

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on the Judiciary

Washington, DC 20515-6216
One Hundred Tenth Congress

July 15, 2008

Robert D. Luskin, Esq.
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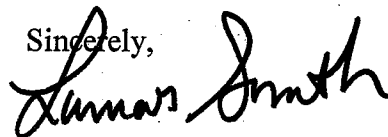
Dear Mr. Luskin:

On multiple occasions, you have extended to the House Judiciary Committee the offer that your client, Karl C. Rove, would voluntarily answer in writing the Committee's questions for him regarding his alleged role in the investigation and prosecution of former Alabama Governor Donald E. Siegelman. Most recently, you extended this offer in your letter to the Committee of July 9, 2008. At the same time, you explained limitations imposed by the President on your client's ability to provide information under the compulsion of a congressional subpoena.

The Committee majority, as before, declined your offer when it was renewed on July 9th. This unnecessarily forced upon your client the Hobson's choice of obeying the limitations placed upon him by the President or obeying the demand of the majority that he appear and testify at a July 10, 2008 hearing before the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law. The forcing of this issue did not obtain information for the Committee. Rather, it simply provoked partisan spectacle and gratuitously exposed your client to potential legal jeopardy.

I believe that the point of the Committee's efforts should be to obtain information that can lay to rest questions that have been raised concerning the current Administration's management of the Department of Justice. The Committee's goal should not be the unnecessary persecution of witnesses with compulsory congressional process and needless contempt proceedings. Because written answers to written questions about the Siegelman matter would serve the Committee's proper objective, I am accepting by this letter your offer to provide those answers. Attached hereto, please find a series of questions that I believe would help the Committee to resolve this matter. To facilitate the Committee's prompt receipt of the relevant information, I request that your client submit his answers in writing by the morning of July 16, 2008, if at all possible. If your client reasonably would require more time, please inform me as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Lamar Smith
Ranking Member
House Judiciary Committee