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Koch Whore

Posted by Murphy On February - 23 - 2011

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker answers his master's call

"David Koch": We'll back you any way we can. What we were thinking about the crowd was, uh, was planting some troublemakers.

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker: You know, well, the only problem with that—because we thought about that...



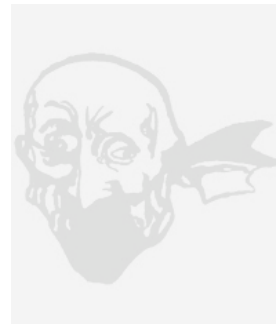
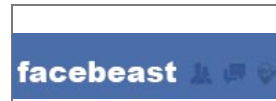
WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS IS REAL. NO NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO PROTECT THE INNOCENT. THERE ARE NO INNOCENT. -MURPHY

"He's just hard-lined—will not talk, will not communicate, will not return phone calls." -Wisconsin state Sen. Tim Carpenter (D) on Gov. Walker (source)

Carpenter's quote made me wonder: who could get through to Gov. Walker? Well, what do we know about Walker and his proposed union-busting, no-bid budget? The obvious candidate was David Koch.

I first called at 11:30 am CST, and eventually got through to a young, male receptionist who, upon hearing the magic name Koch, immediately transferred me to Executive Assistant Governor Dorothy Moore.

"We've met before, Dorothy," I nudged. "I really need to talk to Scott—Governor Walker." She said that, yes, she thought she had met Koch, and that the name was "familiar." But she insisted that Walker was detained in a meeting and couldn't get away. She asked about the nature of my call. I balked, "I just needed to speak with the Governor. He knows what this is about," I said. She told me to call back at noon, and she'd have a better idea of when he would be free.



Today's Hollow Victory



"What is love?"

I called at noon and was quickly transferred to Moore, who then transferred me to Walker's Chief of Staff Keith Gilkes. He was "expecting my call."

"David!" he said with an audible smile.

I politely said hello, not knowing how friendly Gilkes and Koch may be. He was eager to help. "I was really hoping to talk directly to Scott," I said. He said that could be arranged and that I should just leave my number. I explained to Gilkes, "My goddamn maid, Maria, put my phone in the washer. I'd have her deported, but she works for next to nothing." Gilkes found this amusing. "I'm calling from the VOID—with the VOID, or whatever it's called. You know, the Snype!"

"Gotcha," Gilkes said. "Let me check the schedule here...OK, there's an opening at 2 o'clock Central Standard Time. Just call this same number and we'll put you through."

Could it really be that easy? Yes. What follows is a rushed, abridged transcript of my—I mean, David Koch's conversation with Gov. Walker. Listen to the whole call here:



Walker: Hi; this is Scott Walker.

Koch: Scott! David Koch. How are you?

Walker: Hey, David! I'm good. And yourself?

Koch: I'm very well. I'm a little disheartened by the situation there, but, uh, what's the latest?

Walker: Well, we're actually hanging pretty tough. I mean—you know, amazingly there's a much smaller group of protesters—almost all of whom are in from other states today. The State Assembly is taking the bill up—getting it all the way to the last point it can be at where it's unamendable. But they're waiting to pass it until the Senate's—the Senate Democrats, excuse me, the assembly Democrats have about a hundred amendments they're going through. The state Senate still has the 14 members missing but what they're doing today is bringing up all sorts of other non-fiscal items, many of which are things members in the Democratic side care about. And each day we're going to ratchet it up a little bit.... The Senate majority leader had a great plan he told about this morning—he told the Senate Democrats about and he's going to announce it later today, and that is: The Senate organization committee is going to meet and pass a rule that says if you don't show up for two consecutive days on a session day—in the state Senate, the Senate chief clerk—it's a little procedural thing here, but—can actually have your payroll stopped from being automatically deducted—

Koch: Beautiful.

Walker: —into your checking account and instead—you still get a check, but the check has to be personally picked up and he's instructing them—which we just loved—to lock them in their desk on the floor of the state Senate.

Koch: Now you're not talking to any of these Democrat bastards, are you?

Walker: Ah, I—there's one guy that's actually voted with me on a bunch of things I called on Saturday for about 45 minutes, mainly to tell him that while I appreciate his friendship and he's worked with us on other things, to tell him I wasn't going to budge.

Koch: Goddamn right!

Walker: ...his name is Tim Cullen—

Koch: All right, I'll have to give that man a call.

Walker: Well, actually, in his case I wouldn't call him and I'll tell you why: **he's pretty reasonable but he's not one of us...**

Koch: Now who can we get to budge on this collective bargaining?

Walker: ...I think the paycheck will have an impact...secondly, one of the things we're looking at next...we're still waiting on an opinion to see if the unions have been paying to put these guys up out of state. We think there's at minimum an ethics violation if not an outright felony.

Koch: Well, they're probably putting hobos in suits.

Walker: Yeah.

Koch: That's what we do. Sometimes.

Walker: I mean paying for the senators to be put up. I know they're paying for these guy—I mean, people can pay for protesters to come in and that's not an ethics code, but, I mean, literally if the unions are paying the 14 senators—their food, their lodging, anything like

that...**[*** Important regarding his later acceptance of a Koch offer to “show him a good time.” ***]**

[I was stunned. I am stunned. In the interest of expediting the release of this story, here are the juiciest bits:]

Walker: ...I've got layoff notices ready...

Koch: Beautiful; beautiful. Gotta crush that union.

Walker: [bragging about how he doesn't budge]...I would be willing to sit down and talk to him, the assembly Democrat leader, plus the other two Republican leaders—talk, not negotiate and listen to what they have to say if they will in turn—but I'll only do it if all 14 of them will come back and sit down in the state assembly...legally, we believe, once they've gone into session, they don't physically have to be there. If they're actually in session for that day, and they take a recess, the 19 Senate Republicans could then go into action and they'd have quorum...so we're double checking that. If you heard I was going to talk to them that's the only reason why. We'd only do it if they came back to the capital with all 14 of them...

Koch: Bring a baseball bat. That's what I'd do.

Walker: I have one in my office; you'd be happy with that. I have a slugger with my name on it.

Koch: Beautiful.

Walker: [union-bashing...]

Koch: Beautiful.

Walker: So this is ground zero, there's no doubt about it. [Talks about a “great” NYT piece of “objective journalism.” Talks about how most private blue-collar workers have turned against public, unionized workers.]...So I went through and called a handful, a dozen or so lawmakers I worry about each day and said, “Everyone, we should get that story printed out and send it to anyone giving you grief.”

Koch: Goddamn right! We, uh, we sent, uh, Andrew Breitbart down there.

Walker: Yeah.

Koch: Yeah.

Walker: Good stuff.

Koch: He's our man, you know.

Walker: [blah about his press conferences, attacking Obama, and all the great press he's getting.] Brian [Sadoval], the new Governor of Nevada, called me the last night he said—he was out in the Lincoln Day Circuit in the last two weekends and he was kidding me, he said, “Scott, don't come to Nevada because I'd be afraid you beat me running for governor.” That's all they want to talk about is what are you doing to help the governor of Wisconsin. I talk to Kasich every day—John's gotta stand firm in Ohio. I think we could do the same thing with Vic Scott in Florida. I think, uh, Snyder—if he got a little more support—probably could do that in Michigan. You start going down the list there's a lot of us new governors that got elected to do something big.

Koch: You're the first domino.

Walker: Yep. This is our moment.

Koch: Now what else could we do for you down there?

Walker: Well the biggest thing would be—and your guy on the ground [Americans For Prosperity president Tim Phillips] is probably seeing this [stuff about all the people protesting, and some of them flip him off].

[Abrupt end of first recording, and start of second.]

Walker: [Bullshit about doing the right thing and getting flipped off by “union bulls,” and the decreasing number of protesters. Or some such.]

Koch: We'll back you any way we can. What we were thinking about the crowd was, uh, was planting some troublemakers.

Walker: You know, well, the only problem with that —because we thought about that. The problem—the, my only gut reaction to that is right now the lawmakers I've talked to have just completely had it with them, the public is not really fond of this...[explains that planting troublemakers may not work.] My only fear would be if there's a ruckus caused is that maybe the governor has to settle to solve all these problems...[something about '60s liberals.]...Let 'em protest all they want...Sooner or later the media stops finding it interesting.

Koch: Well, not the liberal bastards on MSNBC.

Walker: Oh yeah, but who watches that? I went on “Morning Joe” this morning. I like it because I just like being combative with those guys, but, uh. You know they're off the deep end.

Koch: Joe—Joe's a good guy. He's one of us.

Walker: Yeah, he's all right. He was fair to me...[bashes NY Senator Chuck Schumer, who was also on the program.]

Koch: Beautiful; beautiful. You gotta love that Mika Brzezinski; she's a real piece of ass.

Walker: Oh yeah. [story about when he hung out with human pig Jim Sensenbrenner at some D.C. function and he was sitting next to Brzezinski and her father, and their guest was David Axelrod. He introduced himself.]

Koch: That son of a bitch!

Walker: Yeah no kidding huh?...

Koch: Well, good; good. Good catching up with ya'.

Walker: This is an exciting time [blah, blah, blah, Super Bowl reference followed by an odd story of pulling out a picture of Ronald Reagan and explaining to his staff the plan to crush the union the same way Reagan fired the air traffic controllers]...that was the first crack in the Berlin Wall because the Communists then knew Reagan wasn't a pushover. [Blah, blah, blah. He's exactly like Reagan. Won't shut up about how awesome he is.]

Koch: [Laughs] Well, I tell you what, Scott: once you crush these bastards I'll fly you out to Cali and really show you a good time.

Walker: All right, that would be outstanding. [*** **Ethical violation much?** ***] Thanks for all the support...it's all about getting our freedoms back...

Koch: Absolutely. And, you know, we have a little bit of a vested interest as well. [Laughs]

Walker: [Blah] Thanks a million!

Koch: Bye-bye!

Walker: Bye.

So there you have it, kids. Government isn't for the people. It's for the people with money. You want to be heard? Too fucking bad. You want to collectively bargain? You can't afford a seat at the table. You may have built that table. But it's not yours. It belongs to the Kochs and the oligarch class. It's guarded by Republicans like Walker, and his Democratic counterparts across that ever-narrowing aisle that is corporate rule, so that the ever-widening gap between the haves and the have-nots can swallow all the power in the world. These are known knowns, and now we just know them a little more.

But money isn't always power. The protesters in Cairo and Madison have taught us this—reminded us of this. They can't buy a muzzle big enough to silence us all. Share the news. Do not retreat; ReTweet.

The revolution keeps spinning. Try not to get too dizzy.

Murphy, News 22 COMMENTS

You can [leave a response](#), or [trackback](#) from your own site.

22 Responses

1. **Tweets that mention Koch Whore | The Beast -- Topsy.com Says:**

[...] This post was mentioned on Twitter by Carmen Dixon R, Buffalo Beast and Cherie Boeneman, sadi crabtree. sadi crabtree said: Listen to this right now! Wisc. Gov. Scott Walker takes a call from "David Koch" <http://bit.ly/dOkweP> #Wlunion #wisconsin #union [...]

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 4:41 am

2. **CraneStation Says:**

Just listened to this and tweeted. Amazing.

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 8:08 am

3. **dong Says:**

AMAZING

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 8:13 am

4. **dong Says:**

I predict a lot of sandwiches in your future Murphy.

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 9:07 am

5. **Hunger Tallest Palin Says:**

Standing O.

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 9:33 am

6. **Buffalo Rude Says:**

Almost as good as the Ottawa Mayor sting. You should have asked to sleep with Walker's wife.

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 9:51 am](#)

7. **Balloon Juice » The Beast Punks Walker Says:**

[...] Scott Walker isn't talking to Democrats, but he will take a call from "David Koch". Unfortunately, this "Koch" was the Buffalo Beast: [...]

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 10:05 am](#)

8. **kmb Says:**

Holy shit. That was truly amazing. Good work, Beast! I hope this goes viral.

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 10:18 am](#)

9. **Deborah Dougherty Says:**

Amazing...thanks for posting this to the FB 540,000 – I called local TV stations – have posted to my own site...

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 10:33 am](#)

10. **All Hail Your New Oligarchy Overlords | Blue Hog Report Says:**

[...] Update: Think I'm kidding about this oligarchy thing? Think it's too much? No, it's not. [...]

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 10:36 am](#)

11. **ZangoRango Says:**

LOL, they are ALL bought and paid for!

<http://www.privacy-resources.at.tc>

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 10:47 am](#)

12. **Colleen Says:**

Walker is a bigger idiot than I had even suspected.

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 10:50 am](#)

13. **mikeformArlington Says:**

Great job guy! Hopefully this story blows up and you become rich and famous beyond your wildest dreams. lol

Seriously though, it's great to catch these dirt bags at what they are up to.

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 10:57 am](#)

14. **Andrew Says:**

Is there a site from which I can download the call as an MP3 or another useful format?

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 10:58 am](#)

15. **Fake David Koch Punks Scott Walker : Delaware Liberal Says:**

[...] Go read this. A Buffalo Beast columnist pretending to be David Koch gets through to Wisconsin Governor Scott Hosni Walker. [...]

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 11:01 am](#)

16. **We ARE The World | Nicole Sandler - Radio Or Not - Progressive Talk Radio Says:**

[...] BTW, this just crossed my twitter stream... I don't know if it's real or not... but it's great stuff—a prank call to Scott Walker from "David Koch"! [...]

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 11:02 am](#)

17. **Walker Reveals In Phone Call: It's About Power, Not Budget « Mercury Rising 鳳女 Says:**

[...] by Phoenix Woman on February 23, 2011 Ian Murphy of The Buffalo Beast tricked Wisconsin's Bircher/Koched-up governor Scott Walker into thinking he was talking to [...]

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 11:55 am](#)

18. **Will The Right Overlay Their Hand? Says:**

[...] In the meantime, check this out. A blogger posing as David Koch called Governor Walker in Wisconsin. Let's just say he got right through. [...]

Posted on [February 23rd, 2011 at 11:56 am](#)

19. **Nick Marino Says:**

NICE! I love the moments when you throw in the stuff like "that bastard!" or "that son of a bitch!" and Walker does a polite chuckle on the end other end like "hehe yeah."

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 12:41 pm

20. **Big Deal of the Day - The Daily What Says:**

[...] settled on billionaire David Koch, and gave Walker's office a call posing as the right-wing philanthropist. It worked like a charm, and what proceeded was a 20 minute conversation with the governor about [...]

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 12:44 pm

21. **[Updated] Prank call could reveal much about WI Governor Scott Walker's ties to Koch Industries...and OH Governor John Kasich Says:**

[...] Wisconsin and Ohio. Ian Murphy of The Beast (buffalobeast.com) has published what he claims is a phone call with Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker wherein Murphy poses as billionaire right-wing philanthropists David Koch, rumored to be [...]

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 12:47 pm

22. **Josh Bunting Says:**

UPDATE

Posted on February 23rd, 2011 at 12:51 pm

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The BEAST was founded in 2002 by Rolling Stone's Matt Taibbi, his eXile comrade Kevin McElwee and Buffalo attorney Paul Fallon, as a free biweekly

newspaper. In 2007, under the leadership of its longest-serving editor, Allan Uthman, The BEAST changed to a pay/monthly format, distributed nationally, with international subscriptions. In late 2009, The BEAST ceased its print edition and is now billed as "The World's Only Website." The current editor is Ian Murphy.



Porsches on the Autobahn

On Dec-3-2009
Reported by admin



Hitchens Exposed!

On Jun-3-2010
Reported by Murphy



Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe!

On Mar-10-2007
Reported by admin



BEAST MAIL!

On Sep-23-2009
Reported by admin



FUTURE SHLOCK!

On Aug-5-2009
Reported by admin

Josh Bunting:

Nick Marino:

NICE! I love the moments when

Andrew:

Is there a site from which I c

mikeformArlington:

Great job guy! Hopefully this

Colleen:

Walker is a bigger idiot than

2