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O-cy/lew

Thought this might put things in perspective with regard to the success of Independent counsels.

We all enjoy C-SPAN at our house, including our three elementary school children. The service you provide to the American people has enabled us to become better informed and, as a result, more active with regard to contacting our elected officials. It is not easy reclaiming our country, but with your input we are more hopeful. Thank you for a job well done.

Just the Facts...

February 6, 1998

...On Kenneth Starr's Investigation

Despite misleading claims about the duration, cost and results of Kenneth Starr's investigation, according to the independent Congressional Research Service, Kenneth Starr ranks as the second most effective independent counsel in 20 years. As of March 31, 1997, Starr had spent \$25.6 million and produced 13 convictions, according to the most recent audit performance by the General Accounting Office.

Since the independent counsel provision of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 was enacted, there have been 18 independent counsel investigations initiated; three of them are ongoing. Of these 18 investigations, 12 returned no indictments, guilty pleas or convictions.

Here are the 6 independent counsels who produced criminal convictions, guilty pleas or indictments, according to the Congressional Research Service. They are listed in order by total combined convictions and guilty pleas:

Independent Counsel	Subject	Appointed	Results	Cost
Arlin Adams & Larry Thompson	Fraud re: HUD grants and subsidies	3/1/90 7/3/95	11 guilty pleas 5 convictions 16 total	\$27 million
Kenneth Starr	Whitewater, Obstruction of Justice	8/5/94	10 guilty pleas 3 convictions including an Associate Attorney General, a sitting Governor and Bill Clinton's longtime business partners. 13 total 2 indictments pending	\$25.6 million
Donald Smaltz	Sec. of Ag. Mike Espy: gifts & gratuities	9/9/94	6 guilty pleas 6 convictions 12 total 3 indictments pending	\$11.8 million
Lawrence Walsh	Iran Contra	12/19/86	7 guilty pleas 2 convictions 9 total	\$47.8 million
Whitney Seymour, Jr.	Michael Deaver post-employment conflicts of interest	5/29/86	1 conviction on three counts of perjury	\$1.5 million
David Barrett	Sec. of HUD Henry Cisneros for false statements to the FBI	5/24/95	7 indictments pending	\$3.8 million
James McKay	Frank Nofzinger for conflict of interest.	2/2/87	1 conviction, subsequently overturned	\$2.7 million

Republican National Committee, [REDACTED] Chairman
[REDACTED] www.rnc.org