

CASE TITLE: United States v. McClain, et al.
CASE NUMBER: 20 CR 812
ACTIVITY: Telephone Conversation between Michael McClain and
John Hooker and Anne Pramaggiore
DATE: February 20, 2019
TIME: 6:57 p.m.
TARGET PHONE: (217) 257-6280
SESSION NUMBER: 20509

SPEAKERS: McCLAIN = Michael McClain
HOOKER = John Hooker
PRAMAGGIORE = Anne Pramaggiore

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(CLIP 1 BEGIN)

1 McCLAIN: But I wanted to have, uh, a drink with Andrew 'cause,
2 uh, I, I, I get assignments from his dad, but I also
3 get assignments from him and so-
4
5 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
6
7 McCLAIN: -I wanted to report on some. (Laughs.)
8
9 PRAMAGGIORE: (Laughs.) Well good for you. Um-
10
11 McCLAIN: You, you'll get a kick outta this. John, you will too.
12 So Madigan calls me up about 4:30, and he says, "Mike,
13 so uh, uh, uh, I'm told that Exelon Generation they want
14 a bill, these green people they want a bill, ComEd wants
15 a bill. So, I've always relied on you to be the lead on
16 this kind of stuff. Now you're gone, but uh but it's
17 gotta be somebody we trust. Who's gonna be the lead
18 here?"
19
20 PRAMAGGIORE: (Laughs.)
21
22 McCLAIN: And John you know uh, I mean everything we did we di-,
23 we did together so-
24
25 HOOKER: Yeah.
26
27 McCLAIN: -I mean but, uh it's gotta be somebody that kinda gets
28 it so that when they get the call-
29
30 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
31

32 McCLAIN: -I mean they gotta snap to and, and do it right away
33 they can't act corporately, they gotta do it right away.
34 I don't, I mean, wow.
35
36 PRAMAGGIORE: Well and they, and they gotta you know the other thing
37 Michael is, you know this is, this is a different group
38 that they have to deal with inside the company, and you
39 have to have somebody who knows, that the, the Speaker
40 trusts, and can sort through this stuff to make sure
41 that the right information is flowing.
42
43 McCLAIN: Right.
44
45 PRAMAGGIORE: If you understand what I'm, yeah.
46
47 McCLAIN: Right so uh, so like the beauty about John and I is uh,
48 when I would talk to the Speaker about it at dinner I,
49 I would tell him like, "This is what the company wants.
50 But, uh, if at the end of the day we go to-"
51
52 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
53
54 McCLAIN: "-We get X instead of Y, uh Anne'll be real happy."
55
56 PRAMAGGIORE: Yep.
57
58 McCLAIN: And so then he can focus on that right?
59
60 PRAMAGGIORE: Right.
61
62 McCLAIN: I mean it was something-
63
64 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
65
66 McCLAIN: -Right? Instead of like him whittling us down and not
67 knowing what the bottom line was-
68
69 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
70
71 McCLAIN: -We, we could be blunt and say okay we, we, we, we can't
72 go anything below X-
73
74 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
75
76 McCLAIN: -Well that's all, that's all he needed to know.
77
78 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
79
80 (CLIP 1 END)

(CLIP 2 BEGIN)

81 McCLAIN: I, I, I again offer. I don't mind going to Chris Crane.
82 If that terminates my contract that's fine. But uh, this
83 is uh, this is real serious. There's no one, right now,
84 that um, I can actually tell our friend, uh "This is
85 the, uh, lead, and when you call that guy will snap to
86 or that gal will snap to and know what to do and and uh
87 get back to you." 'Cause, so I was the lead, but every
88 time I called up John or you, you guys did things. I
89 mean it uh there, there, there's, there's no one,
90 there's no one in the company that has that kind of
91 smack right now.
92

93 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah. Well he'll say Joe does.
94

95 McCLAIN: Yeah but Joe, Joe uh, I don't think he really respects
96 Madigan. I, I, so I, I, uh I uh, I wouldn't trust Joe.
97 I, I would trust Joe to think that, that, that this is
98 a *quid pro quo* and that he's wired.
99

100 PRAMAGGIORE: Well Joe is trying to, like you said, he wants the next
101 job.
102

103 HOOKER: So Anne-
104

105 PRAMAGGIORE: That's what he's thinking.
106

107 HOOKER: If you had to, if you had to think about how do you,
108 who, who, who could that person be or how do we make it
109 work? 'Cause without having that, it's gonna be
110 difficult to get anything done.
111

112 PRAMAGGIORE: Well do you want an inside person? Is that what you're
113 saying?
114

115 McCLAIN: Well it's gotta have, it's gotta, it, so it's gotta be
116 somebody. So I was just the contract person. I didn't
117 have to be the lead it could've been an inside person,
118 but you guys said, "Okay McClain, the Speaker trusts
119 you, you, you're the lead." But then I, I wa-I had to,
120 uh I had the full back of you and, and Frank and John
121 so when I talked to John, things got done. Right?
122

123 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
124
125

(CLIP 2 END)

(CLIP 3 BEGIN)

1 McCLAIN: To me, this is my instinct is like let's sleep on it-
2
3 PRAMAGGIORE: Yeah.
4
5 McCLAIN: -I'll be in the car from eleven-thirty to two o'clock
6 tomorrow maybe we could have-
7
8 PRAMAGGIORE: Okay.
9
10 McCLAIN: -Your secretary set up a time for a half hour or forty-
11 five minute call. But my-
12
13 PRAMAGGIORE: Okay.
14
15 McCLAIN: -instinct is um, and John, you can correct me if I'm
16 wrong, but my instinct is that I come up to Chicago and
17 I sit down with Dominguez and say, "Now look-it asshole,
18 uh if you want to pass this bill, this is what it
19 requires. So, either you're gonna play in the tier-one
20 game here or you're gonna keep playing in your tier-two
21 game here so, and if you wanna fire me today that's fine
22 but, uh this is like serious business, it's millions of
23 dollars. So either you wanna look like you're the
24 leader, and be the leader, but that means you've gotta
25 authorize your people to do things. Or if you wanna keep
26 playing your silly games with Richard Mark and
27 everything, that's fine but-" I don't mind having a
28 daddy talk with this guy.
29
30

(CLIP 3 END)