



# COMMON SENSE

With Paul Jacob



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## Feeling Sorry for Oklahoma?

I'm beginning to feel sorry for Oklahoma.

That may seem a little strange to regular listeners\*. They know that Oklahoma Attorney General Drew Edmondson is prosecuting me, along with two other activists, for work on a 2005 petition drive to cap state spending. He's trying to throw us in prison for ten years.

This legal assault is "unjust" and "politically-motivated." Those words aren't mine: An Oklahoma City University law professor argued that this prosecution is "unjust," and a state senator charged the AG's actions are "politically-motivated."

Since Edmondson began his chilling attack on the right to petition one's government, poor Oklahoma has been compared to some horribly tyrannical regimes. An editorial in *Forbes* asked, "Has Oklahoma Been Annexed by North Korea?" A *Wall Street Journal* editorial connected the Sooner State to the kind of repression practiced in Pakistan.

And now, columnist Paul Mulshine with the *New Jersey Star Ledger* condemns Edmondson, saying Russia's Vladimir Putin "could learn a thing or two from the Oklahoma boys."

But wait a second. There are great people in Oklahoma. They don't support this outrageous abuse of power.

As those of us threatened in Oklahoma finally have our *preliminary* hearing, I'm confident that this vicious attack has awoken Oklahomans . . . and Americans. Eyes wide open, Americans in Oklahoma and elsewhere will fight to protect the initiative process.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.