



Republican National Lawyers Association

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ACORN Embezzlement Demands Congressional Action

Louisiana Attorney General's Subpoena Exposes Corruption & Fraud

WASHINGTON, DC – Republican National Lawyers Association (RNLA) Chairman David A. Norcross issued the following statement today in response to news reports that a subpoena released by Louisiana Attorney General Buddy Caldwell reveals that the amount embezzled from the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) was actually \$5 million as opposed to the previously reported \$1 million.

“ACORN has in great likelihood defrauded the U.S. government and by extension, the American people, and both Chairman Conyers and Nadler couldn’t care less. While some in Congress may view allegations of ACORN abusing the public trust as an unfortunate inconvenience, the public understands the severity of the accusations, and will hold public officials – who are unwilling to do their jobs – accountable. The call for a special prosecutor with respect to ACORN merits serious consideration as the accusations against it require thoughtful examination, which it now appears Congress does not intend to engage in.”

BACKGROUND:

“An internal review by the board of directors of the community organization ACORN determined that the amount allegedly embezzled from the community organization was \$5 million, well more than the previously reported amount of nearly \$1 million, according to a new subpoena in an investigation by Louisiana Attorney General Buddy Caldwell. The subpoena, released this afternoon, says, ‘It is still unclear if some of the monies embezzled are from state, federal or private funds.’” (Robert Travis Scott, “[ACORN Embezzlement Was \\$5 Million, La. Attorney General Says](#),” *The Times-Picayune*, 10/5/09)

“A top-ranking Republican lawmaker is calling for a special prosecutor to investigate the Association for Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN). In a letter sent to Attorney General Eric Holder and obtained by The Hill on Monday, House Judiciary Committee ranking member Lamar Smith (R-Texas) argues that President Barack Obama’s political ties to the scandal-plagued community-activist group and its affiliates will ‘taint’ any potential Justice Department investigations.” (Molly K. Hooper, “[House Republican Calls For Special Prosecutor To Investigate ACORN](#),” *The Hill*, 10/5/09)