That's because it was discussed by none other than the President himself. The President of the United States is discussing confidential information in the public arena. And in the process, he's doing exactly the same thing that his officer had admonished to stop. The President's attorney for doing earlier this year.

So here is what we have learned from the President's skirmish yesterday with reporters. First, he has now done a U-turn on the wrong side, and has admitted to himself that he has been caught up in the mean-spirited attitude of his zealous political staff. Second, he has allowed himself to stoop to the level of the leakers and character assassins by discussing confidential information. Is this behavior befitting of what is expected of the President of the United States?

At the same time, the President has not kept his eye on the central issue—the one thing, the one right thing, the one wrong thing, the one thing, too. You want the President to say one thing, and have him say something else. Obviously, we don't want or expect this in a Presidency. You want the President to say one thing, and have those in his control do that one thing, too. You want the President to be doing the same as he said he was doing the opposite. Obviously, we don't want or expect this in a Presidency. You want the President to say one thing, and have those in his control do that one thing, too. You want the President to be doing the same.

But there is another variable in the equation. In the Travelgate matter, the President's words reflected the right thing, and his staff's deeds reflected the wrong thing. So the President, in seeking uniformity, made the wrong choice. Instead of making his administration conform to his admirable utterances, he has abandoned his commitment to stand up for what is expected of the President of the United States. And in the process, he has now done a U-turn on the wrong side, and has admitted to himself that he has been caught up in the mean-spirited attitude of his zealous political staff. Second, he has allowed himself to stoop to the level of the leakers and character assassins by discussing confidential information. Is this behavior befitting of what is expected of the President of the United States?

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By not doing the right thing—and in fact, by now joining the wrong side in the central issue of our time, and in the central issue of our times—he has undercut his own moral authority as a leader. He has abdicated his responsibility to see that justice was done for seven of his own former employees and their families. He has abandoned his commitment to stand up for the little guy. In a sense—it is okay to stand up for all these high and mighty principles—but not in my back yard.

And that is why, Mr. President, the President's about face in the Billy Dale matter is disappointing to me. And it tells me much about his leadership capacity.