

SACKS & SACKS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, January 5, 2011

7:30 p.m.

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF PHIL HAMILTON ISSUED BY HIS COUNSEL, ANDREW SACKS, IN RESPONSE TO TODAY'S INDICTMENT

Phil Hamilton strongly denies the accusations of bribery and extortion leveled against him today by federal prosecutors. Our investigation indicates that Phil has violated no federal laws, has committed no federal crimes, and at all times has acted lawfully under the laws of the United States.

No official from Old Dominion University paid any bribe to Phil and Phil received no bribe from any official at Old Dominion University. This simply did not happen, and we are confident that Old Dominion University denies this as well.

Moreover, Phil's record of 21 years of service in the Virginia General Assembly is well-established. Phil was always known as a man of principle, incorruptible, and passionate about doing the right thing for his constituents. The accusations against Phil are utterly inconsistent with his character that has been widely recognized over those 21 years of service.

Since August, 2009, the federal government has been investigating the allegations in this case. During these past 17 months, we have sought to persuade the federal prosecutors that they have misinterpreted and mischaracterized Phil's lawful actions and intentions in this case. The evidence available does not justify a federal criminal prosecution for bribery and extortion. We therefore regret that the federal government has nevertheless chosen to pursue an indictment. We fully expect that at trial, the evidence will fail to establish any federal criminal violations whatsoever.

The toll that this investigation has taken on Phil and his family is incalculable, and, in light of Phil's innocence of federal criminal wrongdoing, unnecessary. The Hamiltons are, however, a family of indestructible faith. Phil believes that the very system for which he has stood during 21 years of service to Virginians will ultimately be the same system that will deliver him from charges of which he is innocent and will restore to him his good and honorable name.

For further comments, please contact Andrew Sacks, Esquire, at 757-650-6000 (cell phone) or by e-mail at andrewsacks@lawfirmofsacksandsacks.com.