

Andrée Mcleod
Anchorage, Alaska

March 18, 2009

Richard Svobodny, acting Attorney General
1031 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99501

To acting Attorney General Richard Svobodny:

Please consider this ethics complaint charging Governor Sarah Palin for the following violation of the Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act:

Sec. 39.52.120. Misuse of official position.

(b) A public officer may not

(6) use or authorize the use of state funds, facilities, equipment, services, or another government asset or resource for partisan political purposes;

”for partisan political purposes”

(A) means having the intent to differentially benefit or harm a:

(i) candidate or potential candidate for elective office; or

(ii) political party or group;

(B) but does not include having the intent to benefit the public interest at large through the normal performance of official duties.

On August 29, 2008, immediately after Sarah Palin was nominated for the GOP as the vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin used state staff, time and resources to send out this press release which is still on the official State of Alaska website: <http://gov.state.ak.us/archive.php?id=1439&type=1>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 08-149

Governor Palin Releases Statement to Alaskans

August 29, 2008, Anchorage, Alaska – Governor Sarah Palin today released the following statement to Alaskans:

“It is the honor of my life to represent you as your Governor, and over the next two months I will continue to do so. As the mother of five, I know how to multi-task, and I will continue to promote the path of reform that we set out on together in the state of Alaska.”

“It is a great privilege to be John McCain's running mate and to be considered by the American people for the Vice Presidency. This honor is a testament to the reforms and progress we have made together in Alaska. Now is the time to take that spirit of reform to Washington.”

Throughout Labor Day week-end, Palin’s official State of Alaska website carried the same political partisan message with the official State of Alaska seal capping it off at the bottom and this statement right underneath the state seal. *“Due to high traffic volume, the website is currently being updated. Previous home page >”*

Press Archive

State of Alaska > Governor > News > News Archive

Governor Palin Releases Statement

to Alaskans About VP Nomination Printer Friendly

No. 08-149

August 29, 2008, Anchorage, Alaska – Governor Sarah Palin today released the following statement to Alaskans:

"It is the honor of my life to represent you as your Governor, and over the next two months I will continue to do so. As the mother of five, I know how to multi-task, and I will continue to promote the path of reform that we set out on together in the state of Alaska."

"It is a great privilege to be John McCain's running mate and to be considered by the American people for the Vice Presidency. This honor is a testament to the reforms and progress we have made together in Alaska. Now is the time to take that spirit of reform to Washington."

###



Photo archive: First Gentleman Todd Palin – and one half of Team Davis/Palin – begins the 2009 Iron Dog race in Big Lake. [Enlarge >](#)

Governor's Office

- › Office of the Lt. Governor
- › Boards and Commissions
- › Administrative Orders
- › Proclamations
- › Management and Budget
- › Governor's Biography
- › First Gentleman of Alaska
- › Official Portraits
- › Contacts/Locations

Links of Interest

- › Status of the Flags
- › Alaska Statehood Celebration Commission
- › Alaska Gasline Inducement Act
- › Human Rights Commission

PR 08-149 Governor Palin Releases Statement to Alaskans 082908 - Message (HTML)

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Actions Help

Reply Reply to All Forward

From: Burkert, Erin E (GOV) [erin.burkert@alaska.gov] Sent: Fri 8/29/2008 1:07 PM

To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV)

Cc: Rowland, Mindy B (GOV); Yocom, Lauren J (GOV)

Subject: PR 08-149 Governor Palin Releases Statement to Alaskans 082908

Attachments: PR 08-149 Governor Palin Releases Statement to Alaskans 082908.doc (134 KB)

<p>Sarah Palin Governor</p> <p>P.O. Box 110001 Juneau, AK 99811-0001 www.gov.state.ak.us</p>	<p>STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR</p>	<p>Bill McAllister Communications Director 907.269.7446</p> <p>Sharon Leighow Deputy Press Secretary 907.269.7443</p>
--	---	---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **No. 08-149**

Governor Palin Releases Statement to Alaskans

August 29, 2008, Anchorage, Alaska – Governor Sarah Palin today released the following statement to Alaskans:

"It is the honor of my life to represent you as your Governor, and over the next two months I will continue to do so. As the mother of five, I know how to multi-task, and I will continue to promote the path of reform that we set out on together in the state of Alaska."

"It is a great privilege to be John McCain's running mate and to be considered by the American people for the Vice Presidency. This honor is a testament to the reforms and progress we have made together in Alaska. Now is the time to take that spirit of reform to Washington."

###

Governor Palin Releases Statement to Alaskans

August 29, 2008, Anchorage, Alaska – Governor Sarah Palin today released the following statement to Alaskans:

"It is the honor of my life to represent you as your Governor, and over the next two months I will continue to do so. As the mother of five, I know how to multi-task, and I will continue to promote the path of reform that we set out on together in the state of Alaska."

"It is a great privilege to be John McCain's running mate and to be considered by the American people for the Vice Presidency. This honor is a testament to the reforms and progress we have made together in Alaska. Now is the time to take that spirit of reform to Washington."



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Palin".



Due to high traffic volume, the website is currently being updated. [Previous home page >](#)

On Monday March 16, 2009 media reports circulated about Palin keynoting a speech at the June 8th very partisan and political GOP fundraiser dinner for the National Republican Senatorial Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee in Washington DC. The National Republican Senatorial Committee and National Republican Congressional Committee press release is found here: **NRSC & NRCC Chairs Announce Gov. Palin to Keynote Senate-House Dinner** <http://www.nrsc.org/news/Read.aspx?ID=1908>

Confusion ensued and Palin proceeded to engage State of Alaska publicly funded office staff to clear the confusion regarding her involvement with the grandest annual national republican partisan political fundraiser, thereby violating the Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act. The Anchorage Daily News reported on March 16, 2009 that, "McAllister said Palin asked him why The Associated Press was reporting that she was going to do this. 'I pointed out the (National Republican Senatorial Committee) press release and she was like, no,' he said." (GOP says Palin will star at dinner; she says she hasn't yet agreed OR MAYBE NOT: She didn't know about keynoting, aide says. <http://www.adn.com/palin/story/725536.html>)

It was reported the next day that her partisan political group SarahPAC snafu caused the confusion. **Palin PAC mistakenly confirms she'll keynote fundraiser** <http://community.adn.com/adn/node/139232>

Based on these facts, Governor Sarah Palin violated the Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act. She improperly misused her publicly funded position and publicly funded state staff and resources for personal partisan political purposes that have nothing to do with the state's interests and everything to do with her personal, extremely partisan political Washington D.C. beltway interests.

The scope of the ethics code states that each public officer holds office as a public trust and any effort to benefit a personal or financial interest through official action is a violation of that trust. I'm requesting that this complaint be forwarded to the Alaska Personnel Board. Thank you for your prompt attention to this. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions and concerns.

Sincerely,