Michael Dale “Mike” Huckabee – Patriot or Traitor

Mick Huckabee was Governor of Arkansas from July 15, 1996 – January 8, 2007. He enjoyed a meteoric rise in the polls in December 2007, which prompted a more thorough review of his ethics record. According to The Associated Press: “Mick Huckabee’s career has also been colored by 14 ethics complaints and a volley of questions about his integrity, ranging from his management of campaign cash to his use of a nonprofit organization to subsidize his income to his destruction of state computer files on his way out of the governor’s office.” And what was Governor Mike Huckabee’s response to these ethics allegations? Rather than cooperating with investigators, Huckabee sued the state ethics commission twice and attempted to shut the ethics process down.

The ethics commission eventually fined Huckabee $1,000 for failing to report that he paid himself $14,000 from his 1992 U.S. Senate campaign and $43,000 from his 1994 lieutenant governor’s campaign.

The latter payment — for the use of his eight-seat, twin-engine plane — was reported in a cryptic way that didn’t identify Huckabee and his wife as the owners of the plane.

Mike Huckabee has a record of dipping into public funds and accepting improper gifts from supporters, something worrisome for a job like president where you control a trillion dollar budget. Most politicians use money as a means to get more power, even while living lives of near poverty (as Bob Dole has); surprisingly few actually enrich themselves through their work. Mike Huckabee has.

He was investigated 16 times and cited five times by the Arkansas Ethics Commission for violating ethics rules. Two of those citations were for cash that the governor or his wife accepted but did not report. Huckabee’s gifts peaked at $112,000 in 1999, including $23,000 worth of clothing; over half of that was given by one businessman who Huckabee appointed to a state board.

At one point, Huckabee claimed that he personally owned $70,000 in Governor’s Mansion furnishings donated by cotton grower Boe Adams, but was forced to disavow them after Adams said they were for the state, not the governor. After he moved out in December 2006 though, no one could find the furniture even after a state audit. Huckabee’s wife insisted they must be there somewhere.

In 1999, his former administrator at the Goveror’s Mansion sued him for abuse of state funds, claiming that Huckabee used state funds for upkeep of the mansion on panty hose, barbecue, a dog house, dry cleaning, boat fuel, and alterations to his clothes. Huckabee settled out of court, by agreeing that legal doubts existed over his use of the fund and that he wouldn’t use it for these purposes in the future.

Huckabee also used state police airplanes as a personal transportation service for him and his family, flying scores of times each year, including trips to other states with early presidential primaries. He claimed this was legitimate for security reasons.

In 1994, when he was lieutenant governor of Arkansas, Huckabee formed a non-profit organization called Action America, which seemed to exist only to deliver money to him without donors having to report or limit their contributions the way they would a normal political contribution. In 2 and a half years, Action America paid Huckabee over $61,000 just for giving speeches at its events.

When he was getting ready to move out of the governor’s mansion, bridal registries were set up at Dillard’s and Target for the governor and his wife, who had been married for more than 30 years. They registered for nearly $7,000 in housewares, as well as $1,000 gift cards.

State ethics laws prohibited the Huckabee’s from receiving gifts of more than $100 as a reward for doing his job. But there was an exception for wedding presents.

Maybe it’s just an Arkansas tradition — Bill and Hillary Clinton registered for house gifts when they left the White House. An investigation found that they received over $75,000 worth of gifts but did not violate any federal laws.

Mike Huckabee pressured the Arkansas Parole Board to free a convicted rapist, Wayne Dumond — who then moved to Missouri and raped and killed two more women. Worse yet, he lies to this day about it, denying he had a role.

Worse yet, Huckabee ignored the desperate pleas of the rape victim, a 17-year-old high school student, and several other women who wrote him to say that Dumond also raped them and should not be released. The victim went to the governor’s office, got right in his face, and said “This is how close I was to Wayne Dumond. I will never forget his face. And now I don’t want you ever to forget my face.”

Incredibly, Huckabee was unmoved, and argued that the rapist was innocent, or at least got a “raw deal… He’d been born on the wrong side of the tracks and hadn’t been treated all that fairly.” He even wrote a letter to the rapist saying “My desire is that you be released from prison. I feel that parole is the best way for our reintroduction to society to take place.”

Huckabee had a lot of other reasons to keep Dumond in prison, too. Another woman wrote him that Dumond had raped her mother, when she was 3 years old and sleeping in bed with her — and threatened the mother that he would rape and kill the 3 year old if the mom did not cooperate. A third woman wrote Huckabee that Dumond raped her at knifepoint, and added “I feel that if he is released it is only a matter of time before he commit’s another crime and fear that he will not leave a witness to testify against him the next time.” One of Huckabee’s chief former aides has confirmed that the then-governor read that letter and spoke with the victim in a follow-up phone call. He also heard about Dumond’s alleged role in a murder while serving in the army.

So why was he so determined that Dumond be released? How could he ignore all of these heartfelt pleas? Well, a preacher friend of his ministered to Dumond in prison, and believed his claim that he was born-again. Huckabee commuted or pardoned over 669 prisoners, including 12 murderers — 10 times as many as Bill Clinton did over 9 years, and more than all of the larger states surrounding Arkansas put together — as long as they claimed to be born-again Christians, or worked at the governor’s mansion, or played in the prison band.

Also, the teenage rape victim was a distant cousin of Bill Clinton, who as governor refused a request for pardon by the rapist. Right-wing circles at the time — including NY Post columnist Steve Dunleavy and radio host Jay Cole — had a conspiracy theory that Clinton railroaded Dumond.

Stranger yet, Dumond called the police one night and said that two men had broken into his trailer and castrated him. (The police thought he had done it himself, to gain sympathy and show that he was safe to release. Huckabee said he felt sorry for the rapist.)

In a bizarre twist, the local sheriff (Coolidge Conlee) put the testicles in a fruit jar on his desk and showed them off. “That’s what happens to bad guys in my county,” he liked to say. Ironically, Dumond sued him for intentional infliction of distress and won over $100,000. Then that sheriff was himself convicted of extortion, and died in jail. (Arkansas is a pretty interesting place, eh?)

Now that he’s in a tight presidential race, Huckabee is denying that he had any role in Dumond’s release, and has refused to release the governor’s office documents on the case. He has blamed Bill Clinton for the release, or Jim Guy Tucker, the governor after Clinton and before Huckabee (who was later convicted himself of fraud in the Whitewater case.) But Huckabee’s story keeps changing, and he doesn’t dispute the letter of support he sent to Dumond. He said he wished he “knew more” about Dumond — before details of the letter sent to him by other victims were made public; then he had no comment. Dumond also had a prior record — a guilty plea for attempting to assault a teenage girl in Tacoma, Washington, and Dumond’s own sworn testimony — under a grant of immunity — that he and two friends beat a man to death with a claw hammer in a public park, because he dated their friend’s ex-wife.

Huckabee now claims that he had no influence over the parole decision. However, that board voted 4 to 1 to NOT release Dumond before Huckabee was governor. Huckabee arranged a meeting with the board, and the board’s secretary — who normally tapes the entire session — was asked to leave the room, violating state law. After that, the board reversed their decision, voting 4 to 1 in favor of parole. Huckabee denies he asked them to release Dumond, but four of the parole board members insist that Huckabee pushed them to release Dumond. (The others are dead, not talking, or forgot what happened.) Huckabee claims that all four parole board members are lying. His office also claimed, at first, that the letters to him from other Dumond victims were not genuine, but now admits receiving at least one of them. Huckabee’s former lawyer — referred to reporters by Huckabee’s own campaign, to support his story — actually said that the governor called Dumond’s sentence “outlandish” and “way out of line”, and that Huckabee pushed for Dumond’s release.

Huckabee refuses to release the documents from his office concerning the case. A former aide has said that Huckabee’s staff discussed how to make sure that documents about the case, especially the letters from other Dumond victims, could be kept secret. When he left the governor’s office, Huckabee spent the entire governor’s emergency budget – set aside for hurricanes, tornadoes and the like — destroying the hard drives of 100 computers in the governor’s office.

Back in 1998, when Huckabee was Arkansas governor, his son David and David’s friend Clayton Frady were fired from jobs at a Boy Scout camp. Why? Because they hung a stray dog by its neck, slit its throat and stoned it to death. (This same son was convicted in 2007 for bringing a loaded .40 Glock handgun and a 9-round clip through airport security. He was also Homecoming King at Arkansas State.)

When word got out about the dog lynching back in 1998, the local prosecutor wrote the head of the State Police asking for help in an investigation. The head of the state police then, John Bailey, told NEWSWEEK that Governor Huckabee’s chief of staff and his personal lawyer both leaned on him to officially deny the local prosecutor’s request. Bailey said he viewed the lawyer’s pressure as improper and cut off the conversation. Seven months later, he was called into Huckabee’s office and fired. “I’ve lost confidence in your ability to do your job,” Bailey says Huckabee told him. “I couldn’t get you to help me with my son when I had that problem.”

I. C. Smith, the former FBI chief in Little Rock, said “Without question, [Huckabee] was making a conscious attempt to keep the state police from investigating his son.” He also says he worked closely with Bailey and called Bailey a “courageous” and “very solid” professional.

Prosecuting Attorney Tim Williamson of Mena, Arkansas said cruelty to animals is a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to a $1,000 fine and up to a year in jail.

Mike Huckabee told Newsweek that Bailey’s charges were “untrue”, but his Chief of Staff and lawyer at the time both admit they talked to Bailey about the dog killing.

Mike Huckabee supports Common Core.

Huckabee has now put himself on the list of potential Republican candidates for president in 2016, which explains, perhaps, why he is backing off his once outspoken support of the Common Core State Standards initiative — even while insisting that his original backing made sense.

On his radio show on May 6, 2013, Huckabee criticized the “short-sighted” opponents of Common Core, saying that “parents and people involved in their local schools should let it be known that core standards are valuable, and they’re not something to be afraid of — they are something to embrace.”

On May 23, 2013 – Huckabee issued a “clarification” on Facebook that is not any better.

My statement on the Common Core has been misconstrued. While I believe such standards make sense for public schools in math and English, I support parents’ freedom of choice to educate their children however they want, including homeschooling, regardless of the standards that are applied in a public school setting.”

Then Huckabee wrote a letter nearly two weeks later dated June 3, 2013, to legislators in Oklahoma that said in part:

Dear Oklahoma Lawmakers:

As a conservative who served as governor for a state that shares the values of the very Oklahomans you represent, I’m writing to encourage you to resist any attempt to delay implementation of the improved standards adopted by your State Board of Education in 2010. Many of you voted in favor of these standards in 2010. You were right to stand for these improved standards then and you are right to stand for these improved standards still today.

These standards, known as Common Core State Standards, have been **near and dear to my heart since I served as Governor** of your neighboring state of Arkansas. And it’s disturbing to me there have been criticisms of these standards directed by other conservatives including the RNC. The truth of the matter is, **these criticisms are short-sighted.**

Like many of you, I’ve heard the argument these standards “threaten local control” of what’s being taught in Oklahoma classrooms. Speaking from one conservative to another, let me assure you this simply is **not true**. States and local school districts will determine how they want to teach kids, what curriculum to use, and which textbooks to use.

Huckabee was so much a part of creating these reforms known as Common Core. Therefore it’s hoped conservatives and homeschoolers finally see him for who he really is, a treasonous huckster out for what is best for himself.

While governor of Arkansas, Huckabee rose taxes a staggering **65 percent**. The fiscally conservative Cato Institute gave Mike Huckabee an “F” grade for his economic policies. If you thought Obama was a big spender, you ain’t seen nothin’ yet. Huckabee really shouldn’t even call himself a “Republican.” If anyone is a “RINO” (Republican in name only), Mike Huckabee is perhaps the biggest glaring example. The ultra-liberals and big-spenders should be kept in the Democrat Party. Too many closet liberals have infiltrated the GOP, and the likes of Mike Huckabee should not be tolerated, let alone become the presidential nominee based on a phony media image.

The most disgraceful thing about Huckabee (aside from causing an innocent woman’s death) is his insane quest to make legal citizens out of every illegal alien in America today. If you thought Obama was a traitor and sell out on immigration, Mike Huckabee is worse. Huckabee has repeatedly voiced his support for illegal aliens. One source reports “Huckabee vehemently opposed a 2005 bill sponsored by Arkansas State Senator Jim Holt which would deny state benefits to illegal immigrants, calling it ‘un-Christian.’ ” A similar bill in California, Proposition 187, passed by a landslide vote. Mike Huckabee is to the left of most Americans, even liberal Californian voters.

At a meeting of LULAC (the League of United Latin American Citizens), Huckabee gleefully predicted “Pretty soon, Southern white guys like me may be in the minority” as the crowd roared in laughter.

Huckabee doesn’t consider it **“un-Christian” for millions of foreign invaders to break our immigration laws and shove their children into our public schools at great expense to us taxpayers and an even worse cost to our children.** Illegals swarm into emergency rooms for any and all medical problems, and this cost winds up in our state and local taxes. Huckabee doesn’t care if the public schools have standing room only. Huckabee doesn’t care if American parents are told that their local public school is “full” and that their children can’t go there. Huckabee doesn’t care if millions of poor illegal aliens from Central America burn up so much federal money (in food stamps and other services) that Medicare and Social Security go broke.

It’s only “un-Christian” in the mind of Mike Huckabee, if we Americans insist that our immigration laws be enforced and that Mexico’s poor aren’t dumped onto our infra-structure at a high cost to us in both taxes and quality of life.

Mike Huckabee is possibly the worst Open Borders lunatic to run for president since Barack Obama. If you don’t want to be biting your nails for another four years wondering if a crazy Republican president is going to give citizenship to 20 million or more illegals, then you DO NOT want Huckabee to be the Republican candidate.