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EXECUTIVE SESSION
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

INTERVIEW OF: PAUL J. McNULTY

Friday, April 27, 2007

Washington, D.C.

The interview in the above matter was held in Room
2138, Rayburn House Office Building, commencing at 9:32 a.m.

[REDACTED]

Q With respect to particular individuals who previously have communicated with U.S. attorneys about the

progress of their offices, have there been any changes; and in particular I want to ask you whether or not there has been any change in the degree to which Mr. Elston, for example, is permitted or does speak with U.S. attorneys in the field?

A Well, after this information about -- after the e-mails were produced and came to light, and I met with U.S. attorneys, and the attorney generals advised me and got feedback from them, and I grew in my understanding and appreciation for concerns about the ways in which we communicate or the perception that many U.S. attorneys have about the nature of the language that is used in some of the e-mails, or the tone. I have been careful to try to watch how that goes forward and to make a shift in some ways how U.S. attorneys are interacting with my office, because I'm sensitive to the fact that there may be some hard feelings, I guess, for lack of a better term, that relate to some of Mike Elston's communications.

Some U.S. attorneys don't fall into that category, and they continue to have some conversations with him, as I understand. But others have chosen to communicate with other people, and I tried to steer that process in a different way, I am still looking at that.

Q So I understand what you're saying.

At any point did you or any else make a deliberate

decision to curtail Mr. Elston's interactions with a subset or all U.S. attorneys in the field?

A I think the fair answer to that is yes in the sense that I shifted responsibility in the office to some extent, reassigned components, and I instructed Mike with regard to dealing with U.S. attorneys in the Executive Office of the U.S. Attorney that I refer him to let Will or some other people deal with the U.S. attorneys more so right now as we evaluate how we're going to go forward.

[REDACTED]