

Lois Lerner emails reveal Obama Dept. of Justice involved in IRS targeting

December 12, 2014

9:56 AM MST

A [Forbes report published Wednesday](#) reveals that [Lois Lerner's](#) "missing" emails reveal that Obama's [Department of Justice](#) was involved in the targeting of conservative groups by the Internal Revenue Service. A federal judge has released more of the recently recovered emails, and they prove that Lois Lerner met with DOJ's Election Crimes Division a month before the 2010 elections.

[On November 22 it was announced](#) that 30,000 IRS emails that were allegedly lost and declared unrecoverable had been found by the IRS Inspector General. The emails were sent between 2009 and 2011, when Lerner headed the IRS's exempt-organizations division.

The newly released emails show that Lerner was meeting with members of the DOJ and discussing the targeting of conservative groups for over two years before the [IRS publicly apologized for targeting groups with "tea party" or "patriot" in their names](#). The documents show that Lerner worked closely with the DOJ on targeting conservative groups and also revealed that Lerner sent the DOJ a "1.1 million page database of information from 501(c)(4) tax exempt organizations" that included confidential tax records.

According to the Forbes report, documents obtained through a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit filed against the IRS by [Judicial Watch](#) show that Ms. Lerner asked the DOJ whether tax-exempt entities could be criminally prosecuted. An email dated May 8, 2013 that was sent by Lerner went to Nikole C. Flax, Chief of Staff to Acting IRS Commissioner Steven T. Miller, who was eventually fired by President Obama:

"I got a call today from Richard Pilger Director Elections Crimes Branch at DOJ ... He wanted to know who at IRS the DOJ folk s [sic] could talk to about Sen. Whitehouse idea at the hearing that DOJ could piece together false statement cases about applicants who "lied" on their 1024s—saying

they weren't planning on doing political activity, and then turning around and making large visible political expenditures. DOJ is feeling like it needs to respond, but want to talk to the right folks at IRS to see whether there are impediments from our side and what, if any damage this might do to IRS programs. I told him that sounded like we might need several folks from IRS..."

"Ms. Lerner met with top officials from the DOJ's Election Crimes Branch in October of 2010," the Forbes article written by columnist Robert W. Wood says. "Although Judicial Watch filed a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against the DOJ, the DOJ coughed up dirt only on court order. Even then, the DOJ handed over only two pages of heavily redacted emails."

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton said that the documents show that Obama's DOJ was "up to its neck in the IRS scandal" and remarked in outrage that the DOJ's Public Integrity Section, which is supposed to be investigating such abuse of authority, is "now implicated in the IRS crimes."

"It is shameful how Establishment Washington has let slide by Obama's abuse of the IRS and the Justice Department," Fitton said. "Only as a result of Judicial Watch's [independent](#) investigations did the American people learn about the IRS-DOJ prosecution discussions of Obama's political enemies and how the IRS sent, in violation of law, confidential taxpayer information to the FBI and DOJ in 2010. Richard Nixon was impeached for less."



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