

CASE TITLE: United States v. McClain, et al.  
CASE NUMBER: 20 CR 812  
ACTIVITY: Telephone Conversation between Michael McClain and Michael Madigan  
DATE: September 5, 2018  
TIME: 1:40 p.m.  
TARGET PHONE: [REDACTED]  
SESSION NUMBER: 12860

SPEAKERS: McCLAIN = Michael McClain  
MADIGAN = Michael Madigan

\* \* \* \*

1 MADIGAN: Mike.  
2  
3 McCLAIN: Hi Speaker, how are you?  
4  
5 MADIGAN: I'm good Mike, how are you?  
6  
7 McCLAIN: Sorry about that stupid Cullerton move.  
8  
9 MADIGAN: Well, that's what I wanna to talk to you about. Um,  
10 what's your take on what I should do?  
11  
12 McCLAIN: Um, well right now I, I'd let your agents do it for,  
13 for now. I, I mean I've, I've sent Cullerton a, a text  
14 message and I know other people are calling him and,  
15 and uh, texting him so um, so right now I'd let the  
16 agents uh, give him body blows. But, I mean sooner or  
17 later you gotta, you gotta approached, approach him and  
18 say that it was fucking really in-, inappropriate.  
19 Right?  
20  
21 MADIGAN: That's my view yeah, yeah.  
22  
23 McCLAIN: Sooner or later, sooner or later you got to.  
24  
25 (Simultaneous conversation.)  
26  
27 MADIGAN: It, it, Mike it's not enough they have Trump and Rauner  
28 to campaign against?  
29  
30 McCLAIN: Right. No I mean, y-, the, the problem is the guy doesn't  
31 understand it and neither does his consultants, that  
32 Rauner's people right now are probably putting together  
33 a thirty second ad, uh, quoting these candidates, that  
34 uh, the senate democrats join with me in saying enough  
35 of Madigan.  
36

37 MADIGAN: Yeah.  
38  
39 McCLAIN: So, I mean, th-, that's what were gonna see now is we're  
40 gonna see a, a thirty second or a minute ad where they  
41 quote uh, senate democrats saying Madigan should quit,  
42 he should resign, he should be stopped.  
43  
44 MADIGAN: Mhm, mhm.  
45  
46 McCLAIN: And they'll, then there gonna use it against uh, our,  
47 your candidates, our candidates.  
48  
49 MADIGAN: Right, right.  
50  
51 McCLAIN: It, so it's got, it's got enormous um, implications in  
52 my view.  
53  
54 MADIGAN: (Unintelligible) yeah.  
55  
56 McCLAIN: So, I, I just um, uh, it, it, it's so stupid. I, I, I,  
57 I can't even um, I can't even put my arms around it.  
58 It, it's so, it's such a, a lack of recognition for what  
59 this will end up happening with, with the next stage.  
60 Um, you know, it, w-, you know you, you got enough  
61 problems with the Kelly Cassidy and the "Me Too" and  
62 all that kind of stuff without adding more ammunition  
63 for your, your um, casual opponents inside the caucus  
64 to have ammunition against you for speakership.  
65  
66 MADIGAN: Yeah well I, I don't even get that far. And this is a  
67 general election.  
68  
69 McCLAIN: Right.  
70  
71 MADIGAN: This is the time to be against the Republicans.  
72  
73 McCLAIN: Right.  
74  
75 MADIGAN: Not against the Speaker.  
76  
77 McCLAIN: Right, right. So I, I'd let us handle this for twenty-  
78 four, forty-eight hours and then if Cullerton by that  
79 time hasn't called you, then I guess you, you're gonna  
80 have to call him or have your secretary call his  
81 secretary and say that uh, you two ought a meet and uh,  
82 he should, he should come to your law office.  
83 MADIGAN: Okay. Alright Mike, anything else?  
84  
85 McCLAIN: No, I'm just sorry for ya, you got enough on your mind  
86 without all, uh, being hit from behind from, you know,

87                   uh, what you would of considered years ago, a, a, friend.  
88                   Right? I mean-  
89  
90   MADIGAN:       Yeah, yeah, yeah.  
91  
92   McCLAIN:       You know it's just, my dad always says, you always got  
93                   hurt from your friends not your enemies cause your  
94                   enemies you have your guard up.  
95  
96   MADIGAN:       Yep.  
97  
98   McCLAIN:       It's your friends that hurt.  
99  
100   MADIGAN:      Sure, sure.  
101  
102   McCLAIN:      But I, I'd let us work on him for twenty-four to forty-  
103                   eight hours and if he hasn't called you by then, then  
104                   that's what I would do.  
105  
106   MADIGAN:      Yeah so, so, Mike, um, let me just share with you. My  
107                   instinct is to call the guy and tell 'em number one, I  
108                   think what he's doing is inappropriate because we got  
109                   plenty to work with with Trump and Rauner and this is a  
110                   general election, not a primary election. And, and, and,  
111                   and my advice is that he pulls the ads down. And number  
112                   two, that is my request.  
113  
114   McCLAIN:      Mhm.  
115  
116   MADIGAN:      And number three, John, do you understand the position  
117                   you've put me in? In terms of do I do something or do I  
118                   do nothing. So, do I just do nothing about this or do I  
119                   do something about it? Now, I'm not certain what  
120                   something would be but-  
121  
122   McCLAIN:      Right. Well you could put it, I mean, you know you're a  
123                   street fighter. I mean I know you got a law degree but  
124                   you're more of street fighter than anybody knows, except  
125                   for maybe guys like me. Um, and if you want to put the  
126                   squeeze on the guy you could hurt him pretty badly.  
127  
128   MADIGAN:      Yeah. Yeah, alright, I'll think about it.  
129  
130   McCLAIN:      Okay. I, I'm on it though.  
131  
132   MADIGAN:      Okay.  
133  
134   McCLAIN:      Alright.  
135  
136   MADIGAN:      Talk to ya.

137  
138   McCLAIN:            Yep.  
139  
140   MADIGAN:            Bye bye.  
141  
142   McCLAIN:            Bye.  
143  
144                                (END OF CONVERSATION)