

Glenda Wiles

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Subject: Daines Staffer Requests More Context In MTPR Story | MTPR - Public comment S 2206

<http://mtpir.org/post/daines-staffer-requests-more-context-mtpr-story>

Daines Staffer Requests More Context In MTPR Story

Eric Whitney



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On Wednesday, Montana Public Radio aired a story about Senator Steve Daines' visit to Missoula. In that story, we heard from two people who

were critical of Daines for not sticking to his schedule, accusing him of trying to evade the public.

Today, we were contacted by the Senator's Chief of Staff, Jason Thielman, who thought it was important for listeners to know more about the people we heard from.

Thielman said, "The two sources in the story that you all provided are two active Democrat operatives. One's a DNC delegate for Bernie Sanders (Teresa Jacobs), and the other (Eileen McGurty) was an organizer for Democrat congressional nominee Rob Quist. And I think the context of understanding the motivation and the purpose of those sources in the story as people whose goal is to disrupt and organize and activate as active partisans is important context to appreciate on why they're doing what they're doing and the approach that they're taking."

I asked Thielman: "You think it's important for people to know that these weren't just random constituents showing up and wanting to talk to the Senator?"

"Correct," he replied. "Correct. I mean, folks have contacted the office I think nearly a hundred times and received many, many responses on their issues for that matter. But, again, they're folks whose sole goal and purpose is to disrupt and elect Democrats. And that's a perspective and a source that people should understand why they're doing what they're doing. It's not to engage the Senator, it's to defeat the Senator."