

Sent: Thu, 12 Dec 2013 18:39:46 -0500
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To: "'John Podesta' (jpodesta@americanprogress.org)" <jpodesta@americanprogress.org>
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Subject: update

Hi John – I'm sure you saw the Politico story that popped... seems to be fine.

Lipton also posting tonight, for tomorrow's paper. That story, too, will mostly be about CAP. But we also took care of your personal stuff. Leslie and I spoke with him on background [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He took everything in stride – not particularly exercised about any of them. Supposedly, says he will be just mentioning these in passing.

And we gave him a generic quote on all the crap he's been mulling about:

"This Administration has adopted the strictest ethical standards in history, and all Presidential appointees comply with them. As part of the Administration's unparalleled commitment to reforming Washington, this President has taken historic steps to close the revolving door of special interest influence more than any President before him, namely by prohibiting executive branch appointees from accepting gifts from lobbyists, prohibiting former lobbyists from working in agencies they lobbied, and by preventing appointees from lobbying the Administration after working here. John Podesta has earned his reputation as one of the most experienced, talented and principled professionals in either party and he will be welcome addition to the President's senior team. His appointment and background is completely consistent with the Administration's ethics pledge – which was never intended to ban anyone who works in the public policy space from joining government service. To the contrary, he is exactly the kind of person you hope to attract to public service."

P6/b(6)

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