

# United States Senate

September 10, 2003

Dear Colleague:

It has recently come to our attention that film crews and production staff from Home Box Office, Inc. ("HBO") have begun shooting a new series entitled, "K Street." We have also learned that filming for the show is occurring within the Capitol complex as well as inside various Senate office buildings. Several recent news accounts have indicated that HBO plans to continue filming "K Street" for the next several months.

The purpose of this letter is to alert and remind all Members and staff that Senate rules and regulations strictly prohibit the use of Capitol and Senate space for any commercial or profit-making purpose. Specifically, the policy for the use of Senate space, including all space in Senate office buildings, as well as for the Capitol Rotunda, states in pertinent part: "Senate space may NOT be used for any . . . commercial, promotional, or profit-making purpose whatsoever." (*Senate Policy for Use of Senate Rooms, The Russell Rotunda and Courtyard and The Hart Atrium, 1994; U.S. Senate Handbook 1996, Appendix E; Senate Ethics Manual, 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session, 2003, Appendix J*). Likewise, the Senate's standing policy regarding filming, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 193(d), re-codified at 40 U.S.C. § 5104(c), states in pertinent part: ". . . filming involving or related to commercial ventures, including fictional movies, is expressly prohibited." (*Senate Photography and Filming Policy, Adopted by the Committee on Rules and Administration, 1978*) This prohibition also applies to the Capitol grounds.

It is the position of the Select Committee on Ethics and the Committee on Rules and Administration that the use of Senate and Capitol space for the filming of "K Street" is strictly prohibited by the above referenced Senate policy. Moreover, *any other* use of Senate space to create or promote commercial entertainment programming would also be prohibited by the applicable Senate rules and regulations. Members and staff should take care to observe these prohibitions regarding the use of Senate space.

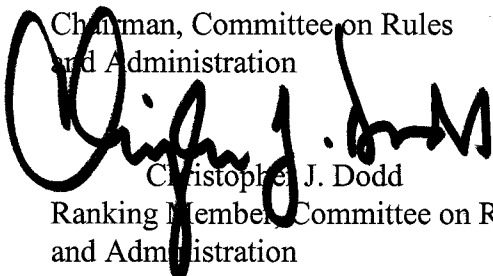
Should you have any questions regarding this matter or about any other similar activities or related concerns -- for example, the applicability of the ban on honoraria -- please do not hesitate to contact the Select Committee on Ethics at 4-2981.

Sincerely,



Trent Lott

Chairman, Committee on Rules  
and Administration



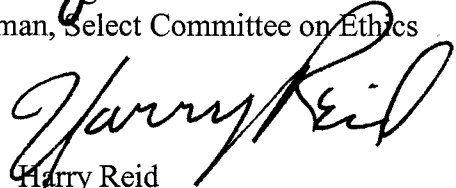
Christopher J. Dodd

Ranking Member, Committee on Rules  
and Administration



George V. Voinovich

Chairman, Select Committee on Ethics



Harry Reid

Vice Chairman, Select Committee on Ethics