



For Immediate Release

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BREAKING: Senator Toomey Calls Authorities on Constituents Delivering Supreme Court Petitions

PENNSYLVANIA – A handful of Senator Toomey’s constituents attempted to peacefully deliver a stack of petitions today with more than 27,000 signatures from Pennsylvanians imploring Senator Pat Toomey to do his job after he and his Senate colleagues vowed not to hold hearings on any Supreme Court nominee put forward by President Obama.

Shockingly, instead of listening to his constituents’ concerns about his obstruction, the Senator’s staff responded by obstructing his own constituents from visiting his public office. Senator Toomey’s staff called the authorities in an attempt to forcibly remove the constituents who were attempting to deliver the #DoYourJob petitions asking him to consider President Obama’s Supreme Court nominee.

Just hours after learning of the death of Justice Antonin Scalia, Republican Senate leadership pledged to block any appointment made by President Obama. Pennsylvania Senator Pat Toomey quickly fell in line with Senate leadership. Now, he’s not only obstructing in the Senate, he’s obstructing in his own constituents from visiting his public district office.

"We came to Senator Toomey’s office today to have a conversation between constituents and our elected official--to let him know that the majority of Pennsylvanians are very concerned that he is refusing to fulfill his constitutional obligation. Pennsylvanians are showing--through the tens of thousands of petitions they’ve signed--that they expect more from a senator who has touted his cooperation and progress on judicial vacancies in the state. We did not expect to leave with security personnel chasing us down the hall, the police on the way, and news cameras all around us. **Our message was to stop the obstruction, but even we didn’t realize just how far Senator Toomey was willing to take that obstruction,**" said Christine Stone, Co-Chair of the Why Courts Matter PA Coalition.

In attendance today were: Christine Stone and Jodi Hirsh, Why Courts Matter PA, Heather Arnet, Women and Girls Foundation, Silas Russell, SEIU Healthcare PA, Richard Granger, UFCW Local 23, Kitsy McNulty, Common Cause, Doug Webster, Progressive Change Campaign Committee.

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Why Courts Matter PA is a coalition of organizations and advocates who have come together to ensure that our federal courts work to the benefit of all Americans in keeping with the core constitutional values of liberty, equality and justice for all. WCM-PA supports an appointment and confirmation process that identifies and provides timely confirmation votes for well-qualified nominees for federal judgeships who are dedicated to fairness and impartiality. Learn more about WCM-PA [here](#).

