What Ever It Takes!

If you live long enough at some point in your life, you may ask yourself if the time I spent on this earth had any meaning. Years of striving and working to chase the elusive American dream may one day seem meaningless against the backdrop of life and history. It is very difficult for me to take comfort in the fact that in this country innocent people are losing their homes and even some becoming homeless in a country that has been considered by many the greatest nation on earth. While elected leaders and political bureaucrats at every level gather every two years to take care of government business and affairs in state houses across this nation the Congress meets every year in Washington DC.

The amount of time, energy and money wasted by elected leaders every time they meet could fund the annual budgets of many small nations. The shear number of worthless bills and resolutions that are put forth on paper require hundreds of acres of timber to be cut down just to make the paper needed to print thousands of pages of ridiculous political rhetoric that flows from the minds elected officials that could not operate a lemonade stand and keep the balance sheet in the black. During every political cycle in this nation a significant part of the general population gets revved up during the election season. They try to put into office those individuals they believe will represent them fairly or at least will work on their behalf to advance an agenda or ideology they want to see made into some kind of law or receive special consideration.

While all the backdoor deals and late-night secret meetings take place to perform the ritual of *"I'll scratch your back if you scratch mine"* tens of thousands of innocent people's lives are ruined due to fraud and corruption across the nation from the local school district, city, county, state, and federal levels of government. The number of lives that are impacted every day in Texas alone is staggering. Since 2006 efforts have been underway to expose fraud and corruption that has gone unchecked and ignored by elected leaders and public officials in high places in Austin Texas. History is one of the best tools in life's toolbox. As a student of history, I have been fascinated by stories of greatness and by those that describe mankind's greatest failures. Both offer the reader and student the ability to succeed or fail depending on one's own choices and decisions they make in light of what is recorded in books setting on shelves in libraries everywhere. There are and have been individuals elected to office at every level that have absolutely zero knowledge or aptitude regarding what it means to be a leader. They are simply the pawns that dangle at the end of strings pulled by people in high places controlling the purse strings of government. This is nothing new and has existed since the beginning of mankind. Only a very small and select group of men have ever held office that have demonstrated true leadership.

Most leaders in Texas simply sit back and observe which direction the political winds are blowing before they ever make a statement or decision regarding any matter pertaining to leading or governing the citizenry. The capital in Austin Texas is full of such individuals. They are simply there for the prestige and perks and cause more pain and suffering on innocent people who are losing everything they own everyday in Texas. This has to stop in Texas. At this time there are thousands of taxpayers and citizens that are finding out just how bad things are in Texas under the hood and behind the scenes.

The fraud and corruption in Washington DC cannot hold a candle to what exists in Texas. There is a major movement underway not only in Texas but across the nation to expose the fraud and corruption regarding school finance and bond debt and those responsible for the pain and suffering felt by tens of thousands of innocent people across the state. The problems regarding bonds issued by school districts and pension funds has been exposed. The picture is pretty bleak, and it involves over \$600,000,000,000.00 dollars in bonds that can never be repaid. While elected leaders in Austin are waiting to see which way the political winds are going to blow, a few individuals like me are creating the winds of change that will shape the future of Texas. Many like me have sacrificed thousands of hours and dollars over many years to expose and stop what has been allowed by leaders on the take. I will do "whatever it takes" to expose and hold accountable those leaders and individuals responsible for ruining the lives of innocent people in the State of Texas.

Now is the time for citizens of Texas to join together and fight to protect their livelihoods, wealth, homes and to secure the futures of their children. I cannot emphasize enough or with more compassion that history has shown us that history repeats itself over and over again. Texas and this nation as a whole has found itself at the crossroads of history again. Citizens and taxpayers are reliving the same times and conditions that existed during the 30-40-year period prior to the revolutionary war of 1776 against the British Government. The only thing different today is King Henry and Parliament have been replaced by governors and leaders in every state house across this nation. The colonist had no choice but to band together and put everything they owned and their very lives on the line to achieve victory. The question I am asking those who are paying attention to what is going on, are you going to sit on the sideline and let a corrupt government and its leaders rob you of everything you have worked for, or are you going to take a stand with others like me to right the ship and take control of your future?

> Jeff Mashburn Citizen of Texas

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