

November 26, 2015

Compatriots, We — For Liberty!

Thank you. It's Thanksgiving, a good day to say so.

What a great idea for a holiday — a thoroughly American one, unpretentious and unspoiled. Centered on family and friends, the day may be the most important of the year, something we all share, in no small part because it is when we count (and publicly acknowledge) our blessings.



First on the list?

The blessing of liberty, of course. The freedom to work and produce and to keep the fruits of your labor. In order to put food on the table (a LOT of GOOD food.)

And, because man does not live by bread alone, to do it your way, independently, by the sweat of your own brow and the work of your wits — not as any man's slave, nor riding anyone's back . . . including the taxpayer.

Thanksgiving thus serves to celebrate that quintessential American Dream: standing on one's own two feet . . . with friends, family, and freedom.

I have a further reason to thank you, though, other than this date on the calendar.

And no, it's not simply for reading **Common Sense** and allowing me to bring you heaping helpings of honest outrage, and resolve, stories of perseverance, commitment to principle, tales of "doing something about it," offering a bit of humor, hopefully providing some good information and argumentative ammunition, a perspective on smart grassroots politics in this state or that, a lens on corrupt politicians and their latest schemes in a city or town all the way across the country.

I'm thanking you for something even more important.

Don't get me wrong. **Common Sense** is important. I love riffing on the latest insanity, or success

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— especially presenting stories that can spur copy-cat campaigns, initiatives, legal actions and, in a word, **ACTION**.

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, after all.

You and I: we're the folks taking responsibility for the future of freedom. We're committed to doing the hard work of political reform.

Right?

It ain't easy. We need to support each other, learn from one another, and work together — even when we are many miles apart. We have to build a smarter, more united pro-liberty community.

That's why I write Common Sense.

To communicate with *you* . . . and other important individuals. All of us hanging together — and not “hanging separately,” as old Ben Franklin once quipped — because our efforts are absolutely essential to protecting the values of freedom, responsibility and independence.

Friend, we pay our dues (and more) — for otherwise your children and grandchildren, and mine, will face a world without what we hold so dear.

I started **Liberty Initiative Fund** to help citizen activists place tax limits, term limits, criminal justice reforms, and other pro-liberty and anti-crony measures on state and local ballots. I also serve as president of **Citizens in Charge Foundation**, which protects our crucial ability to use the citizen initiative and referendum process to hold government accountable.

Thankfully, **Citizens in Charge Foundation** financially supports **Common Sense**, allowing my compatriots to make tax-deductible contributions to keep this communication network alive and kicking.

Of course, it all comes down to you. This program, this Common Sense network doesn't exist without your caring and support.

You know, I adore the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. As I know you do, too. But words on paper don't keep us free unless there are people, like you and me, standing up for those words.

Stand with me again today and support **Common Sense** by joining **Team 1776**.

What's “Team 1776”? It's a group of folks like you who believe in the values of liberty and in building a network around those values through this communication vehicle. **Members of Team 1776 care enough to provide our financial foundation by making a one-time gift of \$1,776. Or they donate more. Or less. Whatever they can afford to give.**

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Many join Team 1776 with a monthly pledge of \$17.76, which doesn't hit the checkbook so hard (less than 60-cents a day), but adds up big-time for Common Sense — especially with more people stepping up to make that commitment.



Between today and the end of the year, I need to raise \$30,000 to keep the Common Sense coming. I hope you have a great Thanksgiving Day and that you'll claim this Common Sense program as one of your blessings.

Thanks for all you do and for your consideration now.

This is Common Sense. You make it possible. I'm Paul Jacob . . . and mighty grateful.

P.S. Your gift to Citizens in Charge Foundation for Common Sense is **fully tax-deductible and 100 percent will go to the support and expansion of this program.** Be part of Team 1776 by making a contribution or a monthly pledge today. [Click here to make a donation by credit card.](#) If you prefer to [mail a check](#), please write "Team 1776" in the memo line.

P.P.S. My rough draft of this letter was titled, "Hey Comrades — Send Money!" I chuckled. My Web guy chuckled. But "comrades" is a commie word. We're not even socialists, right? Sociable individualists, I like to think of us. Patriotic Americans. *Compatriots*. The word "compatriot" means both *fellow countryman* and *colleague*. And most of my readers (though certainly not all) are Americans like me, and almost all of you are colleagues ("comrades" without the bad connotations) in an important cause, a cause that must triumph. So this may be a better way to think of us: *Compatriots for Freedom!* Let's make an impact . . . by saving civilization.

P.P.P.S. Thanks again. **Happy Turkey Day!**