Sen. Sessions Belatedly Supplements His Senate Judiciary Questionnaire—
But Dozens of Items Still Missing and Records for Two Decades Still Largely Absent

On Friday night, December 23—two weeks after Senator Sessions submitted his Senate Judiciary Questionnaire (SJQ) for his nomination to be Attorney General—he submitted a supplement with hundreds of new entries.

This supplement confirms our initial report, on December 14, which demonstrated that his SJQ was “shockingly incomplete.” Indeed, many of his additional entries are based on the findings in our report.

However, Senator Sessions’ SJQ remains astonishingly deficient, with two decades of his career still largely missing and dozens of more recent items still omitted—including an interview just last month. Especially as Senator Sessions continues to refuse to take the confirmation process seriously, Judiciary Committee Chair Chuck Grassley’s double standard in scheduling this hearing is all the more appalling.

As Judiciary Committee Chair, Senator Chuck Grassley has scheduled consideration of two Attorney General nominations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loretta Lynch</th>
<th>Jeff Sessions</th>
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<td>Grassley schedules hearing: Jan. 16, 2015 (46 days later)</td>
<td>Dec. 9, 2016 (same day)</td>
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<td>Grassley holds hearings: Jan. 28-29, 2015 (58 days later)</td>
<td>Jan. 10-11, 2017 (32 days later)</td>
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The Senate had confirmed Lynch twice, including just five years before her nomination to become Attorney General. The Senate’s last consideration of Senator Sessions as a nominee was to reject him, 30 years ago. If anything, the timeline to consider Senator Sessions’ nomination should be twice as long—not half as long—as it was for Lynch’s nomination.

What’s Still Missing

- Even after submitting his supplement, Senator Sessions still refuses to provide much information about the 20-year period in which he served as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama (1981-1993), Attorney General of Alabama (1995-1997), and even his first term as U.S. Senator (1997-2002)—this is a particularly critical period because it includes and follows his failed nomination for a federal judgeship.
  - For these 20 years, he has provided only: 20 media interviews, 16 speeches outside the U.S. Senate (of which 9 are press conferences), 2 op-eds, an academic article, and a training manual.
  - More information from this time period is especially necessary because Senator Sessions, apparently in an effort to rehabilitate his record, has claimed that several civil rights-related cases from his time as U.S. Attorney are among the “ten (10) most significant litigated matters which [he] personally handled.” In light of Senator Sessions’ admission that his role was limited in 40% of these cases—“to provide support for the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, attorneys”—where is the contemporaneous evidence that these were significant matters to him? Where are the press conferences, the speeches, and the media interviews from the 1980s to support his claim?
• Even after submitting his supplement, Senator Sessions has provided only 11 clips of interviews with print publications and none prior to 2003.

  ○ Question 12(e) requires nominees to “List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines, or other publications or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.”

  ○ Senator Sessions’ excuse in not providing more interviews is that “Throughout my career in public service I have frequently made remarks to reporters in informal settings, including many hundreds, if not thousands, of comments to reporters in the halls of Congress. No records exist for the vast majority of these informal interviews.” (emphasis added)

  ○ In fact, records for most of these interviews do exist: the articles in which the nominee is quoted. And it is standard practice to provide such articles. Indeed, Senator Sessions may be the only nominee in recent memory to submit an SJQ with an essentially meaningless list of interviews, by date and publication without further information.

  ○ Senator Sessions refuses to make a good-faith effort—or any effort—to provide these interviews as required—essentially acknowledging that he will not provide “many hundreds, if not thousands” of responsive items.

  ○ Our initial report publicly provided these ten examples from the past two years, but Senator Sessions refused to include even these omissions in his supplement:

    - Jeff Sessions: Help Low-Wage Workers by Controlling Immigration, Breitbart, 4/17/15
    - Sessions explains ‘no’ vote on anti-torture amendment, AL.com, 6/22/15
    - The GOP Reach-Around on Gay Marriage, The Daily Beast, 7/20/15
    - Some Republicans Think Donald Trump Can Win the Black Vote, BuzzFeed, 2/15/16
    - Exclusive—Sessions Sounds the Alarm: GOP May Cave on Gun Rights, Breitbart, 6/16/16
    - Sen. Jeff Sessions: Trump Is Right on Muslim Immigration Ban, American Thinker 6/22/16
    - ‘I certainly think it’s alright’: Republicans react to Peter Thiel saying he’s ‘proud to be gay’ at the RNC, Business Insider, 7/23/16
    - Exclusive—Sessions on U.S. Failure to Implement Visa Tracking System 15 Years after 9/11: ‘Choice’ Is ‘Crystal Clear’ Between Trump, Clinton, Breitbart, 9/12/16
    - Jeff Sessions: Behavior Described by Trump in ‘Grab Them by the P---y’ Tape Isn’t Sexual Assault, Weekly Standard, 10/10/16
Senator Sessions’ SJQ and supplement are still missing numerous interviews—television, radio, and print—including the following 27 examples:

- Sandy Rios in the Morning, 11/7/16
- Breitbart News Daily, 10/13/16: Exclusive—Sen. Jeff Sessions on Wikileaks Revelation of Hillary Clinton’s Support for ‘Open Borders’: “It’s a Smoking Gun” (a radio interview on this date was previously listed, without any further information, such as this partial transcript)
- Fox and Friends, 10/9/16: Sen. Jeff Sessions on how Trump is preparing for the debate
- Sandy Rios in the Morning, 7/21/16
- Washington Watch by American Family Association: 7/20/16
- Fox News Sunday, 6/16/16: Sen. Jeff Sessions on Orlando attack, Trump’s week
- Breitbart, 6/10/16: Exclusive: Sen Sessions Punches Back At Dem Attack Dog Warren,
- On the Record, 6/1/16: Trump adviser Sessions calls for refugee ‘safe zones’
- Politico, Off Message, 5/31/16
- On the Record, 3/24/16: Sen. Jeff Sessions: Obama not taking Brussels attack seriously enough (previously listed, but the video/transcript were omitted)
- Matt Murphy Show, 2/29/16: Matt Murphy interviews Senator Jeff Sessions about his endorsement of Donald Trump
- Breitbart, 1/25/16: Exclusive—Jeff Sessions: ‘Matter of Supreme Importance’ GOP Nominee Can ‘Negotiate Better’ Trade Deals than Obamatrade
- Washington Watch with Tony Perkins, Family Research Council, 11/30/15
- Politico, 10/26/15: Conservatives already trashing new budget deal
- Dale Jackson Show, 9/11/15: Senator Sessions comes on the show to talk about immigration and foreign policy
- Kelly File, 8/17/15: Sen. Jeff Sessions on helping Trump craft immigration plan (previously listed, but the video was omitted)
- Washington Watch with Tony Perkins, Family Research Council, 6/25/15
- Roll Call, 2/9/15: Sessions Blasts ‘Activist Judiciary’ on Gay Marriage in Alabama
- Breitbart News Decision Day 2014, 11/4/14
- Steve Malzberg Show, 11/3/14: Sen. Jeff Sessions to discuss the midterms, immigration, and his article
- Breitbart, 10/20/14: Exclusive — Jeff Sessions: Obama's Immigration Policies Hammer Black Workers
- Daily Caller, 5/13/14: Sessions: Here’s How the GOP Can Win the White House
- Cliff Sims, 2/11/13
- Laura Ingraham Show, 10/3/11: Sen. Sessions takes on Red China
- Topline, ABC, 6/24/10: Senator Sessions on Kagan’s Confirmation (previously listed, but the video was omitted)
- Human Events, 4/29/10: Sen. Sessions Warns Obama on Supreme Court Pick
- Lou Dobbs Tonight, 6/28/07: Immigration
These omitted interviews include the following statements:

- “With regard to what ought to be done on the Clinton problems, the pay-for-play, the security thing, I think a special prosecutor is what’s needed.” (11/7/16)
- “If Hillary Clinton is elected, there will be four more years of filling every slot in the Department of Justice with these secular, progressive liberals that are going to make the department even less traditional and lawful in its policies.” (11/7/16)
- “It’s time for the Republican leadership in this country to take a deep breath. This thing is overblown, Steve. Everybody knows that Trump likes women. He talks—uses this kind of talk. He’s been on the Howard Stern show for years.” (10/9/16)
- “I believe that [Trump] will defend the Christian worldview and will not allow this secular post-modernism to continue to erode the freedom of faithful Americans to practice their religion as they choose.” (2/29/16)
- On climate change: “The predictions aren’t coming true. Neither have we had more hurricanes. We remember Katrina…but we haven’t had a major hurricane hit the United States in a decade.” (11/29/15—just three years after Hurricane Sandy)

Senator Sessions’ supplement includes 36 additional op-eds (compared to 48 in his original SJQ). However—inexplicably—he continues to omit the following 15 op-eds that were publicly listed in our initial report two weeks ago. Since Senator Sessions appears unwilling or unable to provide these op-eds, we have included a copy of each one as part of this report.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Paper</th>
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<tr>
<td>6/8/98</td>
<td>Washington Times</td>
<td>Failing big on guns</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/16/98</td>
<td>Washington Times</td>
<td>Protecting parents’ rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/21/00</td>
<td>Birmingham News</td>
<td>Nuclear Energy Needed to Reach Clean Air Goals</td>
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<td>10/5/04</td>
<td>Birmingham News</td>
<td>DNA-Testing Bill Too Flawed</td>
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<td>1/2/07</td>
<td>Washington Post</td>
<td>Saving America</td>
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<td>7/16/09</td>
<td>Daily Camera</td>
<td>Guest commentary; The importance; of a thorough review</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/21/09</td>
<td>Fort Wayne Journal Gazette</td>
<td>Supreme Court must not show empathy in rulings</td>
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<td>7/27/09</td>
<td>USA Today</td>
<td>A confirmation conversion</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/3/11</td>
<td>The Bluffton News-Banner (Indiana)</td>
<td>Big spenders’ party neglects budgetary duty; Guest Column</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/10/13</td>
<td>Los Angeles Times</td>
<td>Immigration bill’s broken promises</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/24/13</td>
<td>USA Today</td>
<td>Migrants’ benefits burden taxpayers</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/3/14</td>
<td>National Review</td>
<td>On Immigration, It’s Time to Defend Americans</td>
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<td>10/29/14</td>
<td>The Albany Herald</td>
<td>Electing David Perdue would foil Obama’s immigration plans</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/20/15</td>
<td>National Review</td>
<td>Why Should Terrorists Be Harder to Investigate than Routine Criminals?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/16/15</td>
<td>USA Today</td>
<td>Reduce immigration to increase jobs</td>
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Senator Sessions’ SJQ and supplements are still missing the Foreword he wrote in *Consent Decrees in Institutional Reform Litigation: Strategies for State Legislatures*, published by the Alabama Policy Institute in 2008.

Even including Senator Sessions’ supplement, he has identified only 230 “Speeches Outside of the U.S. Senate”—over his 35-year career in public service.

- Question 12(d) defines “speeches and talks” as “including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions.”

- Senator Sessions claims, “I have done my best to identify and locate all materials responsive to this question, including through a review of my personal files,” but this defies belief. For example, Senator Sessions has provided only 53 speeches outside the Senate over the past three years. Every Senator has a staff person who maintains his or her schedule and copies of his or her calendar. Is it really possible that Senator Sessions’ personal files would show only one outside speech every three weeks? Especially when a number of these speeches were included in our initial report on his incomplete SJQ?

- Furthermore, the following five items from our initial report still are not listed in any of Senator Sessions’ appendices:
  - Donald Trump Campaign Event, *Madison, AL* (2/28/16)
  - Republican National Convention (*7/18/16*)
  - Republican National Convention (*7/19/16*)
  - Donald Trump Campaign Event, *Portsmouth, NH* (10/15/16)
  - Donald Trump Campaign Event, *Windham, NH* (11/5/16)

- Senator Sessions’ SJQ and supplement are still missing numerous speeches, including the following 19 examples:
  - Press Conference with Senator John Ashcroft and the Law Enforcement Alliance for America to denounce the appointment of Frederica Massiah-Jackson to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, 2/10/98 (reported by Federal News Service Daybook; press coverage [here](#))
  - *Americans4Work*, 11/21/03
  - Press Conference on *Supreme Court Case about Pledge of Allegiance*, 3/24/04
  - Press Conference on *Federal Marriage Amendment*, 6/18/04
  - Immigration Forum, *Albertville*, AL, 8/27/08
  - *Eagle Forum of Alabama*, 3/27/09
  - *Eastern Shore Republican Women*, Luncheon keynote speaker, 10/17/12
  - *Alabama GOP*, Chairman’s Dinner, 2/1/13
- Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, Eggs and Issues Breakfast, 4/19/14
- U.S.-China Manufacturing Symposium, Dothan, AL, 2014
- Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, Eggs and Issues Breakfast, 7/1/15
- Judicial Watch Executive Amnesty Panel, 12/8/14
- Eagle Forum Collegian Summit, 7/30/15
- Press Conference on Criminal Justice Reform, 5/11/16
- Eagle Forum Collegian Summit, 6/8-6/9/16
- College Republicans at Liberty University, 11/7/16

Senator Sessions’ SJQ does not include any candidate questionnaires that he completed for third parties during any of his elections.

- Question 12(c) requires nominees to “Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.”

- Longstanding Judiciary Committee precedent and interpretation of Question 12(c) requires the submission of candidate questionnaires where elections are involved, including questionnaires to third parties, such as the League of Women Voters. See, for example, Al Bennett and Amos Mazzant, who submitted voter guides and candidate questionnaires as part of their SJQs in December 2014.

- In fact, in 2012, Judge Elissa Cadish’s nomination to be a U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Nevada was blocked solely because of an answer she gave on a candidate questionnaire—despite her strong record as a state court judge.

- Senator Sessions has almost certainly completed dozens of candidate questionnaires during his four elections to the U.S Senate and his campaign for Alabama Attorney General. For example, in 2008, Senator Sessions received a grade of an “A+” from the National Rifle Association Political Victory Fund and an “A” from the Gun Owners of America Political Victory Fund. Public reports indicate that if he did not return candidate questionnaires to these organizations, he would have received “?” and “NR” grades, respectively.

- Nominees are required to thoroughly search their records and the Internet for these candidate questionnaires—with more diligence than Senator Sessions has shown thus far. In this case, Members of Congress run sophisticated campaigns, and it would be expected that they retain detailed records of their candidate questionnaires for future reference. Senator Sessions’ answers to these interest groups are a necessary part of his record—and a required part of his SJQ.

- Senator Sessions’ SJQ and supplements are still missing the following awards:
  - Coalition of Republican Environment Advocates Teddy Roosevelt Environmental Award—an award so meaningful to Senator Sessions that it is one of only seven awards listed in his official biography.
  - Awakening Great American Award, 2009