

## VIA FACSIMILE (312) 814-6775 AND CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL

December 15, 2008

Ms. Erin Knowles
Office of the Governor
James R. Thompson Center
100 West Randolph, Suite 16-100
Chicago, IL 60611

## Re: <u>Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request</u>

Dear Ms. Knowles:

Judicial Watch, Inc. hereby requests that the Office of the Governor produce the following public records pursuant to the provisions of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 140/1 *et seq.*:

- 1. Any and all communications between Governor Rod Blagojevich and President-Elect Barack Obama;
- 2. Any and all communications between the Office of the Governor, including but not limited to Governor Rod Blagojevich and/or Governor Blagojevich's Chief of Staff John Harris, and representatives of the Office of the President-Elect;
- 3. Any and all communications between the Office of the Governor, including but not limited to Governor Rod Blagojevich and/or Governor Blagojevich's Chief of Staff John Harris, and representatives of the Obama-Biden Transition Project;
- 4. Any and all communications between the Office of the Governor, including but not limited to Governor Rod Blagojevich and/or Governor Blagojevich's Chief of Staff John Harris, and representatives of the Service Employees International Union regarding the appointment of a

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replacement for President Elect Barack Obama's now-vacant U.S. Senate seat.

The time frame for this request is from November 1, 2008 to the present.

Please produce the requested record(s) to Judicial Watch, Inc. at its Washington, DC office, located at 501 School Street, S.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20024, within seven (7) working days of your receipt of this request. 5 Ill. Comp Stat. Ann. 140/3(c). If the requested record(s) cannot be produced within seven (7) working days, please notify us in writing of the reason(s) for the delay and the date by which the requested record(s) will be available.

Judicial Watch, Inc. requests that the above-referenced records be furnished without charge pursuant to 5 Ill. Comp. Stat. 140/6. Judicial Watch, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization that seeks to promote transparency in government, among other goals. The principal purpose of this request is to enable Judicial Watch, Inc. to access and analyze the requested information, then disseminate the results of its findings to the public. Waiver or reduction of the fee is therefore in the public interest, as the principal purpose of the request is to access and disseminate information regarding the health, safety, welfare, and legal rights of the public in general. Judicial Watch, Inc. does not make this request for the principal purpose of securing any personal or commercial benefit. Thus, a waiver or reduction of fees is in the public interest. In the event any fee is to be charged for copying the requested records, please advise us in advance if the expected cost of the copying is likely to exceed \$150.00.

If you do not understand this request, or any portion thereof, or if you feel you require clarification of this request, or any portion thereof, please contact us at (202) 646-5172.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.

Saul & Oful Paul J. Orfanedes