



September 10, 2018

HONORABLE LOUISIANA GOVERNOR JOHN BEL EDWARDS
P O BOX 94004
BATON ROUGE LA 70804-9004

DELIVERED VIA CERTIFIED MAIL: ARTICLE #: 7011 3090 0002 5980 6140

Dear Gov. Edwards:

- You ran your 2015 campaign for Governor repeating the mantra that, **“I live by the West Point Honor Code. I do not lie, cheat, steal, or tolerate those who do,”** after which you stated, **“It’s time Louisiana demanded a little integrity.”**
- On April 20, 2016, you appointed **Jacob Warren, from your hometown of Amite, Louisiana, to the Louisiana Auctioneer Licensing Board (LALB) and named him Chairman.** Twelve (12) days later, on May 2, 2016, you appointed Jacob Brown, the son of convicted felon auctioneer Cecil Brown, to the LALB.
- Your administration awarded contracts to Brown for the auction of state surplus property.
- **Jacob Brown issued \$175,342.67 in worthless checks to the state in connection with those contracts.**
- Brown has also been sued by EBRP sales tax authorities for \$29,000+ in unpaid sales taxes.
- **On January 27, 2017, the LALB deliberated a proposal to increase the \$10,000 bond upon which taxpayers (and other privately-owned consignors) rely to recover funds for actions such as Brown’s.**
- Warren and Brown both opposed the measure, with **Warren vocally leading the opposition.**
- You quietly removed Brown from the LALB shortly before his **July 18, 2018 arrest by LSP for alleged theft of the taxpayers of Louisiana.**
- LALB officials have been recorded on video at prior LALB meetings stating that Brown has been **“in the hospital,”** and **one of Brown’s non-government victims told me Brown’s arrest was delayed until after he completed drug rehab.**
- **Based on the preceding observation, a substantial portion, if not all, of Brown’s alleged theft of taxpayer dollars appears to have likely been utilized to support his drug habit.**



→ You have the full authority **ON YOUR OWN** to issue an order for the LALB to reimburse taxpayers for their losses! To substantiate same, please visit www.SoundOffLa.com and view a brief video of past concerns of LALB Vice Chairman James Sims that your predecessor, Bobby Jindal, may “raid the funds of this board.” The video, which is under two minutes in total length, will also depict former long-time LALB Chairman Delmar “Buster” Gay admitting that he sent “4 or 5 LALB members to the NAA convention because the Governor was going to confiscate our surplus funds.”

→ The LALB now has \$308,000 in cash on hand, representing 4 ½ years of operating expenses.

→ In conformity with your Honor Code Mantra and your own call for “Louisiana to demand a little integrity,” I hereby call upon you to #1) order the LALB to remit a check for \$175,342.67 to recover allegedly stolen state taxpayer funds, and #2) issue a check to EBRP to recover its lost sales tax funds, both of which appear to have quite likely been diverted to support your LALB appointee’s drug habit.

→ Referencing back to your 2015 campaign for Governor, you also referenced U. S. Sen. David Vitter, your opponent, having missed a vote to honor veterans as constituting, “Prostitutes over patriots.”

→ If you decline to exercise your power outlined two bullet points above, will it be fair game in the 2019 Governor’s race for an opponent to state: “John Bel Edwards: drug addicts over taxpayers?”

→ I ask that you “walk the walk” and not merely “talk the talk” entailing your West Point Honor Code, and I hereby respectfully request that you issue an order as instructed above (and thereby free up the \$10,000 bond coverage to permit private consignors also victimized by Brown’s actions to be at least partially compensated).

Sincerely,


Robert Edwin Burns,
Sound Off Louisiana

Cc: The 20 Members of the *Sound Off Louisiana*’s Louisiana Legislative “Wall of Excellence” (i.e. those who voted “no” on every single sales tax proposal in 2018 legislative sessions), itemized as follows:

Reps.: Breyll Amedee’, Raymond Crews, Rick Edmonds, Julie Emerson, Reid Falconer, Raymond Garafalo, Cameron Henry, Valarie Hodges, Dotie Horton, Barry Ivey, Sherman Mack, Blake Miguez, John C. “Jay” Morris, Alan Seabaugh, Kirk Talbot, Mark Wright

Sens.: Sharon Hewitt, John Milkovich, Beth Mizell, Johnathan Perry, Neil Riser

Also CC: U. S. Sen. John Kennedy, U. S. Congressmen Ralph Abraham and Garret Graves