



# Judicial Watch

*Because no one is above the law!*

April 25, 2007

**BY FEDEX**

Honorable Alberto Gonzales  
Attorney General of the United States  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

**Re: Representative John Conyers of Michigan**

Dear General Gonzales:

Judicial Watch is a non-profit educational foundation that seeks transparency, accountability, and integrity in government, politics and the law. Over the past several months Judicial Watch has been in communication with a former senior staffer to Representative John Conyers of Michigan. The former Conyers staffer has provided us with documentation detailing activities and conduct on the part of Mr. Conyers (and his agents) that appear to be at a minimum inappropriate and likely unlawful.

Some of the matters raised by the former Conyers staffer were addressed by the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in a statement issued December 29, 2006 by then-Chairman Doc Hastings and Ranking Minority Member Howard L. Berman.<sup>1</sup> The committee's investigative efforts focused on reports that members of the congressional staff of Representative John Conyers had performed campaign activity on official time and in some instances using official resources, and that some staff members may have been compelled to do campaign work or personal work for Representative Conyers. (Violations of House Rule 23, clause 1; House Rule 23, clause 8; 31 U.S.C. § 1301(a); and 18 U.S.C § 606). The committee resolved the matter, in essence, by blaming Mr. Conyers' staff and requiring additional administrative record-keeping and employee training. Neither Mr. Conyers nor his senior staff were held accountable for their actions in any way. It is our position that, given the documented evidence available, the committee failed to vigorously pursue investigative leads and achieve accountability for wrong-doing. Nonetheless, the committee has completed its work and will take no further action on the matter.

---

<sup>1</sup> See: [http://www.house.gov/ethics/Press\\_Statement\\_Conyers.htm](http://www.house.gov/ethics/Press_Statement_Conyers.htm)

**Attorney General Alberto Gonzales**  
**Re: Representative John Conyers of Michigan**  
**April 25, 2007**  
**Page 2 of 2**

While reviewing the documents and records provided to us by the former Conyers staffer, we noted with great interest that agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) (including SA Robert Beekman & SSA Michael P. O'Connor) and attorneys with the Office of the US Attorney in Detroit (including Lynn Helland, Esq.) were provided with copies of the staffer's documentation. The former Conyers staffer was also interviewed, at length and on more than one occasion, by agents of the FBI concerning specific activities of Mr. Conyers and certain of his close associates acting, allegedly, on his behalf and instruction.

Attorneys and special agents of your department have been on notice concerning documented claims of credible derogatory information with respect to Mr. Conyers and his associates for years. Serious claims of criminal conduct remain unresolved. The House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct has confirmed wrong-doing by Mr. Conyers and taken limited, half-hearted measures. Frankly, "the ball is in your court."

We are aware of power and influence Mr. Conyers exerts over your department as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. We are also aware of the pressure and scrutiny you have been subjected to recently concerning the removal of certain U.S. Attorneys. None of this should be any impediment to the department's conducting a full investigation of Rep. Conyers' activities.

Your personal attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Thomas Fitton  
President

CC: Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher, Criminal Division  
Acting Public Integrity Section Chief Edward C. Nucci