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Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name DEAVER, MICHAEL: FILES

Withdrawer

KDB

8/16/2011

File Folder

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE (2)

FOIA

Box Number

42

F97-0066/19 COHEN, D

DOX I	vumber -	† <i>2</i>		99	,
DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	LETTER	EMILIA BUSTICHI TO DONNA BLUME	2	8/4/1983	В6
2	LEASE	EQUIPMENT LEASE (PAGE 5 MISSING)	5	10/7/198	1 B6
3	ATTACHMT	EXHIBIT A	1	ND	В6
4	CONTRACT		1	10/7/198	1 B6
5	CONTRACT		1	ND	В6
6	WILL	WILL OF WILLIAM FREDERICK SITTMANN	4	7/14/198	33 C

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

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B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Michael K. Deaver

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

RE:

Request for Inspection --

Financial Disclosure Statement --

Form SF 278

Please be advised that we have received a request from the following named person(s) to inspect and obtain a copy of your Financial Disclosure Statement:

Alison Hardy Perkins Law Firm 1110 Vermont Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C.

Pursuant to law, we will comply with this request if it is in compliance with the requirements of the statute.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 10, 1983

file here

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MICHAEL K. DEAVER

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

RE:

Request for Inspection --

Financial Disclosure Statement --

Form SF 278

Please be advised that we have received a request from the following named person(s) to inspect and obtain a copy of your Financial Disclosure Statements for 1981 and 1982:

Leslie L. Wilcox General Accounting Office

Pursuant to law, we will comply with this request if it is in compliance with the requirements of the statute.

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Deert at trad Fielding 8/8

DONNA L. BLUME

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

DEAVER, MICHAEL: FILES

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LETTER 1

8/4/1983 B6

EMILIA BUSTICHI TO DONNA BLUME

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DOC Document Type	
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2 LEASE

5 10/7/1981 B6

EQUIPMENT LEASE (PAGE 5 MISSING)

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3 ATTACHMT EXHIBIT A 1 ND B6

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4 CONTRACT

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CONTRACT 5

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August 3, 1983

TO:

Michael K. Deaver

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING FRESIDENT

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Attached per your request.

August 3, 1983

Dear Mr. Ford:

Reference is made to your letter to me dated July 27, 1983, received in my office on July 29, advising me of your interest in a report contained in the July 26 issue of The Washington Post as it related to the nomination of United States Postal Service Governor John McKean.

It is accurate that in response to an article in the July 23 edition of the <u>Post</u>, I undertook a review of certain financial transactions which were arranged for two members of the White House Staff by Mr. McKean, who in his full-time private vocation as an accountant is the personal tax and financial adviser for both staff members as well as others.

As the July 26 article reported, this review is a normal procedure for me in the performance of my professional obligation as Counsel to the President, in that I review any private or public report which might indicate even a possible appearance of impropriety on the part of any Presidential appointee. As you noted in your letter, I, too, did not undertake such a review in this instance with the inference that any impropriety occurred, but rather to assure that such is not the case.

In the review that you have requested be conducted by the Comptroller General of Governor McKean's nomination, you may be assured of my full cooperation with the GAO or with you in any way I can be of assistance consistent with my professional obligations. However, upon reflection I'm

sure you will recognize my review will be prepared for the President, who is entitled to the candid advice of his Counsel on any such matters. Thus, I consider any report and/or advice I give to the President to be professionally privileged.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

The Honorable William D. Ford Chairman
Committee on Post Office and Civil Service
U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

7/29/83

TO:

EDWIN MEESE III

JAMES A. BAKER, III MICHAEL K. DEAVER

RICHARD G. DARMAN

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January Level KENNETH M. DUBERSTEIN

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

The attached is forwarded for your information.

J. FORD, MICH., CHAIRMAN

CLAY, MO.
AROEDER, COLO.
ARCIA, N.Y.
ELAND, TEX.
JOSEPH ALBOSTA, MICH.
AY ROSE DAKAR, OHIO
ATTE HALL, IND.
GERRY SIKORSKI, MINN.
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DANIEL B. CRANE, ILL
FRANK R. WOLF, VA.
CONNIE MACK, FLA.

House of Representatives

Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

Washington, D.C. 20515

TELEPHONE (202) 225-4054

July 27, 1983

Fred F. Fielding, Esq. Counsel to the President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Fielding:

The July 26, 1983, issue of the <u>Washington</u> <u>Post</u> indicates that you will be conducting a review of certain financial transactions involving United States Postal Service Governor John McKean and two members of the White House staff, Mr. Edwin Meese III and Mr. Michael Deaver.

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service is vested by the rules of the House of Representatives with primary legislative and oversight jurisdiction over the operations of the United States Postal Service. Under the framework established by the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, the nine Governors of the Postal Service are entrusted with virtually total policymaking control over this enormous public enterprise. We must be concerned by any allegations which suggest even the appearance of impropriety with regard to a Governor's nomination.

We, therefore, request that you provide us with the results of your review. We also are requesting the Comptroller General to conduct an independent review of the transactions, their timing in relation to Mr. McKean's nomination, and the comprehensiveness and timeliness of their reporting.

Fred F. Fielding, Esq. Page 2
July 27, 1983

By making these requests, we are not implying that we believe any impropriety occurred. To the contrary, we wish only to build a complete public record which, we hope, will dispel any appearance of impropriety.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

WILLIAM D. FORM

Chairman

ROBERT GARCIA

Chairman

Subcommittee on Postal Operations and Services

MICKEY LELAND

hairman

Subcommittee on Postal

Personnel and Modernization



July 27, 1983

The Washington Post 1150 15th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20071 Dunt socal
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In this great opportunity land most of us are debtors. The <u>Post</u> tells us (and the world) Counsellor Ed Meese and <u>Deputy Chief of Staff Mike Deaver -- like most of us -- have incurred a future financial obligation because they wanted something they could not pay for today.</u>

Unlike most of the rest of us who borrowed money over the past few years at 18 and 21 percent interest rates, Messrs. Meese and Deaver did not want to expand a business, buy an extravagance or invest in securities. What they wanted — but could not afford — was an ability to give service to this government and its people.

Far from being subject to our criticism, they ought to be thanked for their willingness to go into future debt to finance their chance to give sixteen-hour days in national service.

I believe we owe them thanks, as well, for their ability to persuade a highly-praised tax accountant (worth \$1.7 million, by the Post's account), to take a \$10,000-a-year job on the U.S. Postal Board. The Postal Department is a multi-billion-dollar operation and it is hard to imagine how its Board could be better served than by the expertise of a highly-qualified certified public accountant.

The accountant accepted a low-level but important assignment with compensation likely far below what he receives for the same time spent in his private practice. And Meese and Deaver financed their commitment to public service by paying interest rates many percentage points above the current prime. Clearly no one benefitted from the arrangement but the taxpayers.

Medse, Deaver Borrowers

Appointee Arranged Loans

By Charles R. Babcock Washington Post Staff Writer

Top White House advisers Edwin Meese III and Michael K. Deaver received \$118,000 in loans in 1981 that were arranged by their California tax accountant at a time they were getting the accountant a \$10,000-a-year presidential appointment to the U.S. Postal Service's board of governors.

Meese's financial disclosure form shows two personal loans, which total \$60,000, directly from the accountant, John R. McKean. McKean said in an interview that he set up the transaction, but considered himself merely the "trustee," because he raised the money from other clients who didn't know the funds were going to Meese.

Meese put up no collateral for the

loans, and his financial disclosure form shows that the money is not due until demanded by McKean. The interest, of about 18 percent, is due annually and is payable to McKean. McKean said Meese is "doing all right" on the interest payments and has not paid any of the principal.

The first loan to Meese, for \$40,000, was made in July 1981. Later the same month, McKean said, Deaver called him to ask if he was interested in the presidential appointment. The second loan, for \$20,000, was made in December 1981, a month after McKean's nomination was announced by the White House.

Meese did not return a reporter's calls for comment. An aide said

See POSTAL, A8, Col. 1

PRESERVATION COPY

Postal Appointee Set Up 2 Reagan Aides' Loans

POSTAL, From A1

Meese used the money to pay school tuition for his children and for living expenses and that it was not connected in any way to McKean's selection.

Deaver was given a loan of \$58,000, also arranged by McKean, in October 1981 to buy a tractor-trailer truck that allows Deaver and his wife, Carolyn, to defer a few thousand dollars in income taxes over five years. The note, held by a McKean business partner in Idaho, is at 18 percent interest, and is scheduled to come due in 1986. McKean said there was a \$1,500 down payment on the loan.

The Deavers have leased out the truck, and Deaver's latest financial disclosure form shows at least \$15,000 in 1982 income from this lease.

Deaver is traveling abroad and could not be reached for comment.

The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, which has jurisdiction over Postal Service board appointees, asked McKean during the confirmation process why he was selected for the post.

In his Nov. 17, 1981, answer to the committee McKean wrote: "Members of the administration, namely Mr. Michael Deaver and Mr. Edwin Meese, were aware of my background, and it is my understanding that my name was submitted to the president for nomination by these parties."

The Senate committee did not ask, and McKean did not volunteer, whether he had any financial dealings with Reagan administration officials.

sure form he filed last May 16. The loan McKean arranged for Deaver, which is held by a McKean business partner, Helmut Moss of Boise, Idaho, is one of three debts reported by Deaver. The other two are bank loans of at least \$15,000 each.

McKean, 53, is the head of his own accounting firm in San Francisco. He said in telephone interviews this week that he considered the loans he arranged to be of a "purely professional nature" and "a logical extension of a professional service to a client."

He said he met Deaver before President Reagan was elected in 1980 and did some accounting and tax projection work for Deaver. Deaver recommended him to Meese and he now does tax work for both men. He said he does not socialize with either, seeing them only for an occasional lunch.

He said that a review of Meese's finances in 1981 had showed "a negative cash flow, a deficit. There was going to be a necessity for some type of borrowing." He said he didn't know why Meese didn't go to a bank, "He came to me. It was intended to be something that rolled over very, very quickly. We call them swing

McKean said they didn't turn out to be short-term loans because Meese had difficulty selling his home in California. During the same period Meese was buying a home in Virginia and had to make tuition payments for two of his children.

Meese sold his home in La Mesa, Calif., in September 1982 for more than



JOHN R. McKEAN . . . "logical extension" of professional service

payment from his public relations firm, Deaver and Hannaford, McKean said. He said the arrangement deferred "a few thousand dollars" in taxes for Deaver, most in the first year of the lease.

The note is held personally by his partner, Moss, of Idaho Peterbilt Inc. in Boise, the accountant said, because "I didn't want to participate in anything with Mr. Deaver directly." He said he didn't want to benefit personally from the arrangement. Moss owns 75 percent of the company, a distributorship for Peterbilt trucks. McKean owns the other 25 percent.

Asked why he referred Deaver to his partner, McKean said he had found that tax syndications "are often not what they are presented to be. This is one I had direct knowledge of and sould assure that

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The Senate committee did not ask, and McKean did not volunteer, whether he had any financial dealings with Rea-

gan administration officials.

Initially, McKean was appointed to the nine-member board of directors for the \$25 billion-a-year Postal Service operation to fill a term that expires in 1986. Earlier this year he was renominated to a full nine-year term that expires in December 1991.

The Postal Service governors are paid the \$10,000 a year, plus expenses and an additional \$300 for each monthly meeting they attend. Postal Service records show that McKean has been reimbursed for more than \$18,000 in expenses since he joined the board in April 1982, most of that for first-class air fare back and forth from San Francisco to meeting sites in Washington and at regional offices.

McKean's relationship with the two White House aides and his appointment to the Postal Service board were discovered during a routine check on the people who had lent money to high-ranking administration officials.

Meese and Deaver, who are not wealthy, have indicated that their White House service has caused them financial hardship. As two of the most senior White House officials, they each make \$69,800 a year.

The loan McKean arranged for Meese is the only outstanding financial obligation Meese listed in the financial disclo-

and "a logical extension of a professional service to a client."

He said he met Deaver before President Reagan was elected in 1980 and did some accounting and tax projection work for Deaver. Deaver recommended him to Meese and he now does tax work for both men. He said he does not socialize with either, seeing them only for an occasional lunch.

He said that a review of Meese's finances in 1981 had showed "a negative cash flow, a deficit. There was going to be a necessity for some type of borrowing." He said he didn't know why Meese didn't go to a bank, "He came to me. It was intended to be something that rolled over very, very quickly. We call them swing loans."

McKean said they didn't turn out to be short-term loans because Meese had difficulty selling his home in California. During the same period Meese was buying a home in Virginia and had to make tuition payments for two of his children,

Meese sold his home in La Mesa, Calif., in September 1982 for more than \$250,000, but has not paid any of the principal on the loans. "With the situation like it is we will likely consolidate the loans and have [them] collateralized against his Virginia home," McKean said.

McKean said he would arrange a similar loan for any client with a "working capital impairment" and had done so for others on a few occasions.

The clients who put up the money for the Meese loan did so because they trusted that McKean would see the money was repaid, he said. He didn't tell those clients that Meese was the recipient "just in case they had some business transactions with the government."

He said he told Meese that others had provided the money for the loans and he, McKean, should only have been listed as "trustee" on Meese's disclosure form. Reporting the loans from McKean personally—the way they now appear on the disclosure form—"might be looked at askance," McKean said. He said he had no idea why the word "trustee" was not added and that, because of the omission, "I was left hanging out there as the lender."

The loan he arranged for Deaver, in the name of Deaver's wife, Carolyn, was simply to defer taxes because Deaver had "bunched up income" from a lump sum



JOHN R. McKEAN
... "logical extension" of professional service

payment from his public relations firm, Deaver and Hannaford, McKean said. He said the arrangement deferred "a few thousand dollars" in taxes for Deaver, most in the first year of the lease.

The note is held personally by his partner, Moss, of Idaho Peterbilt Inc. in Boise, the accountant said, because "I didn't want to participate in anything with Mr. Deaver directly." He said he didn't want to benefit personally from the arrangement. Moss owns 75 percent of the company, a distributorship for Peterbilt trucks. McKean owns the other 25 percent.

Asked why he referred Deaver to his partner, McKean said he had found that tax syndications "are often not what they are presented to be. This is one I had direct knowledge of and could assure that it would turn out as planned."

Moss said in an interview from Boise that he has never met Deaver and was only vaguely familiar with the details. "McKean handled all the paperwork on that," he said.

Moss said he didn't know why the Deaver liability was listed with him as the creditor, rather than his company. "There must be a tax break there somehow. I leave that all up to him [McKean]. My end is seeing that the trucks run."

McKean said he did not expect anything in return for his financial assistance to Meese and Deaver. "And if I did it wouldn't have been the Postal Service," which he described as a "tough job and a lot of work." He also said he didn't think Meese and Deaver were returning a favor by getting him the appointment. "They saw someone performing something in a professional manner and thought I could serve" the government.

McKean, whose financial disclosure form shows his net worth to be \$1.7 million, said that when he first joined the Postal Service board he didn't know much about the huge business, but now "I hope I have projected a certain competence in my field. I think I can make a contribution."

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Chuck Babcock with Washington Post wants to talk to Mr. Deaver today re his financial disclosure statement will call him wherever he is.

334-6313

12:25

5.19 gm Will call Friday A.m. or we can call him y we have talked with Bill or MA

- Lesanco 40 mms

DONNA L. BLUME

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 19, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Michael K. Deaver

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

RE:

Request for Inspection --

Financial Disclosure Statement --

Form SF 278

Please be advised that we have received a request from the following named person(s) to inspect and obtain a copy of your Financial Disclosure Statement:

Chuck Babcock The Washington Post

Pursuant to law, we will comply with this request if it is in compliance with the requirements of the statute.

WILLIAM D. FORD, MICH., CHAIRMAN

MORRIS K. UDALL ARIZ
WILLIAM IBILLI CLAY, MO.
PATRICIA SCHROEDER, COLO.
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FRANK R. WOLF, VA.
CONNIE MACK, FLA.

House of Representatives

Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

Washington, D.C. 20515

TELEPHONE (202) 225-4054

July 27, 1983

Leep in personal

Honorable Charles A. Bowsher Comptroller General General Accounting Office Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Bowsher:

The July 24, 1983, and July 26, 1983, issues of the Washington Post contained reports about certain financial transactions involving United States Postal Service Governor John McKean and two members of the White House staff, Mr. Edwin Meese III and Mr. Michael Deaver.

We request that the General Accounting Office review the nature of these transactions, their timing in relation to Mr. McKean's nomination, and the comprehensiveness and timeliness of their reporting. We anticipate that Mr. McKean will be appearing before the Committee during the course of postal oversight hearings to be held in late September. We therefore would appreciate receiving your report not later than September 15. 1983.

With kind regards,

Sincerely

TILLIAM D. FORD

Chairman

ROBERT GARCIA

Chairman

Subcommittee on Postal Operations and Services

MICKEY LELAND

Chairman

Subcommittee on Postal

Personnel and Modernization

DRAFT/MKD

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING TRUSTEE OF REAGAN PAPERS AT HOOVER INSTITUT

Presently, the Federal Bureau of Investigation is conducting a criminal investigation and they have custody of the papers.

I don't believe that it would be appropriate to have a competing investigation doing the same thing at the same time.

If after the Federal Bureau of Investigation concludes their investigation and the Congressional Committee still requests access to the papers I would be in favor of addressing that request at that time.

Bul nun This past JT today pls. Quant to use This for press purposes. the said.

Reagan aides' loans set up by appointee

WASHINGTON [AP]—Edwin Messe and Michael Deaver, two of President Reagan's top aides, reportedly received large loans in 1981 arranged by their California tax accountant while they were getting him a \$10,000-a-year presidential appointment.

The Washington Post reported Saturday that the two men received \$118,000 in loans arranged by accountant John McKean while they were getting McKean an appointment to the U.S. Postal Service's board of governors.

Meese, counselor to the President, listed on his financial-disclosure forms two personal loans totaling \$60,000 directly from McKean, the newspaper said

newspaper said.

The Post quoted McKean as saying he set up the transaction but considered himself merely the "trustee!" because he raised the money from other clients who didn't know the funds were going to Meese.

THE FIRST loan to Meese, the Post said, was \$40,000 in July, 1981. McKean was quoted as saying that later that month Deaver called him to ask if he was interested in the presidential appointment. The second loan, of \$20,000, was made in December, 1981, a month after McKean's nomination was announced by the White House.

Deaver, deputy chief of the White House staff, was given a loan of \$58,000, also arranged by McKean, in October, 1981, the newspaper said.

The Post said Meese did not return a reporter's telephone calls for comment, but it quoted an aide as saying Meese used the money to pay school expenses for his children and for living expenses. Deaver was traveling abroad and could not be reached, the newspaper said.

michael Deaver of Staff
Deputy chief of Staff
Deaver I continue to be co. over the failure of official to adher to high Detricio Standardo. Your accepting a loan from John Inchean while monoting his presidential appointment reduces your I uge you to honorable and resign. Hespertfully, (RNC 43/928) Bot Schreider 510 Compton Re Civiti, Ottio 45215

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 26, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Michael K. Deaver

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

RE:

Request for Inspection --

Financial Disclosure Statement --

Form SF 278

Please be advised that we have received a request from the following named person(s) to inspect and obtain a copy of your Financial Disclosure Statement:

Richard Bonin 411 W. 116th Street, #904/5 New York, New York 10027

Pursuant to law, we will comply with this request if it is in compliance with the requirements of the statute.

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Bill Sittmannic

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Ronald Reagan Library

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DEAVER, MICHAEL: FILES

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FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE (2)

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WILL OF WILLIAM FREDERICK SITTMANN

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.