

July 22, 2010

Dear Friend,

This letter is very hard for me to write, but I feel that with so many challenges face our families and communities, I have an obligation—perhaps a burden, to share with you what I know.

I love Franklin County and I am a 7th generation Missourian. This area is a great place to do business and has a long, rich heritage of having trustworthy, honest people to deal with in government.

But after listening to the radio on July 20th and hearing Brian Nieves say that his opponent doesn't have integrity because of the way he's conducting his campaign (<http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/8397771>), basically implying that he, Nieves, IS a man of integrity, I felt I had to say something.

Admittedly, I will be right up front, I have strong objections about porn shops and casinos and the impact they have in our communities. I have a moral objection with elected officials that are supposed to set an example of conduct, and cheating on your wife with multiple women, some which are married, bothers me greatly.

But this letter is not about my opposition to porn or gambling, or about cheating on your wife. It is about a member of the legislature, who it appear, may have used his power as a member of leadership to either coerce female lobbyists, who depend on having access to him and his House leadership team to do their jobs, into having sexual relations with him or he may have allowed his consensual sexual relationships with those lobbyists to potential impact the outcome of legislation.

Even if there was no lay to play deal, the appearance of him having affairs with multiple lobbyists calls into question his judgment.

Here is what I believe to be true and factual.

Brian Nieves holds the powerful position of Majority Whip. He has been a member of leadership for 8 years. One of his responsibilities is to pressure other legislators to ensure the passage or defeat of bills.

Nieves has paid a female lobbyist, who he had an affair with, for the porn industry and a gambling interest, Lynne Schlosser (MO Ethics Commission lobbyist # L001061), thousands of dollars in "consulting" and "marketing" expenses over the years. You can go to www.mec.mo.gov and search under the expenditures for yourself if you don't believe me.

In this case, Nieves had an affair with Schlosser; she in return funneled contributions from her employer, Isle of Capri Casino, and then turned around and paid her with campaign funds raised from Franklin County Donors.

He had another affair with another former porn lobbyist, a Mrs. Ann Michael (MO Ethics Commission lobbyist # L001394A) of Jefferson City, who has been questioned by Federal authorities related to an investigation into the Missouri legislature. Mrs. Michael has separated from her husband and is currently planning to file for divorce.

Especially when it comes to the affairs with the porn industry lobbyists, it makes me wonder if his affairs with the porn industry lobbyists might have been the reason that regulations on the porn industry only recently got signed into law, after many years of people trying to get the regulations enacted.

As a businessman, I am well aware of the liability I would put my business under if I had sexual relations with my employees or vendors that directly depended on me for their livelihood. If I engaged in the conduct that Nieves has conducted, I would be wide open to lawsuits from these same people I was having sexual relations with, and would probably be forced into bankruptcy as a result of these lawsuits.

Nieves has also had an affair with a former cable industry lobbyist, who had to quit her job after news of the affair came out in political circles in order to save her marriage and not lose her children in a custody battle.

Finally, Nieves also had an affair with Rep. Linda Fischer, who just got divorced from her husband partly as a result of this affair. There were repeated explicit text messages between the two before the affair became public. John Fischer, Linda Fischer's husband has filed as a Republican against his wife who is a Democrat, in this highly publicized divorce.

As if that is not enough, Brian hired disgraced former House Speaker Rod Jetton as his campaign consultant and paid him over \$25,000.00 for his services, Speaker Jetton is currently under federal investigation for a "pay to play" scheme involving money paid by the porn industry to keep legislation putting restrictions on that industry bottled up in committee—the same people who were paying the lobbyists that Nieves was sleeping with.

What's worse is that Nieves continued paying Jetton even after Jetton was arrested for sexual assault in Scott County last year (www.courts.mo.gov/casenet). I guess a married guy who might think having affairs with multiple married women is ok, also thinks it is ok to pay a guy who is charged with beating a woman.

His moral conduct, along with his questionable actions in hiring a man under federal investigation as his campaign consultant, leads me to believe we need to ask Nieves to explain his actions.

Regards,

