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NomineeAlert

Tiao's Background

Special Counsel to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee

Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland

Litigator, Wilmer Cutler & Pickering

Campaign Manager, Maryland Delegate Joan Stern (D)

Trial Attorney, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice

Senior Campaign Staffer, New Jersey Democratic Coordinated Campaign

Law Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Campaign Manager, Public Interest Research Group

EDUCATION

B.S., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1989

M.P.A., Princeton University, 1995

J.D., Columbia University, 1995



this issue:

Paul Tiao, Nominee for
Inspector General,
Department of Labor

Who is Paul Tiao? Obsessed with race and gender

On May 27, 2010 President Obama nominated Paul Tiao to become the Inspector General for the Department of Labor.

There are several problems with Tiao's background. First of all, he has a potential conflict of interest. Tiao co-founded the Asian American Action Fund, which received over a third of its funding from union political action committees. As Inspector General, it would be his

responsibility to oversee investigations of unions. One of the unions that supported Tiao's PAC was the Service Employees International Union. Fn1.

Andrew Stern — former leader of one of the Service

Employees International Union (SEIU), Obama ally,

and Paul Tiao benefactor — is now under investigation by the FBI and Labor Department Inspector General. Fn.2.

Would Tiao be willing to prosecute a fellow liberal who is also the former president of a union that gave generously to Tiao's PAC? Would unions that

gave to Tiao's PAC receive the same level of scrutiny as would those that did not give to his PAC?

Secondly, Tiao is a highly partisan Democrat. His PAC supported almost solely candidates who were Democrats, and his personal political

“With its important mission of impartially applying the law, the IG’s office is no place for a radical partisan hack like Paul Tiao.”

-Bill Wilson, President, Americans for Limited Government

What you really need to know about Paul Tiao

Sources for further reading:

Fn.1. F. Vincent Vernuccio, *Department of Labor Inspector General Nominee: Too Political, Too Controversial*, BIG GOVERNMENT, August 01, 2010.

Fn.2. Kris Iverson, *No Advice and No Consent*, NEW LEDGER, September 30, 2010.

Fn.3. Sources: Federal Election Commission, National Institute on Money in State Politics

Fn.4. See Fn.1.

Fn.5. Stanley Renshon, *Allowing Non-Citizens to Vote in the United States? Why Not*, CENTER FOR IMMIGRATION STUDIES, September 2008.

work and contributions have been virtually exclusively for Democrats. Tiao served as a campaign manager for a Democrat candidate for the Maryland state legislature, served as a senior staffer for the New Jersey Democratic Coordinated Campaign, and co-founded the Coalition of Asian Pacific American Democrats in Maryland. Fn.3.

The Inspector General Act of 1978 is explicit in saying the IG shall be appointed “without regard to political affiliation and solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated ability in accounting, auditing, financial analysis, law, management analysis, public administration, or investigations.” The Department of Labor’s website specifically says IGs are “non-political.” Fn.4.

Would Tiao treat hyperpartisan unions the same as those that were more bipartisan?

Thirdly, Tiao, like so many other Obama nominees, seems to be obsessed with race. After leaving the radical-filled Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice, Tiao founded not one, but two groups for Asians. In addition, he served as vice-president of yet another Asian organization; and his campaign contributions reveal a bias for Asian candidates—even those far from his home.

Fourthly, Tiao is a radical. For example, he advocates for allowing illegal immigrants to vote—almost immediately upon arrival. Right out of law school, Tiao clerked for the liberal Judge Mary Schroder, who served on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Tiao also served as a campaign manager for the leftwing Public Interest Research Group. Fn.5.

With over 400 employees and a budget of over \$80 million, the Inspector General of the Labor Department has a powerful position. The acceptance of union funds by Tiao’s PAC poses a potential conflict of interest for the would-be Inspector General. Furthermore, his affiliation with race-based groups combined with his partisan past working to elect Democrats call into question his ability to fairly and impartially manage the Inspector General’s office, which has traditionally been held by less political appointees.

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