; Regoli, Elizabeth A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13231520c2>; >; Chung, Kathy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chung, kathy s.3c7>; >; Russo, Bill </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=russo, william m.11f>; >; Orbach Lachman, Sherry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=orbach lachman, sherry e.5f8>; >; Montoya, Jordan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=montoya, jordan r.a75>; >

Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, May 20, 2014

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b(6),P6

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redaction of personal email address

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From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Fromstein, Charles <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti, Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; Russo2, Bill <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel,

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, July 8, 2014

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Additional Information:

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From: Firsht, Elana (Intern) <elana_l_firsht_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 5:49 PM
To: Reddy, Vinay; Reddy, Vinay
Cc: Murray, Shailagh; O'Brien, Sean; Murray, Shailagh; O'Brien, Sean
Subject: VPOTUS Afternoon Press Mentions--May 13, 2014
Attachments: VPOTUS PM PRESS--05.13.2014.docx

VPOTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

Chicago Sun-Times

BIDEN headlining Durbin fundraisers today

By: Lynn Sweet / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is headlining two fundraisers in downstate Alton on Tuesday afternoon to bolster the campaign warchests Sen. Dick Durbin D-III. and the Democratic

KPLR

Vice President BIDEN to speak at Archgrounds

By: Anthony Kiekow / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will speak in downtown St. Louis Tuesday afternoon at 3:30.

Plains Dealer

Vice President BIDEN coming to Cleveland to promote transit program the GOP would pare back

By: Stephen Koff / May 13, 2014

When Vice President Joe **BIDEN** visits a Cleveland rapid transit station on Mayfield Rd. Wednesday, he'll promote a form of federal spending that in its broadest outlines has few opponents.

Associated Press

VP BIDEN'S son joins Ukraine gas company's board

May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine, the company announced Tuesday, as the West seeks to help Ukraine wean itself off its dependence on Russian energy.

USA Today

BIDEN'S son joins board of Ukraine gas company

By: David Jackson / May 13, 2014

Vice President **BIDEN'S** son Hunter is joining the board of a gas company that operates in Ukraine.

Politico

Hunter BIDEN to Ukraine gas board

By: Lucy McCalmont / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

[The Hill](#)

WH: BIDEN'S son to Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

By: Justin Sink / May 13, 2014

Ukraine's largest private gas producer has hired Vice President **BIDEN'S** youngest son, but White House press secretary Jay Carney insisted on Tuesday the move shouldn't be read as an official endorsement by the U.S. government.

[ABC](#)

BIDEN'S Son Gets Ukrainian Oil Company Gig

By: Jordyn Phelps / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** youngest son Hunter **BIDEN** has joined the board of directors of Ukraine's largest oil company at a time that the U.S. is urging Ukraine to develop energy independence from Russia and just days after the vice president visited Ukraine.

[Washington Times](#)

Joe BIDEN'S son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

By: Jessica Chasmar / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN'S** youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer.

[Washington Examiner](#)

Jay Carney: Joe BIDEN'S son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

By: Susan Crabtree / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has accepted a position with Ukraine's largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the White House signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman Jay Carney said Tuesday.

[National Journal](#)

Another BIDEN Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

By: Marina Koren / May 13, 2014

Joe **BIDEN** has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only **BIDEN** involved in the region.

[International Business Times](#)

Burisma Holdings: BIDEN'S Son Joins Ukraine's Top Private Gas Company

By: Sophie Song/ May 13, 2014

The Ukrainian gas company that Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, just joined is a growing conglomerate that has been compared to "Exxon in its early days."

[Mediaite](#)

Bad Ideas in Oligarchy: BIDEN'S Son Joins Board of Ukrainian Energy Company

By: Tina Nguyen / May 13, 2014

Today, Burisma Holdings, a company that describes itself as "Ukraine's largest private gas producer," announced the newest member of its Board of Directors: R. Hunter **BIDEN**, a seasoned lawyer with extensive international business experience, will be in charge of the company's legal unit, as well as "provide support for the Company among international organizations." His end goal: to guide the company in a manner that will "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

[Business Insider](#)

Joe BIDEN'S Son Is Now On The Board Of One Of Ukraine's Biggest Gas Conglomerates

By: Brett Logiurato / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, has been appointed to the board of directors of Ukraine's largest private-gas producer.

The company, Burisma Holdings, announced **BIDEN'S** appointment on its website Tuesday. Burisma said **BIDEN** would be the new head of the company's legal unit.

[Reuters](#)

Turkey to ignore court order to pay compensation to Cyprus

By: Tulay Karadeniz and Ece Toksabay / May 13, 2014

... A new round of peace talks resumed in February. U.S. Vice-President Joe **BIDEN** is expected on the island on May 21-23 to try to spur on the process, Cypriot official sources said.

[AFP](#)

Kerry eyes role in Cyprus peace process

May 13, 2014

... US Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is to visit Cyprus later this month as part of efforts to find ways to counter what Washington sees as Russia's destabilizing actions in Ukraine.

[USA Today](#)

A view from campus on sexual assaults

By: Emmaline Campbell / May 13, 2014

... In light of the department's record of ineptitude, the White House's recent announcement that it would take on the issue is reason for hope. It has the clout to blow past the obstacles that have held back the Department of Education. The White House can speak directly to college students through social media, as it did last month with the YouTube video "1 is 2 Many," featuring celebrities such as actor Steve Carell and public figures such as Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

[Chicago Sun-Times](#)

BIDEN headlining Durbin fundraisers today

By: Lynn Sweet / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is headlining two fundraisers in downstate Alton on Tuesday afternoon to bolster the campaign warchests Sen. Dick Durbin D-Ill. and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. Durbin is flying to Illinois and back to D.C. on **BIDEN'S** plane, with a stop in St. Louis for an official event with the vice president and Interior Sec. Sally Jewell at the CityArchRiver project at the St. Louis Gateway Arch "to discuss the economy and highlight the progress of this future urban park site."

Last month, I reported **BIDEN** will be the draw at the Alton events for Durbin, who faces GOP nominee Illinois state Sen. Jim Oberweis R-Sugar Grove in November. DSCC chair Sen. Michael Bennet D-Col. will also be attending the high-dollar events.

I posted earlier that President Barack Obama returns to Chicago on May 22 to keynote major donor fundraising events for Durbin and the DSCC.

Today, **BIDEN** appears at a reception in Alton followed by a dinner at the home of John and Jayne Simmons.

The price points

*\$35,000 per couple to co-chair the dinner, with a photo opp.

*\$10,000 one ticket to the dinner

*\$5,000 to co-chair the general reception with a photo opp.

*\$1,000 one ticket to the reception.

KPLR

Vice President **BIDEN** to speak at Archgrounds

By: Anthony Kiekow / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will speak in downtown St. Louis Tuesday afternoon at 3:30.

His speech is about the economy and construction projects.

He will visit the St. Louis Gateway Arch and get a look at the renovations going on in the area.

The \$380 Million City-Arch-River project will connect the Gateway Arch to downtown St. Louis.

The new date of completion for the project is 2016.

The project was funded through federal, state, local and private funds.

The Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell will also be in attendance.

BIDEN'S speech could be a glimpse to his platform for a 2016 presidential run.

It would be **BIDEN'S** third attempt to win the office.

Plains Dealer

Vice President **BIDEN** coming to Cleveland to promote transit program the GOP would pare back

By: Stephen Koff / May 13, 2014

When Vice President Joe **BIDEN** visits a Cleveland rapid transit station on Mayfield Rd. Wednesday, he'll promote a form of federal spending that in its broadest outlines has few opponents.

Roads need paving. Bridges need fixing. Nearly everyone agrees.

But exactly what else counts as necessary for federal transportation spending, including a Red Line rapid station in Cleveland, is another matter.

If House of Representatives Republicans prevail, there could be much less money in the future for projects like the new Little Italy-University Circle Rapid Station, which is scheduled to open in 2015 and **BIDEN** will highlight Wednesday.

BIDEN'S Cleveland visit is part of a broader, week-long lobbying effort by the White House to draw attention to a desire to keep spending on improving infrastructure. The overarching issue – keeping the nation's roads and bridges open and safe – has wide consensus.

Even the biggest pro-business lobbying groups in Washington, such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, are spending the week much like **BIDEN** and his boss, President Barack Obama. They're holding forums and other events to tell Congress that it's time for a major new transportation bill.

The current bill expires Sept. 30, and the Highway Trust Fund, which provides the money, could run short a month earlier.

Obama is going to the construction site of the new structure that will replace the Tappan Zee Bridge, spanning New York's Hudson River, the same day as **BIDEN'S** visit to the new Little Italy-University Circle Rapid Station.

But first, **BIDEN** today will go to St. Louis and highlight a pedestrian bridge being built over a highway that separates residents and tourists from the Gateway Arch. And on Friday, the White House says, Obama will meet with workers to discuss infrastructure around Washington, D.C.

The White House says that 65 percent of the nation's major roads are rated as being in "less than good" condition and one in four bridges require significant repairs or cannot handle today's traffic.

But agreement on need is not the same as agreement on where to get the money, or on how to spend it.

Most current federal transportation projects, including money that gets funneled to state highway departments, are funded through a tax on gasoline (18.4 cents per gallon) and diesel fuel (24.4 cents per gallon). Those taxes have not been raised since 1993, although from 1993 to 1997, 4.3 cents of the gasoline tax was used for deficit reduction before being redirected to transportation projects.

The static tax is just part of the problem. Cars also get better gasoline mileage since the last hike, and with inflation, the money doesn't buy as much steel and asphalt.

So Obama would replace the expiring transit bill, called Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century, or MAP-21, with a \$302 billion, four-year bill. Obama's bill would supplement the gas tax with money from closing certain corporate tax provisions, including one that the White House and Democrats say has led to companies sheltering income overseas.

Republicans such as House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster have their own ideas -- both for annual transportation appropriations, which last a year at a time, and for a longer-term road-and-bridge improvement program.

"While Chairman Shuster respects that the Administration has put forward its own detailed proposal, the first time it has done so, he will not agree with it on all the details," said Justin Harclerode, Shuster's spokesman. "Thus far, the chairman has not elaborated on any potential differences or

areas of agreement as the Transportation Committee continues to develop its surface transportation proposal."

The last big highway bill, MAP-21, authorized \$105 billion over two years, marking the first agreement on a large highway bill since 2005. A series of Band-Aid approaches, as the White House had put it, sufficed in the interim.

Many supporters, including Ohio Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, say that spending on roads helps the American economy, not only by providing road-building jobs but also by keeping the economy moving.

"Road and bridge projects don't just mean safer and less congested roads and construction jobs – they also help attract new employers and economic development," Brown said in an email this week.

Brown said that more than 8 percent of Ohio's bridges require major repairs or replacement. He also noted the better known projects awaiting funding, such as Route 8 in Akron and the Brent Spence Bridge in Cincinnati.

Federal highway spending, however, has become a boondoggle in the eyes of some fiscal conservatives. This is where ideological groups split with those who have interests to protect.

Emily Goff, a transportation and infrastructure policy analyst at the conservative Heritage Foundation, noted that MAP-21 funds go not only to build roads and bridges but also to build recreation trails and bicycle paths. These are important to groups pushing for transportation alternatives, but they siphon money that could go for even more roads and bridges to ease considerable traffic congestion, Goff says.

Yet MAP-21 requires states to set aside money for these kinds of alternatives, Goff says, to the tune of \$27.5 million this year in Pennsylvania and \$78.9 million in Texas.

"Identifying a connection between these activities and a federal highway program concerned with interstate highway system construction and maintenance proves difficult," Goff wrote in a recent Heritage blog post. "Indeed, there is nothing federal or highway about bicycle paths, landscaping, or any of these local activities."

The RTA station in Cleveland is a project that could raise a similar question, with its emphasis on meshing light rail with development around University Circle and Little Italy. The existing station, on Euclid Avenue at E. 120th Street, is considered functionally obsolete, so the new station will be placed several blocks south, at Mayfield Road at E. 119th Street.

About \$8.9 in funding comes from highly competitive U.S. Department of Transportation grants, according to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority.

The grant money did not come MAP-21. Rather, it came from a program created under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, or the recession-era stimulus act. The transportation component of the stimulus act, called Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), gets money appropriated annually from Congress -- \$3.5 billion so far for 270 projects nationwide, including \$600 million this year, the White House says.

The TIGER program will end soon, too -- unless Obama and **BIDEN** get their way.

In that case, TIGER would become permanent, greatly expanded to \$5 billion over four years. The Obama White House wants to fold it into the next iteration of a four-year road-and-bridge bill.

House Republicans are unlikely to go along. The House appropriations subcommittee for transportation on May 6 recommended a lower sum of \$100 million for TIGER in 2015, and the GOP-led panel would further restrict TIGER grants to "projects that will address critical transportation needs, such as road, highway and bridge construction and improvement."

In other words, while money for the Little Italy-University Circle RTA station appears secure, future projects like it could go unfunded.

That is apparently why **BIDEN** is coming to Cleveland: to highlight what the money has helped build and point out what would have happened were it not there.

The White House would not comment on this in advance of the vice president's trip. In an email, White House spokesman Keith Maley said, "Members of both parties have put forward their own ideas on the Hill, and the most important thing is that we pass a long-term bill that creates jobs and provides certainty for cities, states, and businesses. It's time to get the job done."

Associated Press

VP BIDEN'S son joins Ukraine gas company's board May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine, the company announced Tuesday, as the West seeks to help Ukraine wean itself off its dependence on Russian energy.

Burisma Holdings said **BIDEN**, an attorney and chairman of the board of the World Food Program USA, will head the Burisma's legal unit, and will also seek support for the company among international organizations.

"I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," **BIDEN** said in a statement released by the company.

The announcement comes as Ukraine and the U.S. are looking to decrease Ukraine's reliance on Russian energy amid threats from Moscow to cut Ukraine off if it doesn't pay massive debts. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage in the crisis with Ukraine if Europe was less dependent on Russian gas.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer," said **BIDEN** spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Still, Vice President **BIDEN** has spoken frequently about the need to increase Ukraine's energy independence, including during a recent visit to Kiev. He's also a key interlocutor for the Obama administration with Kiev and other anxious nations in the region as the crisis there has unfolded.

USA Today

BIDEN'S son joins board of Ukraine gas company

By: David Jackson / May 13, 2014

Vice President **BIDEN'S** son Hunter is joining the board of a gas company that operates in Ukraine.

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, said Hunter **BIDEN** -- an attorney -- will be in charge of its legal unit and help the company with other international organizations.

"I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," the younger **BIDEN** said in a statement.

The **BIDEN** appointment comes as the United States and allied nations try to help Ukraine reduce its dependence on Russian energy by developing other sources.

Kendra Barkoff, spokesperson for Vice President **BIDEN**, said that "Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Politico

Hunter BIDEN to Ukraine gas board

By: Lucy McCalmont / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, said in a statement, which was reported by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

BIDEN, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

BIDEN said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," **BIDEN** said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it “illegal” under Ukrainian law.

Vice President **BIDEN** also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

The Hill

WH: BIDEN’S son to Ukraine gas company isn’t U.S. endorsement

By: Justin Sink / May 13, 2014

Ukraine's largest private gas producer has hired Vice President **BIDEN’S** youngest son, but White House press secretary Jay Carney insisted on Tuesday the move shouldn't be read as an official endorsement by the U.S. government.

"Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president," Carney told reporters.

The vice president's office also defended the hire.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office," said Kendra Barkoff, spokeswoman for Vice President **BIDEN**.

Burisma, which produces the equivalent of 10,500 barrels of oil daily, announced **BIDEN’S** hire in a statement earlier Tuesday.

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," said Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors.

The younger **BIDEN**, for his part, said he believed his legal and corporate advice would "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Hunter **BIDEN** said.

But the hire could raise ethical questions — and diplomatic headaches — for the White House. During a visit to Kiev last month, the vice president discussed energy security with Ukraine's leaders, including ways the country could produce its own domestic production of natural gas.

"Imagine where you'd be today if you were able to tell Russia: keep your gas. It would be a very different world," the vice president told Ukrainian lawmakers.

The hire also came a day after Russian energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless the country prepays for its energy. That announcement has sparked fears that energy costs could strain Ukraine's fragile economy.

ABC

BIDEN'S Son Gets Ukrainian Oil Company Gig

By: Jordyn Phelps / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** youngest son Hunter **BIDEN** has joined the board of directors of Ukraine's largest oil company at a time that the U.S. is urging Ukraine to develop energy independence from Russia and just days after the vice president visited Ukraine.

The vice president's office and the White House rejected any suggestion that there was a conflict of interest.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer," Vice President **BIDEN'S** spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff told ABC News. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

White House spokesman Jay Carney said, "Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens and where they work ... does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president."

According to a press release from the oil company, Burisma Holdings, **BIDEN** will help the company manage its relationships with "international organizations," in addition to overseeing the company's legal unit.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Hunter **BIDEN** said in a statement.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," he said.

BIDEN, a graduate of Yale Law School, is a counsel to the New York-based law firm Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP and serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service

Washington Times

Joe BIDEN'S son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

By: Jessica Chasmar / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN'S** youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer.

Burisma Holdings said in a statement that Hunter **BIDEN** will be in charge of the company's legal unit and will provide support for the company among international organizations.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Mr. **BIDEN** said.

“As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine,” he said.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said Tuesday that Mr. **BIDEN’S** new position “does not reflect an endorsement by the administration,” Time magazine’s Zeke Miller reported.

The announcement comes just one day after Russia’s state energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless the country pays in advance for supplies.

The vice president has condemned Russia for its intervention in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy, The Moscow Times reported.

Washington Examiner

Jay Carney: Joe BIDEN’S son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

By: Susan Crabtree / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN’S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has accepted a position with Ukraine’s largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the White House signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman Jay Carney said Tuesday.

Burisma Holdings announced Tuesday that Hunter **BIDEN**, **BIDEN’S** youngest son, would serve on the company’s board of directors.

The company in a news release on its website said Hunter **BIDEN** will be in charge of the Burisma’s legal unit and will “provide support” among international organizations. The Moscow Times first reported the news Tuesday.

Asked about the hiring by a reporter Tuesday, Carney referred questions about it to the vice president’s office and noted that it did not indicate that Obama was involved or approved of it.

“Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the family are obviously private citizens and where they work is not an endorsement by the president or vice president,” he said.

Kendra Barkoff, a spokeswoman for the vice president, did not respond to questions about whether Hunter **BIDEN** discussed the job with his father or sought his approval before accepting it.

Instead, she echoed Carney’s earlier statement and referred questions to Hunter **BIDEN’S** New York law office.

“Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer,” she said. “The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office.”

A spokeswoman for Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York where Hunter **BIDEN** works, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Amid the escalating tensions between Ukraine and Russia in recent weeks, the European Commission, the executive body of the European Union, has tried to step in to try to prevent Russia from halting natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless it pays \$3.5 billion in debts.

Ukraine has so far refused to pay in protest of Moscow's decision to nearly double the price it charges Kiev for gas imports.

In the company's release, Alan Apter, the chairman of the company's board of directors, said: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

In addition to his work at the New York law firm, Hunter also is a co-founder and a managing partner of investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and serves as director of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, a network of 400 businesses, nonprofits and foreign policy experts, and the chairman of the advisory board for the National Democratic Institute, a non-profit that works to support democratic institutions and elections around the world.

National Journal

Another BIDEN Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

By: Marina Koren / May 13, 2014

Joe **BIDEN** has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only **BIDEN** involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

The vice president's office released a statement Tuesday afternoon saying that the elder **BIDEN** "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

It's unclear whether the entry of another **BIDEN** into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

International Business Times

Burisma Holdings: BIDEN'S Son Joins Ukraine's Top Private Gas Company

By: Sophie Song/ May 13, 2014

The Ukrainian gas company that Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, just joined is a growing conglomerate that has been compared to "Exxon in its early days."

Burisma Holdings announced on Tuesday that the younger **BIDEN** will join the company as the head of its legal unit.

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, said in a statement featured as a top story on the company's home page.

Burisma is a private oil and gas company founded in 2002, under joint activity agreements with Ukrainian state-owned producers, and quickly grew to become the largest private gas producer in Ukraine. The company's output stood at an average daily output of 10.5 million cubic meters barrels of oil equivalent per day in September 2013, and could double that figure within two years. All of the company's gas is sold to industrial customers in Ukraine.

BIDEN is not the only well-connected American to join the company - just a few weeks ago, when the vice president made an official trip to Ukraine, Burisma appointed one of Hunter's business partners, Devon Archer, to its board. Archer is a wealthy investor and Democratic campaign fundraiser with long ties to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. Archer was an advisor to Kerry's presidential campaign in 2004 and co-chaired Kerry's National Finance Committee. Upon his appointment to Burisma, Archer said that the energy conglomerate reminded him of "Exxon in its early days."

The company's portfolio of licenses is well-diversified across all three of Ukraine's key hydrocarbon basins – Dnieper-Donets, Carpathian and Azov-Kuban, and its fields are fully connected to the major gas pipelines in the country, allowing Burisma to keep the cost of production relatively efficient.

Natural gas is the largest energy source in Ukraine, accounting for 38 percent of total primary energy production during 2011. The country relies on Russia's gas company Gasprom currently to satisfy its energy needs, but will aim to reduce that dependency in coming years, and Burisma is well-positioned to boost its share of the domestic market.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," **BIDEN** said regarding his new appointment.

Mediaite

Bad Ideas in Oligarchy: BIDEN'S Son Joins Board of Ukrainian Energy Company By: Tina Nguyen / May 13, 2014

Today, Burisma Holdings, a company that describes itself as "Ukraine's largest private gas producer," announced the newest member of its Board of Directors: R. Hunter **BIDEN**, a seasoned lawyer with extensive international business experience, will be in charge of the company's legal unit, as well as "provide support for the Company among international organizations." His end goal: to guide the company in a manner that will "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

BIDEN also has a prominent dad who's part of an administration currently embroiled in a conflict with Russia over the Ukraine, so, that's cool too.

And it's not just that Joe **BIDEN** is his father, it's that Joe **BIDEN** has openly pledged to help Ukraine gain "energy independence" from Russia while condemning the latter's recent annexation of the Crimean peninsula. Really, this is an awkward situation.

While it's normal for the powerful children of powerful people to be pulled onto the boards of vast multinational corporations, the fact that **BIDEN** happened to join a Ukrainian energy company in the midst of the conflict in Crimea is probably not a good idea. First, as the Russian media quickly proved, it immediately breeds speculation about Americans attempting to secure their energy interests in Ukraine. Second, the best way to spark accusations of "conflicts of interest" is by appointing a man to your board who is, literally, the spitting image of America's Vice President.

Nevertheless, the White House shot down any notion that there was a conflict of interest, telling Business Insider: "Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

The White House has a point, but either way, this is an extremely uncomfortable situation that may likely lead to "escalating conflicts" and "disintegrating relationships between Russia and the US."

Business Insider

Joe BIDEN'S Son Is Now On The Board Of One Of Ukraine's Biggest Gas Conglomerates

By: Brett Logiurato / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, has been appointed to the board of directors of Ukraine's largest private-gas producer.

The company, Burisma Holdings, announced **BIDEN'S** appointment on its website Tuesday. Burisma said **BIDEN** would be the new head of the company's legal unit.

The White House shot down any notion of a conflict of interest with Hunter **BIDEN'S** appointment. In a statement provided to Business Insider, Joe **BIDEN** spokesperson Kendra Barkoff said Hunter's appointment did not constitute an endorsement by the vice president.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company," Barkoff said. "For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, the national law firm for which Hunter **BIDEN** serves as a counsel, did not respond to a request for comment on Tuesday.

During the daily White House press briefing on Tuesday, press secretary Jay Carney said where Hunter **BIDEN** works "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration, by the president or vice president."

Hunter **BIDEN'S** appointment comes as the U.S. and much of the West has sought to help Ukraine wean off its dependence on Russia for oil and gas supplies. Last month during a trip to Kiev, the vice president pledged U.S. assistance in Ukraine's pursuit of energy independence from Russia. Ukraine and the West believe energy independence would serve as a major leverage point for Ukraine in its standoff with Russia.

In a statement released by Burisma, Hunter **BIDEN** said he believes the company will help strengthen Ukraine's floundering economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter **BIDEN** said in the statement.

Reuters

Turkey to ignore court order to pay compensation to Cyprus

By: Tulay Karadeniz and Ece Toksabay / May 13, 2014

Turkey has no plans to pay 90 million euros (\$124 million) to Cyprus as ordered by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said on Tuesday.

The money was ordered in compensation for Turkey's invasion of the island 40 years ago.

The Mediterranean island has been split since 1974 - when Turkey sent in troops after a brief Greek Cypriot coup staged by supporters of unification with Greece. It comprises a southern Greek Cypriot

state recognized worldwide and a breakaway Turkish Cypriot entity in the north recognized only by Ankara.

Davutoglu said Turkey, which is seeking to join the European Union of which Cyprus is a member, sees no obligation to pay the compensation to a country that it does not formally recognize.

"In terms of the grounds of this ruling, its method and the fact that it is considering a country that Turkey does not recognize as a counterparty, we see no necessity to make this payment," Davutoglu told reporters.

"Yesterday's ECHR ruling consists of some legal contradictions and therefore we don't see it as at all binding, in terms of payment," he said.

Cyprus brought the case to the Strasbourg-based ECHR 20 years ago, demanding financial compensation over missing Greek Cypriots, the property of displaced people and violations of other human rights.

The ECHR is responsible for adjudication of the European Convention on Human Rights, to which Turkey is a signatory via its membership of the non-EU Council of Europe.

The court ruled largely in Nicosia's favor in 2001, but took more than a decade to decide on the sum to be paid, a delay Ankara, whose aspirations to join the European Union have long been frustrated by the issue, says is aimed at undermining a fresh peace drive on the island.

"We think that this ruling has been the biggest blow to this process. If a comprehensive solution is desired, then everyone should be aware of their responsibilities. When looked at the history of this problem, the timing of this case is meaningful," Davutoglu said.

The Cyprus question has defied a small army of mediators over the years, amid disputes between estranged Greeks and Turks over power-sharing arrangements and the claims of thousands of people from both sides uprooted by the conflict.

A new round of peace talks resumed in February. U.S. Vice-President Joe **BIDEN** is expected on the island on May 21-23 to try to spur on the process, Cypriot official sources said.

"We think **BIDEN'S** visit to the island will be important and we view the U.S. interest positively. Turkey is ready to discuss this in an open-hearted way," Davutoglu said.

AFP

Kerry eyes role in Cyprus peace process

May 13, 2014

US Secretary of State John Kerry is planning to dip his toes into yet another of the world's intractable conflicts, announcing Tuesday he will visit Cyprus in the coming weeks.

Meeting with Cypriot Foreign Minister Ioannis Kasoulides at the State Department, Kerry praised the Mediterranean island's current Greek Cypriot leadership for trying to reach a "long sought-after resolution" to its four-decade division.

"We have been working on the issue of trying to find a peace for Cyprus, a reunification of the island on a bizonal, bicomunal federation," Kerry said.

Communal fighting between Greek- and Turkish Cypriots broke out in 1964, culminating 10 years later in a Turkish invasion of the northern third after a coup engineered by Greece's military dictatorship aimed at reunifying the island.

Turkish Cypriot leaders in 1983 declared a breakaway state which is recognized only by Ankara.

The two sides relaunched peace talks aimed at reunifying Cyprus in February after a two-year hiatus, with the US believed to have played a major behind-the-scenes role in helping kickstart the resumed negotiations.

But several previous rounds of talks have failed, in part because of still-raw emotions on both sides of the UN-patrolled Green Line that divides the two communities.

Kerry said the United States was "very supportive" of the resumed talks held under the auspices of the UN.

"It's my hope to be in Nicosia and perhaps in Athens somewhere in the next weeks if not early months," announced the top US diplomat, who has made the search for a Middle East peace deal his personal quest.

He said of Cyprus that "we want to try to be helpful in this process" and pointed to "new economic opportunities in the energy sector."

Kasoulides, holding his second talks at the State Department in the past 12 months, said a resolution to the Cyprus problem "is very pertinent."

"We need the assistance and interest of the international community," he stressed, adding he believed "the circumstances are appropriate to push in order to find a settlement to this chronic" problem.

US Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is to visit Cyprus later this month as part of efforts to find ways to counter what Washington sees as Russia's destabilizing actions in Ukraine.

Cyprus is seen in the White House as one of the European governments most resistant to toughening sanctions against Russia, including "sectoral" measures directly targeting Moscow's economy.

Russians have billions of dollars in euros deposited in banks in Cyprus, and the government's resistance to further sanctions threatens a joint US-European Union effort to preserve a united front in punishing Russia.

USA Today

A view from campus on sexual assaults

By: Emmaline Campbell / May 13, 2014

I know a student at the University of Chicago who was sexually assaulted by someone who lived in her dorm but did not report it for months out of fear that he would retaliate. I know another woman who was assaulted by her boyfriend and the college refused to take her complaint seriously.

When I started college four years ago, I thought I knew what campus life was all about. What I didn't know was that one in five female college students are sexually assaulted before they graduate — the estimate in a recent White House report. Sadly, that percentage hasn't changed in 20 years.

To better understand why this problem wasn't being taken more seriously at my college and so many others, I decided to explore the topic in my senior thesis. What I learned in my research and as a friend of assault victims was deeply disturbing.

On college campuses, it can be hard to find justice when students are assaulted by their classmates, their friends, or their boyfriends. While stories of assaults are plentiful, stories of perpetrators who have been held accountable are scarce.

At the University of Chicago, survivors of sexual assault have been turned away from pursuing disciplinary options against their perpetrators. The school's Disciplinary Committee has rejected other claims, leaving perpetrators on campus. Because of systematic problems, the university is under investigation by the Department of Education.

None of this should be surprising.

Colleges also can be in the difficult position of being both the prosecutor and defense attorney. If the perpetrator is also one of the college's students, the college must also provide him with assistance for the disciplinary process.

The federal agency that oversees this issue hasn't done any better. The Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR), which monitors university responses to sexual assault, has been unsuccessful because its method of dealing with universities that violate federal requirements is inherently flawed. Each investigation can take months, and it culminates in a "letter of finding" which reveals all of the violations found and all of the requirements the department will be imposing on the university to bring it into compliance.

These letters of finding could be a valuable resource for helping universities to learn from past mistakes, but they are not made readily available to the public. The department has refused to publish them online.

In light of the department's record of ineptitude, the White House's recent announcement that it would take on the issue is reason for hope. It has the clout to blow past the obstacles that have held back the Department of Education. The White House can speak directly to college students through social media, as it did last month with the YouTube video "1 is 2 Many," featuring celebrities such as actor Steve Carell and public figures such as Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

The White House can also pressure the Department of Education to finally do its job, as evidenced by its directive that the department publish — for the first time — a list of all of the colleges currently under investigation.

Those are critical first steps, but even the power of the White House can only begin to chip away at the layers of bureaucracy that have worked to silence sexual assault.

As I was working on my thesis, I was frustrated that the system was so egregiously ineffective and thousands of college students were suffering as a result. It's great to see students speaking up and the White House getting involved, but we shouldn't be complacent. We all need to take advantage of this moment to keep this issue in the spotlight.

We can't let another 20 years go by without progress.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

V POTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

[Chicago Sun-Times](#)

BIDEN headlining Durbin fundraisers today

By: Lynn Sweet / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is headlining two fundraisers in downstate Alton on Tuesday afternoon to bolster the campaign war chests Sen. Dick Durbin D-Ill. and the Democratic

[KPLR](#)

Vice President BIDEN to speak at Archgrounds

By: Anthony Kiekow / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will speak in downtown St. Louis Tuesday afternoon at 3:30.

[Plains Dealer](#)

Vice President BIDEN coming to Cleveland to promote transit program the GOP would pare back

By: Stephen Koff / May 13, 2014

When Vice President Joe **BIDEN** visits a Cleveland rapid transit station on Mayfield Rd. Wednesday, he'll promote a form of federal spending that in its broadest outlines has few opponents.

[Associated Press](#)

VP BIDEN'S son joins Ukraine gas company's board

May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine, the company announced Tuesday, as the West seeks to help Ukraine wean itself off its dependence on Russian energy.

[USA Today](#)

BIDEN'S son joins board of Ukraine gas company

By: David Jackson / May 13, 2014

Vice President **BIDEN'S** son Hunter is joining the board of a gas company that operates in Ukraine.

[Politico](#)

Hunter BIDEN to Ukraine gas board

By: Lucy McCalmont / May 13, 2014

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[The Hill](#)

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By: Justin Sink / May 13, 2014

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[ABC](#)

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[Washington Times](#)

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By: Jessica Chasmar / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN'S** youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer.

[Washington Examiner](#)

Jay Carney: Joe BIDEN'S son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

By: Susan Crabtree / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has accepted a position with Ukraine's largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the White House signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman Jay Carney said Tuesday.

[National Journal](#)

Another BIDEN Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

By: Marina Koren / May 13, 2014

Joe **BIDEN** has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only **BIDEN** involved in the region.

[International Business Times](#)

Burisma Holdings: BIDEN'S Son Joins Ukraine's Top Private Gas Company

By: Sophie Song/ May 13, 2014

The Ukrainian gas company that Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, just joined is a growing conglomerate that has been compared to "Exxon in its early days."

[Mediaite](#)

Bad Ideas in Oligarchy: BIDEN'S Son Joins Board of Ukrainian Energy Company

By: Tina Nguyen / May 13, 2014

Today, Burisma Holdings, a company that describes itself as "Ukraine's largest private gas producer," announced the newest member of its Board of Directors: R. Hunter **BIDEN**, a seasoned lawyer with extensive international business experience, will be in

charge of the company's legal unit, as well as "provide support for the Company among international organizations." His end goal: to guide the company in a manner that will "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

[Business Insider](#)

Joe BIDEN'S Son Is Now On The Board Of One Of Ukraine's Biggest Gas Conglomerates

By: Brett Logiurato / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, has been appointed to the board of directors of Ukraine's largest private-gas producer.

The company, Burisma Holdings, announced **BIDEN'S** appointment on its website Tuesday. Burisma said **BIDEN** would be the new head of the company's legal unit.

[Reuters](#)

Turkey to ignore court order to pay compensation to Cyprus

By: Tulay Karadeniz and Ece Toksabay / May 13, 2014

... A new round of peace talks resumed in February. U.S. Vice-President Joe **BIDEN** is expected on the island on May 21-23 to try to spur on the process, Cypriot official sources said.

[AFP](#)

Kerry eyes role in Cyprus peace process

May 13, 2014

... US Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is to visit Cyprus later this month as part of efforts to find ways to counter what Washington sees as Russia's destabilizing actions in Ukraine.

[USA Today](#)

A view from campus on sexual assaults

By: Emmaline Campbell / May 13, 2014

... In light of the department's record of ineptitude, the White House's recent announcement that it would take on the issue is reason for hope. It has the clout to blow past the obstacles that have held back the Department of Education. The White House can speak directly to college students through social media, as it did last month with the YouTube video "1 is 2 Many," featuring celebrities such as actor Steve Carell and public figures such as Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

[Chicago Sun-Times](#)

BIDEN headlining Durbin fundraisers today

By: Lynn Sweet / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is headlining two fundraisers in downstate Alton on Tuesday afternoon to bolster the campaign war chests Sen. Dick Durbin D-Ill. and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. Durbin is flying to Illinois and back to D.C. on **BIDEN'S** plane, with a stop in St. Louis for an official event with the vice president and

Interior Sec. Sally Jewell at the CityArchRiver project at the St. Louis Gateway Arch "to discuss the economy and highlight the progress of this future urban park site."

Last month, I reported **BIDEN** will be the draw at the Alton events for Durbin, who faces GOP nominee Illinois state Sen. Jim Oberweis R-Sugar Grove in November. DSCC chair Sen. Michael Bennet D-Col. will also be attending the high-dollar events.

I posted earlier that President Barack Obama returns to Chicago on May 22 to keynote major donor fundraising events for Durbin and the DSCC.

Today, **BIDEN** appears at a reception in Alton followed by a dinner at the home of John and Jayne Simmons.

The price points

*\$35,000 per couple to co-chair the dinner, with a photo opp.

*\$10,000 one ticket to the dinner

*\$5,000 to co-chair the general reception with a photo opp.

*\$1,000 one ticket to the reception.

KPLR

Vice President BIDEN to speak at Archgrounds

By: Anthony Kiekow / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will speak in downtown St. Louis Tuesday afternoon at 3:30.

His speech is about the economy and construction projects.

He will visit the St. Louis Gateway Arch a get a look at the renovations going on in the area.

The \$380 Million City-Arch-River project will connect the Gateway Arch to downtown St. Louis.

The new date of completion for the project is 2016.

The project was funded through federal, state, local and private funds.

The Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell will also be in attendance.

BIDEN'S speech could be a glimpse to his platform for a 2016 presidential run.

It would be **BIDEN'S** third attempt to win the office.

Plains Dealer

Vice President BIDEN coming to Cleveland to promote transit program the GOP would pare back

By: Stephen Koff / May 13, 2014

When Vice President Joe **BIDEN** visits a Cleveland rapid transit station on Mayfield Rd. Wednesday, he'll promote a form of federal spending that in its broadest outlines has few opponents.

Roads need paving. Bridges need fixing. Nearly everyone agrees.

But exactly what else counts as necessary for federal transportation spending, including a Red Line rapid station in Cleveland, is another matter.

If House of Representatives Republicans prevail, there could be much less money in the future for projects like the new Little Italy-University Circle Rapid Station, which is scheduled to open in 2015 and **BIDEN** will highlight Wednesday.

BIDEN'S Cleveland visit is part of a broader, week-long lobbying effort by the White House to draw attention to a desire to keep spending on improving infrastructure. The overarching issue – keeping the nation's roads and bridges open and safe – has wide consensus.

Even the biggest pro-business lobbying groups in Washington, such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, are spending the week much like **BIDEN** and his boss, President Barack Obama. They're holding forums and other events to tell Congress that it's time for a major new transportation bill.

The current bill expires Sept. 30, and the Highway Trust Fund, which provides the money, could run short a month earlier.

Obama is going to the construction site of the new structure that will replace the Tappan Zee Bridge, spanning New York's Hudson River, the same day as **BIDEN'S** visit to the new Little Italy-University Circle Rapid Station.

But first, **BIDEN** today will go to St. Louis and highlight a pedestrian bridge being built over a highway that separates residents and tourists from the Gateway Arch. And on Friday, the White House says, Obama will meet with workers to discuss infrastructure around Washington, D.C.

The White House says that 65 percent of the nation's major roads are rated as being in "less than good" condition and one in four bridges require significant repairs or cannot handle today's traffic.

But agreement on need is not the same as agreement on where to get the money, or on how to spend it.

Most current federal transportation projects, including money that gets funneled to state highway departments, are funded through a tax on gasoline (18.4 cents per gallon) and diesel fuel (24.4 cents per gallon). Those taxes have not been raised since 1993, although from 1993 to 1997, 4.3 cents of the gasoline tax was used for deficit reduction before being redirected to transportation projects.

The static tax is just part of the problem. Cars also get better gasoline mileage since the last hike, and with inflation, the money doesn't buy as much steel and asphalt.

So Obama would replace the expiring transit bill, called Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century, or MAP-21, with a \$302 billion, four-year bill. Obama's bill would supplement the gas tax with money from closing certain corporate tax provisions, including one that the White House and Democrats say has led to companies sheltering income overseas.

Republicans such as House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster have their own ideas -- both for annual transportation appropriations, which last a year at a time, and for a longer-term road-and-bridge improvement program.

"While Chairman Shuster respects that the Administration has put forward its own detailed proposal, the first time it has done so, he will not agree with it on all the details," said Justin Harclerode, Shuster's spokesman. "Thus far, the chairman has not elaborated on any potential differences or areas of agreement as the Transportation Committee continues to develop its surface transportation proposal."

The last big highway bill, MAP-21, authorized \$105 billion over two years, marking the first agreement on a large highway bill since 2005. A series of Band-Aid approaches, as the White House had put it, sufficed in the interim.

Many supporters, including Ohio Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, say that spending on roads helps the American economy, not only by providing road-building jobs but also by keeping the economy moving.

"Road and bridge projects don't just mean safer and less congested roads and construction jobs -- they also help attract new employers and economic development," Brown said in an email this week.

Brown said that more than 8 percent of Ohio's bridges require major repairs or replacement. He also noted the better known projects awaiting funding, such as Route 8 in Akron and the Brent Spence Bridge in Cincinnati.

Federal highway spending, however, has become a boondoggle in the eyes of some fiscal conservatives. This is where ideological groups split with those who have interests to protect.

Emily Goff, a transportation and infrastructure policy analyst at the conservative Heritage Foundation, noted that MAP-21 funds go not only to build roads and bridges but also to build recreation trails and bicycle paths. These are important to groups pushing for transportation alternatives, but they siphon money that could go for even more roads and bridges to ease considerable traffic congestion, Goff says.

Yet MAP-21 requires states to set aside money for these kinds of alternatives, Goff says, to the tune of \$27.5 million this year in Pennsylvania and \$78.9 million in Texas.

"Identifying a connection between these activities and a federal highway program concerned with interstate highway system construction and maintenance proves difficult," Goff wrote in a recent Heritage blog post. "Indeed, there is nothing federal or highway about bicycle paths, landscaping, or any of these local activities."

The RTA station in Cleveland is a project that could raise a similar question, with its emphasis on meshing light rail with development around University Circle and Little Italy. The existing station, on Euclid Avenue at E. 120th Street, is considered functionally obsolete, so the new station will be placed several blocks south, at Mayfield Road at E. 119th Street.

About \$8.9 in funding comes from highly competitive U.S. Department of Transportation grants, according to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority.

The grant money did not come MAP-21. Rather, it came from a program created under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, or the recession-era stimulus act. The transportation component of the stimulus act, called Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), gets money appropriated annually from Congress -- \$3.5 billion so far for 270 projects nationwide, including \$600 million this year, the White House says.

The TIGER program will end soon, too -- unless Obama and **BIDEN** get their way.

In that case, TIGER would become permanent, greatly expanded to \$5 billion over four years. The Obama White House wants to fold it into the next iteration of a four-year road-and-bridge bill.

House Republicans are unlikely to go along. The House appropriations subcommittee for transportation on May 6 recommended a lower sum of \$100 million for TIGER in 2015, and the GOP-led panel would further restrict TIGER grants to "projects that will address critical transportation needs, such as road, highway and bridge construction and improvement."

In other words, while money for the Little Italy-University Circle RTA station appears secure, future projects like it could go unfunded.

That is apparently why **BIDEN** is coming to Cleveland: to highlight what the money has helped build and point out what would have happened were it not there.

The White House would not comment on this in advance of the vice president's trip. In an email, White House spokesman Keith Maley said, "Members of both parties have put forward their own ideas on the Hill, and the most important thing is that we pass a long-term bill that creates jobs and provides certainty for cities, states, and businesses. It's time to get the job done."

Associated Press

VP **BIDEN**'S son joins Ukraine gas company's board May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine, the company announced Tuesday, as the West seeks to help Ukraine wean itself off its dependence on Russian energy.

Burisma Holdings said **BIDEN**, an attorney and chairman of the board of the World Food Program USA, will head the Burisma's legal unit, and will also seek support for the company among international organizations.

"I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," **BIDEN** said in a statement released by the company.

The announcement comes as Ukraine and the U.S. are looking to decrease Ukraine's reliance on Russian energy amid threats from Moscow to cut Ukraine off if it doesn't pay massive debts. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage in the crisis with Ukraine if Europe was less dependent on Russian gas.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer," said **BIDEN** spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Still, Vice President **BIDEN** has spoken frequently about the need to increase Ukraine's energy independence, including during a recent visit to Kiev. He's also a key interlocutor for the Obama administration with Kiev and other anxious nations in the region as the crisis there has unfolded.

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USA Today

BIDEN'S son joins board of Ukraine gas company

By: David Jackson / May 13, 2014

Vice President **BIDEN'S** son Hunter is joining the board of a gas company that operates in Ukraine.

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, said Hunter **BIDEN** -- an attorney -- will be in charge of its legal unit and help the company with other international organizations.

"I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," the younger **BIDEN** said in a statement.

The **BIDEN** appointment comes as the United States and allied nations try to help Ukraine reduce its dependence on Russian energy by developing other sources.

Kendra Barkoff, spokesperson for Vice President **BIDEN**, said that "Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Politico

Hunter BIDEN to Ukraine gas board

By: Lucy McCalmont / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, said in a statement, which was reported by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

BIDEN, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

BIDEN said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," **BIDEN** said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President **BIDEN** also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

The Hill

WH: BIDEN'S son to Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

By: Justin Sink / May 13, 2014

Ukraine's largest private gas producer has hired Vice President **BIDEN'S** youngest son, but White House press secretary Jay Carney insisted on Tuesday the move shouldn't be read as an official endorsement by the U.S. government.

"Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president," Carney told reporters.

The vice president's office also defended the hire.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office," said Kendra Barkoff, spokeswoman for Vice President **BIDEN**.

Burisma, which produces the equivalent of 10,500 barrels of oil daily, announced **BIDEN'S** hire in a statement earlier Tuesday.

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," said Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors.

The younger **BIDEN**, for his part, said he believed his legal and corporate advice would "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

“Burisma’s track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine,” Hunter **BIDEN** said.

But the hire could raise ethical questions — and diplomatic headaches — for the White House. During a visit to Kiev last month, the vice president discussed energy security with Ukraine's leaders, including ways the country could produce its own domestic production of natural gas.

"Imagine where you'd be today if you were able to tell Russia: keep your gas. It would be a very different world," the vice president told Ukrainian lawmakers.

The hire also came a day after Russian energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless the country prepays for its energy. That announcement has sparked fears that energy costs could strain Ukraine's fragile economy.

ABC

BIDEN’S Son Gets Ukrainian Oil Company Gig

By: Jordyn Phelps / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN’S** youngest son Hunter **BIDEN** has joined the board of directors of Ukraine’s largest oil company at a time that the U.S. is urging Ukraine to develop energy independence from Russia and just days after the vice president visited Ukraine.

The vice president’s office and the White House rejected any suggestion that there was a conflict of interest.

“Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer,” Vice President **BIDEN’S** spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff told ABC News. “The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company.”

White House spokesman Jay Carney said, “Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens and where they work ... does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president.”

According to a press release from the oil company, Burisma Holdings, **BIDEN** will help the company manage its relationships with “international organizations,” in addition to overseeing the company’s legal unit.

“Burisma’s track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine,” Hunter **BIDEN** said in a statement.

“As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine,” he said.

BIDEN, a graduate of Yale Law School, is a counsel to the New York-based law firm Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP and serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service

Washington Times

Joe **BIDEN’S** son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine’s largest private gas company

By: Jessica Chasmar / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN’S** youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine’s largest private gas producer.

Burisma Holdings said in a statement that Hunter **BIDEN** will be in charge of the company’s legal unit and will provide support for the company among international organizations.

“Burisma’s track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine,” Mr. **BIDEN** said.

“As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine,” he said.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said Tuesday that Mr. **BIDEN’S** new position “does not reflect an endorsement by the administration,” Time magazine’s Zeke Miller reported.

The announcement comes just one day after Russia’s state energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless the country pays in advance for supplies.

The vice president has condemned Russia for its intervention in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy, The Moscow Times reported.

Washington Examiner

Jay Carney: Joe BIDEN'S son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

By: Susan Crabtree / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has accepted a position with Ukraine's largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the White House signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman Jay Carney said Tuesday.

Burisma Holdings announced Tuesday that Hunter **BIDEN, BIDEN'S** youngest son, would serve on the company's board of directors.

The company in a news release on its website said Hunter **BIDEN** will be in charge of the Burisma's legal unit and will "provide support" among international organizations. The Moscow Times first reported the news Tuesday.

Asked about the hiring by a reporter Tuesday, Carney referred questions about it to the vice president's office and noted that it did not indicate that Obama was involved or approved of it.

"Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the family are obviously private citizens and where they work is not an endorsement by the president or vice president," he said.

Kendra Barkoff, a spokeswoman for the vice president, did not respond to questions about whether Hunter **BIDEN** discussed the job with his father or sought his approval before accepting it.

Instead, she echoed Carney's earlier statement and referred questions to Hunter **BIDEN'S** New York law office.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer," she said. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

A spokeswoman for Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York where Hunter **BIDEN** works, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Amid the escalating tensions between Ukraine and Russia in recent weeks, the European Commission, the executive body of the European Union, has tried to step in to try to prevent Russia from halting natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless it pays \$3.5 billion in debts.

Ukraine has so far refused to pay in protest of Moscow's decision to nearly double the price it charges Kiev for gas imports.

In the company's release, Alan Apter, the chairman of the company's board of directors, said: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

In addition to his work at the New York law firm, Hunter also is a co-founder and a managing partner of investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and serves as director of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, a network of 400 businesses, nonprofits and foreign policy experts, and the chairman of the advisory board for the National Democratic Institute, a non-profit that works to support democratic institutions and elections around the world.

National Journal

Another BIDEN Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

By: Marina Koren / May 13, 2014

Joe **BIDEN** has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only **BIDEN** involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from

the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

The vice president's office released a statement Tuesday afternoon saying that the elder **BIDEN** "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

It's unclear whether the entry of another **BIDEN** into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

International Business Times

Burisma Holdings: BIDEN'S Son Joins Ukraine's Top Private Gas Company

By: Sophie Song/ May 13, 2014

The Ukrainian gas company that Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, just joined is a growing conglomerate that has been compared to "Exxon in its early days."

Burisma Holdings announced on Tuesday that the younger **BIDEN** will join the company as the head of its legal unit.

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, said in a statement featured as a top story on the company's home page.

Burisma is a private oil and gas company founded in 2002, under joint activity agreements with Ukrainian state-owned producers, and quickly grew to become the largest private gas producer in Ukraine. The company's output stood at an average daily output of 10.5 million cubic meters barrels of oil equivalent per day in September 2013, and could double that figure within two years. All of the company's gas is sold to industrial customers in Ukraine.

BIDEN is not the only well-connected American to join the company - just a few weeks ago, when the vice president made an official trip to Ukraine, Burisma appointed one of Hunter's business partners, Devon Archer, to its board. Archer is a wealthy investor and Democratic campaign fundraiser with long ties to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. Archer was an advisor to Kerry's presidential campaign in 2004 and co-chaired Kerry's National Finance Committee. Upon his appointment to Burisma, Archer said that the energy conglomerate reminded him of "Exxon in its early days."

The company's portfolio of licenses is well-diversified across all three of Ukraine's key hydrocarbon basins – Dnieper-Donets, Carpathian and Azov-Kuban, and its fields are fully connected to the major gas pipelines in the country, allowing Burisma to keep the cost of production relatively efficient.

Natural gas is the largest energy source in Ukraine, accounting for 38 percent of total primary energy production during 2011. The country relies on Russia's gas company Gasprom currently to satisfy its energy needs, but will aim to reduce that dependency in coming years, and Burisma is well-positioned to boost its share of the domestic market.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," **BIDEN** said regarding his new appointment.

Mediaite

Bad Ideas in Oligarchy: BIDEN'S Son Joins Board of Ukrainian Energy Company By: Tina Nguyen / May 13, 2014

Today, Burisma Holdings, a company that describes itself as "Ukraine's largest private gas producer," announced the newest member of its Board of Directors: R. Hunter **BIDEN**, a seasoned lawyer with extensive international business experience, will be in charge of the company's legal unit, as well as "provide support for the Company among international organizations." His end goal: to guide the company in a manner that will "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

BIDEN also has a prominent dad who's part of an administration currently embroiled in a conflict with Russia over the Ukraine, so, that's cool too.

And it's not just that Joe **BIDEN** is his father, it's that Joe **BIDEN** has openly pledged to help Ukraine gain "energy independence" from Russia while condemning the latter's recent annexation of the Crimean peninsula. Really, this is an awkward situation.

While it's normal for the powerful children of powerful people to be pulled onto the boards of vast multinational corporations, the fact that **BIDEN** happened to join a Ukrainian energy company in the midst of the conflict in Crimea is probably not a good

idea. First, as the Russian media quickly proved, it immediately breeds speculation about Americans attempting to secure their energy interests in Ukraine. Second, the best way to spark accusations of “conflicts of interest” is by appointing a man to your board who is, literally, the spitting image of America’s Vice President.

Nevertheless, the White House shot down any notion that there was a conflict of interest, telling Business Insider: “Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company.”

The White House has a point, but either way, this is an extremely uncomfortable situation that may likely lead to “escalating conflicts” and “disintegrating relationships between Russia and the US.”

Business Insider

Joe **BIDEN’S** Son Is Now On The Board Of One Of Ukraine's Biggest Gas Conglomerates

By: Brett Logiurato / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, has been appointed to the board of directors of Ukraine's largest private-gas producer.

The company, Burisma Holdings, announced **BIDEN’S** appointment on its website Tuesday. Burisma said **BIDEN** would be the new head of the company's legal unit.

The White House shot down any notion of a conflict of interest with Hunter **BIDEN’S** appointment. In a statement provided to Business Insider, Joe **BIDEN** spokesperson Kendra Barkoff said Hunter's appointment did not constitute an endorsement by the vice president.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company," Barkoff said. "For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter’s office."

Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, the national law firm for which Hunter **BIDEN** serves as a counsel, did not respond to a request for comment on Tuesday.

During the daily White House press briefing on Tuesday, press secretary Jay Carney said where Hunter **BIDEN** works "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration, by the president or vice president."

Hunter **BIDEN’S** appointment comes as the U.S. and much of the West has sought to help Ukraine wean off its dependence on Russia for oil and gas supplies. Last month during a trip to Kiev, the vice president pledged U.S. assistance in Ukraine's pursuit of energy independence from Russia. Ukraine and the West believe energy independence would serve as a major leverage point for Ukraine in its standoff with Russia.

In a statement released by Burisma, Hunter **BIDEN** said he believes the company will help strengthen Ukraine's floundering economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter **BIDEN** said in the statement.

Reuters

Turkey to ignore court order to pay compensation to Cyprus **By: Tulay Karadeniz and Ece Toksabay / May 13, 2014**

Turkey has no plans to pay 90 million euros (\$124 million) to Cyprus as ordered by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said on Tuesday.

The money was ordered in compensation for Turkey's invasion of the island 40 years ago.

The Mediterranean island has been split since 1974 - when Turkey sent in troops after a brief Greek Cypriot coup staged by supporters of unification with Greece. It comprises a southern Greek Cypriot state recognized worldwide and a breakaway Turkish Cypriot entity in the north recognized only by Ankara.

Davutoglu said Turkey, which is seeking to join the European Union of which Cyprus is a member, sees no obligation to pay the compensation to a country that it does not formally recognize.

"In terms of the grounds of this ruling, its method and the fact that it is considering a country that Turkey does not recognize as a counterparty, we see no necessity to make this payment," Davutoglu told reporters.

"Yesterday's ECHR ruling consists of some legal contradictions and therefore we don't see it as at all binding, in terms of payment," he said.

Cyprus brought the case to the Strasbourg-based ECHR 20 years ago, demanding financial compensation over missing Greek Cypriots, the property of displaced people and violations of other human rights.

The ECHR is responsible for adjudication of the European Convention on Human Rights, to which Turkey is a signatory via its membership of the non-EU Council of Europe.

The court ruled largely in Nicosia's favor in 2001, but took more than a decade to decide on the sum to be paid, a delay Ankara, whose aspirations to join the European Union have long been frustrated by the issue, says is aimed at undermining a fresh peace drive on the island.

"We think that this ruling has been the biggest blow to this process. If a comprehensive solution is desired, then everyone should be aware of their responsibilities. When looked at the history of this problem, the timing of this case is meaningful," Davutoglu said.

The Cyprus question has defied a small army of mediators over the years, amid disputes between estranged Greeks and Turks over power-sharing arrangements and the claims of thousands of people from both sides uprooted by the conflict.

A new round of peace talks resumed in February. U.S. Vice-President Joe **BIDEN** is expected on the island on May 21-23 to try to spur on the process, Cypriot official sources said.

"We think **BIDEN'S** visit to the island will be important and we view the U.S. interest positively. Turkey is ready to discuss this in an open-hearted way," Davutoglu said.

AFP

Kerry eyes role in Cyprus peace process May 13, 2014

US Secretary of State John Kerry is planning to dip his toes into yet another of the world's intractable conflicts, announcing Tuesday he will visit Cyprus in the coming weeks.

Meeting with Cypriot Foreign Minister Ioannis Kasoulides at the State Department, Kerry praised the Mediterranean island's current Greek Cypriot leadership for trying to reach a "long sought-after resolution" to its four-decade division.

"We have been working on the issue of trying to find a peace for Cyprus, a reunification of the island on a bizonal, bicomunal federation," Kerry said.

Communal fighting between Greek- and Turkish Cypriots broke out in 1964, culminating 10 years later in a Turkish invasion of the northern third after a coup engineered by Greece's military dictatorship aimed at reunifying the island.

Turkish Cypriot leaders in 1983 declared a breakaway state which is recognized only by Ankara.

The two sides relaunched peace talks aimed at reunifying Cyprus in February after a two-year hiatus, with the US believed to have played a major behind-the-scenes role in helping kickstart the resumed negotiations.

But several previous rounds of talks have failed, in part because of still-raw emotions on both sides of the UN-patrolled Green Line that divides the two communities.

Kerry said the United States was "very supportive" of the resumed talks held under the auspices of the UN.

"It's my hope to be in Nicosia and perhaps in Athens somewhere in the next weeks if not early months," announced the top US diplomat, who has made the search for a Middle East peace deal his personal quest.

He said of Cyprus that "we want to try to be helpful in this process" and pointed to "new economic opportunities in the energy sector."

Kasoulides, holding his second talks at the State Department in the past 12 months, said a resolution to the Cyprus problem "is very pertinent."

"We need the assistance and interest of the international community," he stressed, adding he believed "the circumstances are appropriate to push in order to find a settlement to this chronic" problem.

US Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is to visit Cyprus later this month as part of efforts to find ways to counter what Washington sees as Russia's destabilizing actions in Ukraine.

Cyprus is seen in the White House as one of the European governments most resistant to toughening sanctions against Russia, including "sectoral" measures directly targeting Moscow's economy.

Russians have billions of dollars in euros deposited in banks in Cyprus, and the government's resistance to further sanctions threatens a joint US-European Union effort to preserve a united front in punishing Russia.

USA Today

A view from campus on sexual assaults

By: Emmaline Campbell / May 13, 2014

I know a student at the University of Chicago who was sexually assaulted by someone who lived in her dorm but did not report it for months out of fear that he would retaliate. I know another woman who was assaulted by her boyfriend and the college refused to take her complaint seriously.

When I started college four years ago, I thought I knew what campus life was all about. What I didn't know was that one in five female college students are sexually assaulted before they graduate — the estimate in a recent White House report. Sadly, that percentage hasn't changed in 20 years.

To better understand why this problem wasn't being taken more seriously at my college and so many others, I decided to explore the topic in my senior thesis. What I learned in my research and as a friend of assault victims was deeply disturbing.

On college campuses, it can be hard to find justice when students are assaulted by their classmates, their friends, or their boyfriends. While stories of assaults are plentiful, stories of perpetrators who have been held accountable are scarce.

At the University of Chicago, survivors of sexual assault have been turned away from pursuing disciplinary options against their perpetrators. The school's Disciplinary Committee has rejected other claims, leaving perpetrators on campus. Because of systematic problems, the university is under investigation by the Department of Education.

None of this should be surprising.

Colleges also can be in the difficult position of being both the prosecutor and defense attorney. If the perpetrator is also one of the college's students, the college must also provide him with assistance for the disciplinary process.

The federal agency that oversees this issue hasn't done any better. The Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR), which monitors university responses to sexual assault, has been unsuccessful because its method of dealing with universities that violate federal requirements is inherently flawed. Each investigation can take months, and it culminates in a "letter of finding" which reveals all of the violations found and all of the requirements the department will be imposing on the university to bring it into compliance.

These letters of finding could be a valuable resource for helping universities to learn from past mistakes, but they are not made readily available to the public. The department has refused to publish them online.

In light of the department's record of ineptitude, the White House's recent announcement that it would take on the issue is reason for hope. It has the clout to blow past the obstacles that have held back the Department of Education. The White House can speak directly to college students through social media, as it did last month with the YouTube video "1 is 2 Many," featuring celebrities such as actor Steve Carell and public figures such as Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

The White House can also pressure the Department of Education to finally do its job, as evidenced by its directive that the department publish — for the first time — a list of all of the colleges currently under investigation.

Those are critical first steps, but even the power of the White House can only begin to chip away at the layers of bureaucracy that have worked to silence sexual assault.

As I was working on my thesis, I was frustrated that the system was so egregiously ineffective and thousands of college students were suffering as a result. It's great to see students speaking up and the White House getting involved, but we shouldn't be complacent. We all need to take advantage of this moment to keep this issue in the spotlight.

We can't let another 20 years go by without progress.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 8:08 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Ricchetti, Steven; Lambros, Demetra; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Ricchetti, Steven; Barkoff, Kendra; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Prescott, Jeffrey
Subject: Re: Russian Television

What a charming letter!

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 07:55 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Ricchetti, Steven; Lambros, Demetra; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Russian Television

From: Усенко Наталья Валерьевна [mailto:NUsenko@ntv.ru]
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 07:13 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Russian Television

Dear Ms. Barkoff,

NTV Russian Television and a Central Television program send you best regards and kindly ask your assistance.

Central Television program with Vadim Takmenev is the 1st news program combining all TV genres. The program presents the real life, political, social and cultural events. In our program took part a lot of famous persons of show-business and politics: Tom Cruise, Angelina Jolie, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Daniel Craig, Lara Fabian, Alain Delon, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Jackie Chan, Benicio Del Toro, Til Schweiger, Vin Diesel, James Cameron, Lars von Trier, Scarlett Johansson, Daniel Radcliffe, Stephen Fry, Vladimir Putin, Dmitry Medvedev.

Mr. Hunter Biden has recently become a member of Committee of Directors of Burisma company. We would like to congratulate him and wish him good luck! Would you be so kind to help us to organize an interview with Mr. Joseph Biden so that he could tell us his attitude towards and tell us if it will influence the foreign policy of the USA. We would like to organize this shooting this week (May, 15 – 16) any time and place suitable for Mr. Biden as our program will be on air this Saturday (May, 17). Thank you and looking forward your answer!

Sincerely,
Natalya Usenko
Producer
+7 964 537 38 77(cell)
+7 495 617 90 47(f)

NUsenko@ntv.ru
solinoNU@gmail.com
www.ntv.ru

NTV Broadcasting Company is the largest non-governmental TV-network in Russia. It covers the audience of approx. 100 million people in countries of former Soviet Union. It is also the main Russian language channel broadcasted all over the world via satellite. NTV journalists interviewed George Bush, Condoleezza Rice, John Ashcroft, James Baker, Mikhail Gorbachev, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Ariel Sharon, Mikhail Saakashvili, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Paul McCartney, Madonna, Nicole Kidman and many others. NTV covers all main political, social and cultural events every day and brings the top news stories from around the world which are produced by dedicated staff in Moscow working with colleagues at NTV's world bureaus worldwide including New York, London, Berlin, Brussels, Paris, Kyiv etc.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Mackler, Alexander <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r._bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian.j._woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Twigg, Carri <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Anderson, David <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Graves, Don <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Gleeson, James <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Noblitt, Karly <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern) <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@who.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Stennis, Michael <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; Berlenbach, Sarah <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti,

Cc:

Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Nourse, Victoria <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>; >; Timko, Rachel </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel.m.350>; >; Stackpole, Avra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra.w.f8f>; >; Rosenthal, Lynn </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>; >; Ricchetti, Steven </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven.j.534>; >; Amin, Faisal </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, faisal.c7c>; >; Lienemann, David C. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>; >; Tejada, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=josetejada55772522>; >; Kaye, Melanie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=melanie_a.kaye>; >; Mackler, Alexander </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=mackler, alexander.s.snyder-mackler_a2377>; >; Gleeson, James </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=gleeson, james.m.gleeson.j20f> (Intern); >; Escudero, Adrian V. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=adrianv.escudero11120257>; >; Hill, Patricia </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hill, patricia.j.6b5>; >; Person, Anne </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=person, anne.m.aae>; >; Zikusoka, David N. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidn.zikusoka74383180>; >; Stennis, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stennis, michael.j.stennis.me93>; >; Edwards, Hannah E. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=edwards, hannah.e.bc9>; >; Nourse, Victoria </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nourse, victoria.f.nourse.vb11>; >; Freeman, Gary </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=freeman, gary.d.653>; >; Hertz, Jessica R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hertz, jessica.r.562>; >; Murray, Shailagh </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=shailagh.murray>; >; Berner, Katherine </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berner, katherine.k.f0e>; >; Lysaght, Patrick J </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13193785c4>; >; Schultz, Gregory </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schultz, gregory.c.084>; >; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=zeigler-brown, cortez.r.075>; > (Intern); Schrum, Evan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schrum, evan.m.schrum.ea9f>; >; Donley, Julia M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_132187096e>; >; McNellis, Kerry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kerry.j.mcnellis1>; >; Berlenbach, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berlenbach, sarah.f.berlenbach.sf948>; >; Hornbrook, Alex </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=alexhornbrook51765131>; >; Picos, Francisco </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=picos, francisco.c.412>; >; Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey.l.c25>; >; Clark, Katisha A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13209188d2>; >; Eaton, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarahfletcher70386533>; >; Hart, Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth.a.ffe>; >; Joseph, Jeremy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=joseph, jeremyc15>; >; Carpenter, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=carpenter, michael.r.7b8>; >; McNulty, Thomas P. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thomasp.mcnulty41242486>; >; Flynn, John S </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_1318036>; >; Suber, Kellen C. </o=eop/ou=exchange

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, October 22, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:54:34 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barry, Benjamin G <barrybg@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 6:13 AM
To: Kyiv, Sitrep
Subject: (SBU) Ukraine Crisis Situation Report #289: Wednesday, May 14, 13:00
Attachments: sitrep 289 20140514.docx

(SBU) Ukraine Crisis Situation Report #289: Wednesday, May 14, 13:00
This is an unclassified product. Some information may be unconfirmed.

Summary: This afternoon, the GOU will launch the first of its national unity roundtables at the Rada. Originally, the GOU wanted to limit foreign representatives but at the last minute extended invites to the U.S., EU and Russia. Luhansk People's Republic governor Bolotov survived an assassination attempt. Six Ukrainian soldiers were killed and nine wounded on May 13 when their armored column was ambushed by pro-Russian separatists near the eastern Ukrainian town of Kramatorsk. The Central Election Commission disqualified Lesya Orobets and one other candidate from the Kyiv mayor's race. **End Summary.**

National Roundtable

--First national unity roundtable will open at the Rada today at 16:30. Former presidents of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk and Leonid Kuchma, PM Yatseniuk, ministers and MPs, presidential candidates, heads of the regional administrations and regional councils, representatives of the local government agencies, scientists, representatives of the religious organizations, public and international organizations and public figures are invited to participate in the work of the roundtable. Former President Yushchenko's spokesperson complained that the former President was not invited.
http://lb.ua/news/2014/05/13/266274_rade_vtornik_sostoitsya_krugliy.html
<http://www.unian.net/politics/917407-zavtra-v-rade-sostoitsya-zasedanie-kruglogo-stola-natsionalnogo-edinstva.html>

--Merkel says that pro-Russian separatists may participate in the national dialogue if they stop violence
http://zn.ua/POLITICS/merkel-dopuskaet-uchastie-separatistov-v-kruglom-stole-obse-144965_.html

Eastern Ukraine

--Russian media reports that there was an attempt to kill the leader of Luhansk People's Republic Bolotov.
<http://www.pravda.com.ua/news/2014/05/13/7025222/>
http://lb.ua/news/2014/05/13/266275_luganske_strelyali_narodnogo.html

--Gunmen force Horlivka Mayor to resign.
<http://korrespondent.net/ukraine/politics/3362251-vooruzhennye-luidy-zastavyly-mera-horlovky-uity-v-otstavku>

--Self-proclaimed Governor of Donetsk oblast Gubarev creates his own political party "Novorossia"
<http://www.unian.net/politics/917617-samoprovozglashennyiy-gubernator-gubarev-sozdaet-svoyu-partiyu.html>

--PGO granted relief from criminal responsibility to three separatists who voluntarily gave up weapons
<http://www.pravda.com.ua/news/2014/05/14/7025300/>

--Lviv journalist Yuriy Leliavsky has been freed following a two week-long period of captivity in Sloviansk in Ukraine's Donetsk region. <https://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/journalist-leliavsky-returns-to-lviv-after-sloviansk-captivity-347587.html>

--Separatists keep injured representative of presidential candidate Lyashko Oleksiy Demko in captivity and do not provide him with medical assistance

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--Sloviansk and Donetsk concerned the cities are running out of food products

http://society.lb.ua/life/2014/05/14/266340_magazinah_slavyanskaya_zakonchilis.html

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--6 Ukrainian servicemen killed, 9 wounded in a fight with separatists near Kramatorsk.

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--Terrorists attack military unit in Budennovsk (Donetsk).

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--Two militiamen were kidnapped in Artemivsk

<http://www.unian.net/politics/917644-v-artemovske-terroristy-pohitili-dvuh-militsionerov.html>

--Head of anti-terrorist operation Krutov says that more than 20 thousand former law enforcement officers decided to return to military service

http://lb.ua/news/2014/05/13/266319_krutov_20_tis.html

--The OSCE SMM noticed about 100 Ukrainian military personnel at the Mariupol airport building on the side of the airfield. There were about 4 small trucks at the spot. One was parked very close to the airport building. In Krasnoarmiysk (75 km north-west of Donetsk) SMM noticed two checkpoints manned with Ukrainian armed forces; more armoured personal carriers and soldiers were observed. According to the acting Head of the City Police two men were shot dead during the incidents near the City Hall on May 11. On the same day the Police Office in Krasnoarmiysk was attacked by around 20 unidentified armed men, the Police informed SMM. In Khartsyzk (20 km east of Donetsk) SMM observed the occupied city hall, barricades around the main entrance to the building and the "Donetsk People's Republic" and Russian flags were seen. Artillery shelling of the northern outskirts of Kramatorsk (105 km north from Donetsk) from beside the Sloviansk TV Tower on 12 May was confirmed to SMM by both the Ukrainian military and Kramatorsk "People's Militia" (the latter being a group opposed to the central authorities). Damage caused by the shelling was presented to the SMM. It is however impossible to unambiguously identify which side conducted the shelling. (Further reports of shelling at/near civilian

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-- Ukrainians have donated UAH 119.3 million to the Ukrainian Armed Forces and most of this money will be used to buy material and technical equipment.

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<http://www.unian.net/politics/917612-tsik-snyala-orobets-s-vyiborov-mera-stolitsyi.html>

<http://podrobnosti.ua/power/2014/05/14/975854.html>

--According to Donetsk Oblast governor Serhiy Taruta, Slovyansk is the only place where the government may fail to organize the presidential elections. “We have 2425 polling stations and separatists do not have enough resources to block them.” He said that Mariupol where employees of Metinvest started patrolling the streets is one example that can be used in other cities.

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<http://news.liga.net/news/politics/1720962->

[v-donbasse-podgotovka-k-vyboram-sryvaetsya-tolko-v-slavyanske-oga.htm](http://news.liga.net/news/politics/1720962-v-donbasse-podgotovka-k-vyboram-sryvaetsya-tolko-v-slavyanske-oga.htm)

--Former Parliamentary Speaker Lytvyn, said the presidential candidates ought to agree that Ukraine’s May 25 elections should have only one round. <http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/204521.html>

--As of May 13, a total of 812 election observers are registered for the May 25 vote, according to Central Election Commission data. Fifty-six are country representatives, and 758 are from international organizations.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/election-observers-deployed-for-may-25-election-amid-pro-russian-separatist-movement-in-donbas-347648.html>

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Petro Poroshenko said Ukraine is preparing 17 international lawsuits with regard to Russia's annexation of Crimea. <http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/poroshenko-plans-to-sue-russia-in-international-courts-347663.html>

Odesa

-- The Rada passed a resolution to set up an interim parliamentary commission to investigate the murders of civilians in Odesa, Mariupol, Krasnoarmiisk and other cities in the country's

southeast. <http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/vekhovna-rada-sets-up-interim-commission-to-probe-murders-in-southeast-ukraine-347676.html>

--An improvised explosive device stuffed with nuts and bolts, destroyed an ATM and the doors of one of the Privat Bank offices in Odesa. <http://dumskaya.net/news/v-odesse-pytilis-vzorvat-esche-odno-otdelenie-pr-035669/>

Other

--Significant media interest in Hunter Biden joining Burisma Holdings.

<https://twitter.com/cjchivers/status/466514461311127552>

--Symonenko plans to file a defamation suit against Turchinov

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--Approximately 100 people picket the Rada demanding the Law on Lustration

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--13 gunmen were detained in Boryspil, Kyiv oblast

http://society.lb.ua/accidents/2014/05/13/266335_borispol_e_zaderzhali_vooruzhennih.html

--SBU found a self-made explosive device and almost 9 kg of TNT downtown Ternopil

<http://www.unian.net/politics/917725-sbu-obnarujila-taynik-s-pochti-9-kg-trotila-v-starom-dome-v-tsentre-ternopolya.html>

--European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighborhood Policy Stefan Fule will visit Ukraine on May 15.

Key Statistics

- East Ukraine Building Occupation Update: 28 buildings in Donetsk; 7 buildings in Luhansk.
 - Donetsk: oblast state administration, 13 local councils/admin buildings, 4 SBU HQ, 4 MOI, 2 PGO, 1 TV/Radio company, 1 post office, 1 TV tower.
 - Luhansk: oblast state administration, 4 local administration buildings, SBU, UAF recruitment center.

Missing/Disappearances/Hostages:

- Policemen Jaroslav Mezhennaya Leonid Brovkin kidnapped in Artemivsk.
- National Union of Film Makers of Ukraine reports that their colleague film maker Oleh Sentsov, who openly participated in the protests on Maidan, was detained by Russian special service officers in Simferopol at 4 am on May 11.
- Makiyivka: Oleksiy Demko, representative of Oleh Tyahnybok presidential's campaign abducted.(5/8)
- Luhansk: On April 28, pro-Russian separatists captured the head of the MOI's local anti-terrorism unit, Timur Yuldashev; he is held in the Luhansk SBU building.
- Luhansk: Mikhail Logvinenko, held in SBU building (5/10)
- Slavyanoserbsk (Luhansk oblast) head of the police held by pro-Russian activists (5/5).
- Krasnoarmeysk: on 4/29, separatists kidnap unnamed council member

- Konstantinovka: on 4/29, separatists kidnap council member Yaroslav Malanchuk; his kidnapping confirmed by his party Svoboda. Artem Popyk another Svoboda member also kidnapped 4/30 according to Svoboda.
- Kramatorsk: Two policemen released on 4/30 (Andrei Redko and Vladimir Mishchenko). Chief of Police, Interior Minister Col. Vitaliy Kolupai (4/21)
- Donetsk: A member of the of Donetsk Regional Election Commission (4/30). Mykola Yakubovysch, activist and leader of local pro-Ukraine self-defense (whereabouts unknown) 5/2.
- Miner Oleksandr Gurov, a member of the local city council from the Defenders of the Motherland Party Kostyantyn Musiyenko and an unknown man, are still being held (5/4)
- Mykola Yakubovysch, a Donetsk activist and one of the leaders of the local pro-Ukrainian self-defense, subsequently released. (5/2 – 5/5)
- Two members of district election commissions: Yaroslav Malanchuk, a member of a district election commission Krasnoarmiysk from the right-wing Svoboda party, and Artem Popyk, head of the local Svoboda organization, were kidnapped in Kostiantynivka
- Kramatorsk chief of police, Interior Ministry Colonel Vitaliy Kolupai (4/21)
- Two unidentified Ukrainian officers reportedly held by militants (5/7). Three others reportedly released same day.
- Slovyansk: SBU claims 40 people are in captivity; below is a list gathered from open sources:
 - Police officers Vitaliy Benko and Oleg Zaitsev (4/29). Kidnapped in Kramatorsk but media report they are being held in Slovyansk
 - Three SBU officers: Major Serhiy Potiomyky, Captain Eugeniy Verinsky, Lt. Col. Rostyslave Kyjashko (4/27)
 - Journalists: Irma Krat (4/20), Serhiy Shapoval (4/26)
 - Theater Director Pavel Yurov and Denis Grishchuk (4/25)
 - Slovyansk city councilmen Vadym Sukhonos (4/23)
 - Slovyansk police chief and Lt. Col Oleg Prokhorov (4/19) (no confirmation from separatists they are holding him)
- Released:
 - Artemivsk: Russian journalist Paul Kanygin (5/11-5/12)
 - Slovyansk: Yuriy Leliavsky (4/26-5/13),
 - 7 Red Cross Volunteers (5/9)
 - Swedish member of VDOC team (4/25-4/28)
 - Two members of the SMM team were detained for three hours in Yenakievo on 4/28
 - Journalist Simon Ostrovsky (4/21-4/24)
 - Nellya Shtepa, mayor (4/18-4/30)
 - Journalists Mike Giglio, Olena Glazunova, Clarissa Ward, Erin Lyall, Andy Stevenson, Geoff Maberley, Stuart Ramsay, Barnaby Greem, Oleg Malko and Oleksandr Pustovit. (5/2)
 - Journalist Yevhen Hapych (4/22-4/25)
 - Journalist Sergei Lefter (4/16-5/7) Artem Deynega (4/13-5/2)
 - Yuriy Zahrebelny, prosecutor of Slovyansk (4/22)
 - Paul Gogo, Kossimo Attanasio, Dmitry Galko (4/21)
 - Oleksiy Bida and Anna Mokrousova, in Luhansk (5/3 – 5/3)
 - Seven international members of the VDOC observation team (4 Germans, 1 Dane, 1 Pole, and 1 Czech) (4/25-5/3)
 - Ukrainian VDOC team: five Ukrainian military escorts, one interpreter, one police officer (4/25-5/3)

- Donetsk: Oleksandr Vovk, a member of the local city council from the Communist party of Ukraine Oleg Bubich and a member of the local city council from the Party of Regions Valeriy Pavlyk , were released on May 5. Each of them has the signs of torture, according to the press service of the Confederation of Free Trade Unions of Ukraine.
- Andriy Redko and Volodymyr Mischenko, were kidnapped in Kramatorsk by pro-Russian militants after they refused to take separatist's side, according to the Ukrainian Interior Ministry's press office. They were transported to the regional SBU headquarters in Sloviansk (4/29-5/2)
- Pro-Russian militants release three unidentified Ukrainian security personnel.
- Killed:
 - Horlivka councilman Rybak;
 - Maidan activist Yury Popravko;
 - another found later in the same place but as yet unidentified, possibly Yuriy Diadkovsky, 25-year old student from Stryi, Lviv Oblast, an active Euromaidan participant
 - EuroMaidan activist Valeriy Salo was burned alive in his car
 - Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Moscow Patriarchy priest (5/9)

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

(SBU) Ukraine Crisis Situation Report #289: Wednesday, May 14, 13:00

This is an unclassified product. Some information may be unconfirmed.

Summary: This afternoon, the GOU will launch the first of its national unity roundtables at the Rada. Originally, the GOU wanted to limit foreign representatives but at the last minute extended invites to the U.S., EU and Russia. Luhansk People's Republic governor Bolotov survived an assassination attempt. Six Ukrainian soldiers were killed and nine wounded on May 13 when their armored column was ambushed by pro-Russian separatists near the eastern Ukrainian town of Kramatorsk. The Central Election Commission disqualified Lesya Orobets and one other candidate from the Kyiv mayor's race.
End Summary.

National Roundtable

--First national unity roundtable will open at the Rada today at 16:30. Former presidents of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk and Leonid Kuchma, PM Yatseniuk, ministers and MPs, presidential candidates, heads of the regional administrations and regional councils, representatives of the local government agencies, scientists, representatives of the religious organizations, public and international organizations and public figures are invited to participate in the work of the roundtable. Former President Yushchenko's spokesperson complained that the former President was not invited.

http://lb.ua/news/2014/05/13/266274_rade_vtornik_sostoitsya_krugliy.html

<http://www.unian.net/politics/917407-zavtra-v-rade-sostoitsya-zasedanie-kruglogo-stolatsionalnogo-edinstva.html>

--Merkel says that pro-Russian separatists may participate in the national dialogue if they stop violence

http://zn.ua/POLITICS/merkel-dopuskaet-uchastie-separatistov-v-kruglom-stole-obse-144965_.html

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- East Ukraine Building Occupation Update: 28 buildings in Donetsk; 7 buildings in Luhansk.
 - Donetsk: oblast state administration, 13 local councils/admin buildings, 4 SBU HQ, 4 MOI, 2 PGO, 1 TV/Radio company, 1 post office, 1 TV tower.
 - Luhansk: oblast state administration, 4 local administration buildings, SBU, UAF recruitment center.

Missing/Disappearances/Hostages:

- Policemen Jaroslav Mezhennaya Leonid Brovkin kidnapped in Artemivsk.
- National Union of Film Makers of Ukraine reports that their colleague film maker Oleh Sentsov, who openly participated in the protests on Maidan, was detained by Russian special service officers in Simferopol at 4 am on May 11.
- Makiyivka: Oleksiy Demko, representative of Oleh Tyahnybok presidential's campaign abducted.(5/8)
- Luhansk: On April 28, pro-Russian separatists captured the head of the MOI's local anti-terrorism unit, Timur Yuldashev; he is held in the Luhansk SBU building.
- Luhansk: Mikhail Logvinenko, held in SBU building (5/10)
- Slavyanoserbsk (Luhansk oblast) head of the police held by pro-Russian activists (5/5).
- Krasnoarmeysk: on 4/29, separatists kidnap unnamed council member
- Konstantinovka: on 4/29, separatists kidnap council member Yaroslav Malanchuk; his kidnapping confirmed by his party Svoboda. Artem Popyk another Svoboda member also kidnapped 4/30 according to Svoboda.
- Kramatorsk: Two policemen released on 4/30 (Andrei Redko and Vladimir Mishchenko). Chief of Police, Interior Minister Col. Vitaliy Kolupai (4/21)
- Donetsk: A member of the of Donetsk Regional Election Commission (4/30). Mykola Yakubovysch, activist and leader of local pro-Ukraine self-defense (whereabouts unknown) 5/2.
- Miner Oleksandr Gurov, a member of the local city council from the Defenders of the Motherland Party Kostyantyn Musiyenko and an unknown man, are still being held (5/4)
- Mykola Yakubovysch, a Donetsk activist and one of the leaders of the local pro-Ukrainian self-defense, subsequently released. (5/2 – 5/5)
- Two members of district election commissions: Yaroslav Malanchuk, a member of a district election commission Krasnoarmiysk from the right-wing Svoboda party, and Artem Popyk, head of the local Svoboda organization, were kidnapped in Kostiantynivka
- Kramatorsk chief of police, Interior Ministry Colonel Vitaliy Kolupai (4/21)
- Two unidentified Ukrainian officers reportedly held by militants (5/7). Three others reportedly released same day.
- Slovyansk: SBU claims 40 people are in captivity; below is a list gathered from open sources:
 - Police officers Vitaliy Benko and Oleg Zaitsev (4/29). Kidnapped in Kramatorsk but media report they are being held in Slovyansk
 - Three SBU officers: Major Serhiy Potiomyky, Captain Eugeniy Verinsky, Lt. Col. Rostyslave Kyjashko (4/27)
 - Journalists: Irma Krat (4/20), Serhiy Shapoval (4/26)
 - Theater Director Pavel Yurov and Denis Grishchyuk (4/25)
 - Slovyansk city councilmen Vadym Sukhonos (4/23)
 - Slovyansk police chief and Lt. Col Oleg Prokhorov (4/19) (no confirmation from separatists they are holding him)
- Released:

- Artemivsk: Russian journalist Paul Kanygin (5/11-5/12)
- Slovyansk: Yuriy Leliavsky (4/26-5/13),
- 7 Red Cross Volunteers (5/9)
- Swedish member of VDOC team (4/25-4/28)
- Two members of the SMM team were detained for three hours in Yenakievo on 4/28
- Journalist Simon Ostrovsky (4/21-4/24)
- Nellya Shtepa, mayor (4/18-4/30)
- Journalists Mike Giglio, Olena Glazunova, Clarissa Ward, Erin Lyall, Andy Stevenson, Geoff Maberley, Stuart Ramsay, Barnaby Greem, Oleg Malko and Oleksandr Pustovit. (5/2)
- Journalist Yevhen Hapych (4/22-4/25)
- Journalist Sergei Lefter (4/16-5/7) Artem Deynega (4/13-5/2)
- Yuriy Zahrebelny, prosecutor of Slovyansk (4/22)
- Paul Gogo, Kossimo Attanasio, Dmitry Galko (4/21)
- Oleksiy Bida and Anna Mokrousova, in Luhansk (5/3 – 5/3)
- Seven international members of the VDOC observation team (4 Germans, 1 Dane, 1 Pole, and 1 Czech) (4/25-5/3)
- Ukrainian VDOC team: five Ukrainian military escorts, one interpreter, one police officer (4/25-5/3)
 - Donetsk: Oleksandr Vovk, a member of the local city council from the Communist party of Ukraine Oleg Bubich and a member of the local city council from the Party of Regions Valeriy Pavlyk , were released on May 5. Each of them has the signs of torture, according to the press service of the Confederation of Free Trade Unions of Ukraine.
 - Andriy Redko and Volodymyr Mischenko, were kidnapped in Kramatorsk by pro-Russian militants after they refused to take separatist's side, according to the Ukrainian Interior Ministry's press office. They were transported to the regional SBU headquarters in Sloviansk (4/29-5/2)
 - Pro-Russian militants release three unidentified Ukrainian security personnel.
- Killed:
 - Horlivka councilman Rybak;
 - Maidan activist Yury Popravko;
 - another found later in the same place but as yet unidentified, possibly Yuriy Diadkovsky, 25-year old student from Stryi, Lviv Oblast, an active Euromaidan participant
 - EuroMaidan activist Valeriy Salo was burned alive in his car
 - Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Moscow Patriarchy priest (5/9)

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 6:56 PM
To: Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin; Meehan, Bernadette; Meehan, Bernadette; Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657?mod=WSJ_LatestHeadlines

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

0 COMMENTS

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was “the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward.”

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden

also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:43 PM
To: Carpenter, Michael; Ellison, Janine M; Carpenter, Michael
Subject: RE: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Thanks.

From: Carpenter, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:36 PM
To: Ellison, Janine M
Cc: Prescott, Jeffrey
Subject: FW: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Just flagging that this is swirling.

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:33 PM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Trotter, Kingsley
Cc: Carpenter, Michael
Subject: Re: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Thanks
Yes. Answering them now

From: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:17 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley
Cc: Carpenter, Michael
Subject: FW: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Want me to have State forward all queries to you?

And are you saying anything? Thanks!

From: Singer, Matthew A [<mailto:SingerMA@state.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:15 PM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Cc: Ferencevych, Yaryna N; Schtele, Luke A; Sessums, Michael D; Smith, Brian T; Bouldin, Megan T; EUR-PD-Dirs-DL
Subject: FW: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Hello, Laura,

Can we discuss? Post has gotten an inquiry about this (fortunately, just to confirm whether it's true, nothing too loaded), and they need to know if they should forward inquiries to NSC.

Thank you,

-MS

**Matthew Singer • Public Diplomacy Desk Officer for Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus • Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs
• U.S. Dept. of State**

2201 C St NW, Room 4427, Washington, DC 20520 | Direct 202-647-7861 | SingerMA@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Smith, Brian T
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:13 PM
To: EUR-UMB-DL; EUR-RUS-POL-DL
Cc: Ukraine Neg Narratives; Ukraine-Russia Coordination; Kyiv, PAS FSOs
Subject: RE: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Now being covered in English by the Moscow Times.

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/son-of-us-vice-president-biden-joins-ukraine-gas-company/500062.html>

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Smith, Brian T
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:10 AM
To: EUR-UMB-DL; EUR-RUS-POL-DL
Cc: Ukraine Neg Narratives; Ukraine-Russia Coordination
Subject: FYSA: Hunter Biden-Ukraine Story Trending Among Russian Elites

Colleagues – FYSA, The below Russian news article, that VP Biden’s son, Hunter, has been named a board member of the energy company Burisma, which has rights to hydrocarbon reserves in Ukraine, is being retweeted by Russian elites, including Aleksey Pushkov and Vladislav Surkov. It has 100 retweets as of 1100 EST.

<http://lenta.ru/news/2014/05/13/biden/>

Brian T. Smith
EUR/UMB (TDY)
202.647.2979 | HST 4427A

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2014 11:12 AM
To: Reed, Meagan (Intern) <meagan_e_reed_intern@who.eop.gov>; Reed, Meagan (Intern) </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=reed, meagan e.fd7> (Intern); >
Subject: FW: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, July 25, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:45:21 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

From: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 3:21 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

If anything beyond referring questions to my office is required from you or counsel you can contact Heather King at Boise Schiller.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 6:00 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Eric Schwerin [<mailto:eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:58 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: Re: hey

Kendra, I am around the next few days if you need me.

Eric D. Schwerin
Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC
1010 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Suite 705
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 333-1880
eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com

 Consider the environment before printing this email.

On May 13, 2014, at 10:39 AM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:39 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Eric Schwerin
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <[Kendra A Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov](mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov)> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM

To: Barkoff, Kendra

Subject: Re: hey

Ok-

What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <[Kendra A Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov](mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov)> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 8, 2014 11:25 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean.w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth.d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen.i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Fromstein, Charles <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti, Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; Russo2, Bill <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen,

Cc:

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Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth a.ffe>; >;
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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Sunday, June 8, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:35:17 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Kendra Barkoff [personal email address]
Sent: Saturday, June 7, 2014 10:24 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Barkoff, Kendra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative_group /cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; >
Subject: quick clips

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:37:26 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Cerda, Jose <jose_cerda@ovp.eop.gov>; Thompson, Kenny <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; Bianchi, Sarah <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; Feldman, Stefanie G. <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Sean </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean w.93f>; >; Thompson, Kenneth D. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth d.7a5>; >; Bianchi, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen i.b04>; >; Cerda, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerda>; >; Feldman, Stefanie G. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; >
Cc: Everett, Aaron <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; [personal email address]; Escudero, Adrian V. <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; Mackler, Alexander <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; Hornbrook, Alex <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; Kurren, Amy <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Anne Marie <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Bernal, Anthony R. <anthony_r._bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; Stackpole, Avra <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; Woyak, Brian J. <brian.j._woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; Lillard, Brooke <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; Twigg, Carri <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; Bolduc, Chad <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenzweig, Dana <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; Lienemann, David C. <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; Anderson, David <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; Cloud, Donald <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; Graves, Don <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; Zikusoka, Dave <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; Regoli, Elizabeth A <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; Schrum, Michael <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; Amin, Faisal <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; Picos, Francisco <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; Person, Fran <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; Freeman, Gary <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; Schultz, Greg <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; Edwards, Hannah E. <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; Gleeson, James <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; Doody, Jillian <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; Montoya, Jordan <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; Flynn, John S <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; Tejada, Jose <jose_tejada@ovp.eop.gov>; Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; Donley, Julia M <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; Noblitt, Karly <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; Berner, Kate <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; Trotter, Kingsley <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; Clark, Katisha A <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Chung, Kathy <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; Pietranton, Kelsey <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; McNellis, Kerry <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; Suber, Kellen <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern) <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@who.eop.gov>; Aidinoff, Marc <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; Clavel, Lise <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; Carpenter, Michael <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; Stennis, Michael <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; Kaye, Melanie <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; Hill, Patty <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; Lysaght, Patrick J <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; Timko, Rachel <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; Ruffner, Richard <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; Eaton, Sarah <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; Berlenbach, Sarah <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; Rosenthal, Lynn <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>; Nix, Sheila <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; Lachman, Sherry <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; Myers, Sam A. <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; Ricchetti,

Cc:

Steven <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; Tennant, Thomas M <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; Williams, Tonya <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; Nourse, Victoria <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; Reddy, Vinay <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; Dirksen, Ward <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; Clavel, Marguerite </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite.l.b8f>; >; Dirksen, Ward F. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>; >; Timko, Rachel </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel.m.350>; >; Stackpole, Avra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra.w.f8f>; >; Rosenthal, Lynn </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>; >; Ricchetti, Steven </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven.j.534>; >; Amin, Faisal </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, faisal.c7c>; >; Lienemann, David C. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>; >; Tejada, Jose </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=josetejada55772522>; >; Kaye, Melanie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=melanie_a.kaye>; >; Mackler, Alexander </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=mackler, alexander.s.snyder-mackler_a2377>; >; Gleeson, James </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=gleeson, james.m.gleeson.j20f> (Intern); >; Escudero, Adrian V. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=adrianv.escudero11120257>; >; Hill, Patricia </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hill, patricia.j.6b5>; >; Person, Anne </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=person, anne.m.aae>; >; Zikusoka, David N. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=davidn.zikusoka74383180>; >; Stennis, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stennis, michael.j.stennis.me93>; >; Edwards, Hannah E. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=edwards, hannah.e.bc9>; >; Nourse, Victoria </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=nourse, victoria.f.nourse.vb11>; >; Freeman, Gary </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=freeman, gary.d.653>; >; Hertz, Jessica R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hertz, jessica.r.562>; >; Murray, Shailagh </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=shailagh.murray>; >; Berner, Katherine </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berner, katherine.k.f0e>; >; Lysaght, Patrick J </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13193785c4>; >; Schultz, Gregory </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schultz, gregory.c.084>; >; Zeigler-Brown, Cortez </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=zeigler-brown, cortez.r.075>; > (Intern); Schrum, Evan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=schrum, evan.m.schrum.ea9f>; >; Donley, Julia M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_132187096e>; >; McNellis, Kerry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kerry_j.mcnellis1>; >; Berlenbach, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=berlenbach, sarah.f.berlenbach_sf948>; >; Hornbrook, Alex </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=alexhornbrook51765131>; >; Picos, Francisco </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=picos, francisco.c.412>; >; Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey.l.c25>; >; Clark, Katisha A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_13209188d2>; >; Eaton, Sarah </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarahfletcher70386533>; >; Hart, Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth.a.ffe>; >; Joseph, Jeremy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=joseph, jeremyc15>; >; Carpenter, Michael </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=carpenter, michael.r.7b8>; >; McNulty, Thomas P. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thomasp.mcnulty41242486>; >; Flynn, John S </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=whca_1318036>; >; Suber, Kellen C. </o=eop/ou=exchange

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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, October 23, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:56:02 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 11:12:20 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Yes

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:09 PM
To: Spector, Stephen
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Can you also keep an eye out on twitter for the state dept briefing?
Twitter isn't working on my computer right now for some reason

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:06 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

nothing

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:06 PM
To: Spector, Stephen
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Nothing from the briefing yet?

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:03 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Thanks

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:02 PM
To: Spector, Stephen
Subject: Re: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Waiting for Jay to brief before I give it out

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:00 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Do we have a response?

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:54 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeborg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Rummel, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board
Politico // Lucy McCalmont
May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 10/23/2014 4:12:30 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kcoconnor@whmo.mil"; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern)" <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@whmo.mil>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Stennis, Michael" <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berlenbach, Sarah" <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ford, Sarah (Intern)" <sarah_l_ford_intern@whmo.mil>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas.p.mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nourse, Victoria" <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, October 23, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:55:41 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal) <stacey.klein@nbcuni.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:43:19 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden to Oil Compnay w Holdings in Ukraine?

No worries! That's what I figured but wanted to be sure - all good. Thanks again!

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:41 PM
To: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal)
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden to Oil Compnay w Holdings in Ukraine?

Sorry. The off the record part was the part about me apologizing for the delay. The part in quotes is on the record from me. Make sense?

From: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Stacey.Klein@nbcuni.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:39 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden to Oil Compnay w Holdings in Ukraine?

Thank you! Safe travels.
Just to clarify - I can use the comment from you or it's off the record?

Stacey P. Klein
NBC News - The White House
202-573-0328 (cell)
202-885-4363 (office)

On May 13, 2014, at 2:34 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Klein, Stacey (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Stacey.Klein@nbcuni.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:56 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden to Oil Compnay w Holdings in Ukraine?

Hi Kendra,
Wondering if you have any comment on allegations Hunter Biden has taken a seat on the board of an oil and gas company with holdings in Ukraine? Carney pushed us all to you all - any comment?
Thanks in advance!

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Here's their release:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Stacey P. Klein
NBC News - The White House
202-885-4363 (office)
202-573-0328 (cell)

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lucas Magnuson, Laura <laura_d_lucas@nsc.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 7:11:16 AM
To: "Max Seddon" <max.seddon@buzzfeed.com>
Cc: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

-----Original Message-----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Dear Laura,

Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company, claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of directors:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovych.

Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

Thanks and best

Max

--

Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:02:04 PM
To: "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Evan" <schrum_ea9f>
Subject: Fw: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 06:55 PM
To: Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin; Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657?mod=WSJ_LatestHeadlines

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment

in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 9:51:22 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Cc: "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <r.562>
Subject: RE: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Picture has been pulled down.

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra; Ricchetti, Steven
Subject: FW: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W. [mailto:Ann.W.Compton@abc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Trotter, Kingsley
Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

###

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/17/2014 11:53:16 AM
To: "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey" <l.c25>>; >
Subject: RE: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, October 17, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:50:11 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Joseph, Jeremy <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 7/8/2014 4:12:51 AM
To: "Reed, Meagan (Intern)" <meagan_e_reed_intern@who.eop.gov>; "Reed, Meagan (Intern) </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=reed, meagan e.fd7>" <Intern>; >
Subject: FW: Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, July 8, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:44:43 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 6/8/2014 4:25:25 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>; >

Cc: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brokee_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Fromstein, Charles" <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoonnor@whmo.mil; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvpmlaide@whmo.mil; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <sirosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; "Russo2, Bill" <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>; >; "Rosenthal, Lynn" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=sirosenthal>; >; "Ricchetti, Steven" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven" <j.534>; >; "Amin, Faisal" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin," <faisalc7c>; >; "Lienemann, David C." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>; 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/cn=recipients/cn=kurren, amy" <m.791>>; >; "Sullivan, Jacob </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sullivan, jacob" <j.6b6>>; >; "Lyons, Jamie </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lyons, jamie" <e.ef0>>; >; "Tennant, Thomas M </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=whca_13140822>>; >; "Ruffner, Richard </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ruffner, richard" <b.7aa>>; >; "Fromstein, Charles </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=fromstein, charles" <a.b6e>>; >; "Bernal, Anthony R. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=anthonyr.bernal72748266>>; >; "Lambros, Demetra </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lambros, demetra" <d.8b8>>; >; "Prescott, Jeffrey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>>; >; "Bolduc, Chad </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=chad_m_bolduc>>; >; "Lillard, Brooke </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lillard, brooke" <m.cel>>; >; "Regoli, Elizabeth A </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=whca_13231520c2>>; >; "Chung, Kathy </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=chung, kathy" <s.3c7>>; >; "Russo, Bill </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=russo, william" <m.11f>>; >; "Orbach Lachman, Sherry </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=orbach_lachman, sherry" <e.5f8>>; >; "Montoya, Jordan </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=montoya, jordan" <r.a75>>; >

Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Sunday, June 8, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:42:05 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6), P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 6/9/2014 8:34:04 AM
To: "Franklin, Andrew (Intern)" <andrew_l_franklin_intern@who.eop.gov>; "Franklin, Andrew (Intern)" <l.2d0>
Cc: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <l.c25>; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Ukraine clips
Attachments: [Ukraine clips.docx](#)

Andrew -- Can you see if there are any clips from the VP's visit to Ukraine that are not already in this roundup? If there are, please add them to the roundup.

Thanks,
Stephen

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 10/19/2014 3:59:29 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kcoconnor@whmo.mil" <Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern)" <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@whmo.mil>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Stennis, Michael" <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berlenbach, Sarah" <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Sunday, October 19, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:52:15 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:29:37 AM
To: gerlachja2@state.gov
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

What's your number?

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:12 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Jen doesn't go out to brief until 1, but she has to staff something at 1230. Is now a good time for some guidance that I can relay to her?

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:53 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. Trying to get more info over here. Give me a little bit of time.

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks
We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?
Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing...

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along...

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board...

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 7/8/2014 4:12:33 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Fromstein, Charles" <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; 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"McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen.c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil" <Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov" <Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, July 8, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:43:00 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lederman, Josh <jlederman@ap.org>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:23:22 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. That's on the record, attributable to Kendra Barkoff, right?

Also - which of Hunter's offices are you directing me to? He is involved with a lot of companies.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:22 PM
To: Lederman, Josh
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Off the record (on the airplane, so having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including "Bush vs. Gore", and "U.S. vs. Microsoft". He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University's Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman's Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world's largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent - incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m3 of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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[IP_US_DISC]

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 9:30:39 AM
To: "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: Moscow Times: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- * The Moscow Times
- * May. 13 2014 18:49
- * Last edited 18:49



Joe Hunter / Twitter Joe Hunter (R) standing alongside his father, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden and Republican lawmaker John McCain. The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: zeke.miller <zeke.miller@time.com>
Sent: 7/7/2014 12:23:55 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: burisma

Thanks!
--
Zeke Miller
Political Reporter
TIME
@ZekeJMiller
c: 516-581-9301
w: 202-861-4096

From: <Barkoff>, Kendra Barkoff <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Date: Monday, July 7, 2014 2:23 PM
To: Zeke Miller <zeke.miller@time.com>
Subject: RE: burisma

Here is my statement
"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Zeke.Miller@time.com [<mailto:Zeke.Miller@time.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 07, 2014 2:06 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: burisma

<http://burisma.com/burisma-holdings-commends-us-lawmakers-efforts-support-ukrainian-energy-independence/>
http://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2014-06-27_PresidentObama_Ukraine_energy.pdf

--
Zeke Miller
Political Reporter
TIME
@ZekeJMiller
c: 516-581-9301
w: 202-861-4096

Please be alert for any emails that may ask you for login information or directs you to login via a link. If you believe this message is a phish or aren't sure whether this message is trustworthy, please send the original message as an attachment to 'phishing@timeinc.com'.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:53:37 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoco, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Politico // Lucy McCalmont

May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 7/25/2014 4:11:59 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

Cc: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward.f.dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; "Russo2, Bill" <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; >; "Rosenthal, Lynn" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>>; >; "Ricchetti, Steven" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven" <j.534>>; >; "Amin, Faisal" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, " <faisalc7c>>; >; "Lienemann, David C." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, July 25, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:47:32 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 3:00:38 PM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: Yahoo!: Why did an energy firm with big assets in Ukraine hire Joe Biden's son?
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Why did an energy firm with big assets in Ukraine hire Joe Biden's son?



By [Olivier Knox, Yahoo News](#) 52 minutes ago Yahoo News

0shares

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden (L) waves as he walks out of Air Force Two with his granddaughter Finnegan ...

In the span of a few weeks, an energy firm little-known inside the United States added two members to its board of directors – scoring connections to Secretary of State John Kerry and Vice President Joe Biden in the bargain.

On April 22, [Cyprus-based Burisma](#) announced that financier Devon Archer had joined its board. Archer, who shared a room in college with Kerry's stepson, Christopher Heinz, served as national finance co-chair for the former senator's 2004 presidential campaign.

Then, on Monday, the firm announced that [Biden's younger son, R. Hunter Biden, would join the board](#) of directors.

Why would the company, which bills itself as Ukraine's largest private gas producer, need such powerful friends in Washington?

The answer might be [the company's holdings in Ukraine](#). They include, according to the firm's website, permits to explore in the Dnieper-Donets Basin in the country's eastern regions, home to an armed pro-Russian separatist movement. They also include permits to explore in the Azov-Kuban Basin of the strategic Crimean peninsula, annexed earlier this year by Moscow.

It's not clear what will happen to energy firms, like Burisma, that aim to explore and exploit potential deposits in those areas. Neither the Archer nor the Biden announcement explicitly mentions the unrest, and it's not clear exactly when their discussions to join the board began. [In an April 23 Q&A](#), the transcript of which appears on Burisma's website, Archer said he had been approached "a few months ago" about the opportunity to consult for the oil company. The announcement of his directorship came less than a month after the [disputed vote in Crimea to rejoin Russia](#).

The White House and the vice president's office denied there was anything untoward about Biden's appointment.

"Hunter Biden and other members of the Biden family are obviously private citizens and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the Vice President or President," said President Barack Obama's press secretary, Jay Carney. "But I would refer you to the Vice President's office."

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer," the vice president's press secretary, Kendra Barkoff, said in a statement. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

The person who answered the telephone at Biden's office in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday cheerfully declared that Biden was traveling, that his return date was unknown, and that his assistant was also out of pocket.

An email to Burisma's public relations department did not elicit a reply.

But Archer coyly acknowledged the potential benefits of having him on the board [in the April 23 Q&A](#).

Question: "In the American media you are often linked to the immediate circle of the U.S. Secretary of State Mr. John Kerry and the Vice-president of the United States Mr. Joe Biden."

Archer: "American journalists really think so (smiles). I do know them."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 7:16:46 AM
To: "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Cc: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: FW: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Hey Jeff:

Do you have a minute to talk about this?

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:15 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra
Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

----- Original Message -----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 09:11 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

>
> -----Original Message-----

> **From:** Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
> **Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
> **To:** Lucas Magnuson, Laura
> **Subject:** Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas
> company

> Dear Laura,

>
> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press
> release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company,
> claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of
> directors:

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

>
> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on
Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief
under Yanukovych.

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

> Thanks and best

> Max

> --

> Max Seddon
> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
> twitter.com/maxseddon

--
Max Seddon
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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Allen, Jessica <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>

Sent: 6/8/2014 9:13:42 AM

To: "DL-WHO-Press" <dl-who-press@dsr.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Allen, Jessica" <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <paulette_l_aniskoff@who.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Beirne Fallon, Katie" <katie_fallon@who.eop.gov>; "Carney, Jay" <james_f_carney@who.eop.gov>; "Carson, Crystal" <crystal_m_carson@who.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Davidson, Josta" <josta_t_davidson@nsc.eop.gov>; "Edelman, R. David" <ross_d_edelman@ostp.eop.gov>; "Evans, Bess" <elizabeth_w_evans@ostp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Foster, Heather" <heather_j_foster@who.eop.gov>; "Friedman, Jennifer" <jennifer_b_friedman@who.eop.gov>; "Hankins, Hannah R." <hannah_r_hankins@who.eop.gov>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Holst, Lindsay" <lindsay_l_holst@who.eop.gov>; "Holzer, Benjamin" <benjamin_s_holzer@who.eop.gov>; "Hunn, Allison" <allison_d_hunn@who.eop.gov>; "Inouye, Shin" <shin_inouye@who.eop.gov>; "Jencks, Fae" <fae_m_jencks@ostp.eop.gov>; "Jenkins, Brad" <bradley_l_jenkins@who.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lawrence, Natasha" <natasha_s_lawrence@cea.eop.gov>; "Lopez, Rafael" <rafael_j_lopez@ostp.eop.gov>; "MacFarquhar, Rory" <rory_macfarquhar@who.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; 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"Keenan, Cody" <cody_keen@who.eop.gov>; "Kim, Andrew" <andrew_kim@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lee, Jesse C." <jesse_c_lee@who.eop.gov>; "Lee, Jonathan" <jonathan_l_lee@nsc.eop.gov>; "Leweling, Tara" <tara_leweling@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lubin, Nathaniel" <nathaniel_j_lubin@who.eop.gov>; "Lucas Magnuson, Laura" <laura_d_lucas@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lundeberg, Greta" <greta_j_lundeberg@nsc.eop.gov>; "McFarlin, Mac" <robert_w_mcfarlin@who.eop.gov>; "McKeon, Brian P." <brian_p_mckeon@nsc.eop.gov>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <bernadette_m_meehan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Moscoso, Patricia" <patricia_g_moscoso@who.eop.gov>; "Moussavian, Roxana" <roxana_moussavian@who.eop.gov>; "O'Connor, Kyle" <kocconnor@who.eop.gov>; "Ortiz, Michael" <michael_r_ortiz@nsc.eop.gov>; "Pfeiffer, Dan" <dan_pfeiffer@who.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Quillian, Natalie" <natalie_h_quillian@who.eop.gov>; "Rangarajan, Taara" <taara_a_rangarajan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Rangel, Antoinette N." <antoinette_n_rangel@who.eop.gov>; "Rhodes, Benjamin J." <benjamin_j_rhodes@who.eop.gov>; 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"Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremyc15>; taylor_j_lustig@who.eop.gov; "Carney, Jay" </cn=recipients/cn=james_f_carney>; david_l_hudson@who.eop.gov; "Rhodes, Benjamin J."

</cn=recipients/cn=benjaminj.rhodes66704772>; "Kim, Andrew" <andrew88>; george_selim@nsc.eop.gov; catria_l_mahoney@who.eop.gov; "Velz, Peter" <t.3a2>; "Price, Ryan" <l.abd>; "Whisenant, Addie" <m.03f>; "Rangel, Antoinette N." </cn=recipients/cn=antoinette_n_rangel>; "Fenn, Sarah" </cn=recipients/cn=sarahb.fenn64100553>; jessica_e_schumer@cea.eop.gov; johanna_maska@who.eop.gov; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <l.c19>; "Dickinson, Tammy" </cn=recipients/cn=tamara_l_dickinson>; shannon_n_green@nsc.eop.gov; "Davidson, Josta" <t.b87>; "Bartoloni, Kristen" </cn=recipients/cn=kristen_a_bartoloni>; "Costa, Kristina" <l.f71>; david_m_litt@who.eop.gov; "Kaden, David M. (NSS)" <5a8>; agaarn_y_johnson@nsc.eop.gov; "Hankins, Hannah R." </cn=recipients/cn=hannah_r_hankins>; "Govashiri, Ferial" <ferial_govashiri@who.eop.gov>; "Cohen, Ilona" <r.76f>; "Platkin, Alexandra" <r.9fd>; "Debevoise, Lyn" <lync5f>; christine_s_abizaid@nsc.eop.gov; "Aidinoff, Marc" <f.f6c>; "Cooper, Eric" <m.43b>; jeffrey_d_tiller@who.eop.gov; "Lee, Jonathan" <l.f5d>; leah_b_katz-hernandez@who.eop.gov; "McKeon, Brian P." <p.2b3>; "Singh, Pavneet" </cn=recipients/cn=pavneet_singh>; valerie_jarrett@who.eop.gov; cecilia_munoz@who.eop.gov; laura_a_schulz@nsc.eop.gov; "Schulman, Loren DeJonge" <loren4d7>; "Reddy, Vinay" <c.a.d8>; "Jackson, Bartlett" <w.599>; amy_brundage@who.eop.gov; tara_d_mcguinness@who.eop.gov; "Moscoso, Patricia" </cn=recipients/cn=patricia_g_moscoso>; joanna_s_rosholm@who.eop.gov; "Rangarajan, Taara" <a.29a>; hallie_m_rubin@who.eop.gov; mathew_a_lehrich@who.eop.gov; "Parker, Steven" <l.87f>; "Wang, Jenny" <w.eb7>; "Lubin, Nathaniel" <j.d81>; frances_a_holuba@nsc.eop.gov; neema_hakim@who.eop.gov; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; patrick_h_ventrell@nsc.eop.gov; "Cloud, Donald" <w.359>; eric_h_schultz@who.eop.gov; "Rosenberger, Laura" <m.d7f>; jessica_r_santillo@who.eop.gov; "Lee, Jesse C." </cn=recipients/cn=jessec.lee74301331>; nathaniel_m_perkins@who.eop.gov; "Jencks, Fae" <m.771>; "Coates, Kelsey" <a.04d>; "Carson, Crystal" <m.b7f>; "Sahgal, ..

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Subject: Re: Complex times for VP's son to work at Ukraine firm

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_BIDENS_SON_UKRAINE?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

Complex times for VP's son to work at Ukraine firm

Associated Press // STEPHEN BRAUN

3:39 PM

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Vice President Joe Biden's visit Saturday to support Ukraine's fragile democracy came soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

Yet that company leases natural gas fields in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea and is owned by a former government minister with ties to Ukraine's ousted pro-Russian president.

The hiring of Hunter Biden, 44, by Burisma Holdings Limited in April was approved by the company's owner, a former senior minister and political ally of Viktor Yanukovich, the exiled Ukrainian president. Yanukovich fled to Russia in February after protests erupted over his efforts to establish closer economic ties with Moscow.

Hunter Biden's employment means he will be working as a director and top lawyer for a Ukrainian energy company during the period when his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine's new government, especially on energy issues.

There's no indication that Hunter Biden, his father or Burisma is crossing any legal or ethical lines, although ethics experts appear divided over the implications of Hunter Biden's new job.

American conflict-of-interest laws and federal ethics rules essentially do not regulate the business activities of adult relatives of those who work in the White House.

"The primary problem here is the fact that Hunter Biden has set up a financial arrangement with someone who might have business pending before this administration," said Craig Holman, an ethics expert with Public Citizen, a Washington-based government reform organization.

Joe Biden led the U.S. delegation at Saturday's inauguration of Ukraine's new president, Petro Poroshenko, and announced \$48 million in additional aid for the Kiev government. Biden met Poroshenko and said "there is a window for peace and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely ... America is with you."

Ukraine is an important natural-gas and petroleum-liquids transit country. Two major pipeline systems carry Russian gas through Ukraine to Western Europe.

Burisma is headed by Nikolai Zlochevskiy, who held senior posts over natural resources, environment and defense in Ukraine. The company has aggressively bought up Ukrainian oil and natural gas leases and companies.

Hunter Biden's new company says it aims to reduce Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas and oil, a goal that parallels U.S. efforts to aid Ukraine's energy industry.

As a Burisma director and the company's top lawyer, the younger Biden has yet to take any public actions on behalf of the company. But the timing of his hiring is politically awkward for the administration's efforts to shore up Ukraine's pro-Western government, and poses potential complications from Burisma's growing energy interests and the background of Hunter Biden's new boss, Zlochevskiy.

At least two oil and natural gas fields leased by subsidiaries of Burisma are in Ukrainian territories where pro-Russian sentiments remain strong, according to government and media releases, independent energy maps and Burisma's website.

One is in the breakaway Russian-backed state of Crimea; the other is in the eastern Ukrainian Kharkiv region. Instability there could force the younger Biden's new company to coordinate with pro-Russian separatists whom the U.S. considers illegitimate.

White House officials declined to comment on Hunter Biden's association with Burisma and the company's holdings in Crimea and east Ukraine.

The vice president's spokeswoman, Kendra Barkoff, previously said that Biden's son is a private citizen and a lawyer, and that Joe Biden "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Presidents and vice presidents have long been vexed by relatives rewarded for family ties.

Political loan troubles shadowed Vice President Richard Nixon's brother, Donald, during the 1960 election, and President Jimmy Carter's brother, Billy, who accepted a \$220,000 stipend in 1981 from Libya's Moammar Gadhafi.

In recent years, several Bush and Clinton relatives were caught in a string of murky financial and political dealings.

But "unless there's solid evidence that Hunter Biden got his job to influence American foreign policy, there's no clear line that's been crossed," said Melanie Sloan, executive director of the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

A former Washington lobbyist, the vice president's son is effectively exempt from most rules that would require him to describe publicly the legal work he does on behalf of Burisma.

Hunter Biden will not lobby for the company, said Lawrence Pacheco, an official with FTI Consulting, a Washington government affairs company recently hired by Burisma.

Pacheco did not say whether Biden might oversee or advise on any future Burisma lobbying strategy in the U.S. Pacheco said the company "does not take positions on political matters."

But Biden's company may have to deal with Ukrainian enclaves that the U.S. does not recognize diplomatically or are threatened by instability.

One Burisma subsidiary, KrymTopEnergioServis, operates natural gas fields and has headquarters in the Crimea, which seceded from Ukraine this year and now aligns with Russia.

A second subsidiary, Esco-Pivnich, produces oil and natural gas just west of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, which was the site of several protests and borders on separatist-controlled provinces. The company's website confirms that Burisma operates oil and natural gas sites in Crimea and east Ukraine, as well as elsewhere in Ukraine.

"While he's just at the beginning of his involvement with this company, Ukraine is volatile right now and there are all sorts of problems that might crop up down the line," said Bill Allison, the editorial director of the Sunlight Foundation, a nonpartisan watchdog group.

Pacheco said the company's western and eastern operations have been unaffected by Ukraine's unrest but that its Crimea subsidiary is not operating currently. He did not explain further, but confirmed KrymTopEnergioServis is based and leases gas deposits in Crimea.

Hunter Biden, Zlochevskiy and other company officials would not comment publicly, Pacheco said.

Hunter Biden is a managing director with Rosemont Seneca Partners, a private equity firm, and worked as a Washington lobbyist for seven years until his father was elected vice president. He lobbied primarily for colleges, hospitals and tech firms.

Pacheco said Biden's son came to Burisma's attention after he was introduced by Devon Archer, another new Burisma board member, to Alan Apter, Burisma's board chairman. Archer works with Hunter Biden at Rosemont and was a top fundraiser for now-Secretary of State John Kerry when Kerry ran for president in 2004. Zlochevskiy approved Biden's hiring, Pacheco said.

Zlochevskiy, 48, worked as minister of natural resources and environment under Yanukovich and most recently was deputy secretary of Ukraine's national security and defense council, which advised Yanukovich on defense matters.

Zlochevskiy also served in the Ukrainian parliament from 2007 to 2011 as a member of the Party of Regions, the political party affiliated with Yanukovich and traditionally aligned with pro-Russian interests.

Zlochevskiy's name is missing from Burisma's web site, but financial documents in Cyprus as well as U.S. Securities and Exchange records show that he owns the bulk of Burisma's shares. Zlochevskiy's Cyprus-based Brociti Investments Limited controls Burisma.

Hunter Biden joined Burisma in April, the same month his father visited Kiev to show support for the new interim government.

From: zeke.miller <zeke.miller@time.com>
Sent: 7/7/2014 11:54:03 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Ukraine Energy

Hey - we're working up a Burisma/Hunter Biden/Hill Lobbying/Ukraine story and wanted to give you all a chance to have input. Got a few minutes to chat?

--

Zeke Miller
Political Reporter
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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lyons, Jamie <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/16/2014 4:55:37 AM
To: "Kalishman, David (Intern)" <david_kalishman_intern@who.eop.gov>; "Kalishman, David (Intern) </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=kalishman, david456>" <Intern>; >
Subject: Fw: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, May 16, 2014

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Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:48:34 EST 2022

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Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

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From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:07:13 PM
To: "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Evan" <schrum_ea9f>
Subject: Re: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Ok. Secretary Hagel is at the door waiting for him

From: Schrum, Michael
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 07:05 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

En route

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 07:02 PM
To: Schrum, Michael
Subject: Fw: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 06:55 PM
To: Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin; Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-14134996572?mod=WSJ_LatestHeadlines

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend

a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:45:17 PM
To: rosie@buzzfeed.com
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden

Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC

From: Rosie Gray [mailto:rosie@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:40 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden

Which office do you mean, for Hunter?

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 2:39 PM, Rosie Gray <rosie@buzzfeed.com> wrote:
Thank you Kendra

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 2:39 PM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra.A.Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:
OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)
Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Rosie Gray [mailto:rosie@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:04 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden

Hi,

I'm a reporter for BuzzFeed. I know my colleague Max Seddon has already reached out to your office but we're looking to get answers about whether or not Hunter Biden has joined the board of Burisma. Can you confirm? Is the VP's office going to say anything about this?

thanks,
Rosie

--
Reporter, BuzzFeed
@rosiegray
c: [646 369 9351](tel:6463699351)
rosie@buzzfeed.com

--
Reporter, BuzzFeed
@rosiegray
c: [646 369 9351](tel:6463699351)
rosie@buzzfeed.com

--
Reporter, BuzzFeed
@rosiegray
c: [646 369 9351](tel:6463699351)
rosie@buzzfeed.com

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Russo, Bill <william_m_russo@nsc.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 8:34:22 AM
To: "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Allen, Elizabeth M" <allenem@state.gov>; "Trotter, Katherine K. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=trotter, katherine" <k.5b4>; >
Subject: RE: POLITICO Playbook, presented by JPMorgan Chase & Co. -- ROVE: 'This will be an issue...whether she likes it or not' -- NICK MERRILL: 'its own form of sickness' -- HRC TO MARTIN O'MALLEY: Do what you need to do - MARK ZUCKERBERG is 30 -- HOWARD WOLFSON b

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:26:59 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal information

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Gerlach, Alec <gerlachja2@state.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 8:41:05 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing..

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [<mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along...

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board..

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 10/17/2014 4:14:26 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kcoconnor@whmo.mil" <Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern)" <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@whmo.mil>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Stennis, Michael" <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berlenbach, Sarah" <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ford, Sarah (Intern)" <sarah_l_ford_intern@whmo.mil>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas.p.mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nourse, Victoria" <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, October 17, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:48:42 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Compton, Ann W. <ann.w.compton@abc.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:58:36 AM
To: "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>
Subject: Stephen - I did nt get any response from the usually prompt Kendra -- who else could help on this below...

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:50 PM
To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'
Subject: ?? Any reply ?? Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

-----Original Message-----

From: Compton, Ann W.
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:40 AM
To: 'Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov'; 'Katherine_K_Trotter@ovp.eop.gov'
Subject: Hi. Did the VP's legal staff have to vett this or sign off in any way? Is it any kind of conflict of interest ?

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

- The Moscow Times
- May. 13 2014 18:49
- Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/23/2014 3:00:36 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "O'Brien, Sean" <w.93f>; "Schrum, Evan" <schrum_ea9f>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <l.c25>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>; "Reddy, Vinay" <c.ad8>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Bcc: asra_najam_intern@who.eop.gov
Subject: Afternoon Press Clips- October 23, 2014
Attachments: VPOTUS_PM_PRESS- 10.23.14.docx

VPOTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS
Thursday, October 23, 2014

KDAL 610

Vice President Visits Duluth To Praise Work Against Domestic Violence

By: Dave Strandberg / October 23, 2014

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WDIO-TV

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October 23, 2014

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October 23, 2014

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The Daily Beast

Trump Travels to Iowa, Bashes New York

By: Ben Jacobs / October 23, 2014

Trump's comments echo those made by Joe **BIDEN** earlier this year in which the Vice President compared LaGuardia to a "third world country." **BIDEN** made the statement at an event in Philadelphia, where he pushed for an increase in federal infrastructure spending.

Huffington Post

Shining Light on Violence Against Women

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At a recent event celebrating the 20th anniversary of VAWA, Vice President **BIDEN** (the original author of the law) voiced a goal that I believe is necessary and attainable: "We are not going to succeed until America embraces the notion... that under no circumstance does a man ever have a right to raise a hand to a woman other than in self-defense."

BCTV

A Tie in the U S Senate: Turning Even into Odd

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The wild card in what is otherwise a horrific scenario is Vice President **BIDEN**. **BIDEN** is a creature of the Senate, long a part of the Senate establishment and someone with close relationships with Senate colleagues on both side of the aisle. **BIDEN** might make a tie work if anyone can.

ABC News

Bristol Palin Explains Brawl, Blames Media, Attacks BIDENS, Clintons (All In One Note!)

By: Shushannah Walshe / October 23, 2014

In her defense, Sarah Palin's eldest daughter blamed a liberal media bias for unfair and incorrect reporting on the incident. She aimed to the set the record straight while also pointing out embarrassing incidents in other political families such as the Clintons and **BIDENS**.

The Daily Caller

Bristol Palin Claws Media With 10 Perfect Post Brawl Nails

By: Betsy Rothstein / October 23, 2014

She also graciously brings up Veep Joe **BIDEN**'s son, who got kicked out the Navy for testing positive for cocaine. She calls him the "real Vice President's kid." A quick Google search turns up more than 380,000 hits. From CNN to The Daily Beast to The National Enquirer, they all covered Hunter **BIDEN**'s cocaine scandal.

Columbia Daily Tribune

BIDEN nepotism? Follow your nose

By: Michelle Malkin / October 23, 2014

Everything you need to know about Beltway nepotism, corporate cronyism and corruption can be found in the biography of Robert Hunter BIDEN. Where are the Occupy Wall Street rabble-rousers and enemies of elitist privilege when you need them? Straining their neck muscles to look the other way.

KDAL 610

Vice President Visits Duluth To Praise Work Against Domestic Violence

By: Dave Strandberg / October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN made a stop in Duluth on Thursday to congratulate some of the people who developed and implemented a program to fight domestic violence. The program, called the Duluth Model, has since spread around the world as an effective community tool to deal with the problem. The Vice President says he contacted some of those people in Duluth when he was a U-S Senator and authored the Violence Against Women Act. The Duluth Model recently won the 2014 Future Policy Award from the World Future Council, UN Women and the Inter Parliamentary Union for its coordinated community response to end the violence against women and girls.

WDIO-TV

BIDEN Praises 'Duluth Model' in Northland Visit

October 23, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN praised the Duluth Model for dealing with domestic violence during a visit to the Northland today.

In a midday speech at the Duluth Public Safety Building, BIDEN told people who have worked on the Duluth Model that they "have awakened the world." He said he has seen the Duluth Model's visual wheel for intervening in domestic abuse cases on visits to other countries.

The Duluth Model was named the world's best policy last week by the World Future Council, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and UN Women.

"Because of you, we've made real progress, we've saved lives," BIDEN said. "You made it clear that it is never, never, never, never the woman's fault. It is not the woman's fault."

BIDEN called on other men to intervene to stop domestic violence, saying, "We have to change the behavior, not only of the abuser, but of other men."

This afternoon, BIDEN will travel to Hibbing for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan at Hibbing Community College. He's hoping to give a boost to Nolan, a first-term Democratic incumbent who's locked in a tight race with GOP candidate Stewart Mills. It's one of the country's top five races in terms of outside spending.

We'll have full coverage of BIDEN's visit on Eyewitness News at 5:00, 6:00, and 10:00 and on wdio.com.

Associated Press

BIDEN To Campaign In Hibbing For Democrat Nolan

October 23, 2014

HIBBING, Minn. (AP) - Vice President Joe BIDEN will visit the Iron Range for a get-out-the-vote rally on behalf of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan.

BIDEN speaks at Hibbing Community College on Thursday afternoon. He's hoping to give a boost to Nolan, a first-term Democratic incumbent who's locked in a tight race with GOP candidate Stewart Mills. It's one of the country's top five races in terms of outside spending.

Northeastern Minnesota's 8th Congressional District was long a Democratic stronghold but redistricting has added more conservative territory to it, turning it into a swing district.

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KEYC-TV

Hillary Clinton, Joe BIDEN to Campaign in Minnesota

By: Mitch Keegan / October 23, 2014

Hillary Rodham Clinton will be in Minnesota today to give a boost to Democrats on this fall's ballot and renew ties that could help her in a possible presidential bid.

The former U.S. secretary of state, senator and first lady will headline a rally at Macalester College and hold a fundraiser for Gov. Mark Dayton.

Her appearance is geared toward energizing voters about to decide the re-election fates of Dayton and first-term Sen. Al Franken.

Dayton was a vocal Clinton backer when she sought the party's presidential nomination in 2008 and says he'd be in her corner if she runs in 2016.

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CNN

Hillary Clinton to Return to Iowa

October 23, 2014

WASHINGTON - Hillary Clinton is heading back to Iowa on October 29, according to a Democratic source with knowledge of the trip.

The former first lady's visit comes just a little more than a month since she returned to Iowa after a six year hiatus. Clinton stumped for Bruce Braley, Iowa's Democratic Senate nominee, and other Iowa Democrats at the 37th annual - and final - Harkin Steak Fry in September. She had last visited the state in 2008.

Braley is currently locked in a tight race to succeed Harkin in the Senate with Republican Joni Ernst.

A number of big name Democrats have come to Iowa to help Braley. Vice President Joe BIDEN will stump for the Senate hopeful at an event in Davenport on Monday and first lady Michelle Obama stumped for him earlier this week.

Any visit Clinton makes to Iowa - the crucially important first-in-the-nation caucus state - is immediately seen through the lens of 2016 politics given that the former first lady is widely seen as the Democratic frontrunner for president and has admitted that she is considering a run.

Clinton's October visit to stump for Democrats in Iowa comes near the end of her prolonged push for Democrats across the country. Clinton has headlined political events in California, Colorado, Michigan, Kentucky, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Florida in the

Last month. And is expected to return to New Hampshire and Georgia by election day.

While all of these events have been for Democrats seeking to win in November, the campaigning is also a way for Clinton to satisfy Democrats who expect their potential future presidential nominee to help the party in the years before the run.

By election day, Clinton is expected to visit over 15 states in her midterm push.

KSTP-TV

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By: Jennie Olson / October 23, 2014

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BIDEN will travel to Hibbing after speaking at the Duluth Public Safety Building at an event on domestic violence. The White House says he'll highlight "The Duluth Model" of collaboration among domestic abuse intervention programs and government agencies.

Meanwhile, Clinton is hoping to help fellow Democrats while renewing ties that could help her in a possible presidential bid.

The former U.S. secretary of state, senator and first lady is headlining a rally Thursday at Macalester College and is later holding a fundraiser for Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton.

Her appearance was geared toward energizing voters about to decide the re-election fates of Dayton and first-term Democratic Sen. Al Franken.

Dayton was a vocal Clinton backer when she sought the party's presidential nomination in 2008 and says he'd be in her corner if she runs in 2016. In the prior campaign, Clinton lost Minnesota's caucuses to now-President Barack Obama.

Queens Chronicle

Cuomo unveils plan to modernize airports

October 23, 2014

LaGuardia Airport may not stay in the third world after all.

On Monday, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and Gov. Cuomo unveiled a state plan to modernize and revitalize LaGuardia, JFK, Republic and Stewart airports.

"The number one job of government is to promote economic growth and prosperity, and one of the best ways to drive commerce is by investing in infrastructure that connects New York with local, national and international markets," Cuomo said during a press conference at Vaughn College in East Elmhurst.

Cuomo revealed LaGuardia and JFK airports will partake in separate master plan design competitions.

For LaGuardia, designers from across the globe will be asked to envision a complete package of what the facility will look like and how it will function. Cuomo said the competition should produce a project that will improve transportation to the airport, including the possibility of a high-speed ferry, a redesigned airport layout to increase access and more resilient infrastructure.

For JFK, the competition will call on applicants to submit designs that will enhance the transportation network – including the AirTrain, improved parking areas and the subway and LIRR – exploring the idea of increasing hotel capacity in the immediate area and upgrading facilities across the board.

Plans for Republic Airport on Long Island and Stewart International Airport in the Hudson Valley are much smaller in scale and include improving accessibility and utilizing space more efficiently.

"Build the greatest infrastructure in the world," **BIDEN**, who recently compared LaGuardia Airport to that of a third-world country, said. "It's like, build it and they will come. Nobody knows that better than the city of New York. I think this will be, for the rest of the nation, a blueprint about how they have to move. Thank you for having the courage to step up and think big and move."

In January, Cuomo announced in his State of the State Address that New York needed to assume management responsibility for construction at LaGuardia and JFK to help break gridlock.

"This is more important for New York than ever before, which is why the state is ambitiously investing in roads, bridges and tunnels on a scale that we haven't seen in decades," Cuomo said. "Our airport modernization plan not only enhances how our individual airports look and act in the 21st century, but addresses how they must fundamentally work together to strategically grow in New York's economy."

According to the Governor's Office, the Port Authority Board of Commissioners will select the best three designs for each airport. The finalists will receive up to \$500,000 to further develop their concept.

The contest will begin in 30 days and design firms will have 60 days to develop plans, which must include a project implementation timeline to ensure that work begins quickly.

Funding may come from both private and public sectors, though additional details of the competitions and the end cost were unavailable as of press time.

The governor added that the new design contest would "complement" an existing LaGuardia Airport terminal project put out to bid this year. In September, officials announced they had not selected a winner yet, but estimated that within the year, a terminal design would be chosen.

"New York is the product of our built environment," Cuomo said. "We took a very small piece of land that happened to have a great location as a harbor and a seaport and we built more than was ever imaginable. We just relished in taking engineering feats that they said we couldn't do and doing it just to show that we could."

The Daily Beast

Trump Travels to Iowa, Bashes New York

By: Ben Jacobs / October 23, 2014

Donald Trump has gone all the way to Iowa to insult New York.

The bombastic New York-based millionaire held a press conference with Iowa Republican Rep. Steve King in Des Moines Tuesday, where he proclaimed that LaGuardia and JFK were "like third world airports." In contrast, Trump praised Qatar, Saudi Arabia and China for having airports "the likes of which we've never seen in this country."

Trump's comments echo those made by Joe **BIDEN** earlier this year in which the Vice President compared LaGuardia to a "third world country." **BIDEN** made the statement at an event in Philadelphia, where he pushed for an increase in federal infrastructure spending.

In addition to bashing New York's airports, Trump praised King, notorious for his comments about illegal immigrants with "calves the size of cantaloupes," as "a smart person with really the right views on almost everything."

At the time, the Vice President's comment provoked some backlash from New York Mayor Bill DeBlasio, as well as from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates LaGuardia. While there was universal agreement that LaGuardia badly needed renovation, DeBlasio thought that the phrasing of **BIDEN's** critique was "inappropriate."

Unlike **BIDEN**, Trump wasn't making a plea for greater federal spending on transportation when he slammed his home state's two biggest airports. Instead the reality show star, who flirted with running for Governor of New York earlier this year, had travelled to Iowa to announce his endorsement of King, a controversial six-term Republican incumbent.

In addition to bashing New York's airports, Trump praised King, notorious for his comments about illegal immigrants with "calves the size of cantaloupes," as "a smart person with really the right views on almost everything."

However, for all the controversy around him, King has always been smart enough not to bash his home state's two biggest airports. After all, unlike Donald Trump, he's actually running for office.

Huffington Post
Shining Light on Violence Against Women
By: Nancy C. Lee / October 23, 2014

Domestic violence has been in the news a lot lately. Intimate partner violence (also known as IPV or domestic violence) is not new, but it is widespread. New research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows how staggering the problem is: over 38 million women in the United States experience violence at the hand of a husband, boyfriend, or other partner during their lifetime. But what many people don't know is that the number declined significantly in the last 20 years, in part because of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (VAWA).

Prior to VAWA, in many states physical and sexual violence against a woman by someone she knew was not considered as serious a crime as was an attack by a stranger. Thinking about it now, it's hard to believe.

VAWA was a major national recognition of the severity of partner violence against women and the need for change. Renewed last year, the law provides funding for criminal investigation, prosecution, and harsher penalties for abusers. It also supports programs and services such as the National Domestic Violence Hotline, rape crisis centers, violence prevention programs, legal aid for survivors, and protections for traditionally underserved populations such as Native Americans, undocumented individuals, women with disabilities, and lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women.

VAWA has had a big impact -- IPV declined by 67 percent between 1993 and 2010, due in part to changes like these:

All 50 states have updated their laws so that rape is now subject to the same punishment whether or not the victim knows the perpetrator. Police, prosecutors, and judges now receive training on handling IPV cases.

If police officers have reason to suspect IPV, they may now arrest someone for committing the crime without an arrest warrant. Victims no longer have to pay for their own rape exams or to have a protection order (also called a restraining order) served to their abuser.

Perhaps the most important change to come from VAWA was the acknowledgment that domestic violence exists. Historically, we avoided the topic, preferring to think of it as a "private" or "family" issue that only happens to other people, when it actually affects people of all ages, races, ethnicities, and educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. The more we talk openly about the reality of domestic violence -- the more we let sunlight shine on this issue -- the more progress we can make.

At a recent event celebrating the 20th anniversary of VAWA, Vice President **BIDEN** (the original author of the law) voiced a goal that I believe is necessary and attainable: "We are not going to succeed until America embraces the notion... that under no circumstance does a man ever have a right to raise a hand to a woman other than in self-defense." In order to reach this goal, we must start with open, honest discussion about the painful problem of domestic violence. Not only is this discussion good for society, it can help women caught in violent relationships and the children that live in these abusive homes. When we talk openly about the many forms abuse can take and deem these actions wrong and criminal, we help others identify abuse in their lives and show them a path to change.

How can you help? Start a dialogue. Share this simple, easy-to-read infographic with friends and family and post it on your social networks in whatever way feels right for you. Don't be surprised if your doctor asks questions about your relationships and home life. IPV screening is covered under all Marketplace and most other health coverage plans, at no additional cost. And don't forget the girls in your life; at least 1 in 10 teens experience physical violence in their relationships. Talk to them about healthy relationships, abuse, and what they should do if someone hurts them.

If we open up this problem to the sunlight, we can make a difference for millions of women.

BCTV
A Tie in the U S Senate: Turning Even into Odd
By: G. Terry Madonna & Michael L. Young / October 23, 2014

Think things can't get any worse with the approval rating of Congress polling as low as a 7 percent while national problems pile up and an increasingly dysfunctional House and Senate continue to set new records for sheer futility?

If so, you would be wrong. They can get a lot worse. And they just might after Election Day, Nov. 4th.

The problem is the Senate and the issue is whether either party will win the 51 votes minimally needed to organize and operate that body for the next two years. The prospect for a tied senate at 50 to 50 after Nov. 4 is very real as we enter the final days of campaigning.

Right now, 45 seats are probably safe for Democrats, 47 for Republicans. Another 8 seats are competitive meaning either party could win. So Republicans have to win 4 of them to win the Senate, while fewer could give the body to Democrats or even produce a 50-50 tie.

The GOP is well positioned. In fact, most assessments by independent analysts forecast Republican's will pick up between four and eight senate seats.

The fly in the Republican ointment, however, is that there are two "Independents" with a prospect for victory--Kansas and South Dakota. If at least one of them is victorious, it becomes dicey - enough so that a 50 to 50 split might occur, producing chaos across Congress.

If a tie should exist after Election Day, Article I, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution would be invoked giving the vice president, one Joseph **BIDEN**, the power to vote and break ties that exist. In normal times the vice president constitutionally presides over the Senate but does not vote on matters before the Senate unless a tie exists.

A constitutional tie in the Senate would be profoundly troubling, given the disarray in national politics. It would either intensify the extreme polarization already stultifying our politics - or as bad, bring government to even more of a standstill than already exists. As a country, the prospects of a Senate tie makes us similar to an already ill patient suddenly faced with an even more calamitous sickness.

The worst precedent in Senate history of a divided chamber occurred after the election of 1880. The possible parallels to 2014 are chilling. Then the Senate was split 37 Republicans, 37 Democrats, with two Independents. With the new session in 1881, reorganization of the Senate took place. The two Independents went their separate ways, Illinois Senator David A. Davis, joined the Democrats while Virginian William Mahone caucused with the Republicans.

The tiebreaker was newly elected Vice President Republican Chester Arthur, but Republicans, lacking sufficient members in the chamber, were not able to organize properly. Consequently, Democrats maintained control of the committee chairmanships they had held previously, as the operations of the U.S. Senate descended into a farce.

Ultimately, it took the Senate two years to finally resolve its leadership crisis, blessedly ending one of the stranger moments in Senate history. The most recent 50 to 50 Senate split occurred in the tumult of January 2001, in the aftermath of the disputed Bush-Gore presidential election. Al Gore, as Clinton's outgoing vice president, was the tiebreaker for the first 17 days of the new Congress. When Dick Cheney became vice president on January 20, he became the tiebreaker. Cheney broke several ties during his years in office, but only two in the period when the Senate party composition was equally divided.

Awkward as that was, some amity still existed in Congress and both sides worked out arrangement to make it all work.

If you think a similar tie would work in 2014 then you might be interested in buying a slightly used bridge in Brooklyn.

Let's be clear: given the extreme polarization and excessive partisanship in Washington today, nothing good at all is going to happen with a 50-50 Senate split. Challenges the Senate will likely confront in the new Congress -- immigration, energy, foreign policy, amendments to the Affordable Care Act, deciding executive appointments and Supreme court confirmations --are simply not going to be met with an evenly split Senate.

The wild card in what is otherwise a horrific scenario is Vice President **BIDEN**. **BIDEN** is a creature of the Senate, long a part of the Senate establishment and someone with close relationships with Senate colleagues on both side of the aisle. **BIDEN** might make a tie work if anyone can.

We should all hope he doesn't need to do it - and we don't need to find out if he can.

ABC News

Bristol Palin Explains Brawl, Blames Media, Attacks BIDENS, Clintons (All In One Note!)

By: Shushannah Walshe / October 23, 2014

Two days after audio from a brawl involving the Palin family was released, Bristol Palin has defended herself and her family in writing, explaining her side of what happened on the evening of Sept. 6.

"Instead of listening to all the people who weren't there ... let me tell you what actually happened," she writes in a post on Patheos.

In her defense, Sarah Palin's eldest daughter blamed a liberal media bias for unfair and incorrect reporting on the incident. She aimed to set the record straight while also pointing out embarrassing incidents in other political families such as the Clintons and **BIDENS**. She alleged coverage of those moments was downplayed because they involved Democratic families.

Some details of the Palins' run-in already emerged on that audio earlier this week and in other accounts.

But here are the five best parts of Bristol Palin's new post:

Palin Attacks **BIDENS** and Clintons, Says They Don't Get Same Negative Coverage as Conservative Women

Bristol Palin asserted media bias leads to coverage of her family, but claimed there is not the same kind of coverage of Democratic family scandals:

"In the meantime, did you even hear about Vice President Joe **BIDEN**'s adult son who kicked out of the Navy for cocaine? (That's the real Vice President's kid...) So pause for a moment and consider the hysteria over our stupid 'incident', compared to our actual Vice President's son not even being able to hold on to a position in the Navy Reserve.

"I'm sure you heard the happy news that Chelsea Clinton had a baby. But did you know her father-in-law and Clinton family pal Edward Mezvinsky is a convicted felon because of committing bank, wire, and mail fraud? Of course, you didn't. Because the friends and family of the revered liberal elite are treated like delicate china. Don't handle too roughly. They are precious. They are off limits. Don't push on them too hard. In the meantime, I was pushed and held down by some guy ... and the media salivates like a dog that's just been given a bone," she wrote.

Palin said the tough coverage stems from her being a conservative woman:

"Violence against women is never okay," Palin wrote. "Even if that violence occurs against conservative women. Imagine for a second the outrage that would happen if Chelsea Clinton had gotten pushed by some guy. Had she tried to defend herself, the liberal media would've held her up as some feminist hero. But it wasn't Chelsea. It wasn't Hillary. It wasn't someone they liked or someone they agreed with. It was a conservative. And once again, the hypocrisy of the media is laid bare."

The Daily Caller

Bristol Palin Claws Media With 10 Perfect Post Brawl Nails

By: Betsy Rothstein / October 23, 2014

Sarah Palin's daughter, Bristol, doesn't just hate the media. She despises it. But today, in a first-person account on the "Palin family brawl," she sounded the typical rallying cry of many conservative websites out there: It's the liberal media - they're all biased! Specifically, she claims that the media has revealed its bias against conservative women like herself.

Bristol, please.

She describes the dramatic battleground in which her little sister, Willow, was knocked to the ground by a grown woman and her friend got "knocked out" and needed 10 stitches. When she tried to defend her sister, she was also shoved to the ground by a 200-pound man who kept her down while she lay there helpless. She wrote that he yelled at her, saying, "You c-nt!"

Bristol goes on to correct details she says the media got wrong. No, she says, she didn't swing at the man seven times, as evidenced by-no joke-her fingernails: "After this incident, I still had a perfect manicure on all ten of my nails."

She expected the media to sit back and what, not cover this? Is she delusional?

And yet she goes to describe a media that would've obviously brushed all this off had it been the Clintons.

Specifically, Chelsea Clinton.

Excuse me, Bristol, but have you read the stories about how bad a job Chelsea did at NBC and the outrage many felt by a \$600,000 paycheck they said she didn't deserve? But even if you don't think those stories were negative enough, how about Chelsea as a teenager, when there were stories and late-night jokes about how ugly and awkward she was. Or Chelsea's father, former President Bill Clinton, getting impeached because he lied about sexual relations he'd had with an intern named Monica Lewinsky. From start to finish, the press didn't ignore the Clintons. Further, Monica blames Matt Drudge, a conservative, for ruining her life. Hillary Clinton hates the media so much that among the reported reasons why she may not run for President involves having to deal with the media.

Columbia Daily Tribune

BIDEN nepotism? Follow your nose

By: Michelle Malkin / October 23, 2014

Everything you need to know about Beltway nepotism, corporate cronyism and corruption can be found in the biography of Robert Hunter

BIDEN. Where are the Occupy Wall Street rabble-rousers and enemies of elitist privilege when you need them? Straining their neck muscles to look the other way.

The youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN** made news last week after The Wall Street Journal revealed he had been booted from the Navy Reserve for cocaine use. His drug abuse was certainly no surprise to the Navy, which issued him a waiver for a previous drug offense before commissioning him as a public affairs officer at the age of 43. The Navy also bent over backward a second time with an age waiver so he could secure the cushy part-time job.

Papa **BIDEN** loves to tout his middle-class, "Average Joe" credentials. But rest assured, if his son had been "Hunter Smith" or "Hunter Jones" or "Hunter Brown," the Navy's extraordinary dispensations would be all but unattainable. Oh, and if he had been "Hunter Palin," The New York Times would be on its 50th front-page investigative report by now.

Despite the disgraceful ejection from our military, Hunter's Connecticut law license won't be subject to automatic review. Because, well, **BIDEN**.

BIDEN's bennies are not just one-offs. Skating by, flouting rules and extracting favors are the story of Hunter's life.

Hunter's first job, acquired after Joe **BIDEN** won his 1996 Senate re-election bid in Delaware, was with MBNA. That's the credit card conglomerate and top campaign finance donor that forked over nearly \$63,000 in bundled primary and general contributions from its employees to then Sen. **BIDEN**. As I've reported previously, Daddy **BIDEN** secured his custom-built, multimillion-dollar house in Delaware's ritziest Chateau Country neighborhood with the help of a leading MBNA corporate executive. Average Joe went on to carry legislative water for MBNA in the Senate for years.

Hunter zoomed up to senior vice president by early 1998 and then scored a plum position in the Clinton administration's Commerce Department, specializing in "electronic commerce" before returning to MBNA three years later as a high-priced "consultant." While he collected those "consulting" (translation: nepotistic access-trading) fees, Hunter became a "founding partner" in the lobbying firm of Oldaker, **BIDEN** and Belair in 2002.

William Oldaker was Papa **BIDEN**'s former fundraiser, campaign treasurer and general counsel - a Beltway barnacle whose Democratic machine days dated back to Teddy Kennedy's 1980 presidential bid. Under Oldaker's tutelage, Hunter lobbied for drug companies, universities and other deep-pocketed clients to the tune of nearly \$4 million billed to the company by 2007.

Coincidentally, then-Illinois Sen. Barack Obama personally requested and secured cozy taxpayer-subsidized earmarks for several of Hunter's clients.

Hunter got himself appointed to multiple corporate board positions, including a directorship with Eudora Global. It's an investment firm founded by one Jeffrey Cooper, head of one of the biggest asbestos-litigation firms in the country. SimmonsCooper, based in Madison County, Ill., donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to **BIDEN** the Elder's various political campaigns over the past decade - all while the firm poured \$6.5 million into lobbying against a key tort-reform bill, which former Sen. **BIDEN** worked hard to defeat. Cooper also contributed to the Delaware attorney-general campaign of Hunter's older brother, Beau, and paid Beau for legal work on lucrative asbestos-litigation cases.

Hunter also was previously a top official at Paradigm Global Advisors, a hedge fund holding company founded with Vice President **BIDEN**'s brother, James, and marketed by convicted finance fraudster Allen Stanford. As Paradigm chairman, Hunter oversaw half a billion dollars of client money invested in hedge funds while remaining a lobbyist at Oldaker, **BIDEN** and Belair. Cooper chipped in \$2 million for the ill-fated venture, which went bust amid nasty fraud lawsuits.

Continually failing upward, Hunter snagged a seat on the board of directors of taxpayer-subsidized, stimulus-inflated Amtrak, where he pretended not to be a lobbyist but rather an "effective advocate" for the government railroad system serving the 1 percenters' D.C.-NYC corridor.

So, where does a coke-abusing influence peddler go after raking in gobs of Daddy-enabled dough and abusing the U.S. Navy's ill-considered generosity? Back to Cronyland! Hunter joined Ukrainian natural gas company Burisma Holdings - owned by a powerful Russian government sympathizer who fled to Russia in February - this spring. The hypocritical lobbyist-bashers at the White House deny he will be lobbying and deny any conflict of interest.

Meanwhile, Just Like You Joe was whipping up class envy in South Carolina last week. "Corporate profits have soared," he railed, thanks to "these guys running hedge funds in New York," who are to blame for "income inequality."

You know, like his son and brother and their Beltway back-scratching patrons.

The **BIDENS**: They're not like us.

Obtained by America's First Legal Foundation

From: Gerlach, Alec <gerlachja2@state.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 2:22:44 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Just tried you. I'm at 202-736-4899 - will be at my desk for a while

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 3:35 PM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Do you mind giving me a quick ring when you get this?
Thanks
202-456-4390

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:30 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

202-736-4899

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:30 PM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

What's your number?

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:12 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Jen doesn't go out to brief until 1, but she has to staff something at 1230. Is now a good time for some guidance that I can relay to her?

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:53 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: Re: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. Trying to get more info over here. Give me a little bit of time.

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks
We are just starting hear from press about this. What time is Jen's briefing?
Can she call me?

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Gerlach, Alec [mailto:GerlachJA2@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

Hi Kendra,

I work with Jen Psaki at the State Dept.

Our Fox News correspondent gave me a heads up that he might ask us about Hunter Biden going to a Ukrainian gas company at our daily press briefing today. Have you gotten any questions on this?

Happy to refer him to you or follow your lead.

He says: I am sure it is legal, just wanted to ask about optics and timing...

From: Tomlinson, Lucas [<mailto:Lucas.Tomlinson@FOXNEWS.COM>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: also--Biden/Ukraine

Doubt you have seen this, so wanted to pass along...

Might ask a question about Hunter Biden joining Ukraine gas company board..

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expand edits Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:56:40 PM
To: "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <r.562>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremyc15>
Subject: FW: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

fyi

-----Original Message-----
From: Lambros, Demetra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:52 PM
To: Murray, Shailagh
Subject: FW: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Here is the first reference to Zlochewsky

-----Original Message-----
From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:15 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra
Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

----- Original Message -----
From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 09:11 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura
>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
> To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
> Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas
> company

> Dear Laura,

> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press
> release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company,
> claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of
> directors:

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on
Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief
under Yanukovich.

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

> Thanks and best

> Max

>

> --

> Max Seddon
> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
> twitter.com/maxseddon

--
Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

From: Gerlach, Alec <gerlachja2@state.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 8:50:00 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

She's supposed to go out at 1pm but she's not around right now. I can give you a ring.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:48 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
Subject: RE: also--Biden/Ukraine

Thanks
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Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
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kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

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Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: also--Biden/Ukraine

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Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Gerlach, Alec
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The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

From: Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 12/16/2014 11:02:33 AM
To: "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey" <1.c25>>; >
Subject: More Documents

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Tue Feb 28 16:32:45 EST 2023

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6),P5

Notes:

redaction of personal information and advisory information

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bruce, Mary K. <mary.k.bruce@abc.com>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:08:29 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Hunter Biden

Any comment? Thanks.

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657>

Lawyer Pursued Military Service Relatively Late as a Public-Affairs Officer

Hunter Biden, right, attends a basketball game with his father, Vice President Joe Biden, center, and President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C., in 2010. ENLARGE

Hunter Biden, right, attends a basketball game with his father, Vice President Joe Biden, center, and President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C., in 2010. ASSOCIATED PRESS

By COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And JULIAN E. BARNES
Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

WASHINGTON—Vice President Joe Biden's son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Write to Colleen McCain Nelson at colleen.nelson@wsj.com

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Hart, Liz <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 12/19/2014 7:25:43 PM
To: "[personal email]" <address>
Subject: FW: Clips

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:57:26 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email addresses

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Allen, Jessica <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>

Sent: 5/13/2014 12:46:55 PM

To: "DL-WHO-Press" <dl-who-press@dsr.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <paulette_l_aniskoff@who.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Beirne Fallon, Katie" <katie_fallon@who.eop.gov>; "Carney, Jay" <james_f_carney@who.eop.gov>; "Carroll, Brad" <bradley_carroll@who.eop.gov>; "Carson, Crystal" <crystal_m_carson@who.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Davidson, Josta" <josta_t_davidson@nsc.eop.gov>; "Edelman, R. David" <ross_d_edelman@ostp.eop.gov>; "Evans, Bess" <elisabeth_w_evans@ostp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Foster, Heather" <heather_j_foster@who.eop.gov>; "Friedman, Jennifer" <jennifer_b_friedman@who.eop.gov>; "Hankins, Hannah R." <hannah_r_hankins@who.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Holst, Lindsay" <lindsay_l_holst@who.eop.gov>; "Holzer, Benjamin" <benjamin_s_holzer@who.eop.gov>; "Hunn, Allison" <allison_d_hunn@who.eop.gov>; "Inouye, Shin" <shin_inouye@who.eop.gov>; "Jencks, Fae" <fae_m_jencks@ostp.eop.gov>; "Jenkins, Brad" <bradley_l_jenkins@who.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kahan, Alex" <alexandra_l_kahan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lawrence, Natasha" <natasha_s_lawrence@cea.eop.gov>; "Lopez, Rafael" <rafael_j_lopez@ostp.eop.gov>; "MacFarquhar, Rory" <rory_macfarquhar@who.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Palmieri, Jennifer" <jennifer_m_palmieri@who.eop.gov>; "Parker, Steve" <steven_l_parker@who.eop.gov>; "Patterson, Nicholas" <nicholas_j_patterson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Platkin, Alex" <alexandra_r_platkin@who.eop.gov>; "Price, Ryan" <ryan_l_price@who.eop.gov>; "Rogers, Melissa" <melissa_rogers@who.eop.gov>; "Russo, Bill" <william_m_russo@nsc.eop.gov>; "Sahgal, Rishi R." <rishi_r_sahgal@who.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schwartz, Noah" <noah_l_schwartz@nsc.eop.gov>; "Shoup, Lilly" <lillian_m_shoup@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Velz, Peter" <peter_t_velz@who.eop.gov>; "Whisenant, Addie" <addie_m_whisenant@who.eop.gov>; "Arguelles, Adam" <adam_j_arguelles@who.eop.gov>; "Asen, Jonathan" <jonathan_asen@who.eop.gov>; "Backemeyer, Christopher" <christopher_r_backemeyer@nsc.eop.gov>; "Bartoloni, Kristen" <kristen_a_bartoloni@who.eop.gov>; "Brookie, Graham" <graham_h_brookie@nsc.eop.gov>; "Brown, Sam" <sam_d_brown@who.eop.gov>; "Canegallo, Kristie A." <kristie_a_canegallo@who.eop.gov>; "Click, John" <john_s_click@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Coates, Kelsey" <kelsey_a_coates@who.eop.gov>; "Cohen, Ilona" <ilona_r_cohen@who.eop.gov>; "Cooper, Eric" <eric_m_cooper@nsc.eop.gov>; "Costa, Kristina" <kristina_l_costa@who.eop.gov>; "Dean, Laura" <laura_a_dean@who.eop.gov>; "Debevoise, Lyn" <lyn_debevoise@nsc.eop.gov>; "Dickinson, Tammy" <tamara_l_dickinson@ostp.eop.gov>; "DMCOS" <dmcos@who.eop.gov>; "Earnest, Joshua R." <joshua_r_earnest@who.eop.gov>; "Fenn, Sarah" <sarah_b_fenn@who.eop.gov>; "Gianotti, Claire" <claire_gianotti@who.eop.gov>; "Govashiri, Ferial" <ferial_govashiri@nsc.eop.gov>; "Hayden, Caitlin" <caitlin_m_hayden@nsc.eop.gov>; "Hedger, Stephen" <stephen_c_hedger@who.eop.gov>; "Heinzelman, Kate" <kate_e_heinzelman@who.eop.gov>; "Jackson, Bartlett" <bartlett_w_jackson@who.eop.gov>; "Jimenez, Luis A." <luis_a_jimenez@ustr.eop.gov>; "Kaden, David M." <david_m_kaden@nsc.eop.gov>; "Keenan, Cody" <cody_keenan@who.eop.gov>; "Kim, Andrew" <andrew_kim@nsc.eop.gov>; "Kirchhoff, Christopher" <christopher_m_kirchhoff@who.eop.gov>; "Lee, Jesse C." <jesse_c_lee@who.eop.gov>; "Lee, Jonathan" <jonathan_l_lee@nsc.eop.gov>; "Leweling, Tara" <tara_l_eweling@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lubin, Nathaniel" <nathaniel_j_lubin@who.eop.gov>; "Lucas Magnuson, Laura" <laura_d_lucas@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lundeberg, Greta" <greta_j_lundeberg@nsc.eop.gov>; "McFarlin, Mac" <robert_w_mcfarlin@who.eop.gov>; "McKeon, Brian P." <brian_p_mckeon@nsc.eop.gov>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <bernadette_m_meehan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Moscoso, Patricia" <patricia_g_moscoso@who.eop.gov>; "Moussavian, Roxana" <roxana_moussavian@who.eop.gov>; "O'Connor, Kyle" <koconnor@who.eop.gov>; "Ortiz, Michael" <michael_r_ortiz@nsc.eop.gov>; "Pfeiffer, Dan" <dan_pfeiffer@who.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Quillian, Natalie" <natalie_h_quillian@who.eop.gov>; "Rangarajan, Taara" <taara_a_rangarajan@nsc.eop.gov>; 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"Dean, Laura" </cn=recipients/cn=laura_a_dean1>; "Govashiri, Ferial" </cn=recipients/cn=ferialgovashiri17161561>; "Evans, Bess" </cn=recipients/cn=elisabeth_w_evans>; lisa_o_monaco@who.eop.gov; sarah_k_hurwitz@who.eop.gov; "Ortiz, Michael" <r.889>; "O'Connor, Kyle" </cn=recipients/cn=koconnor>; caroline_e_adler@who.eop.gov; "Robertson, Michael" <j.26c>; "Lawrence, Natasha" <s.111>; "DMCOS" </cn=recipients/cn=dmcos791>; robert_d_whithorne@who.eop.gov; "Russo, Bill" <m.f22>; david_m_simas@who.eop.gov; "Rogers, Melissa" <melissaf81>; "Foster, Heather" </cn=recipients/cn=heather_j_foster>; "Szuplat, Terence P." </cn=recipients/cn=terencep.szuplat27487457>; "Leweling, Tara" <a.aac>; "Carroll, Bradley" <bradley66d>; "Patterson, Nicholas" <j.7f9>; "MacFarquhar, Rory" </cn=recipients/cn=rory_macfarquhar>; mc_gonzalez@who.eop.gov; "Schwartz, Noah" <l.845>; anita_j_decker@who.eop.gov; "Fallon, Katherine" <b.311>; katherine_a_vargas@who.eop.gov; dagoberto_vega@who.eop.gov; "Keenan, Cody" </cn=recipients/cn=codykeenan83443781>; 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Subject: Re: MoscowTimes: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

[Olivier Knox @OKnox_1m](#)

.@VP spox Kendra Barkoff statement re: Ukraine energy firm: "Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer." (1/3)

[Olivier Knox @OKnox_1m](#)

(cont'd 2/3) "The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

[Olivier Knox @OKnox_1m](#)

(3/3) "For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Allen, Jessica

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:05 PM

To: 'DL-WHO-Press' (DL-WHO-Press@dsr.eop.gov); Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; 'Carney, Jay'; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; 'Friedman, Jennifer'; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steven; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; 'Rogers, Melissa'; 'Russo, Bill'; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; 'Steve Ricchetti'; Trotter, Kingsley; 'Velz, Peter'; 'Whisenant, Addie'; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; 'Bartoloni, Kristen'; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; 'DMCOS@who.eop.gov'; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoco, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.

Subject: MoscowTimes: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

[DRUDGE REPORT @DRUDGE_REPORT_1m](#)

Son of Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company... <http://drudge.tw/1lih37X>

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/son-of-us-vice-president-biden-joins-ukraine-gas-company/500062.html>

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

The Moscow Times

May. 13 2014 18:49 Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

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Subject: VPOTUS Afternoon Press Mentions--May 15, 2014
Attachments: [VPOTUS_PM_PRESS--05_15_2014.docx](#)

VPOTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS Thursday, May 15, 2014

[Associated Press](#)

**Obamas list assets between \$1.8M and \$7M
May 15, 2014**

... Vice President Joe **BIDEN** reported 2013 assets of between \$276,000 and \$940,000, including a rental property owned jointly with his wife, Jill, in Wilmington, Delaware.

[USA Today](#)

**Obama's assets estimated at \$2 million to \$7 million
By: David Jackson / May 15, 2014**

... Vice President **BIDEN** also filed his annual financial disclosure statement and listed assets valued at \$276,000 to \$940,000, including a rental property owned jointly with his wife, Jill.

[Roll Call](#)

**BIDEN Refinances Mortgage, Saves a Bundle
By: Steven Dennis / May 15, 2014**

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN** Jr. refinanced his home and two home equity lines of credit in 2013, securing super-low mortgage rates that will save him thousands of dollars a year.

[Washington Post](#)

**President Obama, first lady disclose assets worth between \$1.95 million and \$7.15 million
By: David Nakamura / May 15, 2014**

... Vice President **BIDEN** and wife Jill listed assets worth between \$276,000 and \$940,000, including a rental property in Wilmington, Del., worth between \$100,000 and \$250,000, according to the disclosures.

[Wall Street Journal](#)

**BIDEN Refinances Mortgage but Obama Stands Pat
By: Jeffrey Sparshott and Eric Morath / May 15, 2014**

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** jumped on lower mortgage rates last year, his boss didn't.

[Washington Times](#)

**As author, BIDEN distant second to Obama
By: Ben Wolfgang / May 15, 2014**

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN'S** success as an author pales in comparison to that of his boss, according to financial records released Thursday by the White House.

[Associated Press](#)

**Senate panel approves 6-year highway bill
May 15, 2014**

... Obama carried his plea for more money to replace aging infrastructure on Wednesday to New York, where the federal government has provided a \$1.6 billion loan to rebuild the busy Tappan Zee Bridge. Vice President Joe **BIDEN** traveled to Cleveland to highlight federal investment in a \$17.5 million new light rail station that will open in 2015.

[The Hill](#)

**House silent on highway funding
By: Keith Laing / May 15, 2014**

...Meanwhile, the administration is pressing for action after releasing its own plan for a four-year, \$302 billion transportation measure. President Obama and Vice President **BIDEN** both delivered speeches Wednesday to tout the proposal.

[Better Roads](#)

**Obama, BIDEN call for infrastructure investment
By: Amanda Bayhi / May 15, 2014**

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe **BIDEN** pushed for transportation infrastructure investment during their respective trips to New York's Tappan Zee Bridge and Ohio's Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority this week.

[TIME](#)

**Joe BIDEN to Colleges: 'Step Up. It's Time'
By: Joe BIDEN / May 15, 2014**

I believe that the vast majority of college presidents are right minded and like stockholders putting pressure on CEOs, the White House wants to put pressure on them to change. You don't want to be a school that mishandles rape. Guess what? Step up. It's time. It's absolutely time because the moral disapprobation of society is the most powerful tool for effecting change in the cultural norms that doggedly hang on.

[The Wire](#)

**Time Tackles the College Rape 'Debate' with a Rah-Rah Pennant
By: Allie Jones / May 15, 2014**

... Time features essays from Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, who leads the White House task force on the issue, and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, who's been working with Sen. Claire McCaskill over the past year to force universities to be accountable for sex crimes occurring on campus. **BIDEN** and Gillibrand argue that it's time to do something, while Law and Order: SVU's Mariska Hartigay writes about victim blaming, and Gloria Allred puts the debate in legal context: "The Battle Over Sexual Assault Is the Civil Rights Movement of Our Time."

[TIME](#)

**Russia Pours Scorn on News of Hunter BIDEN'S New Job
By: Leonid Ragozin / May 15, 2014**

The news that Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son Hunter had taken a job with the Ukrainian gas company Burisma has been met in Russia with malicious glee. "Ahaha," tweeted Member of Parliament Alexander Sidiyakin, reacting to the White House statement that there was no conflict of interest after the news of Hunter **BIDEN'S** new role was made public on Tuesday. "Joe **BIDEN** is a good dad - took the trouble

of going across the ocean to secure a job for his son," the pro-Kremlin website politrussia.ru commented in its Twitter feed, referring to Vice President's recent trip to Ukraine.

[Huffington Post](#)

Following the Clintons, the BIDENS Cash in on Ukraine

By: Innokentiy Grekov / May 15, 2014

Perhaps Hunter BIDEN doesn't get his marching orders from the White House, nor does he carry enough swag to influence U.S.-Ukrainian relations. None of this will matter as the White House suffered another foreign-policy setback when Joe BIDEN'S youngest son joined the board of directors of Ukraine's largest oil company.

Associated Press

Obamas list assets between \$1.8M and \$7M

May 15, 2014

President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama reported assets worth between \$1.8 million and \$7 million for last year, little changed from their previous year's holdings, according to financial disclosure forms released Thursday.

The forms, required by law, permit public officials to list their assets in broad ranges. As a result, a precise net worth is difficult to ascertain.

The forms show the largest jointly owned assets by the president and the first lady were Treasury notes worth between \$1 million and \$5 million. While the value of their assets is certainly higher than that of most Americans, their mix reflects the financial demands of a 50-something couple with two daughters. Their assets include Vanguard retirement funds and college savings plans.

Royalties in 2013 from Obama's books, "Dreams From My Father," "The Audacity of Hope" and "Of Thee I Sing," totaled between \$70,000 and \$165,000. In 2011, they totaled between \$250,000 and \$2.1 million.

The Obamas also have a 30-year mortgage on their Chicago home worth between \$500,000 and \$1 million with an interest rate of 5.625 percent.

Vice President Joe BIDEN reported 2013 assets of between \$276,000 and \$940,000, including a rental property owned jointly with his wife, Jill, in Wilmington, Delaware.

Unlike the Obamas, BIDEN has taken advantage of lower mortgage rates and refinanced his mortgage last year. He listed a 30-year mortgage on his principal residence and his rental property worth between \$500,000 and \$1 million with an interest rate of 3.375 percent.

BIDEN also reported making \$25,000 donations to each of two Pennsylvania anti-domestic violence groups. The \$50,000 came from an award BIDEN received from the Pennsylvania Society, which honored BIDEN last year with its gold medal for distinguished achievement,

Last month, the Obamas released their 2013 tax returns and reported paying \$98,169 in taxes on \$481,098 in adjusted income.

The BIDENS reported paying \$96,378 in federal taxes last year on adjusted gross income of \$407,009.

USA Today

Obama's assets estimated at \$2 million to \$7 million

By: David Jackson / May 15, 2014

President Obama and first lady Michelle Obama listed assets valued at about \$2 million to \$7 million, according to a financial disclosure report released Thursday.

Vice President BIDEN also filed his annual financial disclosure statement and listed assets valued at \$276,000 to \$940,000, including a rental property owned jointly with his wife, Jill.

"The Ethics in Government Act of 1978 requires high-level federal officials to publicly disclose their personal financial interests," said a White House blog post by spokesman Jay Carney. "The public filing system serves to prevent financial conflicts of interest by providing for a systematic review of the finances of government officials."

Presidents and other officeholders are required to list assets, but the form provides wide ranges on the values of those assets.

In declaring "U.S. Treasury notes," Obama checked the box valuing them at \$1,000,001 to \$5 million.

In addition to various bank accounts, index funds and college savings plans, Obama declared royalties from his books Dreams From My Father, The Audacity of Hope and Of Thee I Sing: A Letter To My Daughters.

The asset ranges added up to \$1.95 million to \$7.15 million for the president.

The Obamas listed only one liability, the mortgage on their home in Chicago.

Roll Call

BIDEN Refinances Mortgage, Saves a Bundle

By: Steven Dennis / May 15, 2014

Vice President Joseph R. BIDEN Jr. refinanced his home and two home equity lines of credit in 2013, securing super-low mortgage rates that will save him thousands of dollars a year.

BIDEN was generally been among the poorer senators, but his family finances appear to have improved of late, judging by a review of his financial disclosure forms.

In 2013, he paid off a mortgage on his Delaware home with a 4.625 percent interest rate with a new, 30-year mortgage with a super-low 3.375 percent rate from TD Bank, which has a Canadian parent company.

The mortgage is somewhere between \$500,000 and \$1 million, and includes a rental property. Saving 1.25 percent on \$500,000 would amount to more than \$6,000 in savings a year, although after-tax savings would be less because of the mortgage interest deduction.

He also paid off two home equity lines of credit each worth more than \$100,000 and took out a new home equity line of credit worth more than \$250,000.

The old home equity lines featured interest rates of 4.49 percent and a prime interest rate, respectively.

The new home equity line features a super-low 2.75 percent interest rate and a 20-year term, also from TD Bank. That should save BIDEN thousands more each year.

BIDEN, 71, would be more than 100 years old when the 30-year mortgage is paid off, if it isn't paid off early.

Obama, meanwhile, continues to pay above-market interest rates on his mortgage on his Chicago home - 5.625 percent. We noted a few

years back that while Obama had urged a massive refinancing program to bolster the economy, he hadn't yet taken advantage of low interest rates to refinance himself.

Washington Post

President Obama, first lady disclose assets worth between \$1.95 million and \$7.15 million

By: David Nakamura / May 15, 2014

President Obama and first lady Michelle Obama listed assets worth between \$1.95 million and \$7.15 million, according to financial disclosure forms released by the White House on Thursday.

The disclosures, required by law, show that the first family holds U.S. Treasury bonds worth between \$1 million and \$5 million, the largest single portion of their assets. The forms allow public officials to list their holdings in broad ranges. The Obama family's total assets were similar to their 2013 disclosures.

Vice President **BIDEN** and wife Jill listed assets worth between \$276,000 and \$940,000, including a rental property in Wilmington, Del., worth between \$100,000 and \$250,000, according to the disclosures.

Wall Street Journal

BIDEN Refinances Mortgage but Obama Stands Pat

By: Jeffrey Sparshott and Eric Morath / May 15, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** jumped on lower mortgage rates last year, his boss didn't.

Mr. **BIDEN** in 2013 took out a 30-year mortgage from TD Bank on his principal residence, including rental property, with an interest rate of 3.375%, according to his financial disclosure form released Thursday. The loan, valued at between \$500,000 and \$1 million, replaced his previous mortgage from Wilmington Saving Fund Society, which he took out in 2010. That loan came with a 4.625% interest rate.

The vice president also took out a 20-year home equity line of credit at a 2.75% interest rate from TD Bank. He paid off two other lines of credit from Wilmington Saving Fund.

Interest on 30-year fixed-rate mortgages hovered near historic lows in 2012 and early 2013, a result of Federal Reserve policies, broad uncertainty and lackluster economic growth. For the week ending May 8, the rates stood at 4.21%, the lowest level so far this year, according to Freddie Mac.

That hasn't been enough to entice Mr. Obama, who is perhaps a little busy, to refinance. Mr. Obama has a home loan of between \$500,001 and \$1 million with Northern Trust. He took the 30-year mortgage out in 2005 and it carries an interest rate of 5.625%.

The Obamas might benefit from some extra cash. The first couple's income dropped to \$481,098 last year from \$608,000 in 2012, according to tax forms released last month, hurt by declining income from the president's books. The president reported roughly \$250,000 in royalties in 2012, and about \$110,000 in 2013, according to the returns.

Mr. Obama, a best-selling author, has penned three books. Royalties from his first, "Dreams from My Father," ranged between \$50,001 and \$100,000 in 2013, down from a range of \$100,001 to \$1 million in 2012, according to the disclosure form.

His follow-up, "Audacity of Hope," garnered \$15,001 to \$50,000 last year, down from \$50,001 to \$100,000 the prior year. And "Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters" brought in between \$5,001 and \$15,000, down from \$100,001 to \$1 million a year earlier.

Mr. Obama donates after-tax proceeds from "Of Thee I Sing," a children's book first published in 2010, to a scholarship fund for the children of fallen and disabled soldiers, according to the disclosure forms. For "Dreams," he earns 15% of U.S. hardcover sales and up to 10% for paperback sales. Other terms weren't disclosed in the latest forms.

The White House annually releases financial forms for Messrs. Obama and **BIDEN**. The forms offer ranges for their income and assets, not specific amounts.

Despite diminished royalties, the Obamas appear to be in solid financial shape. Mr. Obama had more than \$1 million in U.S. Treasury notes listed among his assets, alongside sizable sums in retirement funds, college savings plans and checking accounts.

Mr. **BIDEN** listed dozens of assets in investment funds and other accounts, most with a value of less than \$15,000 each. His most valuable asset is a Wilmington, Del., rental property worth between \$100,001 and \$250,000. He also listed two certificates of deposit worth between \$50,001 and \$100,000.

Mr. **BIDEN** also reported making receiving \$50,000 in an award, which was donated to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Women Against Abuse, of Philadelphia.

Washington Times

As author, BIDEN distant second to Obama

By: Ben Wolfgang / May 15, 2014

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN'S** success as an author pales in comparison to that of his boss, according to financial records released Thursday by the White House.

Financial disclosure reports for both Mr. **BIDEN** and President Obama, required by law each year, detail the investments and outside income for both men.

The documents show Mr. Obama continues to enjoy royalties from his three books. "Dreams From My Father" generated between \$50,001 and \$100,000 for the president last year, while "The Audacity of Hope" pulled in between \$15,001 and \$50,000, according to the records.

The president's other work, "Of Thee I Sing: A Letter To My Daughters," brought in between \$5,001 and \$15,000 in royalties.

By contrast, Mr. **BIDEN** made less than \$201 last year from his memoir, "Promises To Keep," the records show.

The president, vice president and other high-ranking government officials are required to submit the reports each year under the 1978 Ethics in Government Act. The act is meant to ensure no officials have financial conflicts of interest.

"Neither the president nor the vice president has any conflicts of interest, and their reports have been reviewed and certified by the independent Office of Government Ethics," White House press secretary Jay Carney said Thursday. "We are continuing this administration's practice of posting these forms online here in the interests of transparency."

Associated Press

Senate panel approves 6-year highway bill

May 15, 2014

A Senate panel on Thursday approved a bill to keep federal highway programs going for the next six years, but it remained unclear whether Congress would act in time to prevent a disruption in transportation aid to states this summer.

The Environment and Public Works Committee approved a bill that would keep transportation spending at current levels, plus inflation, in a rare burst of bipartisan bonhomie, with Democrats and Republicans lavishing praise on each other. No one spoke against the measure, which passed on a voice vote.

"I never remember a transportation bill that went through this way without any controversial amendments even offered and withdrawn," said Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., the panel's chairman.

But the bill doesn't address the biggest transportation question facing Congress: how to find an extra \$100 billion to close the gap between what lawmakers want to spend on highway and transit programs and how much revenue federal gas and diesel taxes and other user fees bring into the federal Highway Trust Fund.

Finding the money is the responsibility of the Senate Finance Committee, but its chairman, Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., hasn't signaled how he plans to do that. The White House and Congress have been unwilling thus far to raise the 18.4-cents-a-gallon gasoline tax and the 24.4-cents-a-gallon diesel tax, which haven't been increased since 1993.

The Department of Transportation estimates the federal Highway Trust Fund will go broke on Aug. 29, but disruptions in payments to states could happen as early as July, when the balance in that account is expected to drop below \$4 billion. Without that cushion, it becomes difficult to ensure incoming revenues can keep up with outgoing aid to states.

The bill largely maintains the status quo and avoids controversial new proposals. Democrats made concessions aimed at ensuring that rural states share in federal aid for major projects in order to win GOP support.

One significant new program in the bill is aimed at eliminating bottlenecks that hinder the transportation of freight. The bill authorizes \$400 million for that next year, gradually increasing to \$1 billion in the last year of the bill.

Transportation officials in several states are already making plans to delay commitments to new construction projects because of the uncertainty over the flow of federal dollars. Should the federal government be forced to slow down or cancel payments to states, it could result in the shutdown of projects across the country and widespread layoffs of construction workers.

That would have "a domino effect that will be felt throughout our economy," Boxer said.

Most transportation experts say that's unlikely to happen. They expect Congress will wind up doing what it has done repeatedly since 2008, which is dipping into the general treasury for enough money to keep transportation aid flowing for a few weeks or a few months, and then repeat the exercise all over again.

Keeping transportation programs continually on the edge of insolvency makes it difficult for states to plan, especially for more costly, major projects that take several years to complete. The White House and lobbying groups representing interests ranging from the asphalt industry and construction workers to local transit agencies and bus drivers are spending this week - which they dubbed "infrastructure week" - trying to raise public support for a long-term transportation bill that would provide funding certainty to states and increase overall transportation spending.

Obama carried his plea for more money to replace aging infrastructure on Wednesday to New York, where the federal government has provided a \$1.6 billion loan to rebuild the busy Tappan Zee Bridge. Vice President Joe **BIDEN** traveled to Cleveland to highlight federal investment in a \$17.5 million new light rail station that will open in 2015.

The Hill
House silent on highway funding
By: Keith Laing / May 15, 2014

The House is staying quiet in the debate over a new transportation funding bill despite a flurry of action by senators and the Obama administration. Senate leaders this week unveiled a six-year, \$265 billion road and transit funding package bill that will be marked up in committee on Thursday morning.

Meanwhile, the administration is pressing for action after releasing its own plan for a four-year, \$302 billion transportation measure. President Obama and Vice President **BIDEN** both delivered speeches Wednesday to tout the proposal.

"If they don't act by the end of the summer, federal funding for transportation projects will run out," Obama said in front of the Tappan Zee Bridge in New York.

"There will be no money. The cupboard will be bare. And all told, nearly 700,000 jobs would be at risk over the next year - that's like the population of Tampa and St. Louis combined."

The House has stayed out of the fray, focusing instead on a recent agreement it reached with the Senate on a smaller \$8.2 billion bill to boost U.S. port and waterways.

Transportation advocates say it's time for House Republicans to get engaged in the debate.

"We're now into mid-May, and if the CBO is correct, we're facing an insolvency," AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department President Ed Wytkind told The Hill. "There isn't a big vision out of the House and we need one."

Wytkind was referencing a recent projection from the Congressional Budget Office that the trust fund that is used to pay for road and transit will run out of money by the end of this summer.

The labor leader said the House's inactivity is dampening an otherwise positive week for the funding push. "The administration is clearly all in, not only on having a bill, but they're using the powerful voices of the president, the vice-president and the [Transportation] secretary to go around the country taking the case to voters," Wytkind said.

Wytkind noted there are big differences between Obama's transportation proposal and the Senate's, including the fact that the president is calling for lawmakers to spend approximately \$25 billion per year more on road and transit projects than the upper chamber is suggesting.

But Wytkind said he was glad the Senate was staking out a position. "The Senate is finally doing a bill, but it doesn't reflect the administration's priorities because the administration's bill is a significant expansion," he said. "The Senate bill is just adjusted for inflation. It's basically a flat line bill. If combine those two facts, I think it's time for the House to get moving and hopefully they can come up with something big."

The key figure in the House is Rep. Bill Shuster (R-Pa.), the chairman of the Transportation Committee. Shuster is facing his primary on Thursday, and is working to fend off challenges from businessman Art Halvorson and U.S. Army veteran Travis Schooley.

Shuster's opponents have attacked his past work on pricey transportation bills.

Shuster is expected to survive the primary, but transportation advocates are worried that too much time has been lost to pass a large bill before the projected bankruptcy date for the Highway Trust Fund. "Certainly, I would like to see the House come up with something because my expectation is that whenever Shuster does come up with something, he's going to have a very different perspective [than Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.)]," said Joshua Schank, who is president of the independent Eno Center for Transportation in Washington.

Schank said he had "no doubt" that Shuster wants to pass a significant transportation bill during his tenure as House Transportation

Committee Chairman. Shuster's father once held the same position in Congress. But Schank said Shuster is unlikely to go along with anything similar to Boxer's plan.

"It's my impression that he had the intention of making an imprint when he took the [Transportation Committee] chairmanship," Schank said. "I don't think his goal is just 'let's pass another six years of MAP-21, which basically what Boxer is proposing.'"

Shuster's office declined to comment on the highway bill, pointing instead to the upcoming vote on final passage of the port and waterways measure.

Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) has said that the lower chamber is waiting to identify a funding mechanism to help pay for transportation projects before it releases a draft of its bill.

The traditional source for transportation funding has been the federal gas tax, which is now set at 18.4 cents-per-gallon. The gas tax has not been increased since 1993, however, and infrastructure expenses are now outpacing receipts by about \$16 billion per year. The gas tax brings in approximately \$34 billion per year, but the current transportation bill includes more than \$50 billion in road and transit spending. Transportation advocates have said the current funding level is the bare minimum that can be spent to maintain the nation's infrastructure. The CBO has projected that lawmakers will have to find \$100 billion in revenue, in addition to the gas tax funding, to approve a new six-year transportation bill this year. Transportation advocates have pushed for a bill that lasts for at least six years because lawmakers approved only a two-year measure in 2012 that is expiring in the fall. Senators this week said their \$265 billion transportation bill would last six years, but have not yet decided how to pay for it.

Better Roads

Obama, BIDEN call for infrastructure investment

By: Amanda Bayhi / May 15, 2014

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe **BIDEN** pushed for transportation infrastructure investment during their respective trips to New York's Tappan Zee Bridge and Ohio's Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority this week.

While at the site of the \$3.9 billion Tappan Zee Bridge project in Tarrytown, New York, Obama urged Congress to pass the administration's \$302 billion, four-year bill, *Newsday* reports.

He proposed the bill in February, and Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx presented the bill to Congress last month.

During his trip, Obama also unveiled plans to expedite projects such as the Tappan Zee Bridge replacement. He noted that a similar action brought the bridge's permitting process from 3-5 years down to 1 1/2 years.

The president also called for more infrastructure investment, pointing out that "building a world class transportation system is one of the reasons America became an economic superpower in the first place," according to *Newsday*.

While Obama was in New York pushing for transportation investment, **BIDEN** was doing the same while visiting the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority in Cleveland, Ohio.

Much like Obama, **BIDEN** mentioned the effects of transportation on the nation's economy, *Ohio.com* reports.

He pointed to an ASCE report that notes the U.S. will need to invest \$3.6 trillion in infrastructure by 2020 to maintain existing facilities.

However, he pointed out that nation isn't investing nearly what is needed. The U.S. only spends 1 percent of its gross domestic product on infrastructure, **BIDEN** said, and ranks 18th globally for the quality of its highways.

"Those in Congress who lack vision say we can't afford to make these investments," **BIDEN** said in the report. "How can we not afford to make these investments?"

After both trips, the White House shared a blog about the importance of rebuilding highways and bridges in the U.S.

The blog notes that 65 percent of U.S. "are rated in less than good condition" and about 25 percent of the nation's bridges "need significant repair or can't handle today's traffic." Also noted is the 700,000 jobs that are at risk if federal transportation funding runs out.

Visit WhiteHouse.gov to read the full blog, which includes an infographic outlining what could happen if Congress doesn't reauthorize transportation spending before the current highway bill, MAP-21, expires on September 30.

TIME

Joe BIDEN to Colleges: 'Step Up. It's Time'

By: Joe BIDEN / May 15, 2014

I believe that the vast majority of college presidents are right minded and like stockholders putting pressure on CEOs, the White House wants to put pressure on them to change. You don't want to be a school that mishandles rape. Guess what? Step up. It's time. It's absolutely time because the moral disapprobation of society is the most powerful tool for effecting change in the cultural norms that doggedly hang on.

The Wire

Time Tackles the College Rape 'Debate' with a Rah-Rah Pennant

By: Allie Jones / May 15, 2014

Time's May 26th issue is all about rape on campus, and the illustration on the magazine's cover is a spirited pennant with the word RAPE embroidered on it. If you can get past the jarring image (especially as it's placed next to the coverline "My Kid Hates Frozen, By Joel Stein"), there's a lot of debate within the magazine about how college campuses should be handling the sexual assault crisis.

Time features essays from Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, who leads the White House task force on the issue, and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, who's been working with Sen. Claire McCaskill over the past year to force universities to be accountable for sex crimes occurring on campus. **BIDEN** and Gillibrand argue that it's time to do something, while Law and Order: SVU's Mariska Hartigay writes about victim blaming, and Gloria Allred puts the debate in legal context: "The Battle Over Sexual Assault Is the Civil Rights Movement of Our Time."

Then, Time offers us the "but what about men?" contingent. Christina Hoff Sommers, who is convinced that sexual assault numbers are overblown, writes that false rape accusations "are proliferating" on campus. This is based on anecdotal evidence. Matthew Kaiser, a white collar criminal defense attorney who represents college men accused of rape, argues that consent rules are "unfair to male students." He claims he's more worried about his son being falsely accused of rape than he is about his daughter getting raped.

The fact that Time chose to include these essays shows there's still a way to go in terms of advancing the conversation about sexual assault (on campus and elsewhere). False accusations do happen, but suggesting that men are more likely to be falsely accused of rape than women are likely to get raped is patently untrue and offensive. As much as Summers would like to pretend the research doesn't exist/is wrong, 1 in 5 women will be sexually assaulted by the time they leave college. That's a problem that deserves honest

examination, not two essays about how women lie.

TIME

Russia Pours Scorn on News of Hunter BIDEN'S New Job

By: Leonid Ragozin / May 15, 2014

The news that Vice President Joe BIDEN'S son Hunter had taken a job with the Ukrainian gas company Burisma has been met in Russia with malicious glee. "Ahaa," tweeted Member of Parliament Alexander Sidiyakin, reacting to the White House statement that there was no conflict of interest after the news of Hunter BIDEN'S new role was made public on Tuesday. "Joe BIDEN is a good dad - took the trouble of going across the ocean to secure a job for his son," the pro-Kremlin website politrussia.ru commented in its Twitter feed, referring to Vice President's recent trip to Ukraine.

Rossiia TV channel's commentator Andrey Arkhipov said the appointment was "in line with Washington's plan to gain control over global energy resources." Dubbing Joe BIDEN "the curator of the military coup in Ukraine" - a reference to the ousting of pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovich in February following months of public protests - Arkhipov ridiculed the idea that no U.S. lobbying was involved in the appointment.

Top TV and radio anchor Vladimir Solovyov speculated about the fact that Burisma owned licenses for shale gas deposits in the areas of eastern Ukraine, where armed conflict between government forces and separatist insurgents is now flaring. "Let me remind you what the U.S. keeps telling Europe: Reject Russian gas. We'll provide as much gas as you need. We have shale gas technology," he said, without developing his conspiracy theory any further. Ukraine's and Europe's dependence on Russian gas supplies is a major factor in the Ukrainian geopolitical equation.

Russian media has been picturing Joe BIDEN as the Ukrainian government's puppeteer ever since last month's visit, which was aimed at demonstrating American support for the interim Ukrainian government. While in Kiev, BIDEN was filmed taking the chairperson's seat at a meeting with Ukrainian ministers. That footage featured prominently in Russian TV bulletins as an illustration of Ukraine allegedly turning into a U.S. colony.

The incident prompted a vitriolic comment by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who said that "Joe BIDEN was conducting a meeting with the Ukrainian leadership essentially in the capacity of the head of state, presiding over the table, with Ukrainian officials on his side."

Huffington Post

Following the Clintons, the BIDENS Cash in on Ukraine

By: Innokenty Grekov / May 15, 2014

Perhaps Hunter BIDEN doesn't get his marching orders from the White House, nor does he carry enough swag to influence U.S.-Ukrainian relations. None of this will matter as the White House suffered another foreign-policy setback when Joe BIDEN'S youngest son joined the board of directors of Ukraine's largest oil company.

Joe BIDEN visited Ukraine in April, reiterating Washington's support for the interim government in Kyiv. It looks like Hunter BIDEN will travel there often to carry out his duties for Burisma Holdings, a leading Ukrainian energy company incorporated in Cyprus.

Companies operating headquartered in Cyprus have long been the butt of jokes in Russia and Ukraine, as money-laundering schemes prevail in those murky Mediterranean waters, allowing big-ticket oligarchs and minor crooks and thieves alike to operate their corrupt schemes with no oversight and very little transparency. There's a lot of Russian money in Cyprus, folks.

Hunter BIDEN is mainly known as a lawyer and investor, but he is also an advocate for humanitarian causes and even a HuffPost blogger. He also sits on the Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute (NDI), a D.C.-based outlet that runs democracy promotion and civil society development programs all over the world, including Ukraine. NDI is chiefly funded by the U.S. government, and the Kremlin's contempt for organizations like this is well-documented: after USAID's forced departure from Moscow, NDI moved its staff out of Russia. According to senior State Department official Victoria Nuland, U.S. government's democracy programming in Ukraine, run through organizations like NDI, cost U.S. tax payers 5 billion dollars since the fall of the Soviet Union.

The Kremlin must be well aware of Hunter BIDEN'S family ties (duh!) and NDI credentials. No matter what the White House says about the inability of Joe BIDEN to influence his son's work in Ukraine, the U.S. government has already lost this PR battle. Just as Washington is unable to persuade the American people that the United States has national security interests in Ukraine; nobody in Europe, Russia, or Ukraine will believe that there is no conflict of interest in Hunter BIDEN'S appointment.

There are more intriguing connections between Ukrainian oligarchs and U.S. elites. In February, the New York Times profiled the relationship between Bill and Hillary Clinton and steel magnate Victor Pinchuk, who was in frequent contact with Hillary Clinton's State Department, for more than a decade paid a hefty \$40,000 monthly retainer to a Bill Clinton-affiliated DC lobbyist, and donated roughly 13.1 million to the Bill, Hillary, & Chelsea Clinton Foundation.

Steelworkers in Pennsylvania and Ohio are vocally unhappy about this relationship, and American steel makers are currently pursuing a case alleging:

Ukraine -- and by extension Mr. Pinchuk's company, Interpipe Ltd. -- and eight other countries had illegally dumped a type of steel tube used in natural gas extraction, an industry whose growth has provided one of the few bright spots in the United States manufacturing sector.

The Clintons' involvement with Mr. Pinchuk and the appointment of Hunter BIDEN adds to the Kremlin's arsenal of weapons for the "information war" between Russia and the West, which the Kremlin is winning by a landslide right now. It's winning the real war, too.

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:34:15 PM
To: scrabtree@washingtonexaminer.com
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden's hiring by Burisma Holdings

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Susan Crabtree [mailto:scrabtree@washingtonexaminer.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:58 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden's hiring by Burisma Holdings

Hi there Kendra,

I just posted a story about the brief mention of Hunter Biden's hiring by Jay during the briefing.

He directed questions to the vice president's office so I am wondering if you can answer a couple.

Wondering if Hunter talked to Biden about this hiring when he received the offer, how much compensation Hunter Biden will receive and whether the vice president gave his seal of approval to the hiring, i.e. whether his son asked for Biden's approval before accepting the offer and whether Biden gave it.

Thanks so much, Kendra. Know you must be inundated with questions about this.

Thanks,

Susan Crabtree

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 10/22/2014 4:12:56 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kcoconnor@whmo.mil" <Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern)" <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@whmo.mil>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Stennis, Michael" <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berlenbach, Sarah" <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, October 22, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:54:15 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/12/2014 8:07:22 AM
To: "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: Re: Ukraine headline

Can someone translate it?

From: Prescott, Jeffrey
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:04 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Ricchetti, Steven; Sullivan, Jacob
Subject: FW: Ukraine headline

Flagging

From: Debevoise, Lyn
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:01 AM
To: Prescott, Jeffrey; Carpenter, Michael
Subject: Ukraine headline

Haven't read the article, but flagging this:

Hunter Biden, Vice President's son, appointed to board of Zlochevskiy's Burisma Holdings that develops gas in Ukraine
http://economics.lb.ua/business/2014/05/12/266147_sin_vitseprezidenta_ssha_stal.html

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 3:09:45 PM
To: m.schiavenza@ibtimes.com
Subject: Re: Query: Hunter Biden at Burisma

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Matt Schiavenza [mailto:m.schiavenza@ibtimes.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 04:04 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Query: Hunter Biden at Burisma

Dear Kendra,

This is Matt Schiavenza, International Business Times at the International Business Times. I'm writing to ask a few questions about the news that Hunter Biden has taken a position as the head of legal affairs at Burisma. Here they are:

1. When did the courtship between Burisma and Hunter Biden begin?
2. Does Hunter Biden represent a White House endorsement in any capacity?

Any response to this would be greatly appreciated! Thanks.

Matt

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:48:29 AM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>
Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

I need to respond to some of these.

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:47 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Hi Kendra,

Am about to get on a plane so just wanted to send you a couple other questions: Ukrainian media have reported Mr. Zlochinsky is on a visa ban list. Is this true? Did the VP or any of his people meet with Burisma representatives while he was in Ukraine and discuss this? Why does the Burisma site seem so proud of its apparent connections to the Biden family, including from before today's announcement? What, if anything, has the VP discussed with Hunter about Burisma, Mr. Zlochinsky, or other matters related to the Ukrainian gas industry?

Thanks in advance - will be online again in about two hours or so. Phone is +380684586856

Best

Max

On Tuesday, May 13, 2014, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:
Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

-----Original Message-----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Dear Laura,

Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company, claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of directors:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.

Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

Thanks and best

Max

--
Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 7/25/2014 4:11:59 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

Cc: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; kcoconnor@whmo.mil; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward.f.dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; "Russo2, Bill" <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; >; "Rosenthal, Lynn" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>>; >; "Ricchetti, Steven" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven" <j.534>>; >; "Amin, Faisal" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, " <faisalc7c>>; >; "Lienemann, David C." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Friday, July 25, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:47:11 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Ames, Ali (Intern) <alexandra_e_ames_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/17/2014 7:45:07 AM
To: "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <gleeson_j20f>
Subject: Weekly Press Report 10.10.14-10.17.14
Attachments: [Press Weekly Report 10.10.14-17.10.14.doc](#)

Hi James,

Attached is an unfinished weekly press report. I'm about to do an OVP intern East Wing tour, so I won't be able to finish it for a couple hours (there were a lot of stories published last night). But I wanted you to be able to start reading it earlier. I'll send the final report later this morning.

Thanks,

Ali Ames
Intern, Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4808

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lederman, Josh <jlederman@ap.org>
Sent: 5/13/2014 11:47:19 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Following up on this because the company is based in Cyprus. Two questions for you:

- 1) Is this related to the vice president's visit to Cyprus next week?
- 2) Is Hunter Biden traveling on the VP's trip to Cyprus?

Thanks, Josh

From: Lederman, Josh
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: 'Barkoff, Kendra'
Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including "Bush vs. Gore", and "U.S. vs. Microsoft". He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University's Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman's Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world's largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent - incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m3 of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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[IP_US_DISC]

mks dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

From: Max Seddon <max.seddon@buzzfeed.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 9:47:07 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Hi Kendra,

Am about to get on a plane so just wanted to send you a couple other questions: Ukrainian media have reported Mr. Zlochinsky is on a visa ban list. Is this true? Did the VP or any of his people meet with Burisma representatives while he was in Ukraine and discuss this? Why does the Burisma site seem so proud of its apparent connections to the Biden family, including from before today's announcement? What, if anything, has the VP discussed with Hunter about Burisma, Mr. Zlochinsky, or other matters related to the Ukrainian gas industry?

Thanks in advance - will be online again in about two hours or so. Phone is +380684586856

Best

Max

On Tuesday, May 13, 2014, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:
Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

-----Original Message-----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Dear Laura,

Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company, claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of directors:

<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.

Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

Thanks and best

Max

--
Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 8:29:53 PM
To: "[personal email]" <address>
Subject: Fw: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:48:06 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address and personal information

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/12/2014 8:07:52 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Ukraine headline

Google translate will give you the gist.

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:07 AM
To: Prescott, Jeffrey; Murray, Shailagh; Ricchetti, Steven; Sullivan, Jacob
Subject: Re: Ukraine headline

Can someone translate it?

From: Prescott, Jeffrey
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:04 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Ricchetti, Steven; Sullivan, Jacob
Subject: FW: Ukraine headline

Flagging

From: Debevoise, Lyn
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:01 AM
To: Prescott, Jeffrey; Carpenter, Michael
Subject: Ukraine headline

Haven't read the article, but flagging this:

Hunter Biden, Vice President's son, appointed to board of Zlochevskiy's Burisma Holdings that develops gas in Ukraine
http://economics.lb.ua/business/2014/05/12/266147_sin_vitseprezidenta_ssha_stal.html

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:35:04 PM
To: max.seddon@buzzfeed.com
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)
Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

Off the record:
The VP didn't meet with anyone from Burisma when he was in Ukraine.

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:47 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Hi Kendra,

Am about to get on a plane so just wanted to send you a couple other questions: Ukrainian media have reported Mr. Zlochinsky is on a visa ban list. Is this true? Did the VP or any of his people meet with Burisma representatives while he was in Ukraine and discuss this? Why does the Burisma site seem so proud of its apparent connections to the Biden family, including from before today's announcement? What, if anything, has the VP discussed with Hunter about Burisma, Mr. Zlochinsky, or other matters related to the Ukrainian gas industry?

Thanks in advance - will be online again in about two hours or so. Phone is +380684586856

Best

Max

On Tuesday, May 13, 2014, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:
Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

-----Original Message-----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Dear Laura,

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<http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.

Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

Thanks and best

Max

--
Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: Mackler, Alexander <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/22/2014 9:17:28 AM
To: "McGrail, John" <john_p_mcgrail@ovp.eop.gov>; "McGrail, John </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=mcgrail, john p." <mcgrail_jf85>>; >
Subject: FW: Vice Presidential News Clips for Wednesday, October 22, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:55:28 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Eric Schwerin <eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 8:58:55 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Cc: "Hunter Biden" <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: Re: hey

Kendra, I am around the next few days if you need me.

Eric D. Schwerin
Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC
1010 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Suite 705
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 333-1880
eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com

P Consider the environment before printing this email.

On May 13, 2014, at 10:39 AM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:39 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Eric Schwerin
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

Ok-
What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

From: Max Seddon <max.seddon@buzzfeed.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 7:11:58 AM
To: "Lucas Magnuson, Laura" <laura_d_lucas@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lucas, Laura" <d.49e>
Cc: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura

<Laura_D_Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura

>
> -----Original Message-----

> From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]

> Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM

> To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura

> Subject: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

>

> Dear Laura,

>

> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company, claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of

> directors:

>

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

>

> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief under Yanukovich.

>

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

>

> Thanks and best

>

> Max

>

>

> --

> Max Seddon

> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed

> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)

> twitter.com/maxseddon

--

Max Seddon

Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed

+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)

twitter.com/maxseddon

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 8:59:40 AM
To: "Zezima, Katie" <katie.zezima@washpost.com>
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden and Ukranian gas producer

Thank you for reaching out

Here is my on the record statement:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

Kendra

From: Zezima, Katie [<mailto:Katie.Zezima@washpost.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden and Ukranian gas producer

Hi Kendra,

Hope you're doing well. I'm wondering if you have any comment on Hunter Biden joining the board of directors of Burisma Holdings. Given that VP Biden has expressed support for pro-Western demonstrators that overthrew Mr. Yanukovich's government, does the VP see any conflict? Has the VP had any involvement with the company? Have Hunter Biden and Vice President Biden discussed the move?

Thanks so much.

Katie

Katie Zezima
White House reporter
The Washington Post
Office: 202-334-9607
Cell: 617-997-9221
Katie.zezima@washpost.com
@katiezez

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 6/7/2014 3:31:46 PM
To: "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=aidinoff, marc" <f.f6c>; >
Cc: "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=pietranton, kelsey" <l.c25>; >; "Spector, Stephen </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>; >; "Hart, Elizabeth A. </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=hart, elizabeth" <a.ffe>; >
Subject: Clips

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:41:17 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: IA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 10/23/2014 4:12:30 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Mackler, Alexander" <alexander_s_mackler@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Anne Marie" <anne_m_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Twigg, Carri" <carri_b_twigg@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@ovp.eop.gov>; "Anderson, David" <david_c_anderson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Graves, Don" <donet_d_graves@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <elizabeth.regoli@whmo.mil>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Gleeson, James" <james_m_gleeson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Noblitt, Karly" <karly_m_noblitt@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kcoconnor@whmo.mil"; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen_c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nickoloff, Lauren (Intern)" <lauren_e_nickoloff_intern@whmo.mil>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Stennis, Michael" <michael_j_stennis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berlenbach, Sarah" <sarah_f_berlenbach@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ford, Sarah (Intern)" <sarah_l_ford_intern@whmo.mil>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas.p.mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nourse, Victoria" <victoria_f_nourse@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward_f_dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, October 23, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:56:20 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:04:54 PM
To: "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <bernadette_m_meehan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Earnest, Joshua R." <joshua_r_earnest@who.eop.gov>; "Hayden, Caitlin" <caitlin_m_hayden@nsc.eop.gov>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <m.486>; "Earnest, Joshua R." </cn=recipients/cn=joshuar.earnest67836121>; "Hayden, Caitlin" </cn=recipients/cn=caitlin_m_hayden>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>
Subject: Re: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Yes thank you

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 07:04 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette; Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Thanks

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 7:01 PM
To: Spector, Stephen; Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Thanks. We'll refer any inquiries to you and Kendra.

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 6:56 PM
To: Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin; Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657?mod=WSJ_LatestHeadlines

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have

not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Murray, Shailagh <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/12/2014 8:06:04 AM
To: "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: Re: Ukraine headline

+Demetra

From: Prescott, Jeffrey
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:04 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Ricchetti, Steven; Sullivan, Jacob
Subject: FW: Ukraine headline

Flagging

From: Debevoise, Lyn
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:01 AM
To: Prescott, Jeffrey; Carpenter, Michael
Subject: Ukraine headline

Haven't read the article, but flagging this:

Hunter Biden, Vice President's son, appointed to board of Zlochevskiy's Burisma Holdings that develops gas in Ukraine
http://economics.lb.ua/business/2014/05/12/266147_sin_vitseprezidenta_ssha_stal.html

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/21/2014 10:09:24 AM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <l.c25>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>
Subject: Daily Beast: Where There's Trouble, You'll Usually Find Joe Biden

Where There's Trouble, You'll Usually Find Joe Biden

Daily Beast
By: [Lloyd Green](#)

His crisis-creating remarks and his son's drug-related discharge from the Navy are just the beginning. This guy's a train wreck. According to the polls, Joe Biden doesn't have a prayer in 2016. And according to former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, Biden "has been wrong on nearly every major foreign-policy and national-security issue over the past four decades."

But two things are also certain: First, Biden is still Barack Obama's go-to-guy when partisan loyalty is at a premium. Faced with rising concern and criticism over the outbreak of Ebola, Obama tapped Ron Klain, Biden's former chief of staff, to be America's Ebola czar. Second, Biden's friends and family have not hesitated to profit from their ties to the vice president. Biden's brother, James, and his son, Hunter, have cashed in on the family name, whether it be in Iraq or Ukraine. Biden may have the mien of the crazy uncle in the basement, but he is also a real reminder of what is wrong with politics.

Let's start with Klain. Like Biden, Klain is a consummate fixer, with Georgetown and Harvard Law School degrees thrown in for good measure. But for his political pedigree, Klain would have no business being Ebola coordinator. Ebola is [not just another messaging problem](#).

Klain was the aide to Al Gore who was memorialized by Kevin Spacey in the HBO movie *Recount* as pushing for a more aggressive approach to, well, the 2000 Florida recount. Then, after failing in Florida, Klain became a Fannie Mae lobbyist who helped convince Congress and Fannie Mae's regulators that all was well with the world, even as Fannie Mae was inflating what would prove to be a [catastrophic housing bubble](#).

And yet, Biden and Obama now seek to again unleash Klain on America. To be sure, Klain's public-health credentials are invisible, a fact that Obama himself has tacitly acknowledged. In announcing Klain's selection, Obama [framed things this way](#): "Klain comes to the job with extensive experience in overseeing complex governmental operations and has good working relationships with leading members of Congress as well as senior administration officials." Not one word about Klain, medicine, and immunology.

In that sense, Klain is all too reminiscent of Harriet Miers, George W. Bush's White House counsel and his personal lawyer. Bush nominated Miers to the Supreme Court but was then compelled to pull her nomination after it became clear that Miers' loyalty to the president far exceeded her legal chops.

What prevented Miers from joining the court was the fact that she would have to run the gantlet of Senate confirmation, which is something that Klain, the Ebola czar, will not need to do. He is a creature of the White House, cloaked in executive privilege.

Klain is not the first to crawl out of the swamp of Biden World on to the larger stage. He is cut from the same mold as Tom Donilon, Obama's former national security adviser, who, like Klain, also served at Fannie Mae; had his own ties to Biden; and worked in a job in which he was over his head. For the record, Donilon's brother, Mike, was Biden's counselor between 2009 and 2013.

According to *The Nation*, "Fannie Mae paid Donilon, a longtime Democratic Party operative, \$15 million to lobby Congress to gut the power of government regulators." He was "a top executive at Fannie Mae during the period when cooking the books to increase executive compensation would later lead to a \$400 million fine."

More disturbingly, Donilon took center stage as national security adviser despite the fact that he was lightly regarded in national-security circles. In [Bob Woodward's telling](#), Gen. Jim Jones, Donilon's predecessor at NSA, said to Donilon, "You have no credibility with the military... you frequently pop off with absolute declarations about places you've never been, leaders you've never met, or colleagues you work with." Donilon was also Obama's guy while the president was laying out imaginary red lines to Syria.

But it's not just Biden placing loyalty over competence that makes him who he is, his tropism toward plagiarism, or even his tendency to say the wrong thing at the wrong time. It's Biden's willingness to turn a blind eye in the face of his family members trading on Biden's job as vice president for fun, profit, and disgrace that completes the picture.

Take Hunter Biden, the veep's younger son. Just last week, it was [reported](#) that the 44-year-old Hunter was discharged from the Navy after testing positive for cocaine. But here's the thing. To get into the Navy, Hunter needed a separate waiver on account of his prior drug use. History does repeat itself.

And then there's that matter of Hunter and Ukraine. Back in May, Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private natural-gas producer, announced that Hunter had joined its board. To which the White House [could only reply](#), "Hunter Biden and other members of the Biden family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president."

And then there's James Biden, the vice president's brother, who made a go at winning public-housing contracts in Iraq. As reported in the waning days of the 2012 presidential campaign, after Joe became vice president, James joined New Jersey-based Hill International as its [executive vice president](#).

So what? So this. Hill's business is managing construction projects in the Middle East and the United States, and lo and behold, six months after James joined Hill in 2010, the company won a \$1.5 billion contract to build at least 100,000 affordable homes in Iraq. Talk about coincidence.

Or not. According to published reports, the State Department, then run by Hillary Clinton, and the Iraqi government were instrumental in Hill winning the contract. Also at the time, Biden was Obama's point person on Iraq, and like Klain, who is no expert on public health, James Biden was no maven on public housing.

The White House may have contemplated dumping Joe Biden from the ticket. But that was then. These days, it is Biden who again finds himself at the center of all things Obama.

Even as the United States struggles to build a coalition against ISIS, it is Biden who tweaks Turkey, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, without appreciating the havoc that he would wreak, tweaks for which he would ultimately be forced to apologize. We have seen the diplomatic crises Biden can stir up. But sadly, it's hardly the worst of Biden's handiwork.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 11:48:29 AM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>
Subject: FW: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:47 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Following up on this because the company is based in Cyprus. Two questions for you:

- 1) Is this related to the vice president's visit to Cyprus next week?
- 2) Is Hunter Biden traveling on the VP's trip to Cyprus?

Thanks, Josh

From: Lederman, Josh
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: 'Barkoff, Kendra'
Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including "Bush vs. Gore", and "U.S. vs. Microsoft". He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University's Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman's Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world's largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent - incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m3 of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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[IP_US_DISC]

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/14/2014 10:11:22 AM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <r.562>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: The Guardian: Why shouldn't Hunter Biden join the board of a gas company in Ukraine?
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

[image002.jpg](#)

Why shouldn't Hunter Biden join the board of a gas company in Ukraine?
The son of the US vice-president has been chosen to take charge of energy firm Burisma's legal unit - a decision based purely on merit, of course

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Hunter Biden, with his father, US vice-president Joe Biden. Photograph: Charles Dharapak/Associated Press

Name: Hunter Biden.

Age: 44.

Appearance: Chip off the old block.

His names rings a bell. Is he related to someone famous? He's the son of [Joe Biden](#), the US vice president.

What is he, sort of a wayward, ne'er-do-well playboy type? Not really. He's a graduate of Yale Law School and a former senior vice-president at MBNA America Bank.

Good for him. During the Clinton administration he worked in the US Department of Commerce. He's presently a partner in an investment firm. And counsel for a national law firm. And an adjunct professor at Georgetown University.

I get it: he likes to keep busy. He has even found the time to join the board of a gas company called Burisma Holdings Ltd.

Never heard of it. Perhaps that's because it's a Ukrainian gas company; [Ukraine](#)'s largest private gas producer, in fact. He's [taking charge of the company's legal unit](#).

Isn't that a bit fishy? Why do you say that?

Because he's the vice-president's son! That's a coincidence. "This is totally based on merit," said Burisma's chairman, Alan Apter.

He doesn't sound very Ukrainian. He's American, as is the other new board member, Devon Archer.

Who? Devon Archer, who works with Hunter Biden at Rosemont Seneca partners, which is half owned by Rosemont Capital, a private equity firm founded by Archer and Christopher Heinz.

Who? Christopher Heinz ... John Kerry's stepson.

I think Putin's propaganda people can take a long weekend; their work is being done for them. What do you mean?

Hasn't Joe Biden pledged to help Ukraine become more energy independent in the wake of its troubles with Russia? Well, yes.

And isn't Burisma, as a domestic producer, well positioned to profit from rising gas prices caused by the conflict? Possibly, but Hunter Biden is a salaried board member, not an investor. According to anonymous sources in [the Wall Street Journal](#), neither Rosemont Seneca nor Rosemont Capital has made any financial investment in Burisma.

So it's not fishy at all? No one's saying that.

Do say: "Somebody needs to get involved in Ukraine's corporate governance, and it might as well be a clutch of rich, well-connected American dudes with weird first names."

Don't say: "Thanks, Dad."

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:52:51 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <r.562>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

By: Lucy McCalmont
May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

<http://dyn.politico.com/printstory.cfm?uuid=E0720EFC-048D-45F0-B3A3-EC67457DEBB7>

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:52 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.
Subject: WE: Jay Carney: Joe Biden's son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

Jay Carney: Joe Biden's son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son, Hunter Biden, has accepted a position with [Ukraine](#)'s largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the [White House](#) signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman [Jay Carney](#) said Tuesday.

Burisma Holdings announced Tuesday that Hunter Biden, Biden's youngest son, would serve on the company's board of directors.

The company in a news release on its website said Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Burisma's legal unit and will "provide support" among international organizations. [The Moscow Times](#) first reported the news Tuesday.

Asked about the hiring by a reporter Tuesday, Carney referred questions about it to the vice president's office and noted that it did not indicate that Obama was involved or approved of it.

"Hunter Biden and other members of the family are obviously private citizens and where they work is not an endorsement by the president or vice president," he said.

Amid the escalating tensions between Ukraine and [Russia](#) in recent weeks, the European Commission, the executive body of the [European Union](#), has tried to step in to try to prevent Russia from halting [natural gas](#) shipments to Ukraine unless it pays \$3.5 billion in debts.

Ukraine has so far refused to pay in protest of Moscow's decision to nearly double the price it charges Kiev for gas imports.

In the company's release, Alan Apter, the chairman of the company's board of directors, said: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

Hunter Biden works at Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York. He is also a co-founder and a managing partner of investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and serves as director of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, a network of 400 businesses, nonprofits and foreign policy experts, and the chairman of the advisory board for the National Democratic Institute, a non-profit that works to support democratic institutions and elections around the world.

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:50 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.
Subject: WT: Joe Biden's son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

Joe Biden's son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

By [Jessica Chasmar](#)

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/may/13/joe-bidens-son-hunter-head-legal-unit-ukraines-lar/>

The Washington Times Vice President [Joseph R. Biden's](#) youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at [Ukraine's](#) largest private gas producer. Burisma Holdings [said in a statement](#) that Hunter [Biden](#) will be in charge of the [company's](#) legal unit and will provide support for the company among international organizations. "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in [Ukraine](#)," [Mr. Biden](#) said. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and [benefit](#) the people of [Ukraine](#)," he said. White House press secretary Jay Carney said Tuesday that [Mr. Biden's](#) new position "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration," Time magazine's [Zeke Miller reported](#). The announcement comes [just one day](#) after Russia's state energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to [Ukraine](#) unless the country pays in advance for supplies. The vice president has condemned Russia for its intervention in [Ukraine](#) and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy, The Moscow Times [reported](#).

Read more: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/may/13/joe-bidens-son-hunter-head-legal-unit-ukraines-lar/#ixzz3lcvyEE5E>
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From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:17 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.
Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

AP: VP Biden's son joins Ukrainian gas company's board

WASHINGTON (AP) - Vice President Joe Biden's youngest son, Hunter Biden, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine. That's according to Burisma Holdings. The company says Biden will head the company's legal unit and seek support for Burisma among international organizations. The announcement comes as Ukraine is looking to decrease its reliance on Russian energy. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage in the crisis with Ukraine if Europe was less dependent on Russian gas. Burisma says it's the largest private gas producer in Ukraine, but a state-owned company controls most gas production there. Securities and Exchange Commission records show Burisma is based in Cyprus. The vice president will visit Cyprus next week and has been a key player in the U.S. response to the Ukraine crisis.

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:27 PM
To: Spector, Stephen; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley; Prescott, Jeffrey; Sullivan, Jacob; Lambros, Demetra; Hertz, Jessica R.
Subject: RE: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

+ others

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:23 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra; Murray, Shailagh; Trotter, Kingsley
Subject: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis
<http://www.nationaljournal.com/white-house/another-biden-has-waded-into-the-ukraine-crisis-20140513>

By Marina Koren

Joe Biden has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only Biden involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

It's unclear whether the entry of another Biden into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Rosie Gray <rosie@buzzfeed.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:40:10 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden

Which office do you mean, for Hunter?

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 2:39 PM, Rosie Gray <rosie@buzzfeed.com> wrote:
Thank you Kendra

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 2:39 PM, Barkoff, Kendra <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:
OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)
Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Rosie Gray [mailto:rosie@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:04 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden

Hi,

I'm a reporter for BuzzFeed. I know my colleague Max Seddon has already reached out to your office but we're looking to get answers about whether or not Hunter Biden has joined the board of Burisma. Can you confirm? Is the VP's office going to say anything about this?

thanks,
Rosie

--
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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 5/15/2014 4:13:56 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

CC: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Fromstein, Charles" <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jillian_doodooy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia.donley@whmo.mil>; "Richards, Kitty" <katharine_r_richards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "kcoconnor@whmo.mil"; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen.c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_p_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward.f.dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; "Russo2, Bill" <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; >; "Rosenthal, Lynn" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>>; >; "Ricchetti, Steven" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven" <j.534>>; >; "Amin, Faisal" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, " <faisalc7c>>; >; "Lienemann, David C." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, May 15, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 14:46:53 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Allen, Jessica <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>

Sent: 5/13/2014 10:53:00 AM

To: "DL-WHO-Press" <dl-who-press@dsr.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Allen, Jessica" <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <paulette_l_aniskoff@who.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Beirne Fallon, Katie" <katie_fallon@who.eop.gov>; "Carney, Jay" <james_f_carney@who.eop.gov>; "Carroll, Brad" <bradley_carroll@who.eop.gov>; "Carson, Crystal" <crystal_m_carson@who.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Davidson, Josta" <josta_t_davidson@nsc.eop.gov>; "Edelman, R. David" <ross_d_edelman@ostp.eop.gov>; "Evans, Bess" <elizabeth_w_evans@ostp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Foster, Heather" <heather_j_foster@who.eop.gov>; "Friedman, Jennifer" <jennifer_b_friedman@who.eop.gov>; "Hankins, Hannah R." <hannah_r_hankins@who.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Holst, Lindsay" <lindsay_l_holst@who.eop.gov>; "Holzer, Benjamin" <benjamin_s_holzer@who.eop.gov>; "Hunn, Allison" <allison_d_hunn@who.eop.gov>; "Inouye, Shin" <shin_inouye@who.eop.gov>; "Jencks, Fae" <fae_m_jencks@ostp.eop.gov>; "Jenkins, Brad" <bradley_l_jenkins@who.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kahan, Alex" <alexandra_l_kahan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lawrence, Natasha" <natasha_s_lawrence@cea.eop.gov>; "Lopez, Rafael" <rafael_j_lopez@ostp.eop.gov>; "MacFarquhar, Rory" <rory_macfarquhar@who.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Palmieri, Jennifer" <jennifer_m_palmieri@who.eop.gov>; "Parker, Steve" <steven_l_parker@who.eop.gov>; "Patterson, Nicholas" <nicholas_j_patterson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Platkin, Alex" <alexandra_r_platkin@who.eop.gov>; "Price, Ryan" <ryan_l_price@who.eop.gov>; "Rogers, Melissa" <melissa_rogers@who.eop.gov>; "Russo, Bill" <william_m_russo@nsc.eop.gov>; "Sahgal, Rishi R." <rishi_r_sahgal@who.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schwartz, Noah" <noah_l_schwartz@nsc.eop.gov>; "Shoup, Lilly" <lillian_m_shoup@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Velz, Peter" <peter_t_velz@who.eop.gov>; "Whisenant, Addie" <addie_m_whisenant@who.eop.gov>; "Arguelles, Adam" <adam_j_arguelles@who.eop.gov>; "Asen, Jonathan" <jonathan_asen@who.eop.gov>; "Backemeyer, Christopher" <christopher_r_backemeyer@nsc.eop.gov>; "Bartoloni, Kristen" <kristen_a_bartoloni@who.eop.gov>; "Brookie, Graham" <graham_h_brookie@nsc.eop.gov>; "Brown, Sam" <sam_d_brown@who.eop.gov>; "Canegallo, Kristie A." <kristie_a_canegallo@who.eop.gov>; "Click, John" <john_s_click@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Coates, Kelsey" <kelsey_a_coates@who.eop.gov>; "Cohen, Ilona" <ilona_r_cohen@who.eop.gov>; "Cooper, Eric" <eric_m_cooper@nsc.eop.gov>; "Costa, Kristina" <kristina_l_costa@who.eop.gov>; "Dean, Laura" <laura_a_dean@who.eop.gov>; "Debevoise, Lyn" <lyn_debevoise@nsc.eop.gov>; "Dickinson, Tammy" <tamara_l_dickinson@ostp.eop.gov>; "DMCOS" <dmc@who.eop.gov>; "Earnest, Joshua R." <joshua_r_earnest@who.eop.gov>; "Fenn, Sarah" <sarah_b_fenn@who.eop.gov>; "Gianotti, Claire" <claire_gianotti@who.eop.gov>; "Govashiri, Ferial" <ferial_govashiri@nsc.eop.gov>; "Hayden, Caitlin" <caitlin_m_hayden@nsc.eop.gov>; "Hedger, Stephen" <stephen_c_hedger@who.eop.gov>; "Heinzelman, Kate" <kate_e_heinzelman@who.eop.gov>; "Jackson, Bartlett" <bartlett_w_jackson@who.eop.gov>; "Jimenez, Luis A." <luis_a_jimenez@ustr.eop.gov>; "Kaden, David M." <david_m_kaden@nsc.eop.gov>; "Keenan, Cody" <cody_keen@who.eop.gov>; "Kim, Andrew" <andrew_kim@nsc.eop.gov>; "Kirchhoff, Christopher" <christopher_m_kirchhoff@who.eop.gov>; "Lee, Jesse C." <jesse_c_lee@who.eop.gov>; "Lee, Jonathan" <jonathan_l_lee@nsc.eop.gov>; "Leweling, Tara" <tara_a_leweling@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lubin, Nathaniel" <nathaniel_j_lubin@who.eop.gov>; "Lucas Magnuson, Laura" <laura_d_lucas@nsc.eop.gov>; "Lundeberg, Greta" <greta_j_lundeberg@nsc.eop.gov>; "McFarlin, Mac" <robert_w_mcfarlin@who.eop.gov>; "McKeon, Brian P." <brian_p_mckeon@nsc.eop.gov>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <bernadette_m_meehan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Moscoco, Patricia" <patricia_g_moscoco@who.eop.gov>; "Moussavian, Roxana" <roxana_moussavian@who.eop.gov>; "O'Connor, Kyle" <kocconnor@who.eop.gov>; "Ortiz, Michael" <michael_r_ortiz@nsc.eop.gov>; "Pfeiffer, Dan" <dan_pfeiffer@who.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_p_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Quillian, Natalie" <natalie_h_quillian@who.eop.gov>; "Rangarajan, Taara" <taara_a_rangarajan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Rangel, Antoinette N." <antoinette_n_rangel@who.eop.gov>; "Rhodes, Benjamin J." <benjamin_j_rhodes@who.eop.gov>; "Robertson, Michael" <michael_j_robertson@who.eop.gov>; "Rosenberger, Laura" <laura_m_rosenberger@nsc.eop.gov>; "Ruemmler, Kathryn H." <kathryn_h_ruemmler@who.eop.gov>; "Schulman, Loren DeJonge" <loren_schulman@nsc.eop.gov>; "Sherwood-Randall, Liz" <elizabeth_d_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov>; "Singh, Pavneet" <pavneet_singh@nsc.eop.gov>; "Szuplat, Terry" <terence_p_szuplat@nsc.eop.gov>; "Wagstaff, Jessica" <jessica_e_wagstaff@who.eop.gov>; "Wang, Jenny" <ya_w_wang@who.eop.gov>; "West, Thomas" <thomas_w_west@ovp.eop.gov>; "Withers, Anne" <anne_m_withers@nsc.eop.gov>; "Wozniak, Natalie S." <natalie_s_wozniak@nsc.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Marguerite" <l.b8f>; "Jimenez, Luis A." <a.le7>; "Jenkins, Brad" </cn=recipients/cn=bradley_l_jenkins>; "DL-WHO-Press" </cn=recipients/cn=dlwhopress21553275>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Hedger, Stephen" <c.b07>; brian_d_highsmith@who.eop.gov; "Quillian, Natalie" <h.bc8>; kori.s.schulman@who.eop.gov; "Edelman, David" <d.2e5>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <m.486>; alexander_b_wall@who.eop.gov; "Gianotti, Claire (Intern)" <claire79d>; carlyn_a_reichel@nsc.eop.gov; "Brookie, Graham" <h.c19>; "Holzer, Benjamin" </cn=recipients/cn=benjamin_s_holzer>; "Brown, Sam" <d.c8a>; "Kahan, Alex" <l.5fe>; patrick_cunname@who.eop.gov; "Holst, Lindsay" <l.288>; maurice_m_owens@who.eop.gov; "Earnest, Joshua R." </cn=recipients/cn=joshuar.earnest67836121>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <r.562>; "McFarlin, Robert" <w.3d7>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; howli_j_ledbetter@who.eop.gov; "Hayden, Caitlin" </cn=recipients/cn=caitlin_m_hayden>; rachel_j_racusen@who.eop.gov; "Lopez, Rafael" <j.72b>; james_r_kvaal@who.eop.gov; megan_e_rooney@who.eop.gov; avra_siegel@who.eop.gov; "Schultz, Gregory" <c.084>; christina_tchen@who.eop.gov; tyler_a_lechtenberg@who.eop.gov; keith_r_maley@who.eop.gov; "Inouye, Shin" </cn=recipients/cn=shininouye75456365>; "Dean, Laura" </cn=recipients/cn=laura_a_dean>; "Govashiri, Ferial" </cn=recipients/cn=ferialgovashiril7161561>; "Evans, Bess" </cn=recipients/cn=elizabeth_w_evans>; lisa_o_monaco@who.eop.gov; sarah_k_hurwitz@who.eop.gov; "Ortiz, Michael" <r.889>; "O'Connor, Kyle" </cn=recipients/cn=kocconnor>; caroline_e_adler@who.eop.gov; "Robertson, Michael" <j.26c>; "Lawrence, Natasha" <s.111>; "DMCOS" </cn=recipients/cn=dmc0s791>; robert_d_whithorne@who.eop.gov; "Russo, Bill" <m.f22>; david_m_simas@who.eop.gov; "Rogers, Melissa" <melissaf81>; "Poster, Heather" </cn=recipients/cn=heather_j_foster>; "Szuplat, Terence P." </cn=recipients/cn=terencep.szuplat27487457>; "Leweling, Tara" <a.aac>; "Carroll, Bradley" <bradley66d>; "Patterson, Nicholas" <j.7f9>; "MacFarquhar, Rory" </cn=recipients/cn=rory_macfarquhar>; mc_gonzalez@who.eop.gov; "Schwartz, Noah" <l.845>; anita_j_decker@who.eop.gov; "Allen, Jessica" <l.d4e>; "Fallon, Katherine" <b.311>; katherine_a_vargas@who.eop.gov; dagoberto_vega@who.eop.gov; "Keenan, Cody" </cn=recipients/cn=codykeen@83443781>; "Withers, Anne" <m.94a>; mathew_s_nosanchuk@nsc.eop.gov; "Friedman, Jennifer" <b.a17>; "Wozniak, Natalie S." </cn=recipients/cn=natalies.wozniak52051125>; desiree_n_barnes@who.eop.gov; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>; "Hunn, Allison" <d.5ee>; "West, Thomas" <w.bf3>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremyc15>; taylor_j_lustig@who.eop.gov; "Carney, Jay" </cn=recipients/cn=james_f_carney>; "Rhodes, Benjamin J." </cn=recipients/cn=benjaminj.rhodes66704772>; "Kim, Andrew" <andrew88>; george_selim@nsc.eop.gov; caitria_l_mahoney@who.eop.gov; "Velz, Peter" <t.3a2>; "Price, Ryan" <l.abd>; "Whisenant, Addie" <m.03f>; "Rangel, Antoinette N." </cn=recipients/cn=antoinette_n_rangel>; "Fenn, Sarah" </cn=recipients/cn=sarahb.fenn64100553>; jessica_e_schumer@cea.eop.gov; johanna_maska@who.eop.gov; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <l.c19>; "Dickinson, Tammy" </cn=recipients/cn=tamara_l_dickinson>; shannon_n_green@nsc.eop.gov; "Davidson, Josta" <t.b87>; "Bartoloni, Kristen" </cn=recipients/cn=kristen_a_bartoloni>; amira_valliani@nsc.eop.gov; "Costa, Kristina" <l.f71>; "Ruemmler, Kathryn H." </cn=recipients/cn=kathryn.h.ruemmler10175027>; david_m_litt@who.eop.gov; "Kaden, David M. (NSS)" <5a8>; agaarn_y_johnson@nsc.eop.gov; "Hankins, Hannah R." </cn=recipients/cn=hannah_r_hankins>; "Govashiri, Ferial" <ferial_govashiri@who.eop.gov>; "Cohen, Ilona" <r.76f>; "Platkin, Alexandra" <r.9fd>; "Kirchhoff, Christopher" <m.896>; "Debevoise, Lyn" <lync5f>; christine_s_abizaid@nsc.eop.gov; "Aidinoff, Marc" <f.f6c>; "Cooper, Eric" <m.43b>; jeffrey_d_tiller@who.eop.gov; "Lee, Jonathan" <l.f5d>; leah_b_katz-hernandez@who.eop.gov; "McKeon, Brian P." <p.2b3>; jonathan_p_lalley@nsc.eop.gov; "Singh, Pavneet" </cn=recipients/cn=pavneet_singh>; valerie_jarrett@who.eop.gov; cecilia_munoz@who.eop.gov; laura_a_schulz@nsc.eop.gov; "Schulman, Loren DeJonge" <loren4d7>; "Jackson, Bartlett" <w.599>; amy_brundage@who.eop.gov; tara_d_mcguinness@who.eop.gov; "Moscoco, Patricia" </cn=recipients/cn=patricia_g_moscoco>; joanna_s_rosholm@who.eop.gov; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Rangarajan, Taara" <a.29a>; hallie_m_ruvin@who.eop.gov; matthew_a_lehrich@who.eop.gov; "Parker, Steven" <l.87f>; "Wang, Jenny" <w.eb7>; "Lubin, Nathaniel" <j.d81>;

frances_a_holuba@nsc.eop.gov; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; patrick_h_ventrell@nsc.eop.gov; "Cloud, Donald" <w.359>; eric_h_schultz@who.eop.gov; "Rosenberger, Laura" <m.d7f>; jessica_r_santillo@who.eop.gov; "Lee, Jesse C." </cn=recipients/cn=jessec.lee74301331>; nathaniel_m_perkins@who.eop.gov; "Jencks, Fae" <m.771>; "Coates, Kelsey" <a.04d>; "Carson, Crystal" <m.b7f>; "Sahgal, Rishi R." </cn=recipients/cn=rishir.sahgal41360826>; warren_n_eggleson@who.eop.gov; brett_p_brueen@nsc.eop.gov; "Wagstaff, Jesica" </cn=recipients/cn=jessica_e_wagstaff>; ezra_l_mechaber@who.eop.gov; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; clay_a_dumas@who.eop.gov; "Click, John" </cn=recipients/cn=john_s_click>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>; "Heinzelman, Kate" <e.d3b>; "Asen, Jonathan" </cn=recipients/cn=jonathanasen37271556>; "Canegallo, Kristie A." <a.068>; "Sherwood-Randall, Liz" </cn=recipients/cn=elizabethd.sherwoodrandall41217251>; "Pfeiffer, Dan" </cn=recipients/cn=dpfeiffer>; "Lundeberg, Greta" </cn=recipients/cn=greta_j_lundeberg>; "Lucas, Laura" <d.49e>; "Palmieri, Jennifer" <m.cd6>; kaelan_e_richards@who.eop.gov; stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov; "Shoup, Lillian" <m.0c8>; clare_e_gallagher@nsc.eop.gov; "Moussavian, Roxana" <roxanae02>; "Backemeyer, Christopher" <r.073>; "Arguelles, Adam" </cn=recipients/cn=adam_j_arguelles>; jordan_m_burke@who.eop.gov; "Orbach Lachman, Sherry" <e.5f8>;

Subject: Allison B. Hesse@who.eop.gov Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Politico // Lucy McCalmont

May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, [said](#) in a statement, which was [reported](#) by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: roberta.rampton <roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 4:58:04 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden / Ukraine oil+gas company

Belatedly, thanks for the info.

I wrote a short story (below) - but am now seeing this Buzzfeed story with info about the company's owners. If you had any info and comment beyond what you sent earlier, I'm definitely interested.

Thanks / Roberta

White House says no issue with Biden's son, Ukraine gas company - RTRS

13-May-2014 18:28

WASHINGTON, May 13 (Reuters) - The White House on Tuesday brushed aside questions about whether the involvement of Vice President Joe Biden's son in a Ukrainian natural gas company raised ethical issues at a time when the administration is promoting energy diversity in the country.

R. Hunter Biden, a lawyer and a partner in an investment firm, was named this week to the board of directors of Burisma Holdings, a private company that has drilled for natural gas in Ukraine since 2002.

In a statement on Burisma's website, Hunter Biden said he would help the company with "transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion," and other issues.

Ukraine depends on Russia for most of its natural gas, and has accused Moscow of hiking natural gas prices as punishment for moving closer to the European Union. (Full Story)

In April, the vice president traveled to Kiev and discussed how the United States could help provide technical expertise for expanding domestic production of natural gas. (Full Story)

Asked by a reporter whether Hunter Biden's appointment to the company presented a conflict, White House spokesman Jay Carney said it did not.

"Hunter Biden and other members of the Biden family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president," Carney said.

Kendra Barkoff, a spokeswoman for Vice President Biden said he "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

The head of a watchdog group on government ethics said there was no inherent conflict in Biden's job.

"It can't be that because your dad is the vice president, you can't do anything," said Melanie Sloan, executive director of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

"The most important thing is for Biden not to be speaking about these issues with his dad, and for them to try and draw the lines," she said.

(Reporting by Roberta Rampton; Editing by Ken Wills) ((roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com) (Twitter @robertarampton) (+202 898 8392) (Reuters Messaging: roberta.rampton.reuters.com@reuters.net))

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/maxseddon/bidens-son-polish-ex-president-quietly-sign-on-to-ukrainian>

Biden's Son, Polish Ex-President Quietly Sign On To Ukrainian Gas Company

DONETSK, Ukraine - U.S. Vice President Joe Biden's youngest son has joined the board of a gas company **owned by an ally of Ukraine's fugitive ex-president Viktor Yanukovich and a key European interlocutor with Kiev who was previously president of Poland.**

The move raises questions about a potential conflict of interest for Joe Biden, who was the White House's main interlocutor with Yanukovich while the latter was president and has since spearheaded Western efforts to wean Ukraine off Russian gas.

Company documents in Cyprus show that Joe Biden's son, R. Hunter Biden, became a member of the board of directors of Burisma Holdings, which describes itself as Ukraine's largest private natural gas producer, on April 18. Burisma announced Hunter Biden's appointment in a [press release](#) Monday on its website which was quickly picked up by Russian state media.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement on Burisma's website. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

Hunter Biden could not be immediately reached for comment. An assistant at Rosemont Seneca Partners, the investment firm where he is partner, said he was out of the office. A woman who answered the phone at the London number listed for Burisma on its website appeared to have no idea who either Biden was. By late Tuesday, however, Burisma had reacted quickly enough to remove a link to a *New York Times* [story](#) from April, when Biden visited Kiev and urged it to reduce its dependence on Russian gas, from a prominent position on the homepage.

Kendra Barkoff, a spokesperson for Joe Biden, denied to comment on the vice president's son's appointment. "Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer," she said. "The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

It proved difficult to discern at first whether the Burisma website carrying the press release was even real. Its photos of Hunter Biden and Rosemont co-founder Devon Archer, who is listed as a member of the Burisma board, are lifted from Rosemont's website. The company site carries a bizarre [interview](#) with Archer - apparently first [published](#) in the Ukrainian newspaper *Kapital*, then translated badly into English with Slavic syntax left intact - in which he tacitly acknowledges his connections to the Biden family and says Burisma "reminds [him] of Exxon in its early days." The Burisma site was registered anonymously through the domain

service GoDaddy in 2010, according to the [who.is](#) service.

Company registration documents for Burisma show, however, that both Hunter Biden and Archer joined its board of directors in April. Burisma is completely owned by another Cypriot offshore company, Brociti Investments Limited, which, records show, belongs to Mykola Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy national security council chair under Yanukovich, deposed in February. While in government, Zlochevsky claimed that he had sold his energy assets, though an [investigation](#) in Ukrainian *Forbes* later showed this was untrue.

As well as the other directors listed on Burisma's website, Cypriot records list a man named Aleksandr Kwasniewski – the name of Poland's president from 1995 to 2005 – as having become a director Jan 2. Kwasniewski was a key figure in the European Union's attempts to draw Ukraine closer to Brussels during Yanukovich's presidency: he and former European Parliament president Pat Cox visited Kiev 27 times in failed attempts to secure the release of Yanukovich's rival, former prime minister and current presidential candidate Yulia Tymoshenko, from prison.

While it was not immediately possible to confirm that the Burisma director was the same Kwasniewski, the address provided in the company documents, Wilanowska 5/2 in Warsaw, matches [addresses](#) provided for Kwasniewski's wife Jolanta's [real estate company](#), Royal Wilanow Agency, according to [Polish media reports](#). Other [Polish media reports](#) list the address as the Kwaniewski family's [private apartment](#). Jolanta Kwasniewska left the firm while her husband was in office, but returned to manage it after his term ended.

Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov told BuzzFeed that Russia saw no conflict of interest in Joe Biden working to wean Ukraine off Russian gas – which makes up about 60 percent of the country's energy supply – while his son worked in the Ukrainian gas industry.

"Anyway, as everyone knows, there's no gas in Ukraine," he added. "The gas in Ukraine is Russian."

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:34 PM
To: Rampton, Roberta (Reuters News)
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden / Ukraine oil+gas company

OFF THE RECORD (sorry about the delay, I am flying with the VP and having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:59 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden / Ukraine oil+gas company

Hi Kendra – I'm not certain we're going to be writing about this – but if you have a statement about this, would appreciate it. Jay referred q on whether it is a conflict to your office in the briefing.

Thanks / Roberta

Roberta Rampton
White House Correspondent
Reuters

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From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 8:50:25 AM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>
Subject: Fw: Kendra: Bloomberg Newsroom got this press release concerning
Attachments: [biden for Kendra.docx](#)

Hearing from others

----- Original Message -----

From: Roger Runnigen (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:) [mailto:rrunnigen@bloomberg.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:43 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Kendra: Bloomberg Newsroom got this press release concerning

Kendra: Bloomberg Newsroom got this press release concerning
R. Hunter Biden.

We're not sure it's legitimate. For one thing, the Web
site can't be accessed.

Can you advise whether this is real or fake?

(We haven't run anything so far) Thanks a bunch, Roger
Runnigen Bloomberg News/White House

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Baker, Sarah <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 9:35:16 AM
To: "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kaye, Melanie" </cn=recipients/cn=melanie_a_kaye>
Subject: RE: fyi
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hm

From: Kaye, Melanie
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:34 AM
To: Nix, Sheila; Bernal, Anthony R.; Baker, Sarah
Subject: fyi

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

The Moscow Times
May. 13 2014 18:49
Last edited 18:49



Joe Hunter / Twitter Joe Hunter (R) standing alongside his father, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden (L) and Republican lawmaker John McCain (C).

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

From: Ford, Sarah (Intern) <sarah_l_ford_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/17/2014 4:24:39 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hart, Liz" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schrum, Michael" <evan_m_schrum@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "O'Brien, Sean" <w.93f>; "Schrum, Evan" <schrum_ea9f>; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <l.c25>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>; "Reddy, Vinay" <c.ad8>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Afternoon Press Clips- October 17, 2014
Attachments: VPOTUS_PM_PRESS-10.17.14.docx

VPOTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS
Friday, October 17, 2014

[Huffington Post](#)

Joe BIDEN, Mariska Hargitay Team Up To Help Domestic Abuse Victims

By: Robbie Couch / October 17, 2014

On Sunday, Americans' love for television binge-watching will end up helping fight domestic abuse -- at least, that's what Vice President Joe BIDEN and actress Mariska Hargitay are hoping for.

[Northlands News Center](#)

Vice President Joe BIDEN to attend Domestic Violence event in Duluth

By: Kevin Jacobsen / October 17, 2014

Duluth, MN (NNCNOW.com) - Vice President Joe BIDEN has added an extra stop to visit to the Northland next Thursday.

[Associated Press](#)

VP BIDEN Coming To Minnesota Next Week

October 17, 2014

The White House says Vice President Joe BIDEN is coming to Minnesota next week.

[Bangor Daily News](#)

Obama, George Mitchell to campaign for Michaud on Oct. 30 in Portland

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[Star Tribune](#)

Hillary Clinton coming to Minnesota to rally Democrats

By: Rachel E. Stassen-Berger / October 17, 2014

President Bill Clinton, First lady Michelle Obama, Vice President Joe BIDEN, Sen. Elizabeth Warren and other Democratic stars have had or are making Minnesota travel plans.

[MPR News](#)

White House details Tuesday's Michelle Obama visit

By: Time Nelson / October 17, 2014

First Lady Michelle Obama is coming to the Twin Cities on Tuesday afternoon to campaign for DFLers ahead of the November elections.

[Associated Press](#)

Former BIDEN Chief Of Staff Appointed Ebola Czar

October 17, 2014

President Barack Obama is naming Ron Klain, a former chief of staff to Vice President Joe BIDEN and a trusted adviser at the Obama White House, as the point man on the U.S. government's response to the Ebola crisis.

[Patch](#)

Vice President Joe BIDEN Stumps for Aimee Belgard at Fundraiser in Burlington County

By: Anthony Bellano / October 17, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN was in Burlington County on Thursday to stump for Aimee Belgard at a private fundraiser, the Burlington County Times reports.

[Huffington Post](#)

Hunter BIDEN's Cocaine Use and Vice President BIDEN's Evolving Perspective on the Drug War

By: Tony Newman / October 17, 2014

The Vice President's son, Hunter BIDEN is making worldwide news after the Wall Street Journal reported that he was discharged from the Navy in February after testing positive for cocaine use.

[AlterNet](#)

4 Ways Drug Use in the BIDEN Family Reflects an Evolving Perspective on the Drug War

By: Tony Newman / October 17, 2014

The Vice President's son, Hunter BIDEN is making worldwide news after the Wall Street Journal reported that he was discharged from the Navy in February after testing positive for cocaine use.

[The Associated Press](#)

BIDEN's son faces no bar review after discharge

By: Stephen Braun / October 17, 2014

Hunter BIDEN, the youngest son of Vice President Joe BIDEN, faces no automatic review of his law license in Connecticut following his discharge from the U.S. Navy Reserve after testing positive for cocaine use, Connecticut legal authorities said Friday.

[The Christian Science Monitor](#)

BIDEN son booted from Navy. What's the backstory?

By: Peter Grier / October 17, 2014

Joe BIDEN's son Hunter has been kicked out of the Navy for drug use, according to a report in The Wall Street Journal. Cocaine was the controlled substance in question: The younger BIDEN tested positive for the drug last year and was subsequently discharged from the Navy Reserve, where he served as an ensign in a public affairs unit based in Norfolk, Va.

[McLatchy](#)

Navy's discharge of BIDEN's son sheds light on military discipline

By: Michael Doyle / October 17, 2014

Vice President Joe BIDEN's son Hunter forfeited certain veterans benefits as well as some privacy and pride when he was booted from the Navy, reportedly after testing positive for cocaine.

[USA Today](#)

BIDEN's son fails drug test, is discharged from Navy

By: William H. McMichael and Jonathan Starkey / October 17, 2014

The younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN** failed a drug test for cocaine, a month after his commissioning last year into the Navy Reserve and was discharged.

Associated Press

Joe BIDEN's son expelled from Navy after failed drug test

October 17, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, has been expelled from the military after testing positive for cocaine, two people familiar with the matter say.

CNN

Who is Hunter BIDEN?

By: Justin Peligri / October 17, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, Vice President Joe **BIDEN**'s son, was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after failing a drug test, The Wall Street Journal reported Thursday night.

Huffington Post

Joe BIDEN, Mariska Hargitay Team Up To Help Domestic Abuse Victims

By: Robbie Couch / October 17, 2014

On Sunday, Americans' love for television binge-watching will end up helping fight domestic abuse -- at least, that's what Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and actress Mariska Hargitay are hoping for.

BIDEN will appear alongside Hargitay in a PSA addressing domestic violence scheduled to air during a "Law and Order: Special Victims Unit" marathon on USA Network, The Washington Post reported. Maile Zambuto, who is the chief executive of Hargitay's foundation for survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse, Joyful Heart, told the outlet that episodes set to air during the marathon will focus on different aspects of the issue, including "teen dating violence, campus sexual assault, male sexual abuse [and] the cycle of violence."

The duo, who are supporting the No More campaign, aim to provide victims and their loved ones with the resources to access help.

In one of three spots that will air on Sunday, **BIDEN** and Margitay point out the difference between how domestic violence is treated on-screen and off.

"On Law and Order: SVU, witnesses frequently come forward to help detectives track down offenders," Hargitay said in the PSA.

"But in real life, too often, people look the other way," **BIDEN** continued, noting that "domestic violence is never the victim's fault."

About 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in the U.S., according to a 2010 survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

BIDEN, who spearheaded the Violence Against Women Act as a senator in 1994, teamed up with Hargitay last year at a news conference in Maryland. The event addressed the need to reduce domestic violence deaths in the U.S. Each year, 1,300 people die from intimate partner victimizations, according to the CDC.

Northlands News Center

Vice President Joe BIDEN to attend Domestic Violence event in Duluth

By: Kevin Jacobsen / October 17, 2014

Duluth, MN (NNCNOW.com) - Vice President Joe **BIDEN** has added an extra stop to visit to the Northland next Thursday.

Aside from stumping for Representative Rick Nolan in Hibbing, the White House says the VP will make a stop in Duluth.

While details are limited, officials say **BIDEN** will be in the city for an event focusing on Domestic Violence.

Associated Press

VP BIDEN Coming To Minnesota Next Week

October 17, 2014

DULUTH, Minn. (AP) - The White House says Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is coming to Minnesota next week.

BIDEN will appear at an event on domestic violence in Duluth on Thursday. More details will be released later.

Minnesota also gets a visit from first lady Michelle Obama next week as the campaigns enter the home stretch.

The Minnesota DFL Party says Mrs. Obama will campaign for Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton and Sen. Al Franken at a get-out-the-vote rally Tuesday at Patrick Henry High School in north Minneapolis.

Bangor Daily News

Obama, George Mitchell to campaign for Michaud on Oct. 30 in Portland

October 17, 2014

PORTLAND, Maine - President Barack Obama will come to Maine on Oct. 30 to campaign for Democrat Mike Michaud, who is locked in a tight race for governor.

The Michaud campaign announced late Friday afternoon that Obama will stump for Michaud during a rally at the Portland Exposition Building. The campaign did not announce the time or other details about the event.

Former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell also will appear at the rally, according to a release from the campaign.

The president, who is known for using his fundraising prowess across the country, is the latest member of Democratic royalty to come to Maine to support Michaud, who is giving up his congressional seat to run for governor. Former President Bill Clinton came to Portland for a rally in early September, Vice President Joe **BIDEN** surrounded himself with Democratic politicians when he visited Kittery in early September, and first lady Michelle Obama was at the University of Maine in Orono two weeks ago to endorse Michaud.

Among the Democrats' top two couples, that leaves only former first lady and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who is a leading hopeful to run for president, absent from rallies for Michaud. Reinholt said there are no plans for Hillary Clinton to come to Maine.

Although recent polling shows the Democratic president's popularity sagging in Maine, Obama handily won Maine's popular vote and four Electoral College votes in 2008 and 2012.

A spate of polls in the past 10 days shows Michaud locked in a close race with Republican Gov. Paul LePage, with independent Eliot Cutler trailing the two major-party candidates by a wide margin.

The three candidates will debate at 7 p.m. Monday in a televised event co-sponsored by the BDN and CBS 13.

Star Tribune

Hillary Clinton coming to Minnesota to rally Democrats

By: Rachel E. Stassen-Berger / October 17, 2014

Former U.S. Sen. and former and possible future presidential candidate Hillary Clinton will be in Minnesota on Oct. 23 to support Gov.

Mark Dayton's re-election bid.

Clinton will rally Democrats at a dinner and reception at St. Paul's RiverCentre.

Clinton is one of a long line of Democrats visiting the state to lend help to the Minnesota's Democratic incumbents.

President Bill Clinton, First lady Michelle Obama, Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, Sen. Elizabeth Warren and other Democratic stars have had or are making Minnesota travel plans.

Tickets for the Hillary Clinton event start at \$150 and go up to \$2,500.

MPR News

White House details Tuesday's Michelle Obama visit

By: Time Nelson / October 17, 2014

First Lady Michelle Obama is coming to the Twin Cities on Tuesday afternoon to campaign for DFLers ahead of the November elections.

She'll stand with U.S. Sen. Al Franken and Gov. Mark Dayton at a 2 p.m. rally in Minneapolis at Patrick Henry High School. The event is free and open to the public, although tickets will be required.

The DFL is telling people interested in attending to RSVP through the party website.

Obama's visit is the latest in a series of high profile political appearances. New Jersey governor and possible GOP presidential contender Chris Christie was in Minnesota on Monday stumping for Republican gubernatorial contender Jeff Johnson and GOP senate candidate Mike McFadden.

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is expected to campaign for DFL Congressman Rick Nolan in northern Minnesota, possibly on Thursday, although details on that visit haven't been announced.

Associated Press

Former BIDEN Chief Of Staff Appointed Ebola Czar

October 17, 2014

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Barack Obama is naming Ron Klain, a former chief of staff to Vice President Joe **BIDEN** and a trusted adviser at the Obama White House, as the point man on the U.S. government's response to the Ebola crisis.

Obama has been under pressure to name an Ebola "czar" to oversee health security in the U.S. and actions to help stem the outbreak in West Africa.

Klain has been out of government since leaving **BIDEN**'s office during the Obama's first term. The White House said that Klain would report to national security adviser Susan Rice and to homeland security and counterterrorism adviser Lisa Monaco.

Klain, a lawyer, also served as chief of staff for Vice President Al Gore. He previously served under Attorney General Janet Reno in the Clinton administration.

In Dallas, the epicenter of Ebola in the U.S., officials took a tougher approach toward monitoring dozens of health care workers who were exposed to the virus while treating an infected patient who later died. The health care workers were asked to sign legally binding documents agreeing not to go to public places or use public transportation.

Those who break the agreement could face undisclosed sanctions.

The move came after two nurses who had treated Thomas Eric Duncan at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital were diagnosed with Ebola and the disclosure that one of them had flown roundtrip between the Dallas area and Cleveland before her diagnosis.

Self-monitoring was extended Thursday to people who took the same outbound flight as nurse Amber Vinson; it had been imposed earlier for passengers on the return trip. Another group being contacted: shoppers at the Akron bridal shop Vinson visited that Saturday.

Both nurses have been transferred from the Texas hospital where they treated Duncan and became infected. Nina Pham was transferred on Thursday to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, and Vinson on Wednesday to Emory University Hospital in Atlanta. The two facilities are among four in the United States that have specialized isolation units.

A video released by Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital showed Pham in her hospital isolation ward before her transfer, speaking to her physician, Dr. Gary Weinstein. At one point Pham begins crying, and Weinstein, dressed in full personal protection gear hands her a tissue. "I love you guys," she says. "We love you, Nina," responds Weinstein.

The two nurses have been the only cases of transmission in the U.S. Duncan was exposed to the virus in Liberia and was diagnosed after traveling to Texas.

Government officials said early Friday that a Dallas health care worker who handled a lab specimen from Duncan is on a Caribbean cruise ship where she has self-quarantined and is being monitored for any signs of infection. State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said in a statement that the woman had shown no signs of the disease.

The government is working to return the woman and her husband to the U.S. before the ship completes its cruise. When the woman left the U.S. on the cruise health officials were requiring only self-monitoring, Psaki said.

The magnitude of the Ebola outbreak continues to grow in Africa; the World Health Organization forecast the death toll would surpass 4,500 by the end of the week.

In Geneva, the U.N. high commissioner for human rights, Zeid Raad al-Hussein, paired the Ebola outbreak and the Islamic State group as "twin plagues" that will cost the world many billions of dollars to overcome, and the United Nations made an urgent appeal for more money to fight the disease.

Canceling a campaign fundraising trip for the second straight day, Obama met into the evening with top aides and health officials. The White House said Obama also placed calls to Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven to discuss the need for an international response to the outbreak in West Africa.

Obama authorized a call-up of reserve and National Guard troops in case they are needed. His executive order would allow more forces than the up-to-4,000 already planned to be sent to West Africa, and allow for longer periods of time. Speaking to reporters at the White House, Obama said several people leading the government's Ebola response also have other priorities.

"It may make sense for us to have one person ... so that after this initial surge of activity we can have a more regular process just to make sure we are crossing all the T's and dotting all the I's," he said.

He said he had no "philosophical objection" to imposing a travel ban on West Africa if it would keep Americans safe but had been told by health and security experts that it would be less effective than measures already in place.

Earlier in the day, during a contentious congressional hearing, Republican after Republican demanded that Obama impose a travel ban. When federal health officials stressed the importance of stopping the outbreak at its source, Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., responded, "You're right, it needs to be solved in Africa. But until it is, we should not be allowing these folks in, period."

"People's lives are at stake, and the response so far has been unacceptable," declared Upton, chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee. A handful of congressional Democrats also have endorsed the travel ban that's mainly been pushed by Republicans.

About 100 to 150 people fly into the U.S. each day from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, the three nations hit hardest by Ebola.

Rep. Tim Murphy, R-Pa., said the "American public loses confidence each day" – a result of the failure to protect the two nurses and other mistakes.
Dr. Tom Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, told lawmakers that the investigation into how the nurses became infected with Ebola was ongoing.

Even as he urged calm, he said the nation's hospitals must watch for people who might have been infected in West Africa. He said the CDC has fielded more than 300 calls from concerned doctors and public health officials, with no new Ebola cases uncovered.

Patch
Vice President Joe BIDEN Stumps for Aimee Belgard at Fundraiser in Burlington County
By: Anthony Bellano / October 17, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** was in Burlington County on Thursday to stump for Aimee Belgard at a private fundraiser, the Burlington County Times reports.

Belgard, a Democrat, is running against Republican Tom MacArthur in the race for the Third Congressional District seat being vacated by Jon Runyan. The district covers parts of Burlington and Ocean counties.

Belgard called **BIDEN** an inspiration and praised his commitment to working class families, according to the report.

BIDEN appeared in Burlington County one day after MacArthur spoke to the Moorestown Business Association (MBA). Belgard spoke to the MBA last month.

The two also debated at Moorestown High School earlier this month.

According to a Monmouth University poll released this week, MacArthur leads Belgard by 10 points among likely voters. About 51 percent of likely voters said they will vote for MacArthur, compared to 41 percent for Belgard.

Huffington Post
Hunter BIDEN's Cocaine Use and Vice President BIDEN's Evolving Perspective on the Drug War
By: Tony Newman / October 17, 2014

The Vice President's son, Hunter **BIDEN** is making worldwide news after the Wall Street Journal reported that he was discharged from the Navy in February after testing positive for cocaine use.

I have spent the last 15 years working at the Drug Policy Alliance trying to end our country's insane war on drugs. Here are some of my reflections on the **BIDEN** family.

Drug use touches most families.

Hunter **BIDEN**, Noelle Bush, Al Gore III and Chiara de Blasio remind us that both drug use and abuse touch most families, including those running our country. Despite a \$40 billion a year "war on drugs" and political speeches about a "drug-free society," our society is swimming in drugs. Virtually all of us take drugs every single day. Caffeine, sugar, alcohol, marijuana, Prozac, cocaine, Ritalin, opiates and nicotine are just some of the substances that Americans use on a regular basis.

Drug abuse does not discriminate, but our drug policies do.

While drug abuse doesn't discriminate, it is clear that our drug policies do. Despite similar rates of drug use and drug sales across races, African Americans are 13 times more likely to go to prison for drugs. I don't think Vice President **BIDEN**'s son should be in jail for his cocaine use but neither should so many others who are currently behind bars for drug use or possession.

Vice President Joe **BIDEN**'s Role in Expanding Drug War

As a Senator in the late 1980s, Mr. **BIDEN** was a cheerleader for the drug war. He played a major role in creating the Drug Czar's office and in enacting the draconian mandatory minimum sentences that have filled our prisons with nonviolent drug law offenders. To the Vice President's credit, he has "evolved" a bit on the issue. In recent years, Mr. **BIDEN** has championed a number of progressive drug policy reforms -- like introducing legislation to completely eliminate the 100-to-1 crack/powder cocaine sentencing disparity and rolling back the mandatory minimums he favored in the late 1980s. The crack/powder disparity wasn't completely eliminated, but was reformed under President Obama.

How Will the **BIDEN** Family Move Forward on This Issue?

Optimistically, I would like to envision Mr. **BIDEN**, realizing that drug use is so widespread that it even touches his son, would become more sympathetic to other people who use drugs. There are hundreds of thousands of people behind bars serving long prison sentences on drug charges. The realization that other people's kids are living behind bars for doing the same thing that his son did could be a transformative experience. Perhaps Hunter's experience will strengthen his resolve.

Vice President **BIDEN** and his son's response should be to join the millions of people who are challenging the ignorance and irrationality of locking up hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens because of a nonviolent drug offense. If Hunter and Joe **BIDEN** can use this experience to become involved in changing our inhumane polices, then the **BIDEN** family and our country will be better for it.

AlterNet
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The Associated Press

BIDEN's son faces no bar review after discharge

By: Stephen Braun / October 17, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, faces no automatic review of his law license in Connecticut following his discharge from the U.S. Navy Reserve after testing positive for cocaine use, Connecticut legal authorities said Friday.

Hunter **BIDEN** works in Washington as a private equity executive and board director of an international energy firm, but he is admitted to practice law in Connecticut, where attorneys' privileges can be examined under a disciplinary review system. Legal clients, state lawyers, judges and any citizen can file grievances, but as of Friday, none had been filed, authorities said.

Lawyers in Connecticut face automatic review of their bar admission only when they have been convicted of a crime, said Michael P. Bowler, Connecticut's Statewide Bar Counselor, who heads a team of lawyers that investigate attorney grievances. Criminal convictions have to be reviewed by a statewide grievance committee, as do other complaints, which can range from drug and alcohol abuse to inadequate legal representation.

"At this point, I'm not aware that Mr. **BIDEN** has been arrested for anything, and certainly not convicted," Bowler said. The Navy's brief confirmation of **BIDEN**'s discharge did not cite any arrest or charges. Two people familiar with the matter told The Associated Press he was kicked out after testing positive for cocaine, confirming what was first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

Bowler added that **BIDEN** had told state authorities in 2007 that he was also admitted to the bar in Washington, D.C. Current District of Columbia bar records do not show **BIDEN** as member.

The Navy said Thursday that **BIDEN** was discharged in February from a part-time position as a public affairs officer in the Navy Reserve but did not provide a reason. **BIDEN** released a statement through his attorney saying, "I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge."

BIDEN, 44, a former Washington lobbyist, is a managing partner at the Rosemont Seneca Partners investment firm and a director at Burisma Holdings, a Ukraine-based energy company. A Washington lobbyist for Burisma, David Leiter, did not respond to requests for comment from The Associated Press.

Mark Dubois, the president of the Connecticut Bar Association, said that state bar and ethics officials are sensitive to news accounts involving misbehavior of lawyers admitted to practice in the state, but he said, "They have to be judicious about starting the process."

Dubois, who formerly investigated and prosecuted ethical misconduct as Connecticut Disciplinary Counsel, said authorities have initiated cases in the past involving drug and alcohol abuse by attorneys, but "only when it's a fairly extensive record of abuse."

The Christian Science Monitor

BIDEN son booted from Navy. What's the backstory?

By: Peter Grier / October 17, 2014

WASHINGTON — Joe **BIDEN**'s son Hunter has been kicked out of the Navy for drug use, according to a report in The Wall Street Journal. Cocaine was the controlled substance in question: The younger **BIDEN** tested positive for the drug last year and was subsequently discharged from the Navy Reserve, where he served as an ensign in a public affairs unit based in Norfolk, Va.

Thus ends an unusual, or at least unusually timed, military career. A lawyer by training who has worked as a lobbyist and currently serves as a managing partner at an investment firm, Hunter **BIDEN** began the process of joining the military in 2012, when he was 42. Most reservists sign up when they're younger and still building families and careers.

In 2013, Mr. **BIDEN** was commissioned an ensign through the Direct Commission Officer Program, which each year selects a small number of applicants with civilian skills applicable to military needs. He received a waiver for his age and a second waiver for a drug-related incident in his youth, according to multiple news reports.

Recommended: How much do you know about marijuana? Take the quiz

In June of last year, **BIDEN** failed a urinalysis after reporting to his Norfolk unit. He was formally discharged this past February, according to The Wall Street Journal.

"It was the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge," he said in a statement.

A few **BIDEN** family biographical notes might be apropos here. The first is that Hunter's older brother, Beau, has had a successful military reservist career. It's entirely possible Hunter was hoping to follow in his bro's footsteps.

Beau **BIDEN**, also a lawyer, joined the Delaware Army National Guard in 2003 as a member of the Judge Advocate General's Corps. He was subsequently promoted to major and served a tour of duty in Iraq in 2008-2009.

Currently, Beau **BIDEN** is Delaware's attorney general. He was elected to that post in 2006. In 2008, there was talk in the state that he would run for his dad's old Senate seat, but the **BIDEN** son declined to pursue the position.

Second, VP Joe **BIDEN** does not have a soft-on-drugs reputation. If anything, he is seen in the White House as someone arguing against wider legalization of marijuana.

"The former Delaware senator has a harsh record when it comes to the drug war," wrote Nick Wing of The Huffington Post in 2012.

Third, for those of a certain age in Washington, the **BIDEN** boys, both of them, are remembered for the tragedy of their early years.

On Dec. 18, 1972, Joe **BIDEN**'s first wife, Neilia, and his year-old daughter Naomi were killed in an auto accident in exurban Wilmington, Del., after Christmas shopping. Beau and Hunter were in the car but survived with injuries. Joe **BIDEN** had just won election to the Senate the preceding month.

He considered resigning but did not. Both boys were able to attend his swearing-in. Mr. **BIDEN** commuted home from Washington each night on the train to be with Beau and Hunter, a practice he continued throughout his Senate career.

McLatchy

Navy's discharge of BIDEN's son sheds light on military discipline

By: Michael Doyle / October 17, 2014

WASHINGTON – Vice President Joe **BIDEN**'s son Hunter forfeited certain veterans benefits as well as some privacy and pride when he was booted from the Navy, reportedly after testing positive for cocaine.

Other servicemembers have fared arguably worse for similar offenses, including sailors sentenced to jail time after testing positive. But **BIDEN**'s newly revealed Navy separation, while higher profile than most, also appears to be within the general range of expected outcomes given the alleged offense.

"It's not uncommon," attorney Philip D. Cave, a military law specialist who represents many servicemembers, but who was not involved in **BIDEN**'s case, said in an interview Friday. "I don't see anything unusual."

William Cassara, another experienced military law practitioner, agreed Friday that "in the Navy, administrative discharge is the norm, although I did have a petty officer court-martialed for a one-time positive urinalysis for cocaine several years ago."

That sailor, whose initials are J.W.R., was sentenced to 90 days in the brig, a reduction in rank and forfeiture of three months pay after a court-martial panel convicted him on one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance. At the time, the enlisted man had nearly 19 years of active-duty service in the Navy.

In April 2013, the U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals reversed the conviction.

BIDEN's administrative discharge, first reported by the Wall Street Journal, came after the vice president's son reported for duty to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va. Now 44, **BIDEN** had enlisted in the Navy Reserves in 2012.

"It was the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge," **BIDEN** said in a prepared statement provided to the media.

Vice President **BIDEN**'s office on Friday declined to comment, and the Navy has declined to offer further details about Hunter **BIDEN**'s discharge.

Cave noted that considerable leeway is left up to commanding officers to resolve individual fates following what amounts to a routine drug offense. Different branches can also take different approaches. The Reserves, for instance, tend to "handle things a little easier," Cave said, while the Air Force has a reputation in some circles for taking drug suspects to court martial.

A key question, whose answer is still not publicly known, is exactly what type of administrative discharge **BIDEN** received. An administrative discharge might be classified as either "general" or as "other than honorable."

"An otherwise good sailor would be more likely to get a general discharge," Cave said. "It's fairly quick to do."

An other-than-honorable discharge, by contrast, could take longer as it could be contested before a three-member administrative board.

Besides the taint, the other-than-honorable discharge carries several additional disadvantages compared to a general discharge. A veteran with a general discharge, for instance, is still eligible for civil service hiring preference; the veteran with an other-than-honorable discharge is not. Both kinds of discharge render the veteran ineligible for GI Bill and VA housing benefits.

When the Navy pursues a court martial related to drug charges, records show, the allegations typically go beyond simple use.

In Everett, Wash., for instance, an Aviation Electronics Technician Airman was sentenced to eight months and a bad conduct discharge last February after pleading guilty to possession and intent to distribute in addition to use of cocaine. The next month, at the Washington Navy Yard, an Electronics Technician 1st Class was sentenced to 45 days and a bad conduct discharge after pleading guilty to false statements and wrongful use of a controlled substance.

USA Today

BIDEN's son fails drug test, is discharged from Navy

By: William H. McMichael and Jonathan Starkey / October 17, 2014

The younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN** failed a drug test for cocaine, a month after his commissioning last year into the Navy Reserve and was discharged.

Hunter **BIDEN**, an ensign, had been selected for commission as a reserve officer through the Direct Commission Officer program in 2012, according to Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman. He was commissioned into the Navy Reserve unit for Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va. **BIDEN**, who had no prior military experience, was one of six officers commissioned nationally into the Navy Reserve public affairs division.

"It was the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge," **BIDEN** said in statement issued through his lawyer. "I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The incident was first reported late Thursday in The Wall Street Journal. Citing "people familiar with the matter," it reported that **BIDEN** was given a drug test in June 2013 that tested positive for cocaine.

BIDEN, 44, was discharged from the Navy Reserve in February. He has worked as a lawyer, lobbyist and managing partner at the investment firm Rosemont Seneca Partners in Washington. He was hired in May to join the board of Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private oil and gas producer, and be in charge of its legal department.

A spokeswoman for the vice president declined to comment.

The term "administrative discharge" can cover several types of military discharges from honorable to general to other-than-honorable conditions. Perry would provide no other details.

"Like other junior officers, the details of Ensign **BIDEN**'s discharge are not releasable under the Privacy Act," he said.

Asked whether **BIDEN**'s commissioning had anything to do with his father's high position in the government, Perry said, "No, it didn't."

"All candidates were considered based on the merits of their application, and Mr. **BIDEN** met the qualifications for commission," Perry said.

BIDEN also is the brother of Delaware Attorney General Beau **BIDEN**.

Applicants to the direct commissioning program for the Public Affairs Reserve must hold a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited institution, preferably in the fields of communication, English, journalism, broadcasting, public relations, rhetoric/speech, marketing, international studies or public administration. Applicants may not have passed their 42nd birthday at time of commissioning or an age waiver is required. The board meets twice annually and, on average, about 35 people apply, Ryan said.

Hunter **BIDEN** sought and received a waiver to join the service because of his age.

Hunter **BIDEN** received a second waiver because of a "drug-related incident when he was a young man," The Wall Street Journal reported. The report added that such waivers are not uncommon.

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** joked in January 2013 about his younger son's decision to join the military late in life during a speech at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball, which honors Medal of Honor recipients.

"We have a lot of bad judgment in my family. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer," Joe **BIDEN** said.

But Hunter **BIDEN** joining the military was a source of pride for the **BIDENS**, and military service runs in the family.

Beau **BIDEN** is a major in the Delaware Army National Guard and served in Iraq from October 2008 to September 2009.

Jill **BIDEN** talked about Hunter **BIDEN** joining the Navy during a November 2012 event with Navy Secretary Ray Mabus.

"I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," Jill **BIDEN** said at the time, according to a Navy transcript. "He follows in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who have also served in the Navy."

Associated Press

Joe BIDEN's son expelled from Navy after failed drug test

October 17, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, has been expelled from the military after testing positive for cocaine, two people familiar with the matter say.

The Navy said that **BIDEN**, a former lobbyist who works at a private equity firm, was discharged in February -- barely a year after he was selected for the part-time position as a public affairs officer in the Navy Reserve. Citing privacy laws, the Navy did not give a reason for the discharge, which was not disclosed until it emerged in the media on Thursday.

In a statement released by his attorney, **BIDEN** said he respected the Navy's decision and was moving forward with his family's love and support. He did not give a reason for his discharge.

"It was the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy," **BIDEN** said. "I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge."

The vice president's office declined to comment. Hunter **BIDEN**'s attorney didn't respond to inquiries about whether **BIDEN** had used cocaine.

Two people familiar with the situation said **BIDEN**, 44, was discharged because he failed a drug test last year. They weren't authorized to discuss the incident by name and requested anonymity. The Wall Street Journal first reported **BIDEN**'s discharge and failed drug test.

An attorney by training, **BIDEN** applied to join the Navy Reserve as a public affairs officer and was selected in 2012 -- one of seven candidates recommended for a direct commission for public affairs. A board of senior Navy officers interviewed **BIDEN** before making the recommendation.

Because he was 42 at the time, he needed a special waiver to be accepted. Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a spokesman for the Navy, said **BIDEN** had been assigned to the Navy Public Affairs Support Element East, based in Norfolk, Virginia.

The terms of **BIDEN**'s separation from the Navy were unclear. Typically, military members discharged for failing drug tests don't receive an honorable discharge.

The vice president speaks about his children frequently during public appearances. In December, Hunter **BIDEN** and one of his daughters accompanied the elder **BIDEN** on a trip to Asia, where the vice president praised his son's work around the world as the chairman of the World Food Program USA.

"I'm so incredibly proud of him," Vice President **BIDEN** said.

Earlier this year, Hunter **BIDEN** raised eyebrows when he joined the board of a private Ukrainian gas company, just as his father and the Obama administration were working to wean Ukraine off Russian energy. At the time, the vice president's office brushed aside questions about the arrangement by saying that the younger **BIDEN** was a "private citizen."

BIDEN, a managing partner at investment firm Rosemont Seneca Partners, has three children. His older brother, Beau **BIDEN**, is Delaware's attorney general and an Army National Guard member who served a yearlong deployment in Iraq.

Connecticut legal authorities say the Hunter **BIDEN** does not face automatic review of his state law license following his discharge from the Navy Reserve. He works in Washington as a private equity executive and board director of an international energy firm. But he is admitted to practice law in Connecticut, where attorneys' privileges can be examined under a disciplinary review system.

Legal clients, state lawyers, judges and any citizen can file grievances, but as of Friday, none had been filed.

CNN

Who is Hunter BIDEN?

By: Justin Peligri / October 17, 2014

Washington (CNN) -- Hunter **BIDEN**, Vice President Joe **BIDEN**'s son, was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after failing a drug test, The Wall Street Journal reported Thursday night.

BIDEN, who got the boot after testing positive for cocaine, served part time in the reserves in Norfolk, Va. while also working as a partner at an investment firm.

Who is Hunter **BIDEN**?

Hunter graduated from Georgetown University and earned a law degree from Yale. After graduation he was a member of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest.

He's lesser known than his older brother, Beau **BIDEN**, now the Delaware attorney general, who served a year-long deployment in Iraq and has announced plans for a 2016 gubernatorial run in the state.

BIDEN's son discharged from Navy after testing positive for cocaine

What did he do in the military?

Hunter's membership in the American armed forces was brief: He enlisted in the Navy Reserves less than two years ago.

In January 2013, the Vice President joked about his son's decision to join the military later in life. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," **BIDEN** said.

The Vice President's office has not yet released a comment about Hunter's discharge. But the announcement might not fare well for the Second Family, which touts their status as a military family in speeches and public appearances.

Best of the vice president's '**BIDENisms**' **BIDEN** regrets saying allies helped ISIS

Hunter **BIDEN** said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed

that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

Does he have much experience in politics or Washington?

Yes -- both in the public and private sectors.

He was appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve as a director in the Department of Commerce handling ecommerce policy issues, a post he held from 1998 to 2001.

From 2001 to 2008, he worked as a lawyer and federal lobbyist at a firm he co-founded. He resigned from this post when his father was asked by then-Senator Barack Obama, who at the time refused donations from lobbyists, to join his presidential ticket.

Along the way, he's enjoyed stints as chairman of PARADIGM, a hedge fund agency. He also held a job as senior vice president at MBNA Corporation, the world's largest independent credit-card issuer at the time.

In 2006, President George Bush nominated Hunter to serve on the Amtrak board of directors. He served a five-year term after a unanimous confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

What has he been up to recently?

In May 2014, Hunter signed on as a lawyer and board member of Burisma Holdings Ltd., a large Ukrainian gas production company.

The appointment caused a stir, given that it occurred around the same time that his father and the White House were engaged in diplomatic missions in the region to wean Ukraine off Russian energy sources. Critics argued that Hunter's work for a country promoting Ukrainian energy independence was a blatant conflict of interest.

But, the Vice President's office brushed off the controversy, insisting that Hunter is a private citizen whose actions don't represent the views of the government

That brings us to the present day. Hunter may no longer be in the Navy, but he still has his hands in public service. He's the board chairman at World Food Program USA, an organization fighting poverty and hunger, and he serves on the President's Advisory board of the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington

Hunter also has a job at his alma mater as an adjunct professor at Georgetown's School of Foreign Service. He is married and has three daughters.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:14:24 PM
To: "Nelson, Colleen McCain" <colleen.nelson@wsj.com>
Subject: RE: question from The Wall Street Journal on Hunter Biden

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Nelson, Colleen McCain [mailto:Colleen.Nelson@wsj.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:29 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: question from The Wall Street Journal on Hunter Biden

Hi Kendra -

We're writing something today about Hunter Biden joining the board of directors of Burisma Holdings. Would you be able to answer a few questions about this?

Thanks so much for your help.

Best,

Colleen

Colleen McCain Nelson
The Wall Street Journal
Office: 202.862.9289
Cell: 214.957.0632

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Allen, Jessica <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>

Sent: 5/13/2014 10:05:09 AM

To: "DL-WHO-Press" <dl-who-press@dsr.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Allen, Jessica" <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <paulette_l_aniskoff@who.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Beirne Fallon, Katie" <katie_fallon@who.eop.gov>; "Carney, Jay" <james_f_carney@who.eop.gov>; "Carroll, Brad" <bradley_carroll@who.eop.gov>; "Carson, Crystal" <crystal_m_carson@who.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Davidson, Josta" <josta_t_davidson@nsc.eop.gov>; "Edelman, R. 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"Costa, Kristina" <l.f71>; "Ruemmler, Kathryn H." </cn=recipients/cn=kathrynh.ruemmler10175027>; david_m_litt@who.eop.gov; "Kaden, David M. 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frances_a_holuba@nsc.eop.gov; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>; patrick_h_ventrell@nsc.eop.gov; "Cloud, Donald" <w.359>; eric_h_schultz@who.eop.gov; "Rosenberger, Laura" <m.d7f>; jessica_r_santillo@who.eop.gov; "Lee, Jesse C." </cn=recipients/cn=jesse.lee74301331>; nathaniel_m_perkins@who.eop.gov; "Jencks, Fae" <m.771>; "Coates, Kelsey" <a.04d>; "Carson, Crystal" <m.b7f>; "Sahgal, Rishi R." </cn=recipients/cn=rishir.sahgal41360826>; warren_n_eggleson@who.eop.gov; brett_p_brueen@nsc.eop.gov; "Wagstaff, Jesica" </cn=recipients/cn=jesica_e_wagstaff>; ezra_l_mechaber@who.eop.gov; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; clay_a_dumas@who.eop.gov; "Click, John" </cn=recipients/cn=john_s_click>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>; "Heinzelman, Kate" <e.d3b>; "Asen, Jonathan" </cn=recipients/cn=jonathanasen37271556>; "Canegallo, Kristie A." <a.068>; "Sherwood-Randall, Liz" </cn=recipients/cn=elizabethd.sherwoodrandall41217251>; "Pfeiffer, Dan" </cn=recipients/cn=dpfeiffer>; "Lundeberg, Greta" </cn=recipients/cn=greta_j_lundeberg>; "Lucas, Laura" <d.49e>; "Palmieri, Jennifer" <m.cd6>; kaelan_e_richards@who.eop.gov; stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov; "Shoup, Lillian" <m.0c8>; clare_e_gallagher@nsc.eop.gov; "Moussavian, Roxana" <roxanae02>; "Backemeyer, Christopher" <r.073>; "Arguelles, Adam" </cn=recipients/cn=adam_j_arguelles>; jordan_m_burke@who.eop.gov; "Orbach Lachman, Sherry" <e.5f8>;

Subject: allison.h.lesser@who.eop.gov President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

DRUDGE REPORT @DRUDGE_REPORT_lm

Son of Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company... <http://drudge.tw/11ih37X>

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/son-of-us-vice-president-biden-joins-ukraine-gas-company/500062.html>

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

The Moscow Times

May. 13 2014 18:49 Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Lambros, Demetra <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 9:59:58 AM
To: "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: RE: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Actually, Jeff, this message was from this morning....

-----Original Message-----

From: Prescott, Jeffrey
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:58 AM
To: Lambros, Demetra
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Yeah, will be out of mtg at 12:30 or so

-----Original Message-----

From: Lambros, Demetra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:17 AM
To: Prescott, Jeffrey
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Hey Jeff:

Do you have a minute to talk about this?

-----Original Message-----

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:15 AM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Lambros, Demetra
Subject: Fw: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

----- Original Message -----

From: Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 09:11 AM
To: Lucas Magnuson, Laura
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company

Thanks!

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:11 PM, Lucas Magnuson, Laura <Laura.D.Lucas@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Max. Adding the VP's office to respond to your query. Best, Laura
>

> -----Original Message-----

> **From:** Max Seddon [mailto:max.seddon@buzzfeed.com]
> **Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:10 AM
> **To:** Lucas Magnuson, Laura
> **Subject:** Joe Biden's son joining the board of a Ukrainian natural gas
> company

> Dear Laura,

> Hope this finds you well. Russian state media is loving this press
> release, supposedly from a Cypriot-held Ukrainian natural gas company,
> claiming that the Vice President's son has joined its board of
> directors:

> <http://burisma.com/hunter-biden-joins-the-team-of-burisma-holdings/>

> The news seems rather odd on its face and, if true, would present a fairly glaring conflict of interest given the VP's role on
> Ukraine policy - particularly since the company is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, who was energy minister and deputy NSC chief
> under Yanukovich.

> Is this true? What exactly is going on here?

> Thanks and best

> Max

>

> --

> Max Seddon
> Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
> +380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
> twitter.com/maxseddon

--

Max Seddon
Foreign affairs reporter, BuzzFeed
+380 68 558 6856 (Kiev)
twitter.com/maxseddon

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 12:45:27 PM
To: jlederman@ap.org
Subject: Re: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Rosemont Seneca Partners, LLC

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:23 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Thanks. That's on the record, attributable to Kendra Barkoff, right?

Also - which of Hunter's offices are you directing me to? He is involved with a lot of companies.

From: Barkoff, Kendra [mailto:Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:22 PM
To: Lederman, Josh
Subject: RE: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Off the record (on the airplane, so having email issues)

Here is a statement for your use from me:

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Lederman, Josh [mailto:JLederman@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Hunter Biden/Ukraine

Hey Kendra,

I'm sure you're about to get a flood of inquiries on this since it just came up in the briefing, but are you commenting at all on the news about Hunter Biden and Burisma?

Thanks,
Josh

--

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, has expanded its Board of Directors by bringing on Mr. R Hunter Biden as a new director.

R. Hunter Biden will be in charge of the Holdings' legal unit and will provide support for the Company among international organizations. On his new appointment, he commented: "Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Burisma Holdings, Mr. Alan Apter, noted: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

R. Hunter Biden is a counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York, USA, which served in cases including "Bush vs. Gore", and "U.S. vs. Microsoft". He is one of the co-founders and a managing partner of the investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners, as well as chairman of the board of Rosemont Seneca Advisors. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University's Masters Program in the School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Biden has experience in public service and foreign policy. He is a director for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, The Center for National Policy, and the Chairman's Advisory Board for the National Democratic Institute. Having served as a Senior Vice President at MBNA bank, former U.S. President Bill Clinton appointed him an Executive Director of E-Commerce Policy Coordination under Secretary of Commerce William Daley. Mr. Biden served as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2008 Obama-Biden Inaugural Committee.

Mr. Biden is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut, and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court of Federal Claims. He received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

R. Hunter Biden is also a well-known public figure. He is chairman of the Board of the World Food Programme U.S.A., together with the world's largest humanitarian organization, the United Nations World Food Programme. In this capacity he offers assistance to the poor in developing countries, fighting hunger and poverty, and helping to provide food and education to 300 million malnourished children around the world.

Company Background:

Burisma Holdings is a privately owned oil and gas company with assets in Ukraine and operating in the energy market since 2002. To date, the company holds a portfolio with permits to develop fields in the Dnieper-Donets, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuban basins. In 2013, the daily gas production grew steadily and at year-end amounted to 11.6 thousand BOE (barrels of oil equivalent - incl. gas, condensate and crude oil), or 1.8 million m3 of natural gas. The company sells these volumes in the domestic market through traders, as well as directly to final consumers.

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Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 11:02:59 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Thanks

From: Barkoff, Kendra
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:02 PM
To: Spector, Stephen
Subject: Re: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Waiting for Jay to brief before I give it out

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 01:00 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

Do we have a response?

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:54 PM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: FW: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:53 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchhoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Rummeler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: Politico: Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/05/hunter-biden-ukraine-gas-board-106631.html>

Hunter Biden to Ukraine gas board
Politico // Lucy McCalmont
May 13, 2014 12:47 PM EDT

Hunter Biden, the younger son of Vice President Joe Biden, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, **said** in a statement, which was **reported** by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

Biden, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

Biden said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Biden said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President Biden also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Firsht, Elana (Intern) <elana_l_firsht_intern@who.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 3:45:29 PM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: VPOTUS Afternoon Press Mentions--May 13, 2014
Attachments: [VPOTUS_PM_PRESS--05.13.2014.docx](#)

VPOTUS AFTERNOON PRESS MENTIONS

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

Chicago Sun-Times

BIDEN headlining Durbin fundraisers today

By: Lynn Sweet / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is headlining two fundraisers in downstate Alton on Tuesday afternoon to bolster the campaign war chests Sen. Dick Durbin D-Ill. and the Democratic

KPLR

Vice President BIDEN to speak at Archgrounds

By: Anthony Kiekow / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will speak in downtown St. Louis Tuesday afternoon at 3:30.

Plains Dealer

Vice President BIDEN coming to Cleveland to promote transit program the GOP would pare back

By: Stephen Koff / May 13, 2014

When Vice President Joe **BIDEN** visits a Cleveland rapid transit station on Mayfield Rd. Wednesday, he'll promote a form of federal spending that in its broadest outlines has few opponents.

Associated Press

VP BIDEN'S son joins Ukraine gas company's board

May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine, the company announced Tuesday, as the West seeks to help Ukraine wean itself off its dependence on Russian energy.

USA Today

BIDEN'S son joins board of Ukraine gas company

By: David Jackson / May 13, 2014

Vice President **BIDEN'S** son Hunter is joining the board of a gas company that operates in Ukraine.

Politico

Hunter BIDEN to Ukraine gas board

By: Lucy McCalmont / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

The Hill

WH: BIDEN'S son to Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

By: Justin Sink / May 13, 2014

Ukraine's largest private gas producer has hired Vice President **BIDEN'S** youngest son, but White House press secretary Jay Carney insisted on Tuesday the move shouldn't be read as an official endorsement by the U.S. government.

ABC

BIDEN'S Son Gets Ukrainian Oil Company Gig

By: Jordyn Phelps / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** youngest son Hunter **BIDEN** has joined the board of directors of Ukraine's largest oil company at a time that the U.S. is urging Ukraine to develop energy independence from Russia and just days after the vice president visited Ukraine.

Washington Times

Joe BIDEN'S son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company

By: Jessica Chasmar / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN'S** youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer.

Washington Examiner

Jay Carney: Joe BIDEN'S son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'

By: Susan Crabtree / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has accepted a position with Ukraine's largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the White House signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman Jay Carney said Tuesday.

National Journal

Another BIDEN Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

By: Marina Koren / May 13, 2014

Joe **BIDEN** has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only **BIDEN** involved in the region.

International Business Times

Burisma Holdings: BIDEN'S Son Joins Ukraine's Top Private Gas Company

By: Sophie Song/ May 13, 2014

The Ukrainian gas company that Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, just joined is a growing conglomerate that has been compared to "Exxon in its early days."

Mediaste

Bad Ideas in Oligarchy: BIDEN'S Son Joins Board of Ukrainian Energy Company

By: Tina Nguyen / May 13, 2014

Today, Burisma Holdings, a company that describes itself as "Ukraine's largest private gas producer," announced the newest member of its Board of Directors: R. Hunter **BIDEN**, a seasoned lawyer with extensive international business experience, will be in charge of the company's legal unit, as well as "provide support for the Company among international organizations." His end goal: to guide the company in a manner that will "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

Business Insider

Joe BIDEN'S Son Is Now On The Board Of One Of Ukraine's Biggest Gas Conglomerates

By: Brett Logiurato / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, has been appointed to the board of directors of Ukraine's largest private-gas producer. The company, Burisma Holdings, announced **BIDEN'S** appointment on its website Tuesday. Burisma said **BIDEN** would be the new head of the company's legal unit.

[Reuters](#)

Turkey to ignore court order to pay compensation to Cyprus

By: Tulay Karadeniz and Ece Toksabay / May 13, 2014

... A new round of peace talks resumed in February. U.S. Vice-President Joe **BIDEN** is expected on the island on May 21-23 to try to spur on the process, Cypriot official sources said.

[AFP](#)

Kerry eyes role in Cyprus peace process

May 13, 2014

... US Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is to visit Cyprus later this month as part of efforts to find ways to counter what Washington sees as Russia's destabilizing actions in Ukraine.

[USA Today](#)

A view from campus on sexual assaults

By: Emmaline Campbell / May 13, 2014

... In light of the department's record of ineptitude, the White House's recent announcement that it would take on the issue is reason for hope. It has the clout to blow past the obstacles that have held back the Department of Education. The White House can speak directly to college students through social media, as it did last month with the YouTube video "1 is 2 Many," featuring celebrities such as actor Steve Carell and public figures such as Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

[Chicago Sun-Times](#)

BIDEN headlining Durbin fundraisers today

By: Lynn Sweet / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is headlining two fundraisers in downstate Alton on Tuesday afternoon to bolster the campaign war chests Sen. Dick Durbin D-Ill. and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. Durbin is flying to Illinois and back to D.C. on **BIDEN'S** plane, with a stop in St. Louis for an official event with the vice president and Interior Sec. Sally Jewell at the CityArchRiver project at the St. Louis Gateway Arch "to discuss the economy and highlight the progress of this future urban park site."

Last month, I reported **BIDEN** will be the draw at the Alton events for Durbin, who faces GOP nominee Illinois state Sen. Jim Oberweis R-Sugar Grove in November. DSCC chair Sen. Michael Bennet D-Col. will also be attending the high-dollar events.

I posted earlier that President Barack Obama returns to Chicago on May 22 to keynote major donor fundraising events for Durbin and the DSCC.

Today, **BIDEN** appears at a reception in Alton followed by a dinner at the home of John and Jayne Simmons.

The price points

*\$35,000 per couple to co-chair the dinner, with a photo opp.

*\$10,000 one ticket to the dinner

*\$5,000 to co-chair the general reception with a photo opp.

*\$1,000 one ticket to the reception.

[KPLR](#)

Vice President BIDEN to speak at Archgrounds

By: Anthony Kiekow / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN** will speak in downtown St. Louis Tuesday afternoon at 3:30.

His speech is about the economy and construction projects.

He will visit the St. Louis Gateway Arch and get a look at the renovations going on in the area.

The \$380 Million City-Arch-River project will connect the Gateway Arch to downtown St. Louis.

The new date of completion for the project is 2016.

The project was funded through federal, state, local and private funds.

The Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell will also be in attendance.

BIDEN'S speech could be a glimpse to his platform for a 2016 presidential run.

It would be **BIDEN'S** third attempt to win the office.

[Plains Dealer](#)

Vice President BIDEN coming to Cleveland to promote transit program the GOP would pare back

By: Stephen Koff / May 13, 2014

When Vice President Joe **BIDEN** visits a Cleveland rapid transit station on Mayfield Rd. Wednesday, he'll promote a form of federal spending that in its broadest outlines has few opponents.

Roads need paving. Bridges need fixing. Nearly everyone agrees.

But exactly what else counts as necessary for federal transportation spending, including a Red Line rapid station in Cleveland, is another matter.

If House of Representatives Republicans prevail, there could be much less money in the future for projects like the new Little Italy-University Circle Rapid Station, which is scheduled to open in 2015 and **BIDEN** will highlight Wednesday.

BIDEN'S Cleveland visit is part of a broader, week-long lobbying effort by the White House to draw attention to a desire to keep spending on improving infrastructure. The overarching issue - keeping the nation's roads and bridges open and safe - has wide consensus.

Even the biggest pro-business lobbying groups in Washington, such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, are spending the week much like **BIDEN** and his boss, President Barack Obama. They're holding forums and other events to

tell Congress that it's time for a major new transportation bill.

The current bill expires Sept. 30, and the Highway Trust Fund, which provides the money, could run short a month earlier.

Obama is going to the construction site of the new structure that will replace the Tappan Zee Bridge, spanning New York's Hudson River, the same day as **BIDEN'S** visit to the new Little Italy-University Circle Rapid Station.

But first, **BIDEN** today will go to St. Louis and highlight a pedestrian bridge being built over a highway that separates residents and tourists from the Gateway Arch. And on Friday, the White House says, Obama will meet with workers to discuss infrastructure around Washington, D.C.

The White House says that 65 percent of the nation's major roads are rated as being in "less than good" condition and one in four bridges require significant repairs or cannot handle today's traffic.

But agreement on need is not the same as agreement on where to get the money, or on how to spend it.

Most current federal transportation projects, including money that gets funneled to state highway departments, are funded through a tax on gasoline (18.4 cents per gallon) and diesel fuel (24.4 cents per gallon). Those taxes have not been raised since 1993, although from 1993 to 1997, 4.3 cents of the gasoline tax was used for deficit reduction before being redirected to transportation projects.

The static tax is just part of the problem. Cars also get better gasoline mileage since the last hike, and with inflation, the money doesn't buy as much steel and asphalt.

So Obama would replace the expiring transit bill, called Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century, or MAP-21, with a \$302 billion, four-year bill. Obama's bill would supplement the gas tax with money from closing certain corporate tax provisions, including one that the White House and Democrats say has led to companies sheltering income overseas.

Republicans such as House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster have their own ideas -- both for annual transportation appropriations, which last a year at a time, and for a longer-term road-and-bridge improvement program.

"While Chairman Shuster respects that the Administration has put forward its own detailed proposal, the first time it has done so, he will not agree with it on all the details," said Justin Harclerode, Shuster's spokesman. "Thus far, the chairman has not elaborated on any potential differences or areas of agreement as the Transportation Committee continues to develop its surface transportation proposal."

The last big highway bill, MAP-21, authorized \$105 billion over two years, marking the first agreement on a large highway bill since 2005. A series of Band-Aid approaches, as the White House had put it, sufficed in the interim.

Many supporters, including Ohio Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, say that spending on roads helps the American economy, not only by providing road-building jobs but also by keeping the economy moving.

"Road and bridge projects don't just mean safer and less congested roads and construction jobs - they also help attract new employers and economic development," Brown said in an email this week.

Brown said that more than 8 percent of Ohio's bridges require major repairs or replacement. He also noted the better known projects awaiting funding, such as Route 8 in Akron and the Brent Spence Bridge in Cincinnati.

Federal highway spending, however, has become a boondoggle in the eyes of some fiscal conservatives. This is where ideological groups split with those who have interests to protect.

Emily Goff, a transportation and infrastructure policy analyst at the conservative Heritage Foundation, noted that MAP-21 funds go not only to build roads and bridges but also to build recreation trails and bicycle paths. These are important to groups pushing for transportation alternatives, but they siphon money that could go for even more roads and bridges to ease considerable traffic congestion, Goff says.

Yet MAP-21 requires states to set aside money for these kinds of alternatives, Goff says, to the tune of \$27.5 million this year in Pennsylvania and \$78.9 million in Texas.

"Identifying a connection between these activities and a federal highway program concerned with interstate highway system construction and maintenance proves difficult," Goff wrote in a recent Heritage blog post. "Indeed, there is nothing federal or highway about bicycle paths, landscaping, or any of these local activities."

The RTA station in Cleveland is a project that could raise a similar question, with its emphasis on meshing light rail with development around University Circle and Little Italy. The existing station, on Euclid Avenue at E. 120th Street, is considered functionally obsolete, so the new station will be placed several blocks south, at Mayfield Road at E. 119th Street.

About \$8.9 in funding comes from highly competitive U.S. Department of Transportation grants, according to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority.

The grant money did not come MAP-21. Rather, it came from a program created under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, or the recession-era stimulus act. The transportation component of the stimulus act, called Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), gets money appropriated annually from Congress -- \$3.5 billion so far for 270 projects nationwide, including \$600 million this year, the White House says.

The TIGER program will end soon, too -- unless Obama and **BIDEN** get their way.

In that case, TIGER would become permanent, greatly expanded to \$5 billion over four years. The Obama White House wants to fold it into the next iteration of a four-year road-and-bridge bill.

House Republicans are unlikely to go along. The House appropriations subcommittee for transportation on May 6 recommended a lower sum of \$100 million for TIGER in 2015, and the GOP-led panel would further restrict TIGER grants to "projects that will address critical transportation needs, such as road, highway and bridge construction and improvement."

In other words, while money for the Little Italy-University Circle RTA station appears secure, future projects like it could go unfunded.

That is apparently why **BIDEN** is coming to Cleveland: to highlight what the money has helped build and point out what would have happened were it not there.

The White House would not comment on this in advance of the vice president's trip. In an email, White House spokesman Keith Maley said, "Members of both parties have put forward their own ideas on the Hill, and the most important thing is that we pass a long-term bill that creates jobs and provides certainty for cities, states, and businesses. It's time to get the job done."

Associated Press

VP **BIDEN'S** son joins Ukraine gas company's board
May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, is joining the board of a gas company operating in Ukraine, the company announced Tuesday, as the West seeks to help Ukraine wean itself off its dependence on Russian energy.

Burisma Holdings said **BIDEN**, an attorney and chairman of the board of the World Food Program USA, will head the Burisma's legal unit, and will also seek support for the company among international organizations.

"I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," **BIDEN** said in a statement released by the company.

The announcement comes as Ukraine and the U.S. are looking to decrease Ukraine's reliance on Russian energy amid threats from Moscow to cut Ukraine off if it doesn't pay massive debts. Western countries believe Russia would have less leverage in the crisis with Ukraine if Europe was less dependent on Russian gas.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer," said **BIDEN** spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Still, Vice President **BIDEN** has spoken frequently about the need to increase Ukraine's energy independence, including during a recent visit to Kiev. He's also a key interlocutor for the Obama administration with Kiev and other anxious nations in the region as the crisis there has unfolded.

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USA Today

BIDEN'S son joins board of Ukraine gas company

By: David Jackson / May 13, 2014

Vice President **BIDEN'S** son Hunter is joining the board of a gas company that operates in Ukraine.

Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, said Hunter **BIDEN** -- an attorney -- will be in charge of its legal unit and help the company with other international organizations.

"I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," the younger **BIDEN** said in a statement.

The **BIDEN** appointment comes as the United States and allied nations try to help Ukraine reduce its dependence on Russian energy by developing other sources.

Kendra Barkoff, spokesperson for Vice President **BIDEN**, said that "Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

Politico

Hunter BIDEN to Ukraine gas board

By: Lucy McCalmont / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the younger son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, will be joining Ukraine's largest private gas producer, the company announced in a statement

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, said in a statement, which was reported by The Moscow Times on Tuesday.

BIDEN, joining the board, will be in charge of the legal unit, the company said and will provide support for Burisma Holdings "among international organizations."

BIDEN said the company will help strengthen Ukraine's economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," **BIDEN** said in a statement. "As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

The country has faced rising tensions with Russia and on Monday, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said the U.S. would not recognize a referendum held Sunday in Eastern Ukraine aiming for self-rule in the region, calling it "illegal" under Ukrainian law.

Vice President **BIDEN** also expressed support for Ukraine, when he visited the country in April and slammed Russia for its role in the annexation of Crimea.

The Hill

WH: BIDEN'S son to Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

By: Justin Sink / May 13, 2014

Ukraine's largest private gas producer has hired Vice President **BIDEN'S** youngest son, but White House press secretary Jay Carney insisted on Tuesday the move shouldn't be read as an official endorsement by the U.S. government.

"Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president," Carney told reporters.

The vice president's office also defended the hire.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office," said Kendra Barkoff, spokeswoman for Vice President **BIDEN**.

Burisma, which produces the equivalent of 10,500 barrels of oil daily, announced **BIDEN'S** hire in a statement earlier Tuesday. "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," said Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors.

The younger **BIDEN**, for his part, said he believed his legal and corporate advice would "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Hunter **BIDEN** said.

But the hire could raise ethical questions -- and diplomatic headaches -- for the White House. During a visit to Kiev last month, the

vice president discussed energy security with Ukraine's leaders, including ways the country could produce its own domestic production of natural gas.

"Imagine where you'd be today if you were able to tell Russia: keep your gas. It would be a very different world," the vice president told Ukrainian lawmakers.

The hire also came a day after Russian energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless the country prepays for its energy. That announcement has sparked fears that energy costs could strain Ukraine's fragile economy.

ABC
BIDEN'S Son Gets Ukrainian Oil Company Gig
By: Jordyn Phelps / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** youngest son Hunter **BIDEN** has joined the board of directors of Ukraine's largest oil company at a time that the U.S. is urging Ukraine to develop energy independence from Russia and just days after the vice president visited Ukraine.

The vice president's office and the White House rejected any suggestion that there was a conflict of interest.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer," Vice President **BIDEN'S** spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff told ABC News. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

White House spokesman Jay Carney said, "Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the **BIDEN** family are obviously private citizens and where they work ... does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president."

According to a press release from the oil company, Burisma Holdings, **BIDEN** will help the company manage its relationships with "international organizations," in addition to overseeing the company's legal unit.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Hunter **BIDEN** said in a statement.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," he said.

BIDEN, a graduate of Yale Law School, is a counsel to the New York-based law firm Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP and serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service

Washington Times
Joe BIDEN'S son Hunter to head legal unit at Ukraine's largest private gas company
By: Jessica Chasmar / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joseph R. **BIDEN'S** youngest son, Hunter, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer.

Burisma Holdings said in a statement that Hunter **BIDEN** will be in charge of the company's legal unit and will provide support for the company among international organizations.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Mr. **BIDEN** said.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," he said.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said Tuesday that Mr. **BIDEN'S** new position "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration," Time magazine's Zeke Miller reported.

The announcement comes just one day after Russia's state energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless the country pays in advance for supplies.

The vice president has condemned Russia for its intervention in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy, The Moscow Times reported.

Washington Examiner
Jay Carney: Joe BIDEN'S son accepted position with Ukrainian gas company as 'private citizen'
By: Susan Crabtree / May 13, 2014

Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has accepted a position with Ukraine's largest private gas producer, but that in no way means the White House signed off on or endorses his hiring, presidential spokesman Jay Carney said Tuesday.

Burisma Holdings announced Tuesday that Hunter **BIDEN**, **BIDEN'S** youngest son, would serve on the company's board of directors.

The company in a news release on its website said Hunter **BIDEN** will be in charge of the Burisma's legal unit and will "provide support" among international organizations. The Moscow Times first reported the news Tuesday.

Asked about the hiring by a reporter Tuesday, Carney referred questions about it to the vice president's office and noted that it did not indicate that Obama was involved or approved of it.

"Hunter **BIDEN** and other members of the family are obviously private citizens and where they work is not an endorsement by the president or vice president," he said.

Kendra Barkoff, a spokeswoman for the vice president, did not respond to questions about whether Hunter **BIDEN** discussed the job with his father or sought his approval before accepting it.

Instead, she echoed Carney's earlier statement and referred questions to Hunter **BIDEN'S** New York law office.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer," she said. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

A spokeswoman for Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, a national law firm based in New York where Hunter **BIDEN** works, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Amid the escalating tensions between Ukraine and Russia in recent weeks, the European Commission, the executive body of the European Union, has tried to step in to try to prevent Russia from halting natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless it pays \$3.5 billion in debts.

Ukraine has so far refused to pay in protest of Moscow's decision to nearly double the price it charges Kiev for gas imports.

In the company's release, Alan Apter, the chairman of the company's board of directors, said: "The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals."

In addition to his work at the New York law firm, Hunter also is a co-founder and a managing partner of investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and serves as director of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, a network of 400 businesses, nonprofits and foreign policy experts, and the chairman of the advisory board for the National Democratic Institute, a non-profit that works to support democratic institutions and elections around the world.

National Journal

Another BIDEN Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

By: Marina Koren / May 13, 2014

Joe **BIDEN** has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only **BIDEN** involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter **BIDEN**, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

The vice president's office released a statement Tuesday afternoon saying that the elder **BIDEN** "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

It's unclear whether the entry of another **BIDEN** into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

International Business Times

Burisma Holdings: BIDEN'S Son Joins Ukraine's Top Private Gas Company

By: Sophie Song/ May 13, 2014

The Ukrainian gas company that Vice President Joe **BIDEN'S** son, Hunter **BIDEN**, just joined is a growing conglomerate that has been compared to "Exxon in its early days."

Burisma Holdings announced on Tuesday that the younger **BIDEN** will join the company as the head of its legal unit.

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. **BIDEN** is joining us to help us achieve these goals," Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors, said in a statement featured as a top story on the company's home page.

Burisma is a private oil and gas company founded in 2002, under joint activity agreements with Ukrainian state-owned producers, and quickly grew to become the largest private gas producer in Ukraine. The company's output stood at an average daily output of 10.5 million cubic meters barrels of oil equivalent per day in September 2013, and could double that figure within two years. All of the company's gas is sold to industrial customers in Ukraine.

BIDEN is not the only well-connected American to join the company - just a few weeks ago, when the vice president made an official trip to Ukraine, Burisma appointed one of Hunter's business partners, Devon Archer, to its board. Archer is a wealthy investor and Democratic campaign fundraiser with long ties to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. Archer was an advisor to Kerry's presidential campaign in 2004 and co-chaired Kerry's National Finance Committee. Upon his appointment to Burisma, Archer said that the energy conglomerate reminded him of "Exxon in its early days."

The company's portfolio of licenses is well-diversified across all three of Ukraine's key hydrocarbon basins - Dnieper-Donets, Carpathian and Azov-Kuban, and its fields are fully connected to the major gas pipelines in the country, allowing Burisma to keep the cost of production relatively efficient.

Natural gas is the largest energy source in Ukraine, accounting for 38 percent of total primary energy production during 2011. The country relies on Russia's gas company Gasprom currently to satisfy its energy needs, but will aim to reduce that dependency in coming years, and Burisma is well-positioned to boost its share of the domestic market.

"As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," **BIDEN** said regarding his new appointment.

Mediaite

Bad Ideas in Oligarchy: BIDEN'S Son Joins Board of Ukrainian Energy Company

By: Tina Nguyen / May 13, 2014

Today, Burisma Holdings, a company that describes itself as "Ukraine's largest private gas producer," announced the newest member of its Board of Directors: R. Hunter **BIDEN**, a seasoned lawyer with extensive international business experience, will be in charge of the company's legal unit, as well as "provide support for the Company among international organizations." His end goal: to guide the company in a manner that will "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

BIDEN also has a prominent dad who's part of an administration currently embroiled in a conflict with Russia over the Ukraine, so, that's cool too.

And it's not just that Joe **BIDEN** is his father, it's that Joe **BIDEN** has openly pledged to help Ukraine gain "energy independence" from Russia while condemning the latter's recent annexation of the Crimean peninsula. Really, this is an awkward situation.

While it's normal for the powerful children of powerful people to be pulled onto the boards of vast multinational corporations, the fact that **BIDEN** happened to join a Ukrainian energy company in the midst of the conflict in Crimea is probably not a good idea. First, as the Russian media quickly proved, it immediately breeds speculation about Americans attempting to secure their energy interests in Ukraine. Second, the best way to spark accusations of "conflicts of interest" is by appointing a man to your board who is, literally, the spitting image of America's Vice President.

Nevertheless, the White House shot down any notion that there was a conflict of interest, telling Business Insider: "Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

The White House has a point, but either way, this is an extremely uncomfortable situation that may likely lead to "escalating conflicts" and "disintegrating relationships between Russia and the US."

Business Insider

Joe BIDEN'S Son Is Now On The Board Of One Of Ukraine's Biggest Gas Conglomerates

By: Brett Logiurato / May 13, 2014

Hunter **BIDEN**, the youngest son of Vice President Joe **BIDEN**, has been appointed to the board of directors of Ukraine's largest private-gas producer.

The company, Burisma Holdings, announced **BIDEN'S** appointment on its website Tuesday. Burisma said **BIDEN** would be the new head of the company's legal unit.

The White House shot down any notion of a conflict of interest with Hunter **BIDEN'S** appointment. In a statement provided to Business Insider, Joe **BIDEN** spokesperson Kendra Barkoff said Hunter's appointment did not constitute an endorsement by the vice president.

"Hunter **BIDEN** is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company," Barkoff said. "For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office."

Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, the national law firm for which Hunter **BIDEN** serves as a counsel, did not respond to a request for comment on Tuesday.

During the daily White House press briefing on Tuesday, press secretary Jay Carney said where Hunter **BIDEN** works "does not reflect an endorsement by the administration, by the president or vice president."

Hunter **BIDEN'S** appointment comes as the U.S. and much of the West has sought to help Ukraine wean off its dependence on Russia for oil and gas supplies. Last month during a trip to Kiev, the vice president pledged U.S. assistance in Ukraine's pursuit of energy independence from Russia. Ukraine and the West believe energy independence would serve as a major leverage point for Ukraine in its standoff with Russia.

In a statement released by Burisma, Hunter **BIDEN** said he believes the company will help strengthen Ukraine's floundering economy.

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine. As a new member of the Board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the Company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter **BIDEN** said in the statement.

Reuters

Turkey to ignore court order to pay compensation to Cyprus

By: Tulay Karadeniz and Ece Toksabay / May 13, 2014

Turkey has no plans to pay 90 million euros (\$124 million) to Cyprus as ordered by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said on Tuesday.

The money was ordered in compensation for Turkey's invasion of the island 40 years ago.

The Mediterranean island has been split since 1974 - when Turkey sent in troops after a brief Greek Cypriot coup staged by supporters of unification with Greece. It comprises a southern Greek Cypriot state recognized worldwide and a breakaway Turkish Cypriot entity in the north recognized only by Ankara.

Davutoglu said Turkey, which is seeking to join the European Union of which Cyprus is a member, sees no obligation to pay the compensation to a country that it does not formally recognize.

"In terms of the grounds of this ruling, its method and the fact that it is considering a country that Turkey does not recognize as a counterparty, we see no necessity to make this payment," Davutoglu told reporters.

"Yesterday's ECHR ruling consists of some legal contradictions and therefore we don't see it as at all binding, in terms of payment," he said.

Cyprus brought the case to the Strasbourg-based ECHR 20 years ago, demanding financial compensation over missing Greek Cypriots, the property of displaced people and violations of other human rights.

The ECHR is responsible for adjudication of the European Convention on Human Rights, to which Turkey is a signatory via its membership of the non-EU Council of Europe.

The court ruled largely in Nicosia's favor in 2001, but took more than a decade to decide on the sum to be paid, a delay Ankara, whose aspirations to join the European Union have long been frustrated by the issue, says is aimed at undermining a fresh peace drive on the island.

"We think that this ruling has been the biggest blow to this process. If a comprehensive solution is desired, then everyone should be aware of their responsibilities. When looked at the history of this problem, the timing of this case is meaningful," Davutoglu said.

The Cyprus question has defied a small army of mediators over the years, amid disputes between estranged Greeks and Turks over power-sharing arrangements and the claims of thousands of people from both sides uprooted by the conflict.

A new round of peace talks resumed in February. U.S. Vice-President Joe **BIDEN** is expected on the island on May 21-23 to try to spur on the process, Cypriot official sources said.

"We think **BIDEN'S** visit to the island will be important and we view the U.S. interest positively. Turkey is ready to discuss this in an open-hearted way," Davutoglu said.

AFP
Kerry eyes role in Cyprus peace process
May 13, 2014

US Secretary of State John Kerry is planning to dip his toes into yet another of the world's intractable conflicts, announcing Tuesday he will visit Cyprus in the coming weeks.

Meeting with Cypriot Foreign Minister Ioannis Kasoulides at the State Department, Kerry praised the Mediterranean island's current Greek Cypriot leadership for trying to reach a "long sought-after resolution" to its four-decade division.

"We have been working on the issue of trying to find a peace for Cyprus, a reunification of the island on a bizonal, bicomunal federation," Kerry said.

Communal fighting between Greek- and Turkish Cypriots broke out in 1964, culminating 10 years later in a Turkish invasion of the northern third after a coup engineered by Greece's military dictatorship aimed at reunifying the island.

Turkish Cypriot leaders in 1983 declared a breakaway state which is recognized only by Ankara.

The two sides relaunched peace talks aimed at reunifying Cyprus in February after a two-year hiatus, with the US believed to have played a major behind-the-scenes role in helping kickstart the resumed negotiations.

But several previous rounds of talks have failed, in part because of still-raw emotions on both sides of the UN-patrolled Green Line that divides the two communities.

Kerry said the United States was "very supportive" of the resumed talks held under the auspices of the UN.

"It's my hope to be in Nicosia and perhaps in Athens somewhere in the next weeks if not early months," announced the top US diplomat, who has made the search for a Middle East peace deal his personal quest.

He said of Cyprus that "we want to try to be helpful in this process" and pointed to "new economic opportunities in the energy sector."

Kasoulides, holding his second talks at the State Department in the past 12 months, said a resolution to the Cyprus problem "is very pertinent."

"We need the assistance and interest of the international community," he stressed, adding he believed "the circumstances are appropriate to push in order to find a settlement to this chronic" problem.

US Vice President Joe **BIDEN** is to visit Cyprus later this month as part of efforts to find ways to counter what Washington sees as Russia's destabilizing actions in Ukraine.

Cyprus is seen in the White House as one of the European governments most resistant to toughening sanctions against Russia, including "sectoral" measures directly targeting Moscow's economy.

Russians have billions of dollars in euros deposited in banks in Cyprus, and the government's resistance to further sanctions threatens a joint US-European Union effort to preserve a united front in punishing Russia.

USA Today
A view from campus on sexual assaults
By: Emmaline Campbell / May 13, 2014

I know a student at the University of Chicago who was sexually assaulted by someone who lived in her dorm but did not report it for months out of fear that he would retaliate. I know another woman who was assaulted by her boyfriend and the college refused to take her complaint seriously.

When I started college four years ago, I thought I knew what campus life was all about. What I didn't know was that one in five female college students are sexually assaulted before they graduate – the estimate in a recent White House report. Sadly, that percentage hasn't changed in 20 years.

To better understand why this problem wasn't being taken more seriously at my college and so many others, I decided to explore the topic in my senior thesis. What I learned in my research and as a friend of assault victims was deeply disturbing.

On college campuses, it can be hard to find justice when students are assaulted by their classmates, their friends, or their boyfriends. While stories of assaults are plentiful, stories of perpetrators who have been held accountable are scarce.

At the University of Chicago, survivors of sexual assault have been turned away from pursuing disciplinary options against their perpetrators. The school's Disciplinary Committee has rejected other claims, leaving perpetrators on campus. Because of systematic problems, the university is under investigation by the Department of Education.

None of this should be surprising.

Colleges also can be in the difficult position of being both the prosecutor and defense attorney. If the perpetrator is also one of the college's students, the college must also provide him with assistance for the disciplinary process.

The federal agency that oversees this issue hasn't done any better. The Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR), which monitors university responses to sexual assault, has been unsuccessful because its method of dealing with universities that violate federal requirements is inherently flawed. Each investigation can take months, and it culminates in a "letter of finding" which reveals all of the violations found and all of the requirements the department will be imposing on the university to bring it into compliance.

These letters of finding could be a valuable resource for helping universities to learn from past mistakes, but they are not made readily available to the public. The department has refused to publish them online.

In light of the department's record of ineptitude, the White House's recent announcement that it would take on the issue is reason for hope. It has the clout to blow past the obstacles that have held back the Department of Education. The White House can speak directly to college students through social media, as it did last month with the YouTube video "1 is 2 Many," featuring celebrities such as actor Steve Carell and public figures such as Vice President Joe **BIDEN**.

The White House can also pressure the Department of Education to finally do its job, as evidenced by its directive that the department publish – for the first time – a list of all of the colleges currently under investigation.

Those are critical first steps, but even the power of the White House can only begin to chip away at the layers of bureaucracy that have worked to silence sexual assault.

As I was working on my thesis, I was frustrated that the system was so egregiously ineffective and thousands of college students were suffering as a result. It's great to see students speaking up and the White House getting involved, but we shouldn't be complacent. We all need to take advantage of this moment to keep this issue in the spotlight.

We can't let another 20 years go by without progress.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Prescott, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 1:12:56 PM
To: "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>
Subject: FW: TheHill: WH: Biden's son to Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 3:05 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchhoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Velz, Peter; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: TheHill: WH: Biden's son to Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/205992-white-house-bidens-son-to-ukraine-gas-company-isnt-us-endorsement>

WH: Biden's son to Ukraine gas company isn't U.S. endorsement

The Hill // Justin Sink

05/13/14 02:42 PM EDT

Ukraine's largest private gas producer has hired Vice President Biden's youngest son, but White House press secretary Jay Carney insisted on Tuesday the move shouldn't be read as an official endorsement by the U.S. government.

"Hunter Biden and other members of the Biden family are obviously private citizens, and where they work does not reflect an endorsement by the administration or by the vice president or president," Carney told reporters.

The vice president's office also defended the hire.

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer. The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company. For any additional questions, I refer you to Hunter's office," said Kendra Barkoff, spokeswoman for Vice President Biden.

Burisma, which produces the equivalent of 10,500 barrels of oil daily, announced Biden's hire in a statement earlier Tuesday.

"The company's strategy is aimed at the strongest concentration of professional staff and the introduction of best corporate practices, and we're delighted that Mr. Biden is joining us to help us achieve these goals," said Alan Apter, Burisma Holdings' chairman of the board of directors.

The younger Biden, for his part, said he believed his legal and corporate advice would "contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine."

"Burisma's track record of innovations and industry leadership in the field of natural gas means that it can be a strong driver of a strong economy in Ukraine," Hunter Biden said.

But the hire could raise ethical questions — and diplomatic headaches — for the White House. During a visit to Kiev last month, the vice president discussed energy security with Ukraine's leaders, including ways the country could produce its own domestic production of natural gas.

"Imagine where you'd be today if you were able to tell Russia: keep your gas. It would be a very different world," the vice president told Ukrainian lawmakers.

The hire also came a day after Russian energy giant Gazprom threatened to halt natural gas shipments to Ukraine unless the country prepaays for its energy. That announcement has sparked fears that energy costs could strain Ukraine's fragile economy.

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/16/2014 5:04:18 PM
To: "Meehan, Bernadette" <bernadette_m_meehan@nsc.eop.gov>; "Earnest, Joshua R." <joshua_r_earnest@who.eop.gov>; "Hayden, Caitlin" <caitlin_m_hayden@nsc.eop.gov>; "Meehan, Bernadette" <m.486>; "Earnest, Joshua R." </cn=recipients/cn=joshuar.earnest67836121>; "Hayden, Caitlin" </cn=recipients/cn=caitlin_m_hayden>
Cc: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: RE: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Thanks

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 7:01 PM
To: Spector, Stephen; Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: RE: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

Thanks. We'll refer any inquiries to you and Kendra.

From: Spector, Stephen
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 6:56 PM
To: Earnest, Joshua R.; Hayden, Caitlin; Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

http://online.wsj.com/articles/bidens-son-hunter-discharged-from-navy-reserve-after-failing-cocaine-test-1413499657?mod=WSJ_LatestHeadlines

Biden's Son Hunter Discharged From Navy Reserve After Failing Cocaine Test

COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON And

JULIAN E. BARNES

Oct. 16, 2014 6:47 p.m. ET

[0 COMMENTS](#)

WASHINGTON—Vice President [Joe Biden](#)'s son Hunter was discharged from the Navy Reserve this year after testing positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the matter.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training who is now a managing partner at an investment company, had been commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve, a part-time position. But after failing a drug test last year, his brief military career ended.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, decided to pursue military service relatively late, beginning the direct-commission process to become a public-affairs officer in the Navy Reserve in 2012. Because of his age—43 when he was to be commissioned—he needed a waiver to join the Navy. He received a second Navy waiver because of a drug-related incident when he was a young man, according to people familiar with the matter. Military officials say such drug waivers aren't uncommon.

Mr. Biden was commissioned as an ensign on May 7, 2013, and assigned to Navy Public Affairs Support Element East in Norfolk, Va., a reserve unit, according to the Navy. In June 2013, after reporting to his unit in Norfolk, he was given a drug test, which turned up positive for cocaine, according to people familiar with the situation. Mr. Biden was discharged in February, the Navy said.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that it was "the honor of my life to serve in the U.S. Navy, and I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge. I respect the Navy's decision. With the love and support of my family, I'm moving forward."

The vice president's office declined to comment. The Navy said Mr. Biden met all of the criteria for a direct commission, but declined to provide any details of why he was discharged. "Like other junior officers, the details of Ens. Biden's discharge are not releasable due to the Privacy Act," Cmdr. Ryan Perry, a Navy spokesman, said.

Navy personnel who are discharged from the military because of a failed drug test don't receive honorable discharges. Most are given an "other than honorable" or "general" discharge. It isn't clear which discharge Mr. Biden received, and the Navy doesn't release the discharge status of low-ranking officers or junior enlisted personnel.

Mr. Biden was recommended for a direct commission after interviewing with a board of Naval officers, according to the Navy. The direct-commission process was created to allow the Navy to tap civilians with needed skills. The program allows civilians who have not attended the Naval Academy, a reserve-officer training course or officer-candidate school to join the military by attending only an abbreviated training program.

The Navy typically accepts about six people into the public-affairs reserves each year. Navy reservists usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but they can be called up to serve as much as a year on active duty.

The vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, speak regularly about the pride they take in being a military family, often referring to son Beau Biden's time in the Delaware Army National Guard and his yearlong deployment to Iraq. After Hunter Biden joined the Navy, his mother said he was following in the footsteps of two of his grandfathers, who also served in the Navy.

"This year, I'm looking forward to standing with our son, Hunter, when he is commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy," she said in 2012.

In January 2013, Joe Biden joked about Mr. Biden's decision to pursue military service at age 42. "We have a lot of bad judgment in my family," the vice president said at the American Legion's Salute to Heroes Inaugural Ball. "My son, who is over 40, just joined the United States Navy. He's about to be sworn in as an officer, Hunter Biden."

Hunter Biden, who is married with three children, is the younger of the vice president's two sons. Beau Biden serves as the Delaware attorney general and has announced plans to run for governor in 2016. Joe and Jill Biden also have a daughter, Ashley, who joined the Delaware Center for Justice in 2012 as associate executive director.

Hunter Biden has embarked on several different professional ventures, including his recent appointment with a Ukrainian firm, that have drawn scrutiny. In May, he joined the board of the Ukrainian gas producer, Burisma Holdings Ltd., which is controlled by a former security and energy official for Ukraine's ousted former president. The announcement that Mr. Biden would be responsible for Burisma's legal unit raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, because his father, the vice president, was engaged in diplomatic efforts involving Ukraine.

At the time, the vice president's office called Hunter Biden "a private citizen" and said Joe Biden didn't endorse any particular company. Hunter Biden didn't return calls seeking comment on the matter.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Biden worked as a lobbyist. He quit the business and resigned his partnership at a Washington firm after his father was named to join the presidential ticket in 2008.

Now, Mr. Biden is a managing partner at Rosemont Seneca Partners, an investment company. He also serves as chairman of World Food Program USA, which calls itself "a humanitarian agency that fights hunger," and he is an adjunct assistant professor at Georgetown University.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Allen, Jessica <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>

Sent: 7/8/2014 8:12:08 AM

To: "DL-WHO-Press" <dl-who-press@dsr.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Allen, Jessica" <jessica_l_allen@who.eop.gov>; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <paulette_l_aniskoff@who.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Camacho, Cara" <cara_v_camacho@nsc.eop.gov>; "Carson, Crystal" <crystal_m_carson@who.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Davidson, Josta" <josta_t_davidson@nsc.eop.gov>; "Earnest, Joshua R." <joshua_r_earnest@who.eop.gov>; "Edelman, R. 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"DMCOS" </cn=recipients/cn=dmcos791>; robert_d_whithorne@who.eop.gov; "Russo, Bill" <m.f22>; david_m_simas@who.eop.gov; "Etienne, Ashley" <etienne_af7f>; "Rogers, Melissa" <melissaf81>; "Peterlin, Katherine" <m.87c>; "Foster, Heather" </cn=recipients/cn=heather_j_foster>; "Szuplat, Terence P." </cn=recipients/cn=terencep.szuplat27487457>; "Leweling, Tara" <a.aac>; "MacFarquhar, Rory" </cn=recipients/cn=rory_macfarquhar>; "Feddersen, Brett" <feddersen_bf95>; mc_gonzalez@who.eop.gov; david_j_lopez@who.eop.gov; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <l.c25>; "Schwartz, Noah" <l.845>; "Allen, Jessica" <l.d4e>; "Camacho, Cara" <v.d22>; katherine_a_vargas@who.eop.gov; dagoberto_vega@who.eop.gov; "Keenan, Cody" </cn=recipients/cn=codykeen@83443781>; "Withers, Anne" <m.94a>; mathew_s_nosanchuk@nsc.eop.gov; "Friedman, Jennifer" <b.a17>; "Wozniak, Natalie S." </cn=recipients/cn=natalies.wozniak52051125>; desiree_n_barnes@who.eop.gov; "Hart, Elizabeth A." <a.ffe>; "Hunn, Allison" <d.5ee>; "West, Thomas" <w.bf3>; "Tess, Caroline" <a.e7b>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremyc15>; taylor_j_lustig@who.eop.gov; david_l_hudson@who.eop.gov; "Rhodes, Benjamin J." </cn=recipients/cn=benjaminj.rhodes66704772>; "Kim, Andrew" <andrew88>; george_selim@nsc.eop.gov; caitria_l_mahoney@who.eop.gov; "Velz, Peter" <t.3a2>; "Price, Ryan" <l.abd>; "Whisenant, Addie" <m.03f>; "Rangel, Antoinette N." </cn=recipients/cn=antoinette_n_rangel>; "Fenn, Sarah" </cn=recipients/cn=sarahb.fenn64100553>; jessica_e_schumer@cea.eop.gov; johanna_maska@who.eop.gov; "Aniskoff, Paulette" <l.c19>; "Dickinson, Tammy" </cn=recipients/cn=tamara_l_dickinson>; shannon_n_green@nsc.eop.gov; "Davidson, Josta" <t.b87>; "Bartoloni, Kristen" </cn=recipients/cn=kristen_a_bartoloni>; "Costa, Kristina" <l.f71>; david_m_litt@who.eop.gov; "Kaden, David M. 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jessica_r_santillo@who.eop.gov; "Lee, Jesse C." </cn=recipients/cn=jessec.lee74301331>; nathaniel_m_perkins@who.eop.gov; brett_m_holmgren@nsc.eop.gov; "Jencks, Fae" <m.771>; "Coates, Kelsey" <a.04d>; "Carson, Crystal" <m.b7f>; "Sahgal, Rishi R." </cn=recipients/cn=rishir.sahgal41360826>; brett_p_bruen@nsc.eop.gov; dominique_j_mann@who.eop.gov; "Wagstaff, Jessica" </cn=recipients/cn=jessica_e_wagstaff>; "Evans, Bess" <w.c53>; ezra_l_mechaber@who.eop.gov; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman1>; clay_a_dumas@who.eop.gov; "Click, John" </cn=recipients/cn=john_s_click>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>; "Heinzelman, Kate" <e.d3b>; "Asen, Jonathan" </cn=recipients/cn=jonathanasen37271556>; "Canegallo, Kristie A." <a.068>; "Sherwood-Randall, Liz" </cn=recipients/cn=elizabethd.sherwoodrandall41217251>; "Pfeiffer, Dan" </cn=recipients/cn=dpfeiffer>; "Lucas, Laura" <d.49e>; "Palmieri, Jennifer" <m.cd6>; kaelan_e_richards@who.eop.gov; stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov; "Shoup, Lillian" <m.0c8>; clare_e_gallagher@nsc.eop.gov; "Moussavian, Roxana" <roxanae02>; "Backemeyer, Christopher" <r.073>; jordan_m_burke@who.eop.gov; "Orbach Lachman, Sherry" <e.5f8>; katherine_b_bairden@who.eop.gov; sallis@bales@nsc.eop.gov; bobby@se.gov

Subject: Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist

<http://time.com/2964493/ukraine-joe-biden-son-hunter-burisma/>

Ukrainian Employer of Joe Biden's Son Hires a D.C. Lobbyist

TIME // Michael Scherer @michaelscherer

July 7, 2014

An obscure private Ukrainian natural gas company has been hiring friends and family of Secretary of State John Kerry and Vice President Joe Biden, while seeking to influence Congress

When Vice President Joe Biden's son, R. Hunter Biden, joined the board of a private Ukrainian oil and natural gas company this spring, he explained his new job as a legal one, disconnected from any effort to influence the Obama Administration. In a press release, the younger Biden boasted of his abilities on issues like improving corporate transparency.

But the company, Burisma Holdings, did not disclose at the time the scope of their plans for influencing the U.S. government. Recently released documents show that Biden's hiring coincided with the launch of a new effort to lobby members of Congress about the role of the company in Ukraine and the country's quest for energy independence.

David Leiter, a former Senate chief of staff to Secretary of State John Kerry, signed on to work as a lobbyist for Burisma on May 20, 2014, about a week after Biden announced he was joining the company, according to lobbying disclosures filed this month.

Leiter's involvement in the firm rounds out a power-packed team of politically-connected Americans that also includes a second new board member, Devon Archer, a Democratic bundler and former adviser to John Kerry's 2004 presidential campaign. Both Archer and Hunter Biden have worked as business partners with Kerry's son-in-law, Christopher Heinz, the founding partner of Rosemont Capital, a private-equity company.

Biden's office referred questions to a Burisma spokesman, who says Biden has not been involved in contacting members of Congress or the Obama Administration about the company. "His role, like all board members, is to provide strategic guidance to Burisma," said Lawrence Pacheco, who works in Washington D.C. for FTI Consulting, a communications firm that is also employed by Burisma.

But Burisma is contacting officials in Washington through Leiter's lobbying firm, ML Strategies. "ML Strategies is working with Burisma to educate U.S. officials about the company and its role in creating a stable and secure energy future for Ukraine, not any specific policy or legislation," Pacheco said. "Burisma supports energy independence, economic growth, national sovereignty and regional stability and will engage as needed to encourage efforts to further these goals."

Some Democratic senators, meanwhile, have been working to secure more U.S. funding, either directly or through entities like the Export-Import Bank, to improve Ukraine's domestic energy production potential. On June 27, Sen. Edward Markey of Massachusetts, wrote President Obama a letter with three other Democratic senators calling for increased aid. "We should leverage the full resources and expertise of the U.S. government to assist Ukraine in improving its energy efficiency, increasing its domestic production, and reforming its energy markets," wrote Markey, who has also proposed legislation with about \$40 million in additional aid for Ukrainian energy development.

Markey's letter was trumpeted by Burisma Holdings as a commendable move towards securing the future security of Ukraine. "Burisma Holdings today applauded the range of U.S. legislative support for development of Ukraine's broad and untapped resources and an increase in transparency and good governance," the company said in a statement on the day the letter was released.

An aide in Markey's office told TIME that Leiter, Biden and Archer were not part of discussions that led to the drafting of the letter or the legislation. Staff for the other senators who signed the letter, Ron Wyden of Oregon, Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire and Christopher Murphy of Connecticut, also said they did not have contact with Leiter, who could not be reached for comment.

Burisma Holdings is owned by a Cypriot holding firm, Brociti Investments Limited, which is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevskiy, a former Ukrainian government minister, according to Cypriot records. It controls government development licenses in three regions of Ukraine, and sells to industrial customers in the country, according to the company.

By taking a job with Burisma, the younger Biden has put himself in the middle of a struggle between the United States and Russia, which currently provides the bulk of the natural gas supplies to Ukraine. Both the White House and European nations have recently emphasized the strategic interest in making Ukraine less dependent on Russia.

Since Hunter Biden took the new job, his father, Vice President Joe Biden, has continued to serve as the Obama Administration's point person on Ukraine, traveling to the country as recently as June for the inauguration of President Petro Poroshenko and talking to Poroshenko by phone at least five times in the last month.

"I've spent a considerable amount of time in the last two months in Ukraine," the elder Biden said on June 19. "You see what the Russians are doing relative to using gas as a foreign policy tool to try to alter behavior. And so it's – around the world in varying degrees it's of significant consequence in terms of security, both economic and political security of a nation."

There is no legal barrier to prohibit Hunter Biden from working with a company that can be impacted by the policy decisions of his father, and the White House has maintained that the Vice President has not been influenced by his son's employment. "The Vice President does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company," said his spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff.

But Hunter Biden's new job, along with the association with Burisma of other politically-connected businessmen, has raised concerns among some Ukraine watchers. "It's unhelpful when we are trying to get across to the Ukrainians to clean up corruption and special deals for special folks," said Ed Chow, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a U.S. think tank. "It maybe sends the wrong message that Westerners are just hypocritical."

Additional reporting by Alex Rogers and Zeke Miller/Washington

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Sent: 5/14/2014 5:43:56 AM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_j_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <j.534>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Spector, Stephen" <i.b04>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <j.6b6>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: Fw: WSJ: Biden's Son, Kerry Family Friend Join Ukrainian Gas Producer's Board

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 07:37 AM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoso, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: WSJ: Biden's Son, Kerry Family Friend Join Ukrainian Gas Producer's Board

http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303851804579560542284706288?mod=WSJ_hp_RightTopStories&mq=reno64-wsj

Biden's Son, Kerry Family Friend Join Ukrainian Gas Producer's Board

Ukraine's Burisma Holdings Is Controlled by Former Energy Official Under Yanukovich
Wall Street Journal // PAUL SONNE And JAMES V. GRIMALDI

Vice President Joe Biden's son and a close friend of Secretary of State John Kerry's stepson have joined the board of a Ukrainian gas producer controlled by a former top security and energy official for deposed President Viktor Yanukovich.

The move has attracted attention given Messrs. Biden's and Kerry's public roles in diplomacy toward Ukraine, where the U.S. expressed support for pro-Western demonstrators who toppled Mr. Yanukovich's Kremlin-backed government in February. The uprising provoked a pro-Russia backlash that has plunged the post-Soviet republic into conflict and brought it to the brink of civil war.

Hunter Biden, a lawyer by training and the younger of the vice president's two sons, joined the board of directors of Ukrainian gas firm Burisma Holdings Ltd. this month and took on responsibility for the company's legal unit, according to a statement issued by the closely held gas producer.

His appointment came a few weeks after Devon Archer —college roommate of the secretary of state's stepson, H.J. Heinz Co. ketchup heir Christopher Heinz —joined the board to help the gas firm attract U.S. investors, improve its corporate governance and expand its operations. A State Department spokesman declined to comment.

"The fact that I joined the board of directors is largely based on the company's will to grow," Mr. Archer said in an interview with Ukrainian media published on Burisma's website. "Last year alone witnessed a lot of transformations." He vowed to make the company more transparent.

Mr. Biden, 44 years old, and Mr. Archer, 39, work for Rosemont Seneca Partners, a U.S. investment company. It is affiliated with Rosemont Capital, a private-equity firm Mr. Archer co-founded with Mr. Heinz.

Two people familiar with Mr. Heinz's involvement in the firms said he isn't involved with the day-to-day operation of Rosemont Seneca, which is 50%-owned by Rosemont Capital. The people also said there was no financial investment by the firms in Burisma, just board memberships for Messrs. Biden and Archer.

Messages were left for Hunter Biden at his offices in Washington and New York and at offices of a law firm where he is of counsel. A person answering the phone at his office in Washington said Messrs. Biden and Archer were unavailable and promised to pass along a message.

The White House press secretary and the vice president's office described Hunter Biden's activities as those of a private citizen, bearing no endorsement of the U.S. government.

"Hunter Biden is a private citizen and a lawyer," said Kendra Barkoff, a spokeswoman for Joe Biden's office. "The vice president does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

The board appointments come amid a broader push at Burisma to step up standards and investment. Alan Apter, an American investment banker who has worked in the former Soviet Union, joined Burisma as chairman of the board last year and received a mandate to improve the company's corporate governance and attract foreign capital. He said he met Mr. Archer, a longtime financier and entrepreneur, through mutual friends and invited him and later Mr. Biden to join the board.

"This is totally based on merit," Mr. Apter said. He said none of the independent directors holds a stake in the company. He said they would receive a salary for independent directorship commensurate with world-class experience but declined to name the sum.

Burisma is one of a handful of privately owned gas companies that together account for a little more than 10% of Ukraine's domestic production. The rest of the production comes from gas companies fully or partially owned by the Ukrainian state. Burisma's biggest subsidiary, Esko Pivnich, pumps gas from the Poltava region east of Kiev.

The gas producer is controlled by Nikolai Zlochevsky, a former member of Parliament for Mr. Yanukovich's Party of Regions, according to a person familiar with the matter. He served as Mr. Yanukovich's minister of environmental protection from July 2010 and then become minister of ecology and natural resources in December 2010, key positions with influence over the oil and gas industry.

Mr. Zlochevsky was removed from the post in April 2012 and appointed deputy secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, a role he held until Mr. Yanukovich's government collapsed in late February. During his tenure as a government minister, Burisma and entities associated with the firm received a large number of permits for oil and gas exploration in Ukraine and

stepped up their output considerably, according to Ukrainian press reports.

Mr. Zlochevsky couldn't be reached for comment.

Mr. Yanukovich, who was sanctioned by the U.S. in March, has taken refuge in Russia.

Burisma produced about 450 million cubic meters of gas in 2013 and became the largest independent gas producer in Ukraine by volume in the first quarter of this year, according to a company spokesman. The production figures couldn't be independently verified.

The Ukrainian company sells its gas domestically. It is poised to benefit from the rising gas prices the country is likely to see in the future, now that Russia has removed a discount on gas deliveries for Ukraine in response to what it sees as the rise of anti-Kremlin authorities in Kiev.

Ukrainian regulatory authorities cap gas prices for domestic industrial customers. The cap averaged about \$425 per thousand cubic meters of gas last year. Though Burisma doesn't reveal financial figures, calculations suggest the company's production last year would have commanded more than \$191 million in revenue on the domestic market at those rates.

Mr. Apter said Burisma's expansion could help reduce Ukraine's energy dependence and thereby help ease its political problems.

"The country is quite gas dependent and one would expect, like most countries, there is a desire to be independent of foreign sources, be they in Russia or elsewhere," Mr. Apter said. "It helps the country."

Burisma has now added deep U.S. political connections to its arsenal.

In addition to being Mr. Heinz's college roommate at Yale, Mr. Archer was an adviser to Mr. Kerry's presidential campaign in 2004 and co-chaired his National Finance Committee. According to his biography, he serves as a trustee of the Heinz Family Office, which manages the family business.

Hunter Biden's business activities have attracted attention before.

His work as a lobbyist when his father was in the U.S. Senate came under scrutiny. Shortly after his father became Barack Obama's running mate in 2008, he gave up his lobbying career and resigned his partnership at a Washington lobbying firm.

When he had been senator, Mr. Obama sought more than \$3.4 million in earmarks for clients of Hunter Biden, and succeeded in getting \$192,000 for St. Xavier University near Chicago, according to public disclosure records.

At the time, a spokesman for Mr. Obama said Hunter Biden hadn't met with the senator himself but rather with office staff. The spokesman also said it wasn't surprising to see Mr. Obama was fighting for interests and institutions in his home state of Illinois.

In early 2009, The Wall Street Journal reported that Hunter Biden and his uncle had run a fund of funds that was being marketed exclusively by Texas financier R. Allen Stanford's companies. Mr. Stanford later was sentenced to 110 years in prison for masterminding a \$7 billion Ponzi scheme.

At the time of the Journal article, a lawyer for the Bidens said the fund terminated the relationship and offered to return \$2.7 million in investment that companies controlled by Mr. Stanford had given the fund. He said the Bidens had never met Mr. Stanford.

-Colleen McCain Nelson contributed to this article.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

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Sent: 5/13/2014 11:22:49 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Trotter, Katherine K." <k.5b4>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: NJ: Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

Another Biden Has Waded Into the Ukraine Crisis

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/white-house/another-biden-has-waded-into-the-ukraine-crisis-20140513>

By Marina Koren

Joe Biden has been the White House's go-to guy during the Ukraine crisis, touring former Soviet republics and reassuring their concerned leaders. And now, he's not the only Biden involved in the region.

The vice president's youngest son, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Burisma Holdings, Ukraine's largest private gas producer, The Moscow Times reported Tuesday. Hunter described his new role in a statement on the company's website:

As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion, and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine.

The new gig joins several others on Hunter's extensive resume. He currently serves as as managing partner at the Washington-based investment advisory company Rosemont Seneca Partners and counsel at the New York City-based law firm Boies Schiller Flexner. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Foreign Service graduate program.

According to Bloomberg Businessweek, Burisma was founded in 2006 and "engages in oil-well drilling, production of liquefied natural gas, and undertaking geological studies." It is based in Cyprus. It owns several oil and gas companies in Ukraine, including in the southeastern city of Dnepropetrovsk.

Burisma hired another American—and another managing partner of Rosemont Seneca Partners—just last month. Devon Archer joined the company's board of directors to "focus on the interaction with current investors, as well as involving new investors from the United States," according to an April 22 press release from the company. Archer served as a senior adviser to John Kerry during his 2004 presidential campaign.

"Today Burisma Holdings reminds me of Exxon Mobil in its wake," Archer said in a recent interview posted on the company's website. "It has all the chances to be one of the biggest privately owned oil companies in the world."

Archer's work focuses heavily on energy independence for Ukraine, a topic that has received much attention in recent months. Ukraine is dependent on Russia for energy exports, and Moscow has pulled discount agreements during its ongoing standoff with Kiev. The addition of Hunter to the company masthead suggests Burisma is turning to U.S. talent—and money and name recognition—for protection against Russia. It also jibes with the Obama administration message that his father has been tasked with spreading.

It's unclear whether the entry of another Biden into the fray was meant to send a message to Moscow. But Russian President Vladimir Putin, eternally leery of American hands in eastern European business, is bound to notice.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Barkoff, Kendra <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 8:39:59 AM
To: "Hunter Biden" <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Cc: "Eric Schwerin" <eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: RE: hey

Thanks

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 10:39 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Cc: Eric Schwerin
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

Ok-
What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
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Office of the Vice President
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kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Hertz, Jessica R. <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/13/2014 10:06:35 AM
To: "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <d.8b8>
Subject: FW: MoscowTimes: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

From: Allen, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 12:05 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Aidinoff, Marc; Allen, Jessica; Aniskoff, Paulette; Barkoff, Kendra; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Carroll, Brad; Carson, Crystal; Clavel, Lise; Davidson, Josta; Edelman, R. David; Evans, Bess; Feldman, Stefanie G.; Foster, Heather; Friedman, Jennifer; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hart, Elizabeth; Hertz, Jessica R.; Holst, Lindsay; Holzer, Benjamin; Hunn, Allison; Inouye, Shin; Jencks, Fae; Jenkins, Brad; Joseph, Jeremy; Kahan, Alex; Lachman, Sherry; Lambros, Demetra; Lawrence, Natasha; Lopez, Rafael; MacFarquhar, Rory; Murray, Shailagh; Palmieri, Jennifer; Parker, Steve; Patterson, Nicholas; Platkin, Alex; Price, Ryan; Rogers, Melissa; Russo, Bill; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Schultz, Greg; Schwartz, Noah; Shoup, Lilly; Ricchetti, Steven; Trotter, Kingsley; Velz, Peter; Whisenant, Addie; Arguelles, Adam; Asen, Jonathan; Backemeyer, Christopher; Bartoloni, Kristen; Brookie, Graham; Brown, Sam; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Click, John; Cloud, Donald; Coates, Kelsey; Cohen, Ilona; Cooper, Eric; Costa, Kristina; Dean, Laura; Debevoise, Lyn; Dickinson, Tammy; DMCOS; Earnest, Joshua R.; Fenn, Sarah; Gianotti, Claire; Govashiri, Ferial; Hayden, Caitlin; Hedger, Stephen; Heinzelman, Kate; Jackson, Bartlett; Jimenez, Luis A.; Kaden, David M.; Keenan, Cody; Kim, Andrew; Kirchoff, Christopher; Lee, Jesse C.; Lee, Jonathan; Leweling, Tara; Lubin, Nathaniel; Lucas Magnuson, Laura; Lundeberg, Greta; McFarlin, Mac; McKeon, Brian P.; Meehan, Bernadette; Moscoco, Patricia; Moussavian, Roxana; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Pfeiffer, Dan; Prescott, Jeffrey; Quillian, Natalie; Rangarajan, Taara; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Robertson, Michael; Rosenberger, Laura; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Schulman, Loren DeJonge; Sherwood-Randall, Liz; Singh, Pavneet; Szuplat, Terry; Wagstaff, Jessica; Wang, Jenny; West, Thomas; Withers, Anne; Wozniak, Natalie S.
Subject: MoscowTimes: Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

[DRUDGE REPORT @DRUDGE_REPORT_1m](#)

Son of Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company... <http://drudge.tw/1lih37X>

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/son-of-us-vice-president-biden-joins-ukraine-gas-company/500062.html>

Son of U.S. Vice President Biden Joins Ukraine Gas Company

The Moscow Times

May. 13 2014 18:49 Last edited 18:49

The youngest son of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, has been appointed head of legal affairs at Ukraine's largest private gas producer – a move he said would benefit Ukrainians and the country's economy.

In a statement published on its website, Burisma Holdings announced Hunter Biden would join its board of directors and head the company's legal unit.

"As a new member of the board, I believe that my assistance in consulting the company on matters of transparency, corporate governance and responsibility, international expansion and other priorities will contribute to the economy and benefit the people of Ukraine," Hunter Biden said in the statement.

Burisma owns several Ukrainian oil and gas companies, including Esko Pivnich and Pari, Lenta.ru reported Tuesday. The company also has assets in Ukraine's Dnepr-Donetsk, the Carpathian and the Azov-Kuvan basins.

Burisma produced 11,600 barrels of oil equivalent, or boe, in 2013 and was planning to increase its production in Ukraine by 35-40 percent in 2014, U.S. financier and member of the board of directors Devon Archer told newspaper Capital in late April.

Hunter's father, as U.S. Vice President, has repeatedly rebuked Russia for its reported involvement in Ukraine and has pledged to support efforts to reduce its dependency on Russian energy.

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/22/2014 3:45:33 PM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: Fw: Washington Examiner: The Hunter Biden Chronicles

From: Pietranton, Kelsey
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 04:42 PM
To: Murray, Shailagh; Barkoff, Kendra; Spector, Stephen; Hart, Liz
Subject: Washington Examiner: The Hunter Biden Chronicles

is/ **stiniOeBiden**

1/3
10

Everything you need to know about Beltway nepotism, corporate cronyism and corruption can be found in the biography of Robert Hunter Biden. Where are the Occupy Wall Street rabble-rousers and enemies of elitist privilege when you need them? Straining their neck muscles to look the other way.

The youngest son of Vice President Joe Biden made news last week after the Wall Street Journal revealed he had been booted from the Navy Reserve for cocaine use. His drug abuse was certainly no surprise to the Navy, which issued him a waiver for a previous drug offense before commissioning him as a public affairs officer at the age of 43. The Navy also bent over backward a second time with an age waiver so he could secure the cushy part-time job.

Papa Biden loves to tout his middle-class, "Average Joe" credentials. But rest assured, if his son had been "Hunter Smith" or "Hunter Jones" or "Hunter Brown," the Navy's extraordinary dispensations would be all but unattainable. Oh, and if he had been "Hunter Palin," The New York Times would be on its 50th front-page investigative report by now.

Despite the disgraceful ejection from our military, Hunter's Connecticut law license won't be subject to automatic review. Because, well, *Biden*.

Biden's bennies are not just one-offs. Skating by, flouting rules and extracting favors are the story of Hunter's life.

Hunter's first job, acquired after Joe Biden won his 1996 Senate re-election bid in Delaware, was with MBNA. That's the credit card conglomerate and top campaign finance donor that forked over nearly \$63,000 in bundled primary and general contributions from its employees to then Sen. Biden. As I've reported previously, Daddy Biden secured his custom-built, multimillion-dollar house in Delaware's ritziest Chateau Country neighborhood with the help of a leading MBNA corporate executive. Average Joe went on to carry legislative water for MBNA in the Senate for years.

Hunter zoomed up to senior vice president by early 1998 and then scored a plum position in the Clinton administration's Commerce Department, specializing in "electronic commerce" before returning to MBNA three years later as a high-priced "consultant." While he collected those "consulting" (translation: nepotistic access-trading) fees, Hunter became a "founding partner" in the lobbying firm of Oldaker, Biden and Belair in 2002.

William Oldaker was Papa Biden's former fundraiser, campaign treasurer and general counsel – a Beltway barnacle whose Democratic machine days dated back to Ted Kennedy's 1980 presidential bid. Under Oldaker's tutelage, Hunter lobbied for drug companies, universities and other deep-pocketed clients to the tune of nearly \$4 million billed to the company by 2007. Coincidentally, then-Illinois Sen. Barack Obama personally requested and secured cozy taxpayer-subsidized earmarks for several of Hunter's clients.

Hunter got himself appointed to multiple corporate board positions, including a directorship with Eudora Global. It's an investment firm founded by one Jeffrey Cooper, head of one of the biggest asbestos-litigation firms in the country. SimmonsCooper, based in Madison County, Ill., donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to Biden the Elder's various political campaigns over the past decade – all while the firm poured \$6.5 million into lobbying against a key tort-reform bill, which former Sen. Biden worked hard to defeat. Cooper also contributed to the Delaware attorney general campaign of Hunter's older brother, Beau, and paid Beau for legal work on lucrative asbestos-litigation cases.

Hunter also was previously a top official at Paradigm Global Advisors, a hedge fund holding company founded with Vice President Biden's brother, James, and marketed by convicted finance fraudster Allen Stanford. As Paradigm chairman, Hunter oversaw half a billion dollars of client money invested in hedge funds while remaining a lobbyist at Oldaker, Biden and Belair. Cooper chipped in \$2 million for the ill-fated venture, which went bust amid nasty fraud lawsuits.

Continually failing upward, Hunter snagged a seat on the board of directors of taxpayer-subsidized, stimulus-inflated Amtrak, where he pretended not to be a lobbyist, but rather an "effective advocate" for the government railroad system serving the 1 percenters' D.C.-NYC corridor.

So, where does a coke-abusing influence peddler go after raking in gobs of Daddy-enabled dough and abusing the U.S. Navy's ill-considered generosity? Back to Cronyland! Hunter joined Ukrainian natural gas company Burisma Holdings – owned by a powerful Russian government sympathizer who fled to Russia in February – this spring. The hypocritical lobbyist-bashers at the White House deny he will be lobbying and deny any conflict of interest.

Meanwhile, Just Like You Joe was whipping up class envy in South Carolina last week. "Corporate profits have soared," he railed, thanks to "these guys running hedge funds in New York," who are to blame for "income inequality." You know, like his son and brother and their Beltway back-scratching patrons.

The Bidens: They're *not* like us.

MICHELLE MALKIN, a Washington Examiner columnist, is nationally syndicated by [Creators Syndicate](#).

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From: Spector, Stephen <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/17/2014 2:24:38 PM
To: "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" </cn=recipients/cn=shailagh_murray>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Subject: AP: Biden's Son Faces No Bar Review After Discharge

Biden's Son Faces No Bar Review After Discharge

By STEPHEN BRAUN Associated Press

Hunter Biden, the youngest son of Vice President Joe Biden, faces no automatic review of his law license in Connecticut following his discharge from the U.S. Navy Reserve after testing positive for cocaine use, Connecticut legal authorities said Friday.

Hunter Biden works in Washington as a private equity executive and board director of an international energy firm, but he is admitted to practice law in Connecticut, where attorneys' privileges can be examined under a disciplinary review system. Legal clients, state lawyers, judges and any citizen can file grievances, but as of Friday, none had been filed, authorities said.

Lawyers in Connecticut face automatic review of their bar admission only when they have been convicted of a crime, said Michael P. Bowler, Connecticut's Statewide Bar Counselor, who heads a team of lawyers that investigate attorney grievances. Criminal convictions have to be reviewed by a statewide grievance committee, as do other complaints, which can range from drug and alcohol abuse to inadequate legal representation.

"At this point, I'm not aware that Mr. Biden has been arrested for anything, and certainly not convicted," Bowler said. The Navy's brief confirmation of Biden's discharge did not cite any arrest or charges. Two people familiar with the matter told The Associated Press he was kicked out after testing positive for cocaine, confirming what was first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

Bowler added that Biden had told state authorities in 2007 that he was also admitted to the bar in Washington, D.C. Current District of Columbia bar records do not show Biden as member.

The Navy said Thursday that Biden was discharged in February from a part-time position as a public affairs officer in the Navy Reserve but did not provide a reason. Biden released a statement through his attorney saying, "I deeply regret and am embarrassed that my actions led to my administrative discharge."

Biden, 44, a former Washington lobbyist, is a managing partner at the Rosemont Seneca Partners investment firm and a director at Burisma Holdings, a Ukraine-based energy company. A Washington lobbyist for Burisma, David Leiter, did not respond to requests for comment from The Associated Press.

Mark Dubois, the president of the Connecticut Bar Association, said that state bar and ethics officials are sensitive to news accounts involving misbehavior of lawyers admitted to practice in the state, but he said, "They have to be judicious about starting the process."

Dubois, who formerly investigated and prosecuted ethical misconduct as Connecticut Disciplinary Counsel, said authorities have initiated cases in the past involving drug and alcohol abuse by attorneys, but "only when it's a fairly extensive record of abuse."

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Debevoise, Lyn <lyn_debevoise@nsc.eop.gov>
Sent: 5/12/2014 8:00:50 AM
To: "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <r.7b8>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" </cn=recipients/cn=jeffrey_m_prescott>
Subject: Ukraine headline

Haven't read the article, but flagging this:

Hunter Biden, Vice President's son, appointed to board of Zlochevskiy's Burisma Holdings that develops gas in Ukraine
http://economics.lb.ua/business/2014/05/12/266147_sin_vitseprezidenta_ssha_stal.html

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Hunter Biden <hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>
Sent: 5/13/2014 8:39:03 AM
To: "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Barkoff, Kendra" </cn=recipients/cn=kendra_a_barkoff>
Cc: "Eric Schwerin" <eschwerin@rosemontseneca.com>
Subject: Re: hey

Eric- he's cc'd here

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 5:05 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Just sent you the email
Let me know who in your office.
Thanks!

From: Hunter Biden [<mailto:hbiden@rosemontseneca.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Barkoff, Kendra
Subject: Re: hey

Ok-
What exactly are they asking? For the time being I'd just refer them to my office. FYI I joined the board of Burisma Holdings Ltd. (Burisma.com) an independent/ private natural gas producer in Ukraine along with the former president of Poland. I think the press release is on their web site.

RHB
202.333.1880

On May 13, 2014, at 4:46 PM, "Barkoff, Kendra" <Kendra_A_Barkoff@ovp.eop.gov> wrote:

Thanks for talking to me. let me know who I should refer folks to.
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff
Press Secretary
Office of the Vice President
(202) 456-4390 (o) | (202) 503-5285 (c)
kbarkoff@ovp.eop.gov

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: McNulty, Thomas P. <thomas_p._mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: 10/23/2014 5:33:48 AM
To: "[personal email]" <address>
Subject: Fw: Vice Presidential News Clips for Thursday, October 23, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET
Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:57:57 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

b(6),P6

Notes:

redaction of personal email addresses

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

Obtained by America First Legal Foundation

From: Bulletin Intelligence <vp@bulletinintelligence.com>

Sent: 5/20/2014 4:13:22 AM

To: "Cerde, Jose" <jose_cerde@ovp.eop.gov>; "Thompson, Kenny" <kenneth_d_thompson@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bianchi, Sarah" <sarah_a_bianchi@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" <sean_w_obrien@ovp.eop.gov>; "Feldman, Stefanie G." <stefanie_g_feldman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Spector, Stephen" <stephen_i_spector@ovp.eop.gov>; "O'Brien, Sean" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=obrien, sean" <w.93f>>; >; "Thompson, Kenneth D." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=thompson, kenneth" <d.7a5>>; >; "Bianchi, Sarah" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=sarah_a_bianchi>>; >; "Spector, Stephen" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=spector, stephen" <i.b04>>; >; "Cerde, Jose" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=jose_cerde>>; >; "Feldman, Stefanie G." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stefanie_g_feldman>>; >

Cc: "Everett, Aaron" <aaron_r_everett@ovp.eop.gov>; "[personal email" <address>; "Escudero, Adrian V." <adrian_v_escudero@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hornbrook, Alex" <alex_hornbrook@ovp.eop.gov>; "Kurren, Amy" <amy_m_kurren@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bernal, Anthony R." <anthony_r_bernal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Stackpole, Avra" <avra_w_stackpole@ovp.eop.gov>; "Woyak, Brian J." <brian_j_woyak@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lillard, Brooke" <brooke_m_lillard@ovp.eop.gov>; "Bolduc, Chad" <chad_m_bolduc@ovp.eop.gov>; "Fromstein, Charles" <charles_a_fromstein@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zeigler-Brown, Cortez" <cortez_r_zeigler-brown@ovp.eop.gov>; "Rosenzweig, Dana" <dana_e_rosenzweig@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lienemann, David C." <david_c_lienemann@who.eop.gov>; "Cloud, Donald" <donald_w_cloud@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lambros, Demetra" <demetra_d_lambros@ovp.eop.gov>; "Zikusoka, Dave" <david_n_zikusoka@ovp.eop.gov>; "Regoli, Elizabeth A" <whca_1323152@dsr.eop.gov>; "Hart, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_a_hart@ovp.eop.gov>; "Amin, Faisal" <faisal_amin@ovp.eop.gov>; "Picos, Francisco" <francisco_c_picos@ovp.eop.gov>; "Person, Fran" <fran_person@ovp.eop.gov>; "Freeman, Gary" <gary_d_freeman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Schultz, Greg" <gregory_c_schultz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Edwards, Hannah E." <hannah_e_edwards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lyons, Jamie" <jamie_e_lyons@ovp.eop.gov>; "Joseph, Jeremy" <jeremy_joseph@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hertz, Jessica R." <jessica_r_hertz@ovp.eop.gov>; "Doody, Jillian" <jilliam_doody@ovp.eop.gov>; "Montoya, Jordan" <jordan_r_montoya@ovp.eop.gov>; "Flynn, John S" <john.flynn@whmo.mil>; "Tejeda, Jose" <jose_tejeda@ovp.eop.gov>; "Prescott, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_m_prescott@ovp.eop.gov>; "Sullivan, Jacob" <jacob_j_sullivan@ovp.eop.gov>; "Donley, Julia M" <julia_donley@whmo.mil>; "Richards, Kitty" <katharine_r_richards@ovp.eop.gov>; "Berner, Kate" <katherine_k_berner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Trotter, Kingsley" <katherine_k_trotter@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clark, Katisha A" <katisha.clark@whmo.mil>; "Barkoff, Kendra" <kendra_a_barkoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Chung, Kathy" <kathy_s_chung@ovp.eop.gov>; "kcoconnor@whmo.mil"; "Pietranton, Kelsey" <kelsey_l_pietranton@ovp.eop.gov>; "McNellis, Kerry" <kerry_j_mcnellis@ovp.eop.gov>; "Suber, Kellen" <kellen.c_suber@ovp.eop.gov>; "Aidinoff, Marc" <marc_f_aidinoff@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Lise" <marguerite_l_clavel@ovp.eop.gov>; "Carpenter, Michael" <mcarpenter@ovp.eop.gov>; membersovpvmilaide@whmo.mil; "Kaye, Melanie" <melanie_a_kaye@ovp.eop.gov>; "Hill, Patty" <patricia_j_hill@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lysaght, Patrick J" <patrick.lysaght@whmo.mil>; "Timko, Rachel" <rachel_m_timko@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ruffner, Richard" <richard_b_ruffner@ovp.eop.gov>; "Eaton, Sarah" <sarah_a_eaton@ovp.eop.gov>; "Baker, Sarah" <sarah_e_baker@ovp.eop.gov>; sarah_fletcher@ovp.eop.gov; "Rosenthal, Lynn" <slrosenthal@ovp.eop.gov>; "Nix, Sheila" <sheila_m_nix@ovp.eop.gov>; "Lachman, Sherry" <sherry_e_lachman@ovp.eop.gov>; "Murray, Shailagh" <shailagh_murray@ovp.eop.gov>; "Myers, Sam A." <sam_a_myers@ovp.eop.gov>; "Ricchetti, Steven" <steven_p_ricchetti@ovp.eop.gov>; "Tennant, Thomas M" <thomas.tennant@whmo.mil>; "McNulty, Thomas P." <thomas_p_mcnulty@ovp.eop.gov>; "Williams, Tonya" <tonya_n_williams@ovp.eop.gov>; "Reddy, Vinay" <vinay_c_reddy@ovp.eop.gov>; "Dirksen, Ward" <ward.f.dirksen@ovp.eop.gov>; "Russo2, Bill" <william_m_russo@ovp.eop.gov>; "Clavel, Marguerite" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=clavel, marguerite" <l.b8f>>; >; "Dirksen, Ward F." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=wardf.dirksen10472133>>; >; "Timko, Rachel" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=timko, rachel" <m.350>>; >; "Stackpole, Avra" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=stackpole, avra" <w.f8f>>; >; "Rosenthal, Lynn" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=slrosenthal>>; >; "Ricchetti, Steven" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=ricchetti, steven" <j.534>>; >; "Amin, Faisal" </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=amin, " <faisalc7c>>; >; "Lienemann, David C." </o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group" </cn=recipients/cn=davidc.lienemann27685035>>; 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Subject: Vice Presidential News Clips for Tuesday, May 20, 2014

THIS RECORD IS A WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Date created: Mon Nov 21 18:36:16 EST 2022

Releasability: Withheld In Part

Reasons for Withholding:

P6,b(6)

Notes:

redaction of personal email address

Case ID: LA 2022-0121-F

Additional Information:

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