

From: PARNELL, S (GOV sponsored) <sr.parnell@alaska.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2009 4:46 PM
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <govpalin@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Confidential and Deliberative travel

Sheesh...is about all I can say. It gets harder and more ridiculous.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2009, at 1:15 PM, "Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)" <govpalin@alaska.gov> wrote:

Fyi... this is along the lines of Todd being told he can travel to Juneau "for a good State reason that must be documented" those who fill out the TA's recently told us. This is impossible:

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
To: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Beecher, Carol L (GOV); Cockrell, Robert A (GOV)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Campbell, Craig (MVA); Lopez, Thomas M (GOV)
Sent: Mon Mar 09 09:59:31 2009
Subject: Confidential and Deliberative travel

To be told just two minutes ago... after much planning for the soldiers' funeral tomorrow, that non-military "probably can't travel" on military aircraft is very frustrating... especially knowing that other first spouses did. And knowing that non-military has traveled on military helicopters (I was with them when they did) in the past.

It was a week ago we started planning this with the plan for Trig to travel with me - so I left him in Wasilla upon my return to Juneau last night until we travel together to the funeral. The plan today was for Todd to attend also.

If I would have been informed a week ago that there was a wrinkle in this I would never have left Trig home, I would not have had Todd rearrange his schedule for the trip to attend the funeral, etc.

It sounds like, as usual, the wrinkles that prohibit my, and the First Gentleman's, participation in an important event is based on rules that we're not told of, or that change without this office's notice.

Frank Murkowski had his standing memo that stated if Nancy didn't attend, then he didn't attend. Everyone's seen the memo. I refer to it all the time re the example of the double standard applied to the Palins. I do not know why Todd has been continually excluded from First Spouse traditions and protocol, and I don't know why we haven't been allowed to have the same standing memo's message that Todd WILL participate in this Governor's gig of mine... despite the critics mission to force me to adhere to a double standard that changes constantly... and despite these adversaries mission to constantly divide my family via these changing rules, but enough is enough. The disrespect shown the First Gentleman through the Troopergate issue, the "no, you can't travel with her even though every other First Spouse did and does across the country", the bill we're handed now to pay the state for legitimate First Family and First Gentleman travel, etc is very embarrassing, frustrating and has not been a fair situation to deal with.

Less than 24-hr notice on this latest change for the funeral is not enough notice to make things work. I will try to either do this all commercially, or not go at all. But I am very disappointed in the lack of information shared during this planning time for an event that, to me, is extremely important for the First Gentleman and me to attend.