## IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

VICTORIA JACKSON GRAY ADAMS,		Civil Action No. 02-cv-877-KLH-CKK-RJL
et. al., Plaintiffs,	)	consolidated with 02-cv-582-KLH-CKK-RJL (lead case)
-vs-	) ) )	and 02-cv-581-KLH-CKK-RJL 02-cv-633-KLH-CKK-RJL
THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION et al.,	)	02-cv-751-KLH-CKK-RJL 02-cv-753-KLH-CKK-RJL 02-cv-754-KLH-CKK-RJL
Defendants.	) ) )	02-cv-781-KLH-CKK-RJL 02-cv-874-KLH-CKK-RJL 02-cv-875-KLH-CKK-RJL 02-cv-881-KLH-CKK-RJL

## Declaration of Sam Gejdenson

- I, Sam Gejdenson, declare as follows:
- I served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from the Second District of Connecticut from 1981 to 2000 and now run an international trade company, Sam Gejdenson International.
- 2. During my tenure in Congress, I sponsored campaign finance reform legislation, and held many hearings on this topic across the United States. It became clear to me during these hearings that as the size of campaign contributions has increased, the average voter has felt more irrelevant to electoral politics. The growing importance of the largest contributions has depressed voter turnout and volunteerism. The new

generation of voters believes that politics is primarily about raising money to buy television advertising.

- 3. The increased contribution limits of the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act (BCRA) will convince many voters that their participation in politics is meaningless. When the wealthy few are permitted to contribute \$2,000 per election (or \$4,000 per cycle), and to gather \$2,000 from wealthy friends and relatives, those who cannot contribute or solicit large donations will be marginalized from politics. This will be even truer in cases where candidates with a wealthy, self-funded opponent are able to take contributions twice as high (or, in Senate races, up to \$12,000).
- 4. The increased contribution limits will enable those candidates who have access to large contributors to raise far more money. Those who lack such access will either be discouraged from seeking office, or will have to spend far more time fundraising. Under the current campaign finance system, I have observed that Members of Congress spend about three hours a day seeking contributions from large donors during the campaign, and at least three to six hours a week fundraising throughout the term. This will only worsen when maximum donors are able to multiply their clout, and fundraising will displace contact with voters.

I declare under penalty of perjury, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

This Z day of October, 2002.

Sam Geidenson