

## Faculty member lawsuit against President Trump

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From: Garry Jenkins <gjenkins@[REDACTED]>  
To: Karen Hanson <karhan@[REDACTED]>, Amy Phenix <pheni001@[REDACTED]>, Chuck Tombarge <tombarge@[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Allan Erbsen <aerbsen@[REDACTED]>, June Carbone <jcarbone@[REDACTED]>  
Bcc: Cynthia Huff <huffx070@[REDACTED]>  
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Dear Karen, Amy, and Chuck:

I have not personally heard from Professor Painter about this, so I am just learning of this through the media, but I did want to alert you right away:

<http://www.startribune.com/lawsuit-trump-businesses-violate-constitution/411516705/>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-trump-ethics-lawsuit-idUSKBN15701V>

[https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/22/us/politics/trump-foreign-payments-constitution-lawsuit.html?\\_r=0](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/22/us/politics/trump-foreign-payments-constitution-lawsuit.html?_r=0)

Evidently, Professor Richard Painter, the S. Walter Richey Professor of Corporate Law (who was Chief Ethics Officer to President George W. Bush), has joined with some other prominent academics, leading lawyers, and a national nonprofit (Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington) to bring a lawsuit against President Donald Trump, arguing that he is violating the emoluments clause of the Constitution by allowing his business to accept payments from foreign governments.

At this point, I don't know any more than what's in the media reports, but I will keep you informed if I hear anything new. To be clear, this is not a case handled by the Law School or its clinics, but rather, this is an individual faculty exercising his academic freedom to engage in service.

Best,  
Garry

Garry W. Jenkins  
Dean & William S. Pattee Professor of Law  
University of Minnesota Law School | [law.umn.edu](http://law.umn.edu)  
[gjenkins@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:gjenkins@[REDACTED]) | t. [REDACTED] | f. [REDACTED]

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**