

National Tea Party Federation
1801 Sawtelle Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA



April 22, 2010

Via Federal Express and Email

Chairwoman Barbara Lee
C/O Congressional Black Caucus
2444 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lee,

The National Tea Party Federation (the "Federation") is comprised of approximately seventy-five local and national tea party groups, which collectively represent over 500,000 individual members. The Federation was formed primarily to create a unified message and media response amongst key leadership and their affiliates.

The Federation does not and will not tolerate any form of racism, violence or hate speech; in fact, its charter expressly rejects the same, and its membership rules specifically require that each member and its leadership comport themselves accordingly. It will not surprise you, therefore, that we treat each and every allegation of racism lodged against the Tea Party with the utmost concern, which is the reason we write you today.

As you are no doubt aware, on March 20, 2010, the Tea Party held a "Code Red Healthcare Rally" (the "Rally") on and around Capitol grounds in Washington D.C. Both during and subsequent to the Rally, members of your Caucus, including Congressmen

John Lewis, Andre Carson and Emanuel Cleaver, but in particular Congressman Lewis, alleged that members of the assembled Tea Party crowd hurled racial epithets at them multiple times, i.e., the N-word, 15 times.

We believe to our core that racism and hate speech have no place in civil political discourse and debate - and, we are sure you agree. So, it is no doubt in our mutual interest to drill down on this incident and identify those persons alleged to have used the N-word at the Rally, so that they can be appropriately isolated and personally condemned.

Unfortunately, despite weeks of searching, we have been unable to find any evidence corroborating Mr. Lewis' allegations.

We therefore turn to you, and respectfully request that you provide us with any and all evidence - video, audio, interviews, first-hand accounts, etc. - of the N-word being hurled against your members (or anyone else) during the Rally. To this end, we also ask that you also make available to us Congressman Carson (or that you encourage Congressman Carson to make himself available to us) in order to be interviewed about his allegations. In particular, we think it would help if Congressman Carson could resolve the discrepancies in his conflicting accounts of the location of the alleged incident.

You can fully expect that the Federation will condemn any instance in which corroborating evidence is produced that a Tea Party member hurled a racial epithet at anyone, much less Congressman Lewis.

We thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter, and we look forward to your help getting to the bottom of this unfortunate incident.

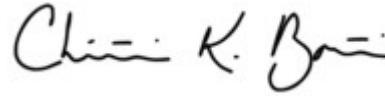
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Skoda". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark A. Skoda
Chairman, The Memphis TEA Party
Founding Member, National Tea Party Federation



Jamie Radtke
President, Richmond Tea Party



Christina K Botteri
Founding Member, National Tea Party Federation



President & Founder, New Liberty Democrats
Founding Member, National Tea Party Federation

Robin

Robin Stublen
Punta Goarda Tea party



Jason W. Hoyt
Founding Member, National Tea Party Federation
Tea Party Patriots Live & Orlando Tea Party

Mark K Lloyd

Mark K Lloyd
Chairman, Lynchburg Tea Party
Founding Member, National Tea Party Federation

Maryetta Ables

Maryetta Ables
Central West Virginia Tea Party



Toby Marie Walker
President, Waco Tea Party
Chairwoman, Heart of Texas Tea Party Coalition
Founding Member, National Tea Party Federation



Suzanne Pak
Executive Director, Song of Truth Foundation
Former Board of Director, MIT Alumni Club NY



Lisa Feroli
Floridians Unite
Orlando Tea party



Karl Gustave
A More Perfect Union



David Webb
Co-Founder | TeaParty365 New York City

Maggie Hunt

Maggie Hunt
Organizer, The Santee East County TEA Party Group
Founding Member, National Tea Party Federation

Jeanie Coates

Jeanie Coates
Director, New Mexico Patriots