



## NEWS INVESTIGATION – 3rd video - - “Fact Checking Fact Checkers...” (5 minutes) – shows FactCheck/ PolitiFact transcripts & “Conventional Wisdom”

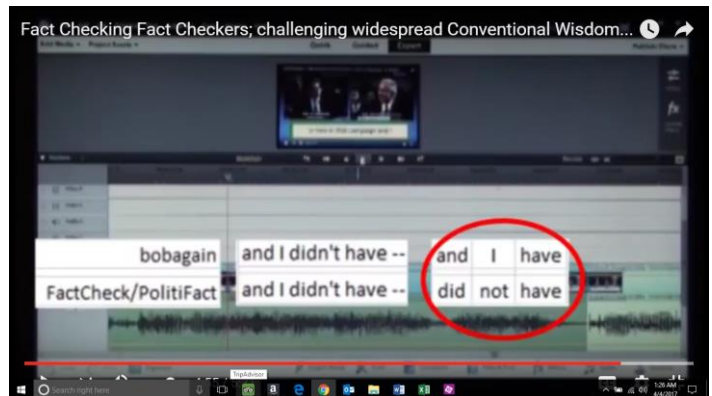
that AG Sessions lied at confirmation hearing are factually  
wrong; letters sent to AG Sessions, Sen. Franken

**Disclosure:** “Candidate-Journalist” Bob “Again” Carney Jr., (“bobagain”) is a registered Lobbyist at the Minnesota State Legislature for “*We the People*” -- an informal association.

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**Minneapolis 4/4/17** – Widespread media reports that Attorney General Jeff Sessions may have lied at his confirmation hearing are factually wrong. Sadly this “long dead news” -- now over a month old – has hardened into a kind of fossilized “Conventional Wisdom” that Sessions lied. Fortunately we still have youtube.com – here is a link to bobagain’s new 5 minute video – distilling and condensing the proof from an earlier 28 minute video that the FactCheck and PolitiFact transcripts are simply wrong: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWBIdhnZQMY>



Here’s the key phrase in Sessions’ answer to Sen. Franken -- with identical words in both transcripts – the two challenged words are in bold type:

“...and I didn’t have – **did not** have communications with the Russians...”

Based on a painstaking, good-faith effort to determine the exact words -- and considering that we sometimes correct misstatements in unscripted speech, or start over for other reasons -- bobagain claims a correct transcript of the exact words that Sessions spoke is (again with the challenged words in bold type):

“...and I didn’t have – **and I** have communications with the Russians...”

The “Fact Checking Fact Checkers...” video relies on enhancement techniques – in particular, the videotape is first recorded from a laptop with speakers, then loaded into video editing software and enhanced at half speed, with a pitch adjustment to keep the voice from dropping one octave. Pauses are also inserted between individual words – however, it is admittedly difficult to find a clean break between the two disputed words.

FactCheck.org and PolitiFact.org (and the Washington Post) must -- as a matter of basic journalistic integrity -- retract and correct their false reports. Since the words Sessions spoke are not the ones rendered by the current FactCheck.org and PolitiFact.org transcripts, appropriate retractions and corrections would remove the foundation for the “Conventional Wisdom” that “Sessions Lied.”

Bobagain is calling on journalists and others involved with the “Mainstream Media” to work with him -- to get to the bottom of this story, and to bring about the necessary retractions and corrections. In addition, bobagain has written both Attorney General Sessions and Sen. Franken – to bring to their attention his challenge of the FactCheck/PolitiFact transcript, and to ask for responses to specific questions.

This is the third NEWS RELEASE bobagain has sent to a media list of over two hundred contacts. “Frankly, I’m mystified as to why there has been virtually no response to my reporting and my claims,” bobagain said, and added: “my main reason for producing the newest, five minute video is to provide the most highly



condensed, efficient rendering of my claims and evidence that I possibly can. I’ll contact journalists and others personally – in person whenever possible, to urge them to take five minutes to study this. I would like the media to lead the way in setting the record straight, and am trying to give them every opportunity and incentive to do this. But of course today we have a fall-back option -- social media -- that I’ll also be pursuing,” bobagain concluded.

One question that has frequently been posed to bobagain is along this line, rendered as a kind of composted paraphrase: “If you’re right, why has Sessions not aggressively challenged what can only be seen as a major factual error in the reporting on this huge story?” This will be investigated in Part Two of the “Fact Checking Fact Checkers...” series. “However, there’s a kind of ‘blame the victim’ aspect to this approach,” – bobagain noted, and added “an equally if not more important aspect to the investigation is the question: what did the Fact Checkers do, **and not do**, to verify that their transcript is accurate?, and this crucial follow-up: did they present Sessions with any draft of what they believed to be an accurate transcript before reporting it as a fact?”

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