



BARACK OBAMA ON ETHICS

As a state senator, Barack Obama worked with Republicans and Democrats to pass the most sweeping ethics reform in Illinois history. In Washington, he challenged leaders of both parties to pass the most ambitious ethics legislation since Watergate. Today he is the only presidential candidate who refuses contributions from Washington lobbyists and PACs. The President-Elect has recognized that whistleblower protection is essential to ensure ethical government. The Obama transition team website states:

Often the best source of information about waste, fraud, and abuse in government is an existing government employee committed to public integrity and willing to speak out. Such acts of courage and patriotism, which can sometimes save lives and often save taxpayer dollars, should be encouraged rather than stifled. We need to empower federal employees as watchdogs of wrongdoing and partners in performance. Barack Obama will strengthen whistleblower laws to protect federal workers who expose waste, fraud, and abuse of authority in government. Obama will ensure that federal agencies expedite the process for reviewing whistleblower claims and whistleblowers have full access to courts and due process.