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CLIENT/MATTER NUMBER
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To Board of Directors of the American Conservative Union:

Re: Review of Allegations by Mr. Frank Gaffney

This is to memorialize the conversations and meetings that I have had over a period of many months with regard to allegations lodged against two individuals, Mr. Grover Norquist and Mr. Suhail Kahn, by Frank Gaffney of the Center for Security Policy (collectively hereafter, "Mr. Gaffney").

Mr. Gaffney has made allegations regarding the relationship between Suhail Kahn (and members of Suhail's family) and extremist Muslim organizations and less specific vague assertions that somehow Mr. Norquist is tied to Muslim extremists. Mr. Gaffney has likewise persistently attacked Grover over a period of many years.

Mr. Gaffney has made all of his allegations publicly, and has gone so far as to demand that Suhail not be allowed to attend meetings of conservative organizations or to remain as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Conservative Union, among other things.

Mr. Gaffney's Attacks Against Suhail Kahn.

Because of the serious nature of Mr. Gaffney's allegations against Suhail and in my role as a board member of and/or counsel to several leading conservative groups, I undertook to read all the materials that Mr. Gaffney furnished to me. I have also reviewed the videos, DVDs and power point presentation that Mr. Gaffney provided as 'evidence' of Suhail's role(s) in these various Muslim extremist organizations referenced in Mr. Gaffney's materials.

While there was substantial material regarding the activities of the various organizations, there was absolutely *nothing* contained in any of the materials that in any way linked Suhail (or Grover) to such organizations or their activities.

I repeatedly asked Mr. Gaffney "where is the evidence of any relationship between these organizations and Suhail Kahn?" He never provided a single fact or any documentation that would tie Suhail to *any* Muslim extremist organization. None.

Mr. Gaffney's sole 'evidence' of Suhail's 'bad action' is a clip from a speech that Suhail gave in 1999 at an event honoring Suhail's father. Yet even in that speech, there is nothing that suggests Suhail is unpatriotic or subversive.

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The clip from the speech is simply (in my view) rhetoric that is, quite frankly, meaningless in terms of substantiating any of Mr. Gaffney's allegations.

I have specifically pointed out to Mr. Gaffney (repeatedly) that *after* 9/11, Suhail was on the staff of the White House, in the Executive Office of the President, with a security clearance. I asked Mr. Gaffney (repeatedly), "How do you account for the fact that Suhail was subject to FBI background checks and cleared to work directly for the President and Vice-President? How would the FBI have 'missed' ties to such groups if those ties existed?" I have never received any reasoned response to this crucial question.

In other words, I have conducted fairly substantial due diligence on this matter. I have reviewed and studied absolutely everything that Mr. Gaffney has sent to me related to his allegations against Suhail, I have met and spoken with Mr. Gaffney several times, I have repeatedly asked him for the facts to demonstrate *any* link between Suhail and any extremist organization(s), and have asked him pointedly, "if Suhail is an 'extremist', how did he obtain a White House security clearance?" After spending substantial time and effort to review Mr. Gaffney's allegations, I have concluded that there are simply *no* facts to support or substantiate his allegations against Suhail.

Allegations Against Grover Norquist.

With respect to Mr. Gaffney's allegations against Grover, those are purely and simply character assassination. I have reviewed *everything* that Mr. Gaffney has presented to substantiate his continuing venom against Grover -- but it is apparent that there simply is no basis whatsoever for those attacks. If there *were* any such factual support, Mr. Gaffney would have produced it years ago. It doesn't exist.

And I'm certain that Mr. Gaffney's hatred is further fueled by the fact that Grover is married to a Muslim-American woman (who also has worked for the United States government in very responsible positions, I might add!)

Conclusion.

I have concluded after spending hours and hours trying to understand the actual facts of this situation that Mr. Gaffney simply has some personal animosity toward Grover and, because he cannot wage any winning battle with Grover, Mr. Gaffney has turned his attention to Suhail and has mercilessly attacked Suhail with no basis in fact to do so -- while continuing to wage a rumor battle against Grover, again, without anything to substantiate the claims.

It is quite a distressing situation and I am so sorry for all the pain, angst and embarrassment that Mr. Gaffney has inflicted on both of these individuals and their families. I have tried to talk Mr. Gaffney into ceasing these attacks -- but to no avail. I have done everything I know to do to try and bring this to a halt, including private conversations and public appearances saying essentially what I



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have said in this letter. I have taken whatever official actions in my capacity as a board member of various organizations to vote *against* any motion that would support Mr. Gaffney's allegations and will continue to do so.

Further, I will work to ensure that any organization with which I am involved will not be allowed to be used as a platform to spread Mr. Gaffney's baseless attacks.

It is my view that the ACU Board of Directors should take whatever steps are deemed appropriate to defend our two board members, Grover Norquist and Suhail Kahn, against Mr. Gaffney's ceaseless war against them. It is reprehensible and simply has no place in the conservative movement.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Cleta Mitchell, Esq.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION
SEPTEMBER 20, 2011**

Being aware of attacks leveled against two members of this Board, Suhail Khan and Grover Norquist, contending that they are wanting in loyalty to the United States and its national security and that they harbor sympathy with Islamic extremists; and

Having carefully reviewed documentation submitted in support of those claims; and

Having found the purported evidence unpersuasive and the claims false and unfounded,

The Board of Directors of ACU hereby resolves as follows:

That this Board declares its complete confidence in the loyalty of Suhail Khan and Grover Norquist to the United States, and

Be it further resolved that the ACU welcomes their continued participation in the work of ACU and of the American conservative movement and profoundly regrets and rejects as unwarranted the past and on-going attacks upon their patriotism and character.

The Board of ACU further resolves that the September 21, 2011 letter to the ACU Board from Board Member Clela Mitchell regarding the false allegations by Mr. Frank Gaffney against Board Members Norquist & Kahn be incorporated into and made part of this Resolution.

Adopted unanimously this 21st day of September, 2011.

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