

IMPEACH OBAMA IRS COMMISSIONER JOHN KOSKINEN NOW!

Dear Fellow American,

Following up on Judicial Watch's ground-breaking court victories, a leader in Congress has finally taken strong action on the Obama IRS conspiracy to target conservative groups and individuals.

Congressman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) recently introduced a resolution to impeach Obama's Internal Revenue Commissioner, John Koskinen, for violating the public trust.

That's why I am asking you to sign and return the enclosed Citizen's Impeachment Demand Petition urging your Member of Congress to support House Resolution 494.

Judicial Watch is leading this grassroots effort to force Congress to act.

In our judgement, Koskinen merits <u>immediate</u> removal. His impeachment is an important step in <u>reining in</u> the out of control IRS and <u>forcing accountability</u> from the corrupt Obama administration for its lawless stonewalling.

Koskinen has aided and abetted the Obama administration in covering up a scandal of monstrous proportion and severity – a scandal <u>far more serious and potentially more criminal than the Nixon abuses that resulted in the second Article of Impeachment filed against him in 1974.</u>

I am talking about the <u>continuing</u> scandal related to the chilling Obama administration scheme that involved former IRS employee Lois Lerner to deploy the awesome power of the IRS in order to cripple conservative groups and target conservative individuals and help President Obama win re-election in 2012.

Commissioner Koskinen is a key player in this scandal and its attempted coverup. His lawless actions have included <u>misleading</u> Congress, <u>stonewalling</u> congressional investigators, and <u>refusing to comply</u> with federal court orders.

That's not all...



Commissioner Koskinen has also zealously blocked investigators...most especially those from Judicial Watch...from getting to the information about Barack Obama's role in the IRS targeting conspiracy...

So you can be sure that Obama won't remove him from office!

But Commissioner Koskinen <u>can</u> be removed from office through the impeachment process, as the U.S. Constitution provides!

That's why I am asking you to sign the enclosed <u>Petition</u> in support of House Resolution 494...the Chaffetz motion to impeach Mr. Koskinen.

Judicial Watch is leading this grassroots effort to force Congress to act. Members of the House of Representatives need to hear from their constituents...

They need to hear directly from you.

Congress already heard what the courts had to say when U.S. District Court Judge Emmet G. Sullivan said to IRS and Justice Department lawyers in open court last summer in a critical Judicial Watch/IRS case:

"I think the government's position is clearly indefensible. It's ridiculous. It's absurd. I'm not going to tolerate further noncompliance with the Court's orders. If there is further noncompliance, I will haul into court the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service to show cause why that person should not be personally held in contempt of court.

I can't make that any clearer. Is there any part of what I just said unclear?"

I was in the courtroom that day with Judicial Watch attorneys when Judge Sullivan upbraided the IRS (and his Justice Department lawyers) for ignoring his court order to release to Judicial Watch newly discovered Lois Lerner emails.

In my 18 years at Judicial Watch, I have <u>never</u> heard a judge threaten to jail the head of a government agency like the IRS for contempt of court!

That remarkable court scene shows the seriousness of IRS Commissioner Koskinen's cover up that continues to obstruct our litigation in federal court.

It's high time for Congress to put this corruption on full display when they remove the IRS Commission from office! Because believe me...I am not exaggerating one bit about the frightening implications of the IRS attacking our First Amendment rights!

Blockbuster emails we've already forced the IRS to release as a result of our lawsuit implicate the IRS, Federal Election Commission, the FBI and even the Justice Department in targeting and attempting to prosecute and jail conservative citizens and groups!

As I wrote earlier....Obama is worse than Nixon!

Remember the "missing" 18 and a half minutes on a critical taped White House conversation back during Watergate?

Well, today we're told the big lie of Lois Lerner's "missing" emails, which the Obama administration, specifically IRS Commissioner Koskinen, insisted were "irretrievable".

But our litigation already proved this was a lie by forcing the Obama IRS to confess <u>that</u> <u>Lerner's emails (and all government records) had been backed-up!</u>

And let me repeat: IRS Commissioner Koskinen is the "stonewaller in chief" carrying out the Obama administration's efforts to <u>stall</u>, <u>dodge</u> and even <u>lie</u> to keep the courts, Congress and the American people in the dark.

In fact, Congressman Chaffetz, who is chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, stated that Mr. Koskinen "lied to Congress" and "destroyed documents under subpoena."

Congressman Chaffetz also said that Koskinen "...assured us he would comply with a congressional subpoena seeking Lois Lerner's emails. Not only did he fail to keep that promise, we later learned he did not look in earnest for the information."

Of course, it was our victories in the courts that make this impeachment effort possible!

I've enclosed a small collection of media headlines about the importance of our smoking gun IRS document discoveries.

So let me be very clear:

Judicial Watch proved that key operatives in the Obama administration in Washington DC engaged in a corrupt conspiracy to unlawfully target and damage political opponents of President Obama...

And we <u>proved</u> a conspiracy to deploy the awesome power of the federal government <u>for corrupt and partisan political purposes directed at groups and individuals whose only "crime" was to oppose the political agenda of the Obama administration.</u>

And make no mistake...

It is thanks to hundreds of thousands of patriotic Americans committed to our mission that Judicial Watch beat the Obama IRS in federal court and force the release of these key documents...documents which the IRS even withheld from committees of Congress investigating the scandal! (Fox Business Network host Lou Dobbs said this about us: "We would know a lot less about the IRS scandal were it not for the work of the watchdog group Judicial Watch.")

I invite you to review the documents at our website www.judicialwatch.org.

Like our investigators who found them and our lawyers who compelled their release in court, you'll see actual <u>proof</u> that:

- 1) This illegal conservative targeting program was run <u>from the IRS headquarters in Washington by Lois Lerner</u>...and was not the fault of "bonehead decisions in local offices", <u>as President Obama falsely alleged on national television</u> or by "low-level" workers in the Cincinnati IRS office, as Lois Lerner originally argued.
- 2) IRS chief Lois Lerner was contacted by officials at the corrupt and politically-driven Obama Justice Department to discuss the possibility of subjecting some of these "certain groups" to criminal prosecution.
- 3) The Obama IRS illegally shared <u>personal tax data and information</u> with the FBI on Tea Party and other innocent conservative or Republican groups <u>as part of their Obama-administration-wide targeting program</u>
- 4) Lerner had another email account (an account apparently disguised under the "name" of the Lerner family dog) that may contain more documents about the targeting scandal!

Our release of these explosive documents sent shock wave after shock wave through Washington...and even led many in Congress, including 26 House Democrats to call for <u>a criminal investigation of the Obama administration!</u>

More importantly, our discoveries showed that this conspiracy to cripple Obama opponents was not confined to the IRS but reached deep into the federal government...

Even into to the U.S. Department of Justice and the FBI, two other agencies of our government which, like the IRS, every American should be able to trust!

These Obama/IRS outrages were committed by federal officials in multiple offices across the country. They were directed from Washington. And they did it over a long period of time against representatives of a grass-roots pro-Constitution movement supported by major portions of the American electorate.

And make no mistake...these IRS efforts to cripple these groups helped secure Obama's reelection in 2012!

What we've learned so far just through our comprehensive investigative and legal efforts shows that the fundamental values of our Republic are under attack.

This type of IRS abuse is illegal and completely un-American, and it is rooted in the radical ideology, profound corruption and utter contempt for the rule of law that have become the hallmarks of Barack Obama's presidency.

I believe that this IRS scandal is in a dreadful class by itself...<u>because the illegal acts committed by the IRS confirm this government's persecution of Americans for their First Amendment-protected beliefs.</u>

Remember:

Forty-two years ago, President Richard Nixon's attempted criminal corruption of the

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) constituted an <u>IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE</u> in the Articles of Impeachment that were voted against him.

Back in 1974 members of the House Judiciary Committee understood that using one of the government's most powerful agencies to advance the agenda of the president in a discriminatory fashion against his political opponents wasn't just inappropriate.

They saw what he did as a "<u>high crime and misdemeanor</u>"...an offense so heinous, so serious, posing such a threat to our democratic institutions as to merit the president's impeachment and removal from office!

Today, the IRS is caught breaking the law by <u>suppressing an entire political movement</u> by using its power to tilt the playing field in favor of Obama and his allies on the left — <u>a far more serious offense than any alleged against the Nixon administration</u>.

And IRS Commissioner Koskinen violates the law and court orders in order to cover-up the facts about exactly who was behind the IRS targeting scheme...and just how far and how high this conspiracy extended into the Obama administration.

In fact, Mr. Koskinen may <u>singlehandedly</u> be keeping the American people from learning the answer to the question:

"What did the President know, and when did he know it?"

In the 1970s, the IRS hounded political enemies of the Nixon administration with selected <u>individual</u> and punitive tax audits...

But in this Obama administration from 2010 to 2012 (and even still today), the IRS targeted hundreds of Tea Party and conservative groups, and innocent Americans, opposed to Barack Obama's policies.

We now know that over the course of 27 months — while dozens of liberal groups had their applications approved — not a single Tea Party-type organization had its tax-exempt status application approved by the IRS!

In fact, some of these groups <u>still</u> are being denied their tax-exempt status. And, incredibly, this is still going on!

The Obama IRS not only delayed granting targeted conservative groups their tax-exempt status...which crippled their effectiveness and impact prior to the 2012 elections...but the IRS also blackmailed some of these groups by telling them they would need to curtail their activities if they hoped to receive tax-exempt status!

All of this is beyond outrageous!

Here's a sampling of the IRS abuse from what *The Washington Post*'s Juliet Eilperin reported from a congressional hearing:

"Susan Martinek, president of the Coalition for Life of Iowa, testified that an IRS agent told her in June 2009 that she needed to send a letter with her entire

board's signatures 'stating under penalty of perjury we would not picket, protest or organize groups to picket, protest outside of Planned Parenthood.'"

Since when has the IRS been empowered to tell a group of citizens that they can't engage in First Amendment-protected speech?

Abuses like this should send a chill down the spine of every American.

Because it's clear that the IRS sought to intimidate <u>and cripple</u> political opposition to a sitting president running for re-election....

This is how Barack Obama was able to steal an election in plain sight!

That's why I am asking you to take immediate action to help Judicial Watch assert and preserve the rule of law in our nation...<u>before it's too late!</u>

Too many questions about this corruption of the IRS remain unanswered because the outof-control IRS and Commissioner John Koskinen continue to stonewall Judicial Watch, Congress and the American people:

- Has the targeting of Tea Party and other conservative groups by the IRS actually been discontinued?
- Just how many applications for tax-exempt status by targeted groups are still being held up at the IRS?
- Why did former Obama IRS Commissioner Douglas Shulman make at least 129 visits to the White House, including over 90 meetings with Obamacare Czar Nancy DeParl? What possible non-political agenda could have been discussed between the head of the IRS and the corruptly partisan Obama White House staff over the course of 129 visits?
- Who decided to inflict painful tax audits on conservatives like Frank Vander Sloot, a law-abiding citizen who had never been audited but who, after making a sizable donation to a group supporting Mitt Romney, was repeatedly subjected to IRS audits and now faces \$80,000 in legal bills?
- And what are Lois Lerner's still missing emails...and what do they contain?
- And of course...What did the President know, and when did he know it? (There is no question in my mind that Barack Obama is responsible for this outrageous effort by the IRS to cripple his political opponents.)

As The Wall Street Journal's Kimberly Strassel wrote:

"Mr. Obama didn't need to pick up the phone. All he needed to do was exactly what he did do, in full view, for three years! Publicly suggest that conservative political groups were engaged in nefarious deeds, publicly call out by name political opponents whom he'd like to see harassed, and publicly have his party pressure the IRS to take action."

My friend, government corruption doesn't get more serious than this.

This is time for action! Which is why I am writing to you today.

<u>Please sign and return to me the Investigation and Litigation</u> <u>Endorsement I have enclosed for you with my letter.</u>

And please also sign and return the enclosed Petition in support of impeaching Commissioner Koskinen to your Member of Congress.

Thanks to the support of our members, Judicial Watch is already making the legal system and the courts work on behalf of the American people's right to know.

But the behavior of IRS Commissioner Koskinen has been <u>so</u> outrageous, <u>so</u> contemptuous of the courts and the American people, that we are now taking <u>the unprecedented step of launching a national grassroots campaign in support of his impeachment and removal from office!</u>

And because we are still being stonewalled over release of <u>all</u> the IRS-related documents we want (<u>we are still litigating seven separate IRS-related lawsuits against the Obama Justice Department and the IRS) I am asking for your <u>support and endorsement</u> for additional lawsuits that Judicial Watch will surely have to file!</u>

Using our open records laws and fighting through the legal system is how we've been able to get this far.

Even without the aid of Congress, since 2012 we've been exposing the truth and discovering how closely President Barack Obama and the White House were involved in this illegal attempt to cripple political opponents through the corruption of the IRS.

But we also believe that Congress must step up to the plate and use the impeachment process to hold Mr. Koskinen to account for his illegal cover up of this scandal...a process which, as columnist George Will noted, "would test the mainstream media's ability to continue ignoring this five-year old scandal."

Since 1994, Judicial Watch has been your conservative government watchdog in Washington — the largest and most effective in the country.

We've deployed our unique style of investigative/legal strategy with great success, and it's exactly how we have been able to win in court against Obama IRS!

But we must keep the pressure on!

That's why, in addition to signing and returning your signed **Citizen's Impeachment Demand Petition**, I have another very important request.

Will you back up your signed Endorsement with a <u>tax-deductible</u> gift for \$35, \$50, \$100 or even more to Judicial Watch?

Full-scale investigations and grassroots campaigns like this one are expensive. And unlike talk, our litigation is not cheap...and winning litigation is even more expensive!

In fact, our costs of litigating against armies of taxpayer-funded government lawyers at the IRS are increasing. There are very real expenses attached to each and every lawsuit we file against the Obama administration.

<u>As a non-profit organization, we rely on concerned citizens — not legal fees — to fund</u> our public interest investigation, litigation, and education efforts.

Specifically, that means we rely on voluntary contributions from our members and supporters to meet our annual budget (which this year is more than \$30 million) and carry forward our breakthrough work on behalf of open government and the rule of law.

Thanks to the help and support we receive from our patriotic supporters across America, Judicial Watch is America's largest and most active litigator against public corruption and for government transparency...and we have successfully torn away the veil of secrecy that the Obama administration has put up around the IRS scandal...but we still have so much more to do!

We owe it to our nation and the rule of law to determine the role of Barack Obama in this monstrous corruption of the IRS – and the resulting oppression and suppression of conservatives. (I fear we may see a repeat of this scandal in this 2016 election season.)

And we also owe it to the American people to hold corrupt public officials like IRS Commissioner Koskinen accountable to the rule of law and the U.S Constitution!

I ask you to join with us today so that justice may be served, and so that we can continue to lead the fight <u>against</u> public corruption and <u>for</u> the rule of law in America.

1

President

P.S. Please be sure to sign the enclosed **Citizen's Impeachment Demand Petition** in support of impeaching IRS Commissioner Koskinen addressed to your Member of Congress.

P.P.S. Earlier this summer, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee voted to **censure** IRS Commissioner Koskinen for...among other things...failing to testify truthfully to the committee and for giving false and misleading testimony for Congress. This **censure** lays out the reasons that Mr. Koskinen should be removed from office...**but now we still need to pressure Congress to do its full duty by impeaching him and removing him from office! So please don't waste any time in signing and returning your Demand Petition!** Thank you.