

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
JOINT WITH
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
AND COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEPOSITION OF: MARC LAITIN

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Washington, D.C.

The deposition in the above matter was held in room 2237, Rayburn House Office Building,
commencing at 10:00 a.m.

Appearances:

For the COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY:

[REDACTED], PRESS ASSISTANT

[REDACTED], DEPUTY DIGITAL DIRECTOR

[REDACTED], DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

[REDACTED], COUNSEL

[REDACTED] CHIEF COUNSEL FOR OVERSIGHT

[REDACTED] MINORITY LEGAL INTERN

[REDACTED] MINORITY LEGAL INTERN

[REDACTED] MINORITY COUNSEL

[REDACTED] MINORITY LEGAL INTERN

[REDACTED] MINORITY FELLOW

[REDACTED] MINORITY LEGAL INTERN

[REDACTED] MINORITY LEGAL FELLOW

1 For the COMMITTEE ON THE OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM:

2
3 [REDACTED] SENIOR ADVISOR

4 [REDACTED] DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR

5 [REDACTED] MINORITY COUNSEL

6 [REDACTED] MINORITY COUNSEL

7 [REDACTED] MINORITY LEGAL INTERN

8
9
10 For the COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION:

11
12 [REDACTED] GENERAL COUNSEL

13 [REDACTED] DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

14 [REDACTED] MINORITY DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR

15 [REDACTED] MINORITY STAFF

16 [REDACTED] MINORITY PROFESSIONAL STAFF

17
18 For MARC LAITIN:

19
20 MATT GRAVES

21 KENNEDY MACKEY

22 Winston Taylor LLP

23 1901 L Street NW

24 Washington, D.C. 20036

25

1 [REDACTED] We'll go on the record.

2 Good morning. This is a deposition of Mr. Marc Laitin.

3 The Committee on House Administration, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee
4 on Oversight and Government Reform are charged with upholding fundamental American civil
5 liberties and protecting the integrity of American elections.

6 In light of allegations that online fundraising platforms that serve as conduits for political
7 donations have accepted fraudulent donations from domestic and foreign sources, the committees
8 are conducting oversight to inform potential legislative reforms.

9 To further the committees' oversight and also the legislative reforms, the chairmen requested
10 a deposition with Mr. Laitin. On August 26th, 2026, the committees issued subpoenas for Mr. Laitin
11 to appear at a deposition today, September 9th. I've marked the August 26th subpoena as exhibit
12 No. 1.

13 [Laitin Exhibit No. 1
14 were marked for identification.]

4

5

was marked for identification.]

1

2 [REDACTED] Would the witness please state your name for the record?

3 The Witness. Marc Laitin.

4 [REDACTED] Could counsel please state your name for the record?

5 Mr. Graves. Good morning. Matt Graves.

6 Ms. Mackey. Good morning. Kennedy Mackey.

7 [REDACTED] Thank you.

8 My name is [REDACTED] and I am with Chairman Jordan's staff. I'll now have everyone

9 else from the committees who are here in the room introduce themselves as well.

10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] with Chairman Jordan's staff.

11 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] with Chairman Steil.

12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] with Chairman Comer.

13 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Raskin's staff.

14 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Morelle.

15 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Garcia.

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Chairman Steil.

17 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Chairman Jordan's staff.

18 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Morelle.

19 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Morelle.

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Chairman Jordan's staff.

21 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Chairman Jordan's staff.

22 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Oversight majority.

23 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Garcia.

24 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] House Oversight minority.

25 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] House Judiciary minority.

1 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Raskin's staff.

2 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Raskin's staff.

3 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Raskin.

4 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Raskin.

5 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Ranking Member Raskin.

6 [REDACTED] I'll now review the ground rules and guidelines that we will follow during
7 today's deposition.

8 The committees will conduct today's deposition in accordance with the House's Regulations
9 for the Use of Deposition Authority. Our questioning will proceed in rounds. The majority will ask
10 questions first for 1 hour, and then the minority will have an opportunity to ask questions for an
11 equal period of time.

12 There will be two staff counsel per side asking the questions. We'll alternate back and forth
13 until there are no more questions and the deposition is over.

14 We ordinarily take a short break at the end of each hour, but if you would like to take a break
15 apart from that, please just let us know.

16 As you can see, there's an official court reporter taking down everything we say to make a
17 written record, so we ask that you give verbal responses to all questions. Do you understand?

18 The Witness. I do.

19 [REDACTED] In addition, the committee's videographer is making a video record of today's
20 proceeding.

21 So the court reporter can take down a clear record, please try and speak clearly so they can
22 understand and so the people at the end of the table can hear you. It's important that we do not
23 talk over one another or interrupt each other if we can help it, and that goes for everybody present
24 at today's deposition.

25 We want you to answer our questions in a complete and truthful manner. If you do not

1 understand one of our questions or need clarification about what we are seeking, please let us know.

2 If you do not know the answer to a question or do not remember, please tell us what you do
3 know and remember. It is okay to tell us if you learned information from someone else. Just
4 indicate how you came to know the information. If there are things you do not know or cannot
5 remember, just say so and please inform us who, to the best of your knowledge, might be able to
6 provide a more complete answer to the question.

7 By law, you are required to answer questions from Congress truthfully. Do you understand
8 that?

9 The Witness. I do.

10 [REDACTED] This also applies to questions posed by congressional staff in a deposition. Do
11 you understand this?

12 The Witness. I do.

13 [REDACTED] Witnesses that knowingly provide false testimony could be subject to criminal
14 prosecution for perjury. This includes, for example, stating that you do not recall or remember
15 something when, in fact, you do. Do you understand this?

16 The Witness. I do.

17 [REDACTED] Furthermore, you cannot tell half-truths or exclude information necessary to
18 make statements accurate. You are required to provide all information that would make your
19 response truthful. A deliberate failure to disclose information can constitute a false statement.
20 Do you understand this?

21 The Witness. I do.

22 [REDACTED] Is there any reason you are unable to provide truthful answers to today's
23 questions?

24 The Witness. No.

25 [REDACTED] The Federal Rules of Evidence, Criminal and Civil Procedure, are not applicable

1 for today's deposition. Under the House deposition regulation, a witness' attorney may not instruct
2 a witness to refuse to answer a question except to preserve a privilege. The House recognizes
3 constitutionally based privileges and not necessarily those privileges derived from common law.

4 Finally, I'll make note for the staff here today that the content of what we discuss here is
5 confidential under the House deposition regulations. Under the rules, the chairmen and minority
6 ranking members shall consult before any release of testimony, transcripts, including portions
7 thereof. This means that it is a violation of House and committee rules to disclose content of the
8 deposition prior to its official release.

9 For this reason, the marked exhibits that we will use today will remain with the court reporter
10 so that they can go in the official transcript. Any copies of those exhibits will be returned to us
11 when we wrap up.

12 Before we begin the first round of questions, we'll afford the minority, the witness, and
13 counsel for the witness the opportunity to offer any preliminary remarks.

14 [REDACTED] Nothing from us. Thank you.

15 [REDACTED] Mr. Graves?

16 Mr. Graves. Thank you.

17 A couple months ago, the committees reached out to my client for the first time concerning
18 this investigation.

19 Mr. Laitin has a great deal of respect for this institution; is proud of ActBlue; and, under
20 normal circumstances, would not have any qualms in discussing ActBlue with you. In fact, he has
21 cooperated with your investigation, just as ActBlue and others affiliated with the organization have
22 done.

23 But we are not operating under normal circumstances. There have been repeated
24 suggestions from public officials that criminal conduct occurred at ActBlue, including, in April 2025,
25 the President directed the Attorney General to investigate ActBlue, citing the committees'

1 investigations. Committee chairmen pledged to collaborate with the Attorney General in any
2 criminal investigation of ActBlue. A committee chairman asked several State attorneys general to
3 investigate, quote, "potential criminal activity," unquote, relating to ActBlue's fundraising activities,
4 leading to investigations that ActBlue immediately responded to. And there have been repeated
5 suggestions from committee chairmen that ActBlue's board also participated in alleged misconduct.

6 Our understanding is that there is substantial overlap between the matters you would like to
7 discuss and the issues referenced in these public statements. Under these circumstances, I have
8 advised Mr. Laitin that he should invoke his rights under the Fifth Amendment, and he intends to
9 follow my advice. While I believe these claims of illegal conduct to be baseless, we have no choice
10 but to take them very seriously given the powerful roles of the people making these claims. It's a
11 bedrock principle that an invocation of one's Fifth Amendment rights is in no way an admission of
12 wrongdoing, and that is certainly the case here. The Fifth Amendment is designed to protect
13 innocent people against unfounded prosecutions.

14 Finally, based on our understanding of the issues the committee wants to discuss, some
15 questions today will call for attorney-client privileged communications or other information subject
16 to privileges belonging to ActBlue. Nothing Mr. Laitin does or says should be deemed to waive that
17 privilege which belongs to ActBlue and which Mr. Laitin lacks authority to waive.

18 Thank you.

19 [REDACTED] Thank you.

20 The court reporter will now swear the witness in.

21 The Reporter. Please raise your right hand.

22 Do you solemnly declare and affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the testimony you are
23 about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

24 The Witness. I do.

25 [REDACTED] The clock now reads 10:06 a.m. We'll start the first hour of questioning.

EXAMINATION

Q Mr. Laitin, how long have you served on the board of ActBlue?

A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

Q Why is ActBlue so bad at stopping fraudulent donations?

A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

Q Why does ActBlue review so many fewer transactions for fraud than an ordinary website selling physical goods?

A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

Q Does ActBlue willingly turn a blind eye to fraud so that Democrat campaigns can increase fundraising on ActBlue?

A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

Q Were you ever made aware, as a board member, that the 2024 goals of ActBlue's top fraud specialist included allowing more fraud on ActBlue?

A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution.

Q Why did ActBlue take a quote, "more lenient approach," end quote, to fraud in 2024?

A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

Q Did ActBlue make a concerted effort to allow more fraud on the platform in 2024?

A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under

1 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

2 Q Have ActBlue executives or board members ever instructed ActBlue employees to allow
3 more fraud on the platform or weaken ActBlue's fraud-prevention defenses?

4 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
5 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

6 Q How many fraud campaigns have been conducted on ActBlue that used gift cards or
7 prepaid cards?

8 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
9 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

10 Q Why did ActBlue exempt recurring donations from the CVV requirement?

11 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
12 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

13 Q Why does ActBlue test potential fraud-prevention policy changes for their effect on
14 Democrat donations before implementing them?

15 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
16 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

17 Q How often does ActBlue weaken its fraud-prevention standards?

18 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
19 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

20 Q Did ActBlue CEO, Ms. Regina Wallace-Jones, lie to Congress?

21 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
22 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

23 Q Why does ActBlue refuse to verify the U.S. passport information for foreign
24 contributions to ensure they are legitimate?

25 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under

1 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

2 Q Why did ActBlue accept up to \$38 million in donations with foreign indicators during the
3 2024 election cycle?

4 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
5 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

6 Q Was Zain Ahmad placed on leave because he chose to blow the whistle on pervasive
7 fraud and misconduct at ActBlue?

8 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
9 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

10 Q Was the board ever notified as to why the whole legal and compliance team left ActBlue
11 following the 2024 election?

12 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
13 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

14 Q Were you concerned by statements in Interim General Counsel Aaron Ting's resignation
15 letter that was sent to the board, where he stated the reason for his departure included, quote,
16 "ActBlue's past practices for screening political donations from abroad and its past representations to
17 Congress regarding foreign donations and related matters," end quote?

18 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
19 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

20 Q Did it concern you that, in that letter, Mr. Ting said that ActBlue leadership, quote, "was
21 not fully committed to transparently addressing with the board the seriousness of ActBlue's
22 misconduct"?

23 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
24 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

25 Q Why did Ms. Wallace-Jones tell ActBlue's outside counsel and executives on a video call

1 that she refused to let them go to the board with information about ActBlue's potential legal
2 vulnerability?

3 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
4 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

5 Q And did ActBlue ever take steps to address the concerns in the Covington memoranda
6 that were produced by Dana Remus?

7 A On the advice of counsel, I respectfully decline to answer based upon my rights under
8 the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

9 [REDACTED] We can go off the record.

10 [Discussion off the record.]

11 [REDACTED] We can go on the record.

12 Good morning, Mr. Laitin. My name is [REDACTED] I am oversight counsel at the House
13 Judiciary Committee for Ranking Member Raskin. Thank you for being here today.

14 I would like to introduce several exhibits for the record.

15 First, I would like to introduce, as exhibit 3, President Trump's April 24th, 2025, executive
16 order entitled "Investigation into Unlawful 'Straw Donor' and Foreign Contributions in American
17 Elections," directing the Department of Justice to investigate ActBlue.

18 [Laitin Exhibit No. 3

19 was marked for identification.]

1
2 [REDACTED] Second, I would like to introduce, as exhibit 4, an Associated Press article
3 entitled, quote, "Trump Wants an Investigation of Democrats' Fundraising. His Own Campaign Has
4 Issues," end quote, detailing how President Trump's accepted illegal campaign donations, many
5 through the Republican fundraising platform WinRed. These included, quote, "1,600 contributions
6 from donors who live abroad, have close ties to foreign interests, or failed to disclose basic
7 information," end quote, including a Chinese businessman using a La Quinta Inn as his home address.
8 [Laitin Exhibit No. 4
9 was marked for identification.]

1
2 [REDACTED] Third, I would like to introduce, as exhibit 5, a 2024 CNN article entitled "How
3 Elderly Dementia Patients Are Unwittingly Fueling Political Campaigns," which details how the
4 Federal Trade Commission received more than 800 complaints about the Republican donation
5 platform WinRed. During this period, the Commission received nearly seven times more complaints
6 about WinRed than it did about ActBlue.

7 [Laitin Exhibit No. 5
8 was marked for identification.]

1
2 [REDACTED] Fourth, I would like to introduce, as exhibit 6, a letter from the ranking
3 members of the Judiciary, Oversight, and House Administration Committees, Mr. Raskin, Mr. Garcia,
4 and Mr. Morelle, to WinRed, detailing concerns about foreign donations and consumer fraud on the
5 platform and seeking WinRed's voluntary cooperation in order to help Congress improve campaign
6 finance laws.

7 [Laitin Exhibit No. 6
8 was marked for identification.]

1
2 [REDACTED] Fifth, I would like to introduce, as exhibit 7, an email from WinRed's counsel,
3 Nadin Linthorst of Lex Politica, declining to cooperate with our inquiry, and stating that the ranking
4 members' request, which are far less broad than the majority's request to ActBlue and cover far
5 more significant reports of wrongdoing, were, quote, "overbroad, unduly burdensome,
6 disproportionate, and not reasonably tailored to any legitimate legislative or oversight purpose," end
7 quote.

8 [Laitin Exhibit No. 7

9 was marked for identification.]

1
2 [REDACTED] Sixth, I would like to introduce, as exhibit 8, a letter from Ranking Members
3 Raskin, Garcia, and Morelle to Attorney General Paxton seeking records of the numerous Republican
4 voters in Texas who were defrauded by WinRed. As with his constituents who complained to his
5 office about fraud and WinRed, Mr. Paxton failed to respond.

6 [Laitin Exhibit No. 8
7 was marked for identification.]

1
2 [REDACTED] Fraud and foreign influence in our elections is worthy of serious investigation.
3 The majority's selective approach, which ignores a far more problematic platform to investigate
4 President Trump's political enemies, is not serious. This investigation and these depositions appear
5 to be part and parcel of President Trump's relentless attack on his political opponents and his efforts
6 to undermine the integrity of our elections and our democracy.
7 We can go off the record.
8 [Whereupon, at 10:16 a.m., the deposition was concluded.]

Certificate of Deponent/Interviewee

I have read the foregoing ____ pages, which contain the correct transcript of the answers made by me to the questions therein recorded.

Witness Name

Date