

**From:** McAllister, William D (GOV) <wdmcallister@soa.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2009 8:59 PM  
**To:** 'govpalin@alaska.gov'  
**Subject:** Fw: to answer your questions

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This is the last time I'll bother you with this: Dougherty's e-mail below indicates there never will be any fairness. But things have changed: It's no longer just ink; it's band-width. Yes, we can match their message, blog for blog, as the physical paper shrinks. Let me be the heavy with the proposed column.

You have tremendous support, as well you should. They need to have some encouragement, though. I do have a media strategy, but every time I start to articulate it, it becomes a committee discussion. For me to be my most effective, drawing on 30 years of experience, I need a solo meeting to talk through the options. Please let me know if that's possible.

But of course, failing that, I will execute whatever mission I get.

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Sent using BlackBerry

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**From:** Dougherty, Pat  
**To:** McAllister, William D (GOV)  
**Sent:** Thu Jan 15 18:27:23 2009  
**Subject:** RE: to answer your questions

Bill:

I understand that Kyle asked you some questions about Trig while reporting the impending Bristol pregnancy announcement story. The Trig questions were an expression of Kyle's own curiosity and initiative, not the pursuit of a story that the paper had any intention of publishing (which explains why we didn't publish a story). I would never try to control what questions are asked by reporters in the field, but reporters don't make the final decision about what stories get done for the paper. I can assure you that no Trig story had even been proposed, much less approved by me. So, yes, what I said was accurate: there was no serious effort to report a story about the Trig rumors.

I can see that this discussion is not headed anywhere useful. I've got other things to do.

Pat

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

**From:** McAllister, William D (GOV) [mailto:bill.mcallister@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2009 6:04 PM  
**To:** editorsblog  
**Subject:** Re: to answer your questions

Pat:

Was it honest of you, in your blog and in the other media, not to mention Kyle's badgering of me on this subject on Aug. 30-31? Talk about malpractice ...

Bill

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Sent using BlackBerry

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**From:** Dougherty, Pat  
**To:** McAllister, William D (GOV)  
**Sent:** Thu Jan 15 17:58:35 2009  
**Subject:** RE: to answer your questions

Bill:

Thanks for your note. No one knows what's in my heart -- except me. You know, I've been in the news business in Alaska for 34 years, 28 of them at the Daily News. I'm sure there are lots of people who don't like me or feel mistreated by me, but I don't think you will find many who will say that I've behaved dishonestly or dishonorably, as a journalist or as a person. When I tell you something, you may or may not not like it, but you can be absolutely certain that it's the truth as I know it.

If there were such a thing, I think the judgment of your office to go after the Daily News on this Trig stuff would constitute malpractice. At a minimum, it was a big missed opportunity for you. I would have liked nothing better than to drive a stake through the heart of this stupid conspiracy. The proponents have been writing me obnoxious and insulting emails for four or five months. I'm fed up.

But I wash my hands of the matter. Apparently we're all doomed to listen to this nonsense for months, maybe years to come.

I can understand why you would be upset with the paper now, But someone in your position has to have the long view. Sometimes we're your best friend, sometimes we're your worst nightmare. Your job is to get the most of the former and the least of the latter. Right now, from where I sit, you're taking the Murkowski approach -- minimize the former, don't affect the latter. That's not the winning formula.

I would appreciate it if this was just between you and me.

Pat

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

**From:** McAllister, William D (GOV) [mailto:bill.mcallister@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 09, 2009 3:13 PM  
**To:** editorsblog  
**Cc:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)  
**Subject:** to answer your questions

On your blog, you write:

"I think I was clear that we were not asking about Trig's birth in an effort to validate the conspiracy. Instead we were focused on the persistence of the conspiracy allegations. In the end, we didn't think the story was worth the effort required to develop it.

“So I don’t understand the behavior of the governor’s press office. Did the governor not share my email with the press staff? Did the press staff deliberately ignore what I said in order to have a longer list of press ‘outrages’? Or are they just sloppy with details? I don’t know.”

We have only your word for your motivation. It appears like something else to us. This is not a fact, either way. No one knows for sure what’s in your heart.

Yes, I saw your e-mail. It did not allay our concern. This story was pursued recently. We have a right to talk about that.

Bill McAllister  
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Office of Governor Sarah Palin  
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