



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL

JACK KELLY
Room 594, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3201
(215) 686-3452 or 3453
Fax (215) 686-1925

COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

COMMITTEES

Member
Committee of the Whole
Rules
Appropriations
Law & Government
Licenses & Inspections
Transportation & Public Utilities
Technology & Information Services
Environment

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 24, 2009

OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF COUNCILMAN JACK KELLY

“From the very beginning, I approached this process with faith in the legal process-- which is grounded in a presumption of innocence guaranteed to each and every American citizen by the Constitution of the United States.

From the moment the allegations were brought forth, I was confident there would be a full airing of all of the facts in this trial, and over the past four weeks, this proved to be true.

When I was originally approached by agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation who were asking questions about Mr. Wright, I was fully cooperative, and I remained that way throughout the entire process. I acted in a manner which I believe every responsible elected official would and should -- that is, by trying to be part of the solution to any problem that may have existed.

In the end, I believe that Mr. Wright was given a fair trial. Although over his long career with the City of Philadelphia he has assisted countless residents, the jury has concluded that in these instances Mr. Wright violated the public's trust, and he must now face the consequences.

I wish Mr. Wright well in whatever lies ahead for him, and hope that, once he had paid his debt to society, he can rebuild his life.

I want to thank my attorney, Mr. George Bochetto, who did an outstanding job of corresponding with authorities and assisting me with many of the procedural matters related to my testimony.

Also, I would be remiss if I didn't thank my excellent staff for all of their hard-work and their ability to make a flawless transition during this process. Their dedication is truly laudable.

This is all I will say regarding this matter. I look forward to returning to City Council business, and I will remain focused on moving this City forward throughout this fiscal crisis, and upcoming budget process.”

Thank You.
- Councilman Jack Kelly