

Those close by just ran and screamed;
It was like nothing they had been through.
As if nothing else could ever go wrong,
Two more planes were seized!
They hit Pennsylvania and The Pentagon,
Until finally the terrorists were pleased.
But the damage to the US was not done,
For the Twin Towers dropped to the ground.
Blinding dust filled up the air;
And the world shook with the trembling
 sound,
Under the rubble, five stories high,
Are brothers, sisters, dads and moms.
Their innocent lives are gone forever;
Because of the terrorists' flying bombs.
America has never seen a tragedy
As devastating as this.
It will continue to affect our everyday lives,
For as long as we exist.
The faceless criminals were looking to ruin
Our happiness, our liberty, and our spirit.
But surely they were stunned to find;
That they came nowhere near it.
If those evil cowards were here today;
They'd see people sob and cry.
But behind those tears, they'd surely find,
Our flag still flying high.
In the face of this tragic Tuesday;
America did unite.
And those who tried to hurt our pride;
America will fight.
We'll join as one and win the war,
Till our strength is doubted no longer.
If anything, this tragedy
Will only make us stronger.

HONORING LARRY FORTUNE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Larry Fortune, the president of Fortune Associates, who was recently featured in an executive profile for the Fresno Business Journal newspaper. The question and answer Executive Profile, printed in the Fresno Business Journal on August 6, 2001, reads as follows:

Q. What is your essential business philosophy?

A. By attracting and utilizing the most experienced and professional agents in the market we can give the most experienced and professional service to our clientele.

Q. What is your best professional accomplishment?

A. The recruitment and engagement of our current sales staff.

Q. If you could effect any change in the community, what would it be?

A. I would reduce taxes, fees and red tape so as to lure employment to the Fresno area.

Q. Goal yet to be achieved?

A. I have many goals, not least of which are:

1. Write a book.
2. Produce a TV series about agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley.
3. Travel throughout Russia, the Orient and Africa.
4. Get two kids through college and off the Larry scholarship plan.
5. Start a landscape award program in Fresno.

Q. What is a good yardstick of success?

A. Each time a current customer refers a new client to us, we are being successful.

Q. What is the best way to keep your competitive edge?

A. We continually talk with accomplished, experienced and professional agents in the community always looking for a mutually beneficial situation.

Q. Toughest business decision?

A. To switch from a "residential" office to a "commercial" office in 1995.

Q. Who has been your mentor?

A. My father, Don who died four years ago. Hardly a day goes by without somebody in the community reminding me of what a "great, trustworthy friend" my father was.

Q. Three words that best describe you?

A. Happy-Alive-Family

Q. Person you are most interested in meeting?

A. My children when they are adults.

Q. What is your organization's five year vision?

A. We believe that we will maintain our position as one of Fresno's top two or three preeminent commercial brokerages, not by expanding but by continuously providing the same high level of professional, competent service that got us where we are today.

Q. What is the community service project, organization or event closest to your heart?

A. Tree Fresno has probably done more to better the appearance of Fresno and raise the community pride in the last several years than any other organization.

Q. Best business advice you've ever received?

A. That even though customers sometimes do not want to hear the truth, they will always remember favorably the person who tells the truth.

Q. Three greatest passions?

A. My wife, my kids, my business.

Q. Favorite way to spend leisure time?

A. Traveling or working in the yard.

Q. Most influential book?

A. Winning Through Intimidation by Robert Ringer.

Q. Death row dinner?

A. Shish kabob, rice pilaf, carrot and raisin salad and chocolate cake.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend Larry Fortune for his years of dedicated and distinguished service to his community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Fortune many more years of continued success.

PAPERS OF MISCONDUCT, U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT OF OHIO

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, these pages are hereby memorialized in the RECORD to document prosecutorial misconduct in the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Northern District of Ohio.

JANUARY 24, 2000.

Congressman JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.,
Overhill Rd.
Youngstown, OH.

DEAR JIM: On November 1, 1999 I reached my 70th birthday. As you know, I retired for good on January 2, 1999, after practicing law for almost 47 years. Also, after having been one of your staff members for 14 years.

My relationship with you was a most rewarding experience in my life. I found the

work I did interesting and profoundly exciting because I was able to do something good for people and our community of Youngstown-Mahoning Valley, Ohio.

It took me the most part of last year to try to relax and try to enjoy life without the workaholic tendencies I had for most of my adult life. The arrival of our gorgeous granddaughter, Lara, certainly helped me to be able to sit back and start "smelling the roses."

A most disconcerting event took place on Thursday, January 13, 2000. I thought that I should call it to your attention because you appear to be the "main target" and I was obviously contacted in their attempt coerce me to agree to certain allegations that are absolutely not true. The following is what happened.

On Thursday morning at about 8:30 AM someone called me on the downstairs phone—I live in a high-rise condominium here on Singer Island, Florida. I was informed that I should let him in because they had to talk to me about you. He would not tell me what it was all about. At this point, I felt coerced and compelled to let them come up to our apartment and I did.

Three gentlemen came in and showed me their credentials and then gave me their cards. Two of them were real bruisers, or maybe I should say "big". The two FBI persons were, Michael S. Pikunas of Youngstown, Ohio and John E. Stoll, also of Youngstown, Ohio. The other fellow was Charles L. Perkins, Special Agent for the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigations. At this point I really felt intimidated. They made it clear that they were out to find information that could or would be used against you. In fact, they made it clear that if I admitted what they brought up they would protect me.

At my age, and in my poor health condition, I am surprised I did not collapse. They said that others in your office and elsewhere had said certain things about me that violated Federal Laws. I was absolutely astonished. By the way, they never read me my rights but they just kept on pressing me to admit to things that I not only did not do but I could never have thought of doing.

They said they had evidence of my not working enough to justify being paid. They said that I should have filed a disclosure statement each year as required. They said I gave you back some rental that had been paid for your space at 11 Overhill Rd. They said that I gave you part of what I received for my pay. They also said I earned more money than I should have while on your staff. In general, they said that I was in violation of many laws and that if I admitted to these violations so they could "get you" they would really "protect me."

Jim, as you know, I am not a criminal lawyer, I was absolutely puzzled and certainly felt intimidated. I have never been accused of violating the law or even violating ethics as a lawyer. I really pondered over whether I should contact you because I know how busy you are and how many things are on your mind at all times. But, the other day, I really received a shock.

A local FBI agent, Jeff Danik, called me and informed me that the Youngstown fellows had asked him to serve a subpoena on me. We finally got together on January 20, 2000. To my continued amazement, the subpoena requested that I appear in Cleveland, Ohio on February 1, 2000 to testify regarding John Doe. Of course, I know they are referring to you as "John Doe".

First of all, they did not give me much notice. Also, I live in Florida and am retired.

Why should I pay my own expenses to travel to Cleveland? In winter to boot. I have had to hire legal counsel to protect myself. How can the Government do this and get away with it?

Jim, I certainly did deny and am denying that I have violated any laws anywhere. The office building, as you know, was transferred out of my name when I discovered during your orientation as a new Congressman that I could not keep the building in my name. I was informed by the appropriate Congressional Committee that I did not have to be the one who was designated to report my assets etc.

I also was informed that I did not surpass the earnings where I could not still practice law. I also don't see how I could have shared my pay with you or anyone when I know I was losing income by being with you. Also, I know I don't have to tell you what I did and how many hours I worked while on your staff. All of this is nonsense.

I wish that all of this would go away but as a lawyer of many years I guess I should know better. Since I have known you, I have learned that your intellect and judgment would surpass anyone I have ever met—and I mean that it just doesn't seem fair that I can be intimidated, coerced and whatever else during my retirement and at this time of my life.

I hope it is not some desperate political maneuver on someone's part. If it is, I shall really lose my faith in our system.

I am very sorry that I must discombobulate your mind with all of this. I am trying to ease my discomfort a bit but I also feel compelled to let you know what is happening.

Please let me know if you have some words of comfort and maybe some advice. I really am confused and agitated at this point.

Sincerely,

HENRY A. DiBLASIO.

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF MAHONING—
AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN INNELLA

After being duly cautioned on my oath in accordance with the law, I, John Innella, hereby depose and say:

At approximately 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2001, I was in the company of James A. Traficant, Jr., and was unexpectedly interrupted by Henry Nemenz.

1. Henry Nemenz voluntarily told James Traficant in my company, that "Morford was trying to put words in his mouth".

2. His (Nemenz) attorney told him to "tell Morford what they wanted to hear so that he would not be indicted".

3. In my presence, James Traficant and Henry Nemenz talked about their original deal which was \$17,000.00 for the barn and additions because Jim Traficant already had the poles and metal for the building.

4. In my presence, they discussed that the construction man said he would bring in twenty (20) Amish and they would get the job done in a week.

5. Nemenz said that he eventually got rid of his construction man because of faulty construction and poor management.

6. Nemenz and Traficant discussed the fact they legitimately came to a reasonable business settlement that Nemenz would have made with anyone under similar circumstances.

7. Nemenz told Traficant that he was told by Morford "not to talk to Traficant".

8. Nemenz told Traficant that all money that Traficant owed, was paid in full, including the truck.

9. In my presence, Traficant and Nemenz agreed that the stretching out of the work to

be performed was the cause of the cost overruns, and that it was not the fault of James Traficant, which they had mutually agreed to be \$17,000.00 in addition to the truck.

10. Traficant and Nemenz agreed in my presence that Traficant had settled the accounts in full.

11. Nemenz stated in my presence that when Morford interviewed him, he had four assistants, and the situation was intimidating. He said that they did not want to hear what he was saying. He said that he basically "told them what they wanted to hear".

12. In my presence, Nemenz also said that the conversation was "bull shit".

13. Nemenz said that he has agreed to sell Traficant a black corvette. He said that he had realized that Traficant had invested money in the car to make repairs because it had sat so long unused. He further stated that he realized Traficant put hardly any miles on the corvette. But when flap developed over the barn, Nemenz decided that he wanted the car back, saying that he would give credit for any of the expenses. The real reason he wanted the car back was that it was purchased as a graduation present for his son, and his son was upset because Henry had sold it. Henry also said he was also upset over the problems that had developed concerning the construction work at the farm. Nemenz admitted that he agreed to sell the car to Traficant, and thanked Traficant for returning the car.

14. I was present during this entire conversation at Bruno's Restaurant in Poland, Ohio.

Further Affiant Sayeth Naught.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me on this 13th day of June, 2001.

JOHN INNELLA.

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF MAHONING—
AFFIDAVIT OF PAT NAPLES, JR., JUNE 1, 2001

This affidavit is being freely made and recalled to the best of my recollection.

This affidavit concerns the phone conversation between myself and Assistant Attorney General Craig Morford.

This conversation took place after the 30 federal indictments were handed down. The phone conversation lasted the better part of an hour, if not more, and was tape recorded.

The conversation started out by me telling Craig Morford that he had a name missing from his indictments. I mentioned the name and then he became very quiet. Morford asked how I knew him and I proceeded to tell him that in the early 80's I was a Lieutenant with the Mahoning County Sheriff's Dept. in liquor and vice, and I was in charge of investigating this person. We would conduct investigations on establishments that were involved with organized crime within the city of Youngstown that were not being investigated by Chief Wellington, and this person was one of those. Morford stated that he did know this person but didn't have enough to indict him.

I also told Morford that this conversation had to stay strictly confidential for how high up in the crime family this person was, I did not need any retribution because the last time that I got close to Altshler and Strollo I had a fire bomb threat at my parent's home and my windows broken out of my car.

(It was later found out that Morford did not keep this conversation confidential. He did let a criminal defense attorney know that there may still be a pending investigation on this subject. This criminal defense attorney was defending another person for murder and one of his subordinates for a

gambling charge, putting myself and my family in jeopardy.)

My main purpose in calling Morford was to look into improprieties in a local municipal court. As the conversation went on I told him about a drug distributor in Youngstown with connections with law enforcement. I mentioned that I really didn't want to give this information out to just anybody because of the quantity that this person deals with. Craig Morford stated I would have to get together with his FBI agent Jeff Sedlack, I told him that I really don't trust the FBI office in Youngstown because of my past experiences with them. Morford tried to assure me that those agents were no longer there, and that you can trust Sedlack, because Morford didn't trust the other FBI agents either. He stated Sedlack was assigned there to help clean that office up or help to clean its image up, or something along that line.

Mr. Morford's further comments and the way he presented the FBI here in Youngstown was not to be trusted, but you can trust Sedlack.

PAT NAPLES, JR.

[Re. U.S. vs. James A. Traficant, Jr., Case No. 4:01 CR 207]

TRANSCRIPT OF TAPE-RECORDED CONVERSATION BETWEEN CONGRESSMAN JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR., AND RICHARD DETOR, FORMER EMPLOYEE OF U.S. AEROSPACE, MANASSAS, VIRGINIA, ON AUGUST 1, 2001

(Tape prepared by Lisa C. Nagy-Baker, a notary public within and for the State of Ohio on this date, August 28, 2001, from a tape supplied by Congressman Traficant.)

Mr. TRAFICANT: Hello.

Mr. DETOR: Returning the page.

Mr. TRAFICANT: Yeah. How you doing?

Mr. DETOR: Well, having fun.

Mr. TRAFICANT: I know. I got some information to give you. I got it straight from Chance's son that J.J. did perjure himself in the Chance trial, and that's what they did. He went ahead and lied on me to save his ass.

Mr. DETOR: Yeah.

Mr. TRAFICANT: So I don't know. What's happening with you? What did you hear?

Mr. DETOR: I have been threatened, intimidated, essentially tried to mold into being forced to lie. If I speak to anybody, they'll come arrest me immediately. He told me that he had me on perjury, although I've never provided a statement to him. They said that I'm wearing Union pants [unintelligible], and I either need to become wise and tell them what they want to hear, or they're going to name me August 15 as a co-conspirator.

Mr. TRAFICANT: Okay. They want you in essence to lie, don't they?

Mr. DETOR: Yes.

Mr. TRAFICANT: All right. Let me ask you; the reason why is, this is the good news. I've got two people now that were both told the same thing, and I've got one of them who said it in front of a witness; and I'm going to make a motion for prosecutorial misconduct on their threatening and intimidation; and I'm going to do that, and they may call you as a witness.

Mr. DETOR: I've been threatened with the IRS. They told me that the IRS was immediately going to investigate me and that they were holding the IRS off, and I've been threatened with going and being six weeks in a trial. They realize that I would lose my security licenses and I would lose my [unintelligible] licenses if there were any kind of a Federal charge if found guilty, which would reasonably come, in all likelihood. And they

have called and been on me and tried every threat, and they've gone all through my wife, what kind of salary, why I bought the house I bought, why I drive the kind of car I drive, you know, what my background is.

It has just been a nightmare of unbelievable proportions. I really feel that I'm living in Red China.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Okay. Let me ask you this. They more or less said to you that they wanted you to lie, didn't they?

Mr. DETOR. What they did is when they asked the question, they say, well, this is what you're saying; and they change what you're saying; and you stop and you go, no, that is not what I am saying.

TRAFICANT. They want you to more or less admit to the way they're interpreting it, which would be a lie, wouldn't it?

DETOR. Yes.

TRAFICANT. But they give you the impression that if you more or less accept their version, you'll have no more problems.

Mr. DETOR. Give immunity. They won't get the IRS. No questions. No ifs and or buts. I'm dealing with an attorney named Plato Cacheris, right there in Washington; and I was dealing with one law firm. I said this is not acceptable. This is not the United States. They can't sit there and try to ask me to lie. They can't even suggest it. They told me they subpoenaed all my bank records in the blind and all my IRS stuff. You know, I mean I've listened to one story after another from the Assistant U.S. Attorney.

Mr. TRAFICANT. What was his name?

Mr. DETOR. Morford.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah. He's the one doing the threatening?

Mr. DETOR. Yeah.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And he basically wants to lie, and he'll let you alone, won't he?

Mr. DETOR. Yes.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Let me ask you something. I'm having a hearing because I am going to call and give notice of the courts to call Morford as a witness; and I have to have a hearing on his behavior, and I will have three people that will be testifying to the same thing you will testify to; and if you were an attorney you'd lose your license, wouldn't you?

Mr. DETOR. Oh, absolutely. This is not ethical. I've gone through hell. I have literally gone through hell.

Mr. TRAFICANT. What I'm going to tell you is I am going to subpoena you in this process against Morford; and all I want you to do is tell the truth that if you would lie, they would lay off you; and that's the bottom message they gave you. Isn't that a fact?

Mr. DETOR. Yes.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Are you going to show up if I subpoena you for such a hearing?

Mr. DETOR. You have to handle it through the attorney's name is Plato Cacheris.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Could you give me that so I can write it down. Hold a minute. Spell that.

Mr. DETOR. It's C-A-C-H-E-R-I-S.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Plato?

Mr. DETOR. Yeah, Plato Cacheris. ***/**—hold on a second. I got to find his card here in my pocket. I forget the last four digits. They said if I talked to anybody, they'd come arrest me immediately. If I did this—it's just been unbelievable. It's ***/****.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah, but I'm my own attorney, and I have a right to talk to individuals that are being investigated.

Mr. DETOR. That's correct.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Did they say you couldn't talk to me?

Mr. DETOR. Yeah, well, nobody. What they've done is violated my Constitutional

rights. I've gone to Plato and asked Plato to go up to the public ethics group to bring this to their attention.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Did he?

Mr. DETOR. He's doing it now. He's in the process of doing it.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Let me ask you this; if you would do this, if you would file a lawsuit against them—I can't advise you—I'm not an attorney; but here's what happened with another guy who comes out, and I'm having lunch with the guy—I think I told you this, Richard—he comes out and he was in a Rotary meeting. He sat down and said, Jim, I love you; I apologize for what's happening. I said, well, tell the truth. What did you tell the Grand Jury? He said, I told the Grand Jury the truth; that we really didn't do anything wrong.

Mr. DETOR. All right. You need—

Mr. TRAFICANT. But the bottom line was my attorney told me that if I didn't tell them what they wanted to hear in the words they wanted it said, they were going to indict me. My attorney said you don't need this shit. He was a businessman; you understand?

Mr. DETOR. My attorney told me the same thing. Do you want to spend \$200,000 defending yourself, or is this person susceptible? And I said I cannot lie. I cannot place myself in any situation that I heard anybody ask or request for papers or anything. And the attorney reviewed it; he looked at it and he said the meals, they're all below \$6; there's not even ethics violations. There's nothing wrong with it.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I paid for some of those meals.

Mr. DETOR. That's what he said.

Mr. TRAFICANT. It showed, didn't I? I paid for a lot of meals.

Mr. DETOR. Yes, and even the purchase of the boat. The boat, there is no issue; there is no problem.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I'll call the ethics committee about it. And you remember when J.J. was so happy he wanted to buy the boat, and I said J.J. you don't need this boat; but Al does want this boat, and I don't want your money; do you remember?

Mr. DETOR. Yes.

Mr. TRAFICANT. How about contract; did you ever get the contract on that boat? I never got it.

Mr. DETOR. Yep, I got it.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Could you send me a copy of it?

Mr. DETOR. Yes, I'll do it through the attorney.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Do that and do that fast. Here's what I'm telling you. You let your attorney know that I'm going to move for a hearing for Morford, on Morford, that he has done this now; and if you come up and testify to that, this son of a bitch may go to jail because what they're doing, this Gestapo shit.

Mr. DETOR. It is. And I never thought it could exist, and I would never have been able to be convinced. I would never have believed it in a million years. But it's exactly what they're doing. It's exactly what they've been doing to me. I mean, they have just ruined my life.

Mr. TRAFICANT. How about Al Lang?

Mr. DETOR. Haven't heard a peep from him.

Mr. TRAFICANT. But you know that's what they did to him; and, shit, he don't have the balls; he'd have probably said anything, wouldn't he?

Mr. DETOR. I have no idea, but the thing is I've talked to other people, and they've all looked at me and they've said you can only

tell the facts. you can't stand before a judge and lie to him. You can't do it. We know the type of person you are. They said we also know the type of person you are; if you thought there was anything unethical or anything wrong, you would have had nothing to do with it. I said there was not even a question of anything wrong or any improper actions at any time in my mind in any way, shape or form, nor did I ever hear anybody ask for anything in any way, shape or form for anything.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And you were there at everything we did, weren't you?

Mr. DETOR. Well, everything I know of.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah, I never met with Cafaro; and when I did, you know, this business about him giving money, he was such a damned liar; he lied to everybody; but to save his ass, he would lie and say anything, wouldn't he?

Mr. DETOR. Well, when they asked me, I said I'm not even aware of him getting any money from the boat at all. I said I thought Al sunk the boat, ruined it and he's stuck with it with no value on it now.

Mr. TRAFICANT. That's exactly what he did.

Mr. DETOR. I said the boat was professionally appraised. It had a value. I said he was buying it for less than that value. I said he ruined it. He damaged it and just walked from the deal. I said, I'm not aware of dollar one that went to anybody other than the money that he spent on doing the repairs and then decided to go ahead and he was out of it. I said if there had been any kind of a fee for favors or anything else, somebody would have bought it; it would have been all the way; it would have been a done deal. They wouldn't have spent a year—

Mr. TRAFICANT. I would have taken the \$26,000 check from J.J., wouldn't I?

Mr. DETOR. Yep.

Mr. TRAFICANT. God damned right; he was so happy; but that's the bottom line, what they have on J.J. is he perjured himself with the Chance gate, and you've got that impression when he was going through that period of time, didn't you?

Mr. DETOR. I was told that.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Who told you?

Mr. DETOR. Came through an attorney.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Do you remember the name of the attorney?

Mr. DETOR. It was one of the attorneys—oh, you know who it was? The attorney's name was J. [unintelligible], and he was advised of that by Al Lang.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I see. And evidently Al Lang had known that J.J. had perjured himself?

Mr. DETOR. Yeah.

Mr. TRAFICANT. While the guy sits in jail, Chance had told his son and his son had told me that the attorneys had set him up to get J.J. to lie. He didn't know until after he saw my national TV show and talk show that, in fact, that Leonardo [phonetic spelling], his attorney, was working with the Feds and they set Chance up. Chance said he never got the \$13,000 from Strollo; but his attorney is the one that convinced him he had to find somebody that was a legitimate rich businessman and recommended Cafaro. Could you imagine that?

Mr. DETOR. Unbelievable.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah, so anyway. I think you're on good grounds. If they indict you, you're not going to lie for these bastards, are you?

Mr. DETOR. No.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I think we're going to have a hell of a fight here, but anyway, I'm going to have a hearing, and I'm going to call you as a witness in that hearing.

Mr. DETOR. Yep. That's fine. I'll grab the attorneys that were, you know, present with me.

Mr. TRAFICANT. But having known this and having known now that there are others that I could call, you should sue them; believe me, Richard.

Mr. DETOR. We're going up to talk to public ethics to talk to everybody we can because it's out of control. write a letter to the U.S. Attorney General.

Mr. DETOR. [Unintelligible.]

Mr. TRAFICANT. You should also write a letter to the U.S. Attorney General about what they're doing because this speaks to what they've done with everybody in this case. You've got people lying. They either have something to gain or something to lose, and they've made mountains out of molehills. They've made half truths into felonies. They've made loans into kickbacks, and I've had it.

Mr. DETOR. Yep.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And you know I wouldn't accept any money. You personally know that?

Mr. DETOR. No.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I mean, J.J. wanted to give me money over that car deal; remember that 6,000? And I wouldn't take no money from J.J., and I told him I wouldn't; remember?

Mr. DETOR. And I guess the stuff that Al Lang handled it in that corner of it, I don't really have any knowledge of. They jumped all over me trying to ask about the \$12,000. I said this is ridiculous. I've got witnesses of where I returned it to [unintelligible].

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah, I know that; but I mean, you do know that after that car we thought was only going to be 1,000 that I rented to go to Louisiana which turned out to be 6,000, that J.J. wanted to give me money and I would not accept it. You knew that?

Mr. DETOR. Well, I knew you wouldn't accept anything.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah, I told you to tell them I don't want their money.

Mr. DETOR. Yeah, you wouldn't accept anything on anything. All you wanted J.J. is to do what he agreed to do.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And that was to do what?

Mr. DETOR. To purchase the vehicle.

Mr. TRAFICANT. He wanted to purchase the vehicle. You have those papers, don't you?

Mr. DETOR. Yes.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I want a copy sent to me of those; and second of all, the only thing I wanted from J.J. was he would move not only the company but the headquarters up to Youngstown.

Mr. DETOR. Correct.

Mr. TRAFICANT. That's about where it is. So anyway, I'm going to have this hearing and, Richard, I'm going to be calling you. Give me your address. I don't have your address.

Mr. DETOR. You know what, it's through Plato Cacheris because they said they would arrest me instantly if I talked to anybody. If you hear an attorney so I understand that you're representing yourself so I can—

Mr. TRAFICANT. you can refer me to your attorney.

Mr. DETOR. The best thing to do is to handle the rest of it right through Plato. He'll deal with it. We are going to public ethics. We're going to everybody. I've had threats on me. They called my little girl, the nine-year old, little Kaitlyn.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Who called her?

Mr. DETOR. I don't know, but they told her that I'm going to be dead. All kinds of things. I have literally—

Mr. TRAFICANT. How do you know it was the Feds who did it?

Mr. DETOR. I don't know who did it, but all I know is my life has gone to hell; and when I brought it to their attention when they interviewed me, they laughed about it and blow it off.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Even the threats to your daughter?

Mr. DETOR. Yes. That's my daughter. If I answer, nobody talks. If she answers, they talk to her, and they tell her that daddy's going to be dead. Daddy's bad; all kinds of things. It's devastating her. It's making her a nervous wreck.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And you suspect it's the government?

Mr. DETOR. I don't know who it is.

Mr. TRAFICANT. You wouldn't suspect it to be Al Lang doing that, would you?

Mr. DETOR. No, I can't figure out what beef he has.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And what would Cafaro have from doing that?

Mr. DETOR. The thing is when they tried to tell me Al Lang's saying things, who the hell is [unintelligible] buying all those God damned boats for it. I never heard anything to the contrary in my entire life.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah.

Mr. DETOR. Has he lost his mind?

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah, and I think it's very important and I want you to talk to your attorney. If you could send me all those documents that I've asked for, and tell him what we've talked about and that he should go ahead and sue the bastards because I'm going to have them into court; and that would be a hell of a thing with you suing them and me having them into court for their behavior with another guy. He can deny all he wants, this other guy. I have a witness that heard this other guy say those things.

Mr. DETOR. Have you talked to any of the Congressional ethics groups or anything on any of this stuff?

Mr. TRAFICANT. I can't because it's a criminal thing, and I'm just going to go through the courts; and they've got a couple people that are really lying through their teeth. I've been targeted, I told you that, for all these years. You know that. You could tell by the way they're treating you.

Mr. DETOR. Right.

Mr. TRAFICANT. But Morford was the one that did the threatening?

Mr. DETOR. Yeah.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And he wanted you, in essence, to lie?

Mr. DETOR. That's what came out because it could not be understood any other way; and then when they didn't like what I was saying, they said, well, we didn't want to say this and we didn't want to shake you up, but the IRS has a lot of interest. We've subpoenaed all your records in the blind, which I find is unconstitutional and illegal [unintelligible]; but they tell me they've subpoenaed all my records in the blind and that the IRS wants to launch an audit against me immediately and that there were significant issues there; and they told me that I was going to be arrested and taken out of my office; that I would be taken to Cleveland to be arraigned. I'd have to post a bond, and then I'd have to spend a significant amount of money defending myself.

I keep going over these issues and issues and issues, and none of these make any sense. I don't even know where there's anything even done wrong; and they said—well, they go on and on and on.

Mr. TRAFICANT. You basically told them that I did nothing illegal?

Mr. DETOR. Pardon me?

Mr. TRAFICANT. You basically told them I did nothing illegal?

Mr. DETOR. I didn't either. There's nothing illegal.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I know that. They would not accept it, would they, Richard?

Mr. DETOR. Oh, no. Absolutely no.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Well, I'm telling you, I can't advise you but I would get your attorney to file a lawsuit immediately knowing know—have your attorney call me—and knowing now that I'm moving to have him called as a witness in this trial, Morford; and she's going to call a hearing on it to see whether or not I can call her; and I will call you as a witness to show his prosecutorial behavior. This is illegal.

Mr. DETOR. This is illegal.

Mr. TRAFICANT. They were extorting you.

Mr. DETOR. Yes, they were.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And if they've done this to you, what do you think they've done to others?

Mr. DETOR. I mean, the thing that I told them, I said, I can't speak for the individual in any way other than when I was with him; and I find this unbelievable to think anything to the contrary. I said I find it unbelievable that any staff member could be doing anything to the contrary because they are so, they seem so sound and straight and narrow with things being done right and things being done properly. I said, I don't see it any other way. I said I'm sorry; I just don't see anything.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah, but the bottom line is Morford let you know in no uncertain terms if you lied, your problems would all go away; and if you didn't, boy, you were going to end up in jail?

Mr. DETOR. Yes.

Mr. TRAFICANT. That's the bottom line.

Mr. DETOR. Yes.

Mr. TRAFICANT. All right. Well, listen, you have your attorney get in touch with me; and I'm recommending to you that you consider filing a lawsuit against him because I'm going to have a hearing on Morford's behavior.

Mr. DETOR. I think, to tell you the truth, that the whole thing needs to be thrown out.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Well, this may lead to that, your participation.

Mr. DETOR. It's out of control.

Mr. TRAFICANT. They're either going to screw you, me, or they're going to get away with it or they're going to get their ass in a sling; and maybe it's their ass in a sling and everybody's afraid to go after them. And I'm one of the few in America, Richard.

Mr. DETOR. Yeah, I know.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And I'm afraid to death. I'm not talking big. I'm afraid to death, but I'm going after these bastards. This is not what America's supposed to be. We shouldn't have to fear our God damned Gestapo government.

Mr. DETOR. Well, they referred to me as collateral damage; and if I wasn't smart enough to get out of the way and decide whether I was wearing a Union shirt or Confederate pants—that's what he said to me quote-unquote, you're wearing Union pants and confederate shirt or something of that nature. They're shooting at you from both sides. You better make sure you know which side you're going to be on, but you better be on the winning side because you're in a lot of trouble. I said to them, I'm sorry; I don't see what I'm in trouble for. I didn't see anything happen. I wasn't aware of anything. I didn't see one transaction of anything that you're alleging. And then they said, well, he took

\$40,000 on his boat. I said that's nonsense. That is absolute, 100 percent nonsense. I said I'm not aware or ever heard anybody say anything about it. And they said J.J. Cafaro gave him money out in Youngstown personally and finally the FBI steps in and [unintelligible]. I had no knowledge of that.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Oh, but you know that Cafaro was such a liar. You know that J.J. wasn't giving me cash. If he was going to give me cash, he would have brought in \$26,000 to buy a boat, wouldn't he?

Mr. DETOR. If J.J. Cafaro wanted to go do something in a way, he would have just gone and done it. There's no doubt in my mind. J.J.'s proven to be a liar through and through. He induced my family to move down here. He fraudulently did it. Damn it, my family was able to hang on to the house by my wife's working, by me working. You know, I've got security plans. In my entire life I have never done one thing wrong in any way, shape or form. I respect the government; I respect the government offices. I respected the Congressional bodies, the executive bodies, everybody. I've worked for benefits for this government to a degree; and to hear this and—

Mr. TRAFICANT. And to be threatened that if you don't lie, you're going to go to jail, that doesn't sound American, does it?

Mr. DETOR. It's not. It absolutely is—

Mr. TRAFICANT. And that's the bottom line, isn't it, Richard?

Mr. DETOR. Yep.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Okay. Well, listen. If you file that suit, that suit should also be filed against Cafaro when you do it, or do you have one filed against him?

Mr. DETOR. I've got one filed against him now. And the other thing that I was requested to do was drop my charges against Cafaro or settle it because they did not want me in court with Cafaro before this case.

Mr. TRAFICANT. You know why? They know that J.J. is a liar. J.J. called them a liar on the stand in the Chance trial, and this is why they're worried about it. This is why they got to have somebody. They know what they're doing and it's completely illegal. They're forcing you not to, in fact, make yourself whole over an illegal act by Cafaro. He broke the law in Virginia.

Mr. DETOR. Yeah, what they have is—well, I've got him [unintelligible] he was writing all these bad checks, and I had even gone to the Commonwealth attorney to make sure that nobody had given their [unintelligible].

Mr. TRAFICANT. Yeah, and here they are trying to protect Cafaro because Cafaro to save his own ass from perjury is lying about me.

Mr. DETOR. What kind of witness does Cafaro really make when the reality comes out that the guy's lying—

Mr. TRAFICANT. Well, he's going to have Al Lang to make him look like he's telling the truth, but they can't handle the fact that you are so upright and upstanding a man of integrity, and it's going to blow their case; do you understand?

Mr. DETOR. Yeah, they tried to tear me apart, IRS. They tried then saying that I committed fraud in order to obtain my house, which is nonsense because the bank told them I qualified for the house before I even moved. I was all prequalified. They tried to tell me that I was trying to support my wife's lavish lifestyle. They had no idea that my wife has worked 20 years, worked her way through college and that her family is very financially well off; and we have never sought money from anybody. And when I moved from New Jersey, I was care-

fully, carefully debt free and had no obligations to anybody; and the thing about having to commit fraud with a bank in order to obtain a mortgage is pure nonsense. That's where they've gone. They've gone after me in every way, shape or form.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And Cafaro lied to you from day one, didn't he?

Mr. DETOR. Yes, he did.

Mr. TRAFICANT. And everything he said was a lie?

Mr. DETOR. And I have numerous other witnesses where he lied to them. He lied about their employment.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Who were some of those witnesses?

Mr. DETOR. You got Lonnie Sikowski, 30 years at the FAA. You got Walt Allison, former CIA, top level clearances. You have Amanda Simon. You've got a guy named Jim Phillips who sold the airplane to Cafaros, and then they try to say they're not responsible when I was right there in a meeting where they said it was Cafaro Company's. See, they're using it against me saying that they're not Cafaro Company. [Names are phonetic spellings.]

Mr. TRAFICANT. Have your attorney send me a list of those names, too. Listen, I'm going to let you go, but keep in mind I'm going to be calling you because I'm taking this son of a bitch to a hearing.

Mr. DETOR. Like I said, I can only tell the truth. I fear of my children's lives. I'm scared to death.

Mr. TRAFICANT. You're going to be subpoenaed by me.

Mr. DETOR. Do it through the attorney.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I will.

Mr. DETOR. The threats and intimidation; I'm willing to go to the media. I'm willing to go anyplace, you know.

Mr. TRAFICANT. File your lawsuit and go the media and say in their zeal to get Traficant, they wanted me to lie. That's the bottom line; and they pressured me to lie and made it known very clearly from what you told me that if I lie, all my problems would go way.

Mr. DETOR. I didn't lie. They wanted me to. I refused. I just said I keep calm. I've discussed it with my wife. I discussed it with other associates. They said that I was [unintelligible] with the IRS. I basically couldn't even speak, and my family members sat there with me, and they said, Rick, we know you; you won't lie; you don't lie; don't lie. Don't be coerced into lying. I said they're telling me they're going to ruin my life if I don't.

I basically am at a breaking point. I'm mentally running, I mean to tell you the truth, I'm ready to just go ahead and blow my head off. It is so bad, if it wasn't for my kids and the strain it would have on my kids, I'd be gone.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Richard, why don't you go public. Talk to your attorney; go public, file the lawsuit when you do, and I'm calling for a hearing on his conduct, on Morford's conduct. Listen to me carefully and you won't have any more problems because the truth sets us free.

Mr. DETOR. Yes, it does.

Mr. TRAFICANT. I'll get back to you. Thanks, big guy. All right. Have your attorney call me. Is he involved with any law firm or is that his firm?

Mr. DETOR. Plato Cacberis is Monica Lewinsky's attorney.

Mr. TRAFICANT. He was.

Mr. DETOR. Yes.

Mr. TRAFICANT. How do I reach him, is his phone number in the phone book?

Mr. DETOR. Yes, that phone number I just gave you.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Very good.

Mr. DETOR. All right.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Thanks, guy. Have him send me the documents. Bye now.

Mr. DETOR. Bye.

Mr. TRAFICANT. That was Richard Detor. This is Wednesday, August 1, 2001, and it's approximately 1:18 p.m. This conversation involved the behavior of the government, the FBI, the U.S. Attorneys and their extortion.

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the tape-recorded conversation represented to be recorded on August 1, 2001. This record was prepared from a tape recording provided by Congressman James A. Traficant, Jr.

LISA C. NAGY-BAKER,

Registered Diplomate Reporter Notary Public.

RECOGNIZING EL PASO ARTIST ERNESTO PEDREGON MARTINEZ

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an artist from my district. Ernesto Pedregon Martinez is a renowned international self-taught artist and muralist. He was an illustrator and artist for the federal government for more than 35 years. He also served as a professor of Mexican-American art at El Paso Community College for nine years.

Mr. Martinez was born and raised in the poor barrios of South El Paso. The focus of his work reflects his understanding and firsthand knowledge of the daily struggles of the Mexican people. Mr. Martinez is considered one the nation's leading Mexican-American artists. In addition, Ernesto Martinez has been a frequent guest speaker at many civic, religious, and military functions. This includes an appearance in Mexico City on the international program "Siempre en Domingo" with Raul Velasco.

Ernesto Martinez served our country in the military. He served in World War II with General Terry Allen's famed 104th "Timberwolf" Division in Europe. He was awarded the Bronze Star in combat, Combat Infantry Badge, and Battle Stars. In addition, Mr. Martinez has been active in the community of El Paso by serving as the Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post Number 9173 and the Vice-Commander of American Legion Number 36. He has also worked with the Disabled American Veterans, the Lions Club, the Boy Scouts of America, the Knights of Columbus, LULAC, and many other organizations.

Mr. Martinez has most notably been recognized for his artistic abilities. He was selected as the "Texas State Artist" in two-dimensional works of art in 1997–1998 by the Senate of the State of Texas. In 1998, he was featured in "The Voice of America," a U.S. Government overseas television program and has been featured in numerous books. He was also recognized in "Who's Who in American Art," in the years 1976, 1993, 1994 and was honored by the El Paso City Council for outstanding contributions to Mexican-American culture in 1977.