

An Open Letter to my Constituents

Congressman Darrell Issa

To my constituents:

I've always made open and transparent government my highest priority. So as the campaign season gets uglier, I wanted to set the record straight.

You've probably seen attack ads from my opponent where he's faked quotes he falsely says are from The New York Times to mislead you about my record of service. But here's the truth.

The allegations that I profited from my work in Congress are outrageous, offensive and a lie.

My story isn't one of wealth grown or even given by Washington elites. In fact, it's just the opposite.

I was born to a middle class family, the second of six children. My grandfather was an immigrant who came to America to create a better life for himself. At 17, I left high school to enlist in the Army. Once my service was complete, my wife and I pooled our savings and risked everything we had to start our own small business.

With hard work and the help of our great employees, I was able to build a successful consumer electronics business right here in Southern California. When I decided to devote my time and energy to public service, I sold the business we loved so that my work in Congress could be free from even the appearance of any conflict of interest. I stopped holding individual stocks and published all my financial disclosures online.

When some in the media tried to say otherwise years ago, we fought back - and won. They were forced to retract their errors and issued multiple corrections for intentionally misleading their readers.

My opponent Doug Applegate uses this discredited article to deceive you.

His type of dishonesty is what the American people are so sick of and the last thing we need more of in Washington.

My pledge to you has always been to keep government open and honest.

It's why in my private life I've founded nonprofits, like the OpenGov Foundation, who work to promote transparency in government and it's why my entire career in Congress has been spent passing real reforms to improve transparency, to fight corruption, and protect taxpayers like you.

It's what I've always done and it's what I'll do as long as I serve you.

My record is open, honest and fully transparent. If only Doug Applegate could say the same...



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