



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Setting the Record Straight...

On Yesterday's Misleading CBS Miami Report

Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. — In response to CBS Miami's story yesterday, Patrick Murphy campaign manager Josh Wolf made the following statement:

"CBS Miami's deeply false story is completely inaccurate in several claims. Overnight there were already seven corrections to this story.

"In an effort to be as transparent as possible with proprietary corporate records, our campaign shared over 70 pages of corporate records with CBS Miami and submitted over 2,000 words of answers to questions. Almost none of the information we provided is reflected in CBS Miami's deeply inaccurate reporting, which invents a story about Patrick's life that is unrecognizable to anyone who knows him.

"Patrick is a licensed CPA. He was an accountant and auditor at Deloitte, earned his CPA license while working there, and continued to work there auditing Fortune 500 companies after earning his license. CBS Miami's sensational claim is completely false. While we know dozens of hopeful Republican staffers will be disappointed, CBS Miami's report shows that Patrick Murphy owned an environmental cleanup company, owned skimming vessels, and had contracts to clean up oil. Our campaign even shared the cleanup contracts with an investigative reporter, contracts that America Rising was so sure didn't exist they created a [whole iPhone app about them](#)."

FACT CHECK:

CLAIM	FACT
<p>“Murphy took the [CPA] licensing exam nine times before passing it.”*</p>	<p>PATRICK DID NOT TAKE THE LICENSING EXAM NINE TIMES BEFORE PASSING IT</p> <p>There Are Four Sections Of The CPA Exam. “After successfully passing all four sections of the CPA exam, the next step is to complete the other requirements for obtaining a CPA license in the state in which you plan to ultimately practice as a CPA.” [National Association of State Boards of Accounting, accessed 5/25/16]</p> <p>Patrick Took The Whole Test Twice, And Re-Took One Section An Additional Time. Contrary to CBS Miami’s reporting, Murphy only took the whole CPA exam twice. He failed, then passed the Auditing, Business Environment, and Regulation sections of the CPA exam. Murphy twice did not pass, then passed, the Financial Account section of the CPA exam. [Murphy Vermont CPA Exam Application, 6/2009]</p> <p>Deloitte Colleague: The CPA Test is the Same In Every State, And “It Was Very Common For People To Take The Standardized Exam In Other States.” “The Murphy campaign provided a statement from one of Murphy’s colleagues at Deloitte and Touche praising his work... ‘It was very common for people to take the standardized exam in other states where they qualified,’ wrote Alexander Menendez, who also donated \$1,500 to Murphy’s 2012 campaign. ‘It is also important to note that CPA is a standardized test so, regardless of the state, the information tested is the same.’” [Politico, 6/6/16]</p> <p>PATRICK’S EXAM PERFORMANCE WAS ON PAR WITH OTHERS TAKING THE EXAM IN THE SAME PERIOD</p> <p>Less Than Half The People Who Took One Of The Four CPA Exams Between 2006 And 2008 Passed. According to statistics from the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts (AICPA), the uniform CPA examination passing rate for 2006-2008 were under 50%. [AICPA, 2006; AICPA, 2007; AICPA, 2008]</p> <p><i>* indicates material that was corrected overnight, but that will surely appear in Republican attack ads.</i></p>

<p>“It’s worth noting, at the outset, Murphy’s involvement with Coastal Environmental was brief, no more than two to five months.”</p>	<p>MURPHY LED THE COMPANY’S CLEANUP EFFORT FROM MAY TO OCTOBER</p> <p>For six months Patrick was in the Gulf, working on the cleanup operation. That includes setting up and running the skimming operation, from assembling the skimmer vessels and redesigning them, to acquiring contracts and skimming oil.</p>
<p>“For instance, he has never worked a day in his life as a Certified Public Accountant.”</p>	<p>PATRICK EARNED HIS CPA LICENSE WHILE WORKING AS AN AUDITOR AT DELOITTE & TOUCHE</p> <p>In his third year at Deloitte & Touche, Patrick earned his CPA license. He worked at Deloitte with his CPA license for over half a year, during which his training and skills were called upon. As a young staffer, not a partner or experienced executive, of course Patrick never signed audit opinions for clients, and he has never claimed to.</p>
<p>“And he was never a small business owner.”</p>	<p>PATRICK IS AN OWNER OF COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, A BUSINESS INCORPORATED IN FLORIDA</p> <p>COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES WAS A SMALL BUSINESS</p> <p>Coastal Environmental Fulfilled All The Requirements To Be Classified As A Small Business By The United States Small Business Administration. “The SBA, for most industries, defines a ‘small business’ either in terms of the average number of employees over the past 12 months, or average annual receipts over the past three years. In addition, SBA defines a U.S. small business as a concern that: Is organized for profit Has a place of business in the US Operates primarily within the U.S. or makes a significant contribution to the U.S. economy through payment of taxes or use of American products, materials or labor Is independently owned and operated Is not dominant in its field on a national basis.” [US Small Business Administration, accessed 6/23/16]</p>
<p>“The most significant revelation, however, is that neither Patrick Murphy nor Coastal</p>	<p>THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO OBTAIN A CONTRACT. PURCHASING, INSTEAD OF BEING “AWARDED,” A CONTRACT IS NOT A “SIGNIFICANT</p>

<p>Environmental Services were awarded a single contract to clean up oil in the Gulf.”</p>	<p>REVELATION”</p> <p><i>IN FACT, CBS MIAMI REPORTED THAT COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL HAD TWO CONTRACTS TO CLEAN UP OIL IN THE GULF</i></p> <p>CBS Miami: Patrick Murphy Campaign Provided Two Contracts For Oil Cleanup In The Gulf. “The Murphy campaign provided two documents related to the cleanup. The first contract was dated June 28, 2010. And since the Murphy campaign will not allow CBS4 News to release the name of the firm that issued the contract, we’ll refer to them as ‘Company One.’ Under this contract, ‘Company One’ hired an oil skimming company called Crescent SR, a Louisiana-based firm owned by Kenneth Taylor Beery. Nowhere in this agreement is Coastal Environmental or Patrick Murphy mentioned. The contract is for no more than 90 days with Crescent being paid an undisclosed daily rate. The second contract is dated July 30, 2010 with ‘Company Two,’ and it is also with Crescent SR, to perform oil skimming work in the Gulf as needed.” [CBS Miami, 6/22/16]</p>
<p>“And while it did operate, according to state records, Murphy wasn’t the president of the company. He was vice president.”</p>	<p>PATRICK HAS ALWAYS SAID HE WAS VICE-PRESIDENT OF COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL</p> <p>2012 Candidate Details: Patrick “Currently Serves As Vice President Of Coastal Environmental Services.” “Patrick Murphy is running to represent Florida’s 18th Congressional district. He currently serves as Vice President of Coastal Environmental Services, which specializes in disaster relief and environmental cleanup.” [GiveGreen, candidate details, 2012]</p> <p>Press Release: “Coastal Construction Group Of Miami Has Named Erin Murphy Vice President Of Coastal Environmental Services.” “Coastal Construction Group of Miami has named Erin Murphy vice president of Coastal Environmental Services. The newly formed affiliate of Coastal Construction Group specializes in disaster relief and clean-up efforts. Murphy will oversee the launch, development and operations of Coastal Environmental Services.” [Southeast Construction, 11/1/10]</p> <p>Miami Herald: “Murphy Was Named Vice President Of Coastal Environmental Services.” “After the BP oil spill in April 2010, Murphy was named vice president of Coastal Environmental Services — a new subsidiary that focused on environmental clean-up.” [Miami Herald, 6/3/16]</p> <p>2010 Press Release: Patrick Was VP Of Coastal</p>

	<p>Environmental Services. “The NSRRV is the most effective, economical and reliable boat in the industry,” said Coastal Environmental Services VP Erin Murphy. “It is highly maneuverable, can spin within its own length, is trailerable, self launching and can be activated quickly whenever an oil spill is detected.” [Marine Log, 10/13/10]</p>
<p>“In public, Murphy always said his business was ‘affiliated’ with his father’s business Coastal Construction, one of the largest construction companies in the country.”</p>	<p>THIS IS CORRECT: IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT PATRICK’S COMPANY WAS AN AFFILIATE OF COASTAL CONSTRUCTION GROUP</p> <p>National Journal: Patrick Was Vice President Of Affiliate Company. “The BP oil spill off the Louisiana and Florida coasts took place about this time, inspiring Murphy to form Coastal Environmental Services, which allowed the company to branch out into disaster relief and cleanup. As the affiliate’s vice president, Murphy traveled to affected areas and promoted a unique line of oil-skimming boats used to clean the water through mechanical means.” [National Journal, 12/2/12]</p> <p>Murphy Said Coastal Environmental Was “A Small Business And Its Affiliated To A Larger Parent Company.” MURPHY: “I rejoined the family business, which is Coastal Construction and I decided to start a small affiliated company called Coastal Environmental and that was because of the BP Oil Spill. You all probably remember after that spill took place they said that oil was going come down Florida’s west coast through the Keys and up the Gulf Stream. So I decided to start a small fleet of oil skimmers, put them to work in the Gulf of Mexico. That is a small business and its affiliated to a larger parent company.” [WPTV Debate, 10/20/12] (Video)</p>
<p>“In fact, it is now apparent, Coastal Environmental was controlled and operated by Coastal Construction. Incorporation papers show the depths to which Coastal Environmental and Coastal Construction are intertwined.”</p>	<p>PATRICK MURPHY RAN COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</p> <p>This is what it means to be an affiliated company: that the companies share some top-level management and staff. However, Coastal Construction Group did not own Coastal Environmental Services.</p> <p>Murphy Launched Coastal Environmental Services As An Affiliate Of Coastal Construction Group. “Coastal Construction Group of Miami has named Erin Murphy vice president of Coastal Environmental Services. The newly formed affiliate of Coastal Construction Group specializes in disaster relief and clean-up efforts. Murphy will oversee the launch, development and operations of Coastal Environmental Service.”</p>

	[Southeast Construction, 11/1/10]
<p>“Thomas Murphy made sure his son attended private schools...”</p> <p>“Thomas Murphy, no doubt, had bigger plans...”*</p> <p>“His father already held a long fascination with politics...”*</p>	<p>CBS MIAMI CANNOT KNOW THE THOUGHTS OF SOMEONE WHO DECLINED TO COMMENT</p> <p>CBS Miami: “Thomas Murphy Did Not Return Calls Seeking His Comment For This Story.” [CBS Miami, 6/22/16]</p> <p><i>* indicates material that was corrected overnight, but that will surely appear in Republican attack ads.</i></p>
<p>“If Patrick were to enter the world of politics, his father’s money was only going to get him so far. He would need to give the appearance he was more than some rich kid. He would need something of his own to stand on.”</p> <p>"Murphy’s rise is extraordinary because of how little he seems to have accomplished to get here."</p> <p>"Murphy was struggling to find his footing in the world." *</p> <p>"The school has also produced an array of business titans in its storied history...[Murphy] did not seem destined to join their ranks." *</p> <p>"He was...seemingly going nowhere." *</p> <p>"Patrick was less interested in the family business. For him, politics seemed a perfect expansion for the Murphy brand." *</p>	<p>THIS STORY, INVENTED BY CBS MIAMI WITHOUT EVIDENCE, IS UNRECOGNIZABLE TO ANYONE WHO KNOWS PATRICK MURPHY.</p> <p><i>PATRICK HAS ALWAYS BEEN CLEAR ABOUT HIS MOTIVATIONS FOR EARNING A CPA LICENSE, STARTING HIS ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP BUSINESS, AND RUNNING FOR CONGRESS.</i></p> <p>Patrick Said The BP Oil Spill, The Iraq War, And The Rise Of The Tea Party Inspired Him Run For Congress. “Then comes 2010. The BP oil spill happened, I was at the family business then, and said what a great opportunity to get involved in the cleanup ... I also saw 182 million gallons of oil spilling into the Gulf of Mexico. And I heard my friends across the aisle talking about drilling more oil offshore. I said, ‘You know what? Not only am I going to switch parties, but I’m going to do something about it.’ That’s when I threw my hat into the ring against Allen West.” [Palm Beach Post, 10/16/15]</p> <p>Patrick Went To Work At Deloitte & Touche After A Mentor Urged Him To Break Out On His Own For A While. “Upon graduation, Murphy went back to Coastal to learn more from the family business. He worked in accounting for about a year before he said a Coastal executive urged him to break out on his own for a while. Murphy took the advice and got a job at Deloitte & Touche in Miami, a nationally recognized accounting firm. He spent almost three years auditing the finances of Fortune 500 companies, he said.” [Miami Herald, 6/3/16]</p> <p>Murphy Started Coastal Environmental Services To Protect Florida and the Keys. “They talked about the oil coming down the loop current, coming down Florida’s west coast, through the Florida Keys and then up the Gulfstream. And I’m from the Florida Keys, born down there. Nobody was talking about what</p>

	<p>they were going to do to really clean up or be prepared. So this was a real opportunity to say, 'Wow, I'll be the guy to get the oil skimmers ready, protect our shores.' I was ready to move on and start my own business anyway, so this was a great opportunity to not only protect Florida but do my own thing." [CBS Miami, 6/22/16]</p>
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Paid for by Friends of Patrick Murphy.

Friends of Patrick Murphy

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