memorandum to Leader PELOSI

4/13/2015 1:46 PM

To: Leader Nancy Pelosi

Fr: Stella Ross, National Finance Director

Dt: Tuesday, June 11, 2013

RE: DCCC LGBT Reception Hosted by Robert Raben

# Event Date: Tuesday, June 11th, 2013

**Time:** 7:00pm-8:30pm

**Location:** The Home of Robert Raben

213 E Street, NE

Washington, DC 20002

**Staff:** Stella Ross, National Finance Director, (913) 558-2901

**Attire:**  Business

**Members of Congress Attending:**

DCCC Chairman Steve Israel

Congressman Jared Polis

Congressman David Cicilline

Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney

Congressman Mark Pocan

Congressman Jared Polis

Congresswoman Kyrsten Sinema

\*Robert Raben invited these Members of Congress to attend. No other Members were invited.

**Hosts:** Robert Raben, Rob Cogorno, Chris Cormier, Chad Griffin, Patrick Menasco, Daniel Penchina & Courtney Snowden

**Attendees:** Approximately 45

**Background:** This is the eighth annual event that Robert Raben has hosted for the DCCC during LGBT Pride Month. Guests at this reception include colleagues at the Raben Group, LGBT community advocates in the DC area, and personal friends of Robert Raben and other members of the host committee. The event Robert hosted in 2011 raised $31,000 for the DCCC and the event in 2010 raised $55,000 for the DCCC. Ticket prices for this reception include: Host/PAC: $5,000 (write/raise); Sponsor: $1,000; Friend: $500; Guest: $250. Robert Raben posted this event on Facebook, which we expect will result in additional guests attending the event that have not RSVP’d directly to the DCCC or to Robert. ***At the time of this briefing, the pledges and money received for this event total $17,195 for the DCCC. Robert Raben is contributing $5,000 to the DCCC through this event. Requests to fulfill his Speaker’s Cabinet Membership has been made to Robert, but he is only committing at the $5,000 level at this time.***

**Event Set-up:** This is an open reception with passed hors d’oeuvres. There will not be a microphone or podium.

**Program:**

7:00 p.m.      Guests arrive and mingle.

7:30 p.m.      Robert Raben will introduce Congressman Pocan.

7:32 p.m.      Congressman Pocan will make brief remarks and introduce Congressman Polis.

7:34 p.m.      Congressman Polis will make brief remarks and introduces Chairman Israel.

7:36 p.m.      Chairman Israel will deliver brief remarks, thank the hosts and introduce **You**.

7:38 p.m.      **You** will deliver brief remarks.

8:30 p.m.      Event concludes and guests depart.

*\*This program was requested by Robert Raben.*

**Host Committee:**

**Robert Raben, President, The Raben Group**

Robert is the Founder and President of The Raben Group, heading a legislative consulting and lobbying practice that develops strategies to achieve complicated public policy goals.  Nearly 20 years of professional experience as an attorney, senior hill staffer and Assistant Attorney General, he brings an aggressively bipartisan approach to the firm, built during a highly respected legislative career that began on Representative Barney Frank's staff and concluded with House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde's endorsement of his Justice Department appointment.  Robert served as Counsel to Congressman Barney Frank for seven years, he then moved to the Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property, again serving as Democratic Counsel.  ***Robert has hosted the DCCC equality events for the past several years. Robert met with Chairman Israel on January 18, 2013, to discuss his DCCC support—at which time he agreed to host this event. He attended the 2012 Democratic Convention as a guest of the DCCC. In 2012, Robert contributed $30,800 to the DCCC and co-hosted the annual equality event with Rep. Barney Frank. That event raised $112,000. In 2011, Robert contributed $5,500 to the DCCC and hosted his annual equality event, which raised $31,000 for the DCCC. In 2010, Robert contributed $10,000 to the DCCC and hosted his annual equality event that raised $55,000 for the DCCC. Robert helped raise contributions for this event. He will contribute a $5,000 to the DCCC for tonight’s event and will in-kind the event’s catering costs.***

**Rob Cogorno, Principal, Elmendorf Strategies**

Rob is a Principal at Elmendorf Strategies. He is the former Floor Director for Leader Steny Hoyer. Prior to working for Rep. Hoyer, Cogorno served as Research Director and Appropriations Policy Advisor to House Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt for eight years. ***Rob co-hosted and contributed $2,500 to the February 2013 Elmendorf-Ryan event.*** ***In 2012, Rob served on the host committee and helped raise contributions for the event hosted by Steve Elmendorf. Rob also contributed $1,000 to the DCCC Equality Reception in 2012. In 2011, Rob co-hosted the DCCC Elmendorf Ryan finance reception and contributed $5,000 to the DCCC. Rob also served on the host committee for the 2011 DCCC Equality Reception at the home of Robert Raben and contributed $1,500 to the DCCC through that event for a total of $6,500 to the DCCC in 2011. Rob will contribute an undisclosed amount to the DCCC towards tonight’s event.***

**Chris Cormier, Director, The Raben Group**

Chris is a Director at The Raben Group. Prior to joining the firm, Chris served as the director of donor and foundation relations at Gill Action, a Denver-based political organization dedicated to securing equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. Chris also worked for the Gill Foundation, overseeing their donor and institutional partnerships programs, including the network of philanthropic OutGiving donors and their biannual conference.***Chris is contributing $250 to the DCCC for tonight’s event. Chris helped raise contributions for this event. This will be his first contribution to the DCCC.***

**Chad Griffin, President, Human Rights Campaign**

Chad Griffin is the president of the Human Rights Campaign.  Griffin has spent his career taking on entrenched, well-financed interests like big tobacco, big oil and the far right, and shaped national policy debates around equal rights, clean energy, universal health care, stem cell research, and early childhood education. ***In September 2011, Chad contributed $1,000 to the DCCC and served on the host committee for the DCCC Reception hosted by JJ Abrams and Katie McGrath at the Bad Robot studio. Human Rights Campaign PAC contributed $15,000 to the DCCC in 2011 and in 2012.  The Human Rights Campaign PAC will contribute $5,000 towards this event.***

**\*Please Note: Chad was an active raiser for President Obama in the 2012 cycle, raising over $500,000 for the President mainly from the LGBT community.**

**Patrick Menasco**

Patrick Menasco is a partner in the Washington and New York offices of Steptoe, where he is a member of the firm’s Litigation Department and Tax Group. Mr. Menasco has represented numerous clients in audits, investigations, exemption requests, and regulatory initiatives before the US Department of Labor.  He has also represented clients before the US Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, the US District Courts, and the US Courts of Appeal. From 1995 to 1998, Mr. Menasco served as a counselor and litigator in the Office of the General Counsel, US Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, where his practice focused on plan termination, prohibited transaction, employment, and appellate matters. ***Patrick will contribute*** ***$500 to the DCCC toward tonight’s event. Patrick helped raise contributions for this event. This will be Patrick’s first contribution to the DCCC.***

**Daniel Penchina, Principal, The Raben Group**

Daniel Penchina is a Principal at The Raben Group. Prior to joining The Raben Group, Daniel worked in senior positions for several members of Congress, advising them on an array of issues including consumer protection, healthcare, appropriations, housing, budget, financial services, defense and government reform. Most recently, Daniel served as legislative director to Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-IL). ***Daniel served on the host committee for the 2011 and 2012 DCCC equality reception hosted by Robert Raben. He contributed $250 to the DCCC in 2012, $250 in 2010 and $250 in 2009. Daniel helped raise contributions for this event. Daniel will contribute an undisclosed amount to the DCCC towards tonight’s event.***

**Courtney Snowden, Principal, The Raben Group**

Courtney works with the firm’s corporate and non-profit clients to help them identify and reach their policy goals through direct lobbying, strategic planning and coalition building, and by developing and implementing effective legislative and public relations message campaigns. Prior to joining The Raben Group, Courtney served as a lobbyist for the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Courtney also served as the federal policy manager for the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). Courtney began her career in the office of Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin (D-WI). ***Courtney has served on the host committee for this reception since 2010.******Courtney helped raise contributions for this event. Courtney will contribute $1,000 to the DCCC through this event.***

**Attendees:**

**Raul Alvillar, Senior Advisor, Public Engagement Office, HUD**

Raul Alvillar is a Senior Advisor in the Public Engagement Office of Public Affairs at HUD. ***He is contributing $150 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Chris Armstrong, Oversight Counsel, Committee on Ways and Means**

Chris Armstrong serves as Oversight Counsel for the Committee on Ways and Means. ***He is contributing $100 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**John Assini, Staff Assistant, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources**

John is a Staff Assistant on the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. ***He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Rob Avruch, Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Center for American Progress.**

Rob is a Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff at the Center for American Progress. ***He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Brian Castro, Attorney, Axiom**

Brian is an attorney for Axiom. ***He has contributed $250 to the DCCC for tonight’s event.***

**Vernon Cathcart, Project Manager, Fannie Mae.**

Vernon is a Project Manager at Fannie Mae. ***He is contributing an undisclosed amount to the DCCC through tonight’s event. Vernon was invited to attend by Robert Raben.***

**Bob Chapman, Director of US Government, American Cancer Society.**

Bob is the Director of US Government and Multilateral Global Health Advocacy at American Cancer Society. ***Bob is contributing $250 to the DCCC through this event.***

**Anthony Green, Director of Public Policy, Safe Kids Worldwide**

Anthony is the Director of Public Policy for Safe Kids Worldwide. ***He attended the 2012 Equality Reception and contributed $250 the DCCC through that event. Anthony is contributing $250 to the DCCC through this event.***

**Tony Green, Program Manager, World Learning**

Tony Green is the Program Manager for World Learning. ***He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Jonathan Hopkins, Term Member, Council on Foreign Relations**

Jonathan Hopkins is a Term Member for the Council on Foreign Relations. ***He is contributing $70 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Brad Jacklin, Project Director, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force**

Brad is the Project Director at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.He is working out of Congressman Jared Polis’ office. ***He is contributing an undisclosed amount to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Ashland Johnson, Policy Counsel, National Center for Lesbian Rights**

Ashland is Policy Counsel for the National Center for Lesbian Rights. ***She is contributing $250 to the DCCC through this event.***

**Brady King, Director of Government Affairs, American Institute of CPA’s**

Brady is the Director of Government Affairs at the American Institute of CPA’s. ***AICPA PAC contributed $15,000 to the DCCC this year. They contributed $15,000 to the DCCC in 2011 and 2012.***

**John Klenert, Board of Directors, DC Vote**

John Klenert serves on the Board of Directors for DC Vote. ***He is contributing $100 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Jeff Blake Krehely, Independent Consultant**

Jeff is an Independent Consultant**. *He and his husband Trevor attended last year’s equality event and contributed $250 to the DCCC. He contributed $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Joel Kopperud, Director of Government Relations, CIAB**

Joel is the Director of Government Relations at the Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers. ***CIAB PAC contributed $15,000 to the DCCC this year. CIAB PAC contributed $15,000 to the DCCC in 2012 and 2011.***

**Shane Larson, Legislative Director, Communication Workers of America**

Shane is the Legislative Director for the Communications Workers of America. ***CWA PAC contributed $15,000 to the DCCC in 2011 and 2012. CWA PAC is contributing an undisclosed amount to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Pete Leon, Vice President, DowLohnes**

Pete is a Vice President at DowLohnes. ***He contributed $1,000 to the DCCC in 2010, and $500 in 2011. He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Joe Leskody, Press and Scheduling Assistant, Office of Rep. Wasserman-Schultz**

Joe is the Press and Scheduling Assistant at the Office of Rep. Wasserman-Schultz. ***He is contributing $200 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Keagan Lynch, Consultant, Accenture**

Keagan is a Consultant at Accenture. ***He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Mickey MacIntyre, Chief Program Officer, Compassion & Choices**

Mickey MacIntyre is the Chief Program Officer for Compassion & Choices. ***Mickey is contributing $250 to the DCCC through this event.***

**Alex Morin, Consultant, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP**

Alex Morin is a Consultant at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP. ***Alex is contributing $250 to the DCCC through this event.***

**Allen Orr, Founder, Orr Immigration Law P.C.**

Allen is the Founder of Orr Immigration Law Firm P.C.  ***Allen contributed $250 to the DCCC at the 2011 and 2010 Equality Reception’s hosted by Robert Raben.  Allen will contribute $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Daniel Rotman, Self-Employed Film-maker**

Daniel Rotman is a Self-Employed Film-maker. ***Daniel is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event. This will be his first contribution to the DCCC.***

**Kat Skiles, Communications Director, U.S. House**

Kat is a Communications Director for the United States House of Representatives. ***She is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Paul Smith, Partner, Jenner & Block**

Paul is a Partner at Jenner & Block. ***Paul contributed $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Gigi Sohn, President, Public Knowledge**

Gigi is the President and Co-Founder of Public Knowledge.  ***She contributed $250 to the DCCC through the 2009 Equality reception hosted by Robert Raben.  Gigi is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Steven Strauss, Deputy Associate Director, D.C. Department of Transportation**

Steven Strauss is the Deputy Associate Director of the D.C. Department of Transportation. ***He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Bryan Tackett, Senior Associate, Venn Strategies**

Bryan is a Senior Associate at Venn Strategies. ***He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Ted Trimpa, Principal & President, Trimpa Group**

Ted Trimpa is the Principal of TrimpaGroup, LLC, a national firm specializing in public policy advocacy and political strategy at the state and federal levels.  Trimpa is one of the country’s most sought-after advocates resulting from his deep understanding of the national and multi-state public policy, political and nonprofit landscape.  He has been recognized in national publications, including The Atlantic Monthly, National Review, The Advocate, and The Weekly Standard for his central role in designing cutting-edge public policy strategies. ***He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Samuel Twaun, Counsel, House Committee on Financial Services**

Samuel is a Counsel for the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services.  ***Samuel is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.  This will be his first contribution to the DCCC.***

**Jordan Vaughn, Assistant to Jim Messina, the Messina Group**

Jordan is an Assistant to Jim Messina at the Messina Group. ***He is contributing $200 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***

**Dale Vieregge, Senior Business Consultant, Aquilent**

Dale is a Senior Business Consultant at Aquilent. ***He is contributing an undisclosed amount to the DCCC through tonight’s event. Robert Raben invited him to attend.***

**Kurt Vorndran, Legislative Representative, National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU)**

Kurt is a Legislative Representative for NTEU. ***NTEU PAC contributed $15,000 to the DCCC this year.***

**Morgan Warners, Senior Associate, Glover Park Group**

Morgan is a Senior Associate at the Glover Park Group. ***He is contributing $250 to the DCCC through tonight’s event.***