

BROWN MOSKOWITZ & KALLEN
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

180 River Road • Summit, NJ 07901
(973) 376-0909 • fax: (973) 376-0903

17 State Street, Suite 4000 • New York, New York 10004
www.bmk-law.com

Shalom D. Stone
Partner

E-mail: sstone@bmk-law.com

November 3, 2016

VIA UPS OVERNIGHT

Hon. Christopher Porrino, Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
8th Floor
West Wing
25 Market Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Re: Josh Gottheimer for Congress

Dear Mr. Porrino:

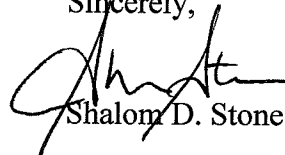
This firm represents Scott Garrett for Congress. It has come to our attention that Josh Gottheimer for Congress (the "Gottheimer Campaign") is running a series of advertisements depicting a document that falsely and fraudulently impersonates the Office of Congressional Ethics in violation of federal law.

Specifically, the advertisements depict a letter dated October 5, 2015 with the letterhead of the Office of Congressional Ethics. The actual letter, however, was written over the letterhead of the Campaign For Accuracy, an entity claiming 501(c)(3) status. A copy of the two versions of the letter is attached. The Gottheimer Campaign deliberately and fraudulently altered the original letter in order to mislead the public and the press to falsely believe that the letter had come from the Office of Congressional Ethics. The Gottheimer Campaign later admitted to the press that it "manipulated the image."

These actions by the Gottheimer Campaign violate several state laws, including §2C:21-1 (Forgery and Related Offenses) and §2C:21-4 (Falsifying or tampering with records).

Please contact me at your earliest convenience so that I can provide the relevant evidence to your office.

Sincerely,


Shalom D. Stone

SDS:cvs
Enc.

Exposing Gottheimer's Lies

The Real Letter

The FAKE Letter

C A M P A I G N F O R ACCOUNTABILITY

October 5, 2015

BY EMAIL: oce@mail.house.gov

Omar Ashmawy
Staff Director and Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
1017 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Request for Investigation of 11 Members for Accepting
Campaign Contributions in Exchange for Official Action

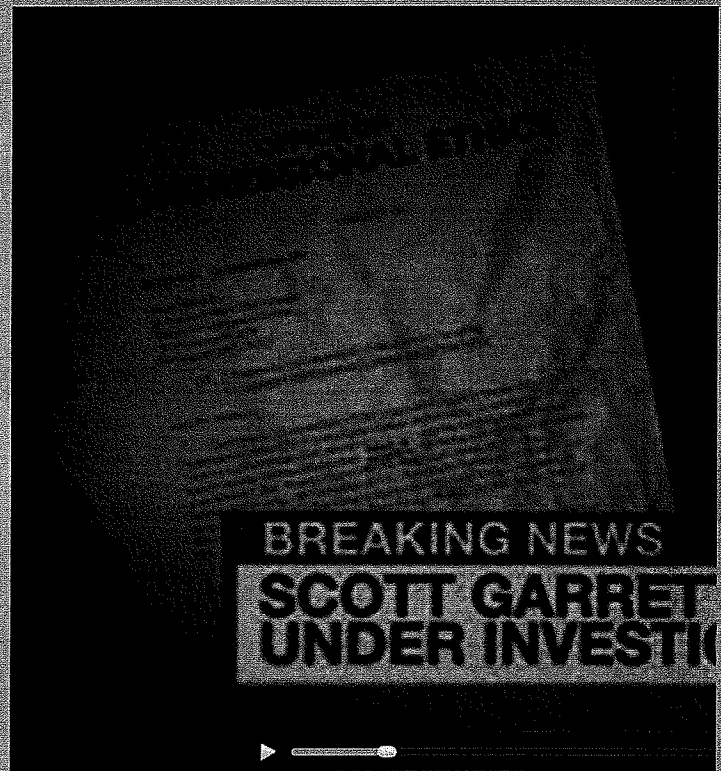
Dear Mr. Ashmawy:

Campaign for Accountability ("CIA") respectfully requests that the Office of Congressional Ethics ("OCE") investigate whether the following 11 members of Congress violated House rules and criminal law by accepting campaign contributions from the payday lending industry shortly before or after taking official actions in support of the industry: Rep. Stephen Fincher (R-TN), Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ), Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-FL), Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-TX), Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO), Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC), Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Rep. Randy Neugebauer (R-TX), Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX), Rep. Steve Stivers (R-OH), and Rep. Kevin Yoder (R-KS).

A recent report, *Payday Loans Cheaper by the Dozen: How Twelve Members of Congress Were Showered with Campaign Cash by Payday Lenders Just Before and Soon After Taking Official Actions To Benefit The Industry*,¹ details the official actions each of these 11 members took in very close proximity to receiving campaign contributions from payday lending industry executives and industry political action committees ("PACs").² Those official actions included sponsoring and co-sponsoring legislation that would have impaired the ability of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau ("CFPB") to regulate the payday lending industry and eliminated critical consumer protections against harmful payday lending practices; legislation that would have prevented the Department of Justice ("DOJ") from taking steps through its "Operation Choke Point" program to prevent

¹ A copy of this report is available at <http://allthedemocrats.org/cheaperbythedozen>.

² The report also details the actions of and campaign contributions to former Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-AL) who, as a former member, is no longer subject to OCE's jurisdiction.



Paid for by Scott Garrett for Congress