

Dear Mr. President,

Our beloved America was founded on common sense principles by men who were willing to sacrifice their liberty, their fortunes and their lives. The noted absence of common sense and sacrifice during the recent debt ceiling crisis is only the most recent example of how far we have drifted from those founding principles. All Americans are looking to you for leadership now. To restore America's greatness partisan politics must be set aside.

If there was ever a crisis in our nation's history equal to the Civil War, this is it. Not since that darkest hour of these United States, have we seen such divisive politics and raging hatred fill the halls of congress. Like then, we are in a terrifying War of Ideologies. President Lincoln said: "A house divided against itself will not stand." He was paraphrasing Jesus who said: "*Every kingdom divided against itself, is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself, shall not stand*" America is once again a house divided against itself. Every citizen must be an American first and foremost, if we are to survive this crisis.

The entire world is witnessing the greatest nation of modern time imploding; they wonder where the leadership has gone.

Eli Wiesel has said, "*There is a new term for what we must defend ourselves from: Moral Insanity.*"

You were elected because you gave the American people renewed hope for the future. But we the people are not hopeful right now and only the courage to initiate meaningful change can transform this broken spirit. Selfless leadership and common sense must rule. Toward that end, my friends and I humbly suggest the following:

Ask those who receive the bounty of this nation to share some of their time in return.

All able citizens, currently receiving support from their government, should work to help make America great again. Propose regulations which require recipients of direct benefits from government to provide twenty hours of work time each week to the country for what they receive. What is given without cost quickly creates dependence and loss of dignity.

On the other hand, people thrive when their dignity is protected. While extended unemployment benefits, food stamps, welfare payments and other forms of help are all necessary and important, they lack the dignity that comes from earning what is received.

Create a group and charge it with identifying opportunities to rebuild America. Many things need to be done that do not require special training or higher education. Our parks are suffering. Our schools desperately need help. Roadsides are overgrown and littered. Neighborhoods need watchers and rebuilders. Children need mentors. The elderly need companionship, care and thoughtfulness. We need to raise them to the level of our nations "elders", not just old people consigned to nursing homes. More public art is always needed. Libraries must be reopened. The sick and the poor need caring hands and service. All of these things are "shovel-ready" right now.

Reconstitute THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND REFORM.

Have them update their report. Once complete, send it to congress for an up or down vote. The super committee has almost no chance of succeeding in its mandate. If you relegate your leadership to this contrivance to solve the deficit crisis, I fear for our nation's future greatness.

Congress must reform the tax code in a revolutionary way. Currently the Federal IRS code alone is in 20 volumes consisting of 14,872 pages. Set the tone by asking the members of your party to bring you a proposed bill which eliminates nine-tenths or more of the current code. At least that much of the code was written by special interests.

Those who earn a good salary, even a few hundred thousand dollars a year, are not rich; they are prosperous. The rich are those who make millions a year. The rich need to pay a fair share of the cost of running the greatest nation on earth.

President Clinton said, "*Taxing less and spending more... it's fun in the short run, but it's a recipe for disaster.*" Well, we are now experiencing a disaster.

Bring Main Street close to you and move away from the business elite for a while.

Main street banks and small businesses are failing in record numbers. Wall Street investment bankers have almost destroyed this country in their unbridled pursuit of profit. In the mean time over \$7.5 Trillion of home value has disappeared, mostly from middle class citizens.

Bring small business people into your inner circle. Thus far you have patronized small business with words but now is the time to make them part of your inner circle. They are closer to the real issues of today than the business titans.

Generally, most of the jobs lost came from our middle class. Their unemployment rate is more than likely double the overall 9+%.

Since over 70% of our economy is based on consumption, and about the same percentage of citizens are in the middle class, and our middle class is suffering; where is the consumption needed to restart job growth going to come from?

No one can cajole, convince or force businesses to create jobs in this country, if the business is financially better off creating those jobs elsewhere. Additionally, no business will hire unless it projects a real need for more labor, irrespective of minor cuts in taxes. The need for more labor can only come from new demand for goods or services.

Theodore Roosevelt said, "*Corporations have all of the benefits of man without the burden of a conscience.*"

Restore Civics to the curriculum of the American primary education system.

We have lost our way, having become a nation run by corporate values rather than the profound guiding principles that once inspired generations. Classes in Civics- what it means to be a good citizen in this nation- need to be reinstated in the American school system immediately. Our children need to grow up knowing their constitution and their rights and responsibilities as Americans before those rights are legislated away. Given the decisions pouring out of Washington, we have good reason to believe it; our

government has lost touch with our nation. The rise of fundamentalism is a dangerous sign of the times. This is nothing less than what happened in Germany in the 1930's. When citizens despair, they turn angry and panic. They turn to the candidates espousing the strongest as well as the simplest ideologies, no longer able to discern reason or common sense.

Get America out of the wars in the Middle East.

In 2001 we were attacked by an amorphous tyrannical force made up of a few hundred to a few thousand radicals and in retaliation our nation declared war on two countries, one of which, (Iraq) was the sworn enemy of the same terrorist tyrants. Afghanistan, with the topography of Switzerland, is a tribal nation which has never been successfully occupied by any outside force in its entire history. We sacrificed huge amounts of our treasure (\$1.5+ Trillion) and thousands of our citizens over the next decade trying to prove history wrong. Perhaps the following advice from President Eisenhower helps explain why we have been fighting so long:

"In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist."

Enough is enough.

Lead the charge to restore personal integrity and faith values to America.

Our values today have been hijacked by extreme and determined ideologues. It is human nature that we all need something, a belief, a cause or a leader - in which to invest our faith and loyalty. People crave something or someone to believe in. For the past several years, Americans have felt a great hopelessness. President T. Roosevelt said, *"No greater thing could come to our land today than a revival of the spirit of faiths – a revival that would sweep through the homes of the nation and stir the hearts of men and women of all faiths to a reassertion of their belief in God and their dedication to His will for themselves and for their world. I doubt if there is any problem – social, political, or economic – that would not melt away before the fires of such spiritual revival."*

President Lincoln led our nation out of bondage and slavery. If he could speak to you today, I think he would humbly beseech you to read his words from another time of darkness and despair:

"We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity, we have grown in number, wealth, power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God! Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God who made us."

Mr. President, we hear what you say, see what you do and believe what we see.

You have been called for nothing less than to save our beloved nation from falling back into bondage and slavery.

We hope that you will govern without concern for a second term, while working diligently to earn one.

May God bless you, Mr. President,

Mark W. Erwin
U.S. Ambassador, ret.

Bob Timberlake
Artist

Caroline Myss
Author and Lecturer

M. Osman Siddique
U.S. Ambassador, ret.

Melinda Bates
Fmr. Special Assistant to the President

Lynn Forester de Rothschild
CEO, EL Rothschild, LLC

ENDORSERS

Adam Will Foodman, Esq.	Managing Partner Foodman Hunter & Karres	Charlotte, NC
Adelaide Daniels Key	Community Troublemaker	Asheville, NC
AJ Russo	Michelin Americas Truck Tire	Ashburn, VA
Alan Simonini	Homebuilder	Huntersville, NC
Alesa Belvedere	Realtor/Business Owner	Westlake, TX
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Amb. Osman Siddique	Fmr. U.S. Ambassador	VA
Anne Marie Caney	Teacher	Oceanside CA
Anne Pritchett Wagg	Interior Designer	Greensboro, NC
Anne Wright	Community Activist	Charlotte, NC
Anthony Lomangino	Chairman of the board, SWS	New York, NY
Anthony Russo	Retired Executive	Cape Coral, FL.
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Barry Finch	Investor, Realtor	Ridgefield, CT
Betsy Conti	Business Consultant	Raleigh, NC

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Bruce McIntyre	Founder, Small Business	Charlotte, NC
Buck McQuay	Agent, New York Life Insurance Company	Charlotte, NC
Burt Baine, PGA	PGA Professional, Businessman	Greenbriar, WV
C L Kendall	University	Charlotte, NC
C. Conrad McNeer	Episcopal Priest, retired	Abington, VA
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Carol Russo	Cape Coral, FL	Coral Springs, FL
Carolyn McMahan	Retired Teacher	Charlotte, NC
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Chase Thomas Coble	Student	LA, CA
Christopher Sean Coble	Just entered the work force	
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Douglas R. Taylor	Retired business owners	Lenoir City,TN
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Dr. Mark Knollman	General Dentist	Asheville, NC
E. Lynwood Mallard	corporate attorney	Charlotte, NC
E.A. Tod Thorne	Commercial Realtor, Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
Ed Kale	Consultant, USNR, retired,	Charlotte, NC
Ed Manns	Small Business Owner	Waxhaw, NC

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Frank Martin	Community Activist	Charlotte, NC
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Gerry Brock	Retired and Disabled	Scottsdale AZ
Greg C. Branch	Business owner	Ocala, FL
Greg Sutherland	Retired Military	Huber Heights, OH
Henry Weinschenk	Entrepreneur, retired corporate exec.	Charlottesville, VA
Isabell Faulkner	Concerned Senior Citizen	Lincolnton, NC
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Jack O'Rourke	Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
James "Jim" S. Kennan	Retired Military and Hospital Admin	Charlottesville, VA
James Wyatt	Trial Attorney	Charlotte, NC
Jane Baker Pasquini	Homemaker	Charlotte, NC
Janna Burke	Admin. Assistant	Rock Hill, SC
Jay Alverson	Businessman and Believer in Detroit	Detroit, MI
Jean Hausmann	Teacher	Milwaukee, WI
Jeff Kane	Retired Federal Reserve Executive	San Francisco, CA
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Jill Angelo	Author Manager	Chicago IL
Jim Coble	International Sales Executive	Charlotte, NC
Jim Turner	HR Specialist, Concerned citizen	Charlotte, NC
Joan Erwin	Homemaker, Community Volunteer	Charlotte, NC
Joan Gillenwalters	VP, Standard Banner Coal Corporation	Meadowview, VA
JoAnn Harmon	Retired and worried	Knoxville, TN
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Joe DiScala	Investor	New York, NY
Joe Leininger	Investor, Businessman	Colorado Springs, CO
John Culbertson	Businessman and Public Appointee	Charlotte, NC
John Gunter, PhD.	Proffesor of English	Chicago, IL
John Hipp	CEO Community Bank	Charlotte, NC
John N. Blackwelder	Retired Owner, Blackwelder Industries	Charlotte, NC
John Stipp	Commercial Realtor, Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
John Williams	General Contractor	Charlotte, NC
Joseph Sohm	Photographer, Author Visions of America	Ojai, CA
Karen Rogers	Store Manager and very concerned citizen	Charlottesville, VA
Kathleen Chaney	Teachers	Milwalkee, WI
Kathy Rowan	Small Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
Kiki Farish	Worried American	
Kim Raymond	Investor	Charlotte, NC
Larry Bidy	Maintenance Director, Nursing Home	Gastonia, NC

Larry L Brittain	CPA, CCIM, CLU, ChFC	Charlotte, NC
Leif Hansen	CPA exams	Huntersville, NC
Leon L. Rives II	Founder, CEO Rives & Associates, LLP	Charlotte, NC
Leslie Sohm	Producer/Artist	Ojai, CA
Lew H. Parham	Retired Bank Chairman	Charlotte, NC
Litt + Mark Crumpler	OWNERS OF SMALL BUSINESS	BLOWIING ROCK, NC
Liza Cooper	Concerned Citizen	
Lynn Moore	Small Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
Marc Bogan	President, Community Bank	Charlotte, NC
Margaret M. Smith	Retired UNC Asheville	Asheville, NC
Margaret Martin	Retired Teacher	Charlotte, NC
Marge McNeer	Worried grandmother	Abington, VA
Martha B. Taylor	Retired business owners	Lenoir City,TN
Marty Jenkins	Banker	Rock Hill, SC
Mary Ann Thornburg	VP, Management Analysis Technologies	Stafford, VA
Mary Elizabeth Boykin	retired public school teacher	Camden, SC
Mary Lou Babb	Community Activist	Charlotte, NC
Matt Williams	Small Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
Matthew M. Odom		Chapel Hill, NC
Max Brittain	Real Estate Executive - CCIM	Commack, NY
Melinda Bates	Fmr. Special Asst. to the President	Va and Mexico
Melissa Morrell	Realtor	Greenville, SC
Michael Gallis	Principal, Gallis & Assoc.	Charlotte, NC
Michael J. Ortlip	Mortgage Banker	Businessman
Mignon Durham	Community Volunteer	Asheville, NC
Mike Bailey	United Methodist Clergy	Cornelius, NC
Mike Mola	Golf Professional	Banner Elk, NC
Missy Erwin Highsmith	Realtor/Mother	Charlotte, NC
Monica Volkin	Admin. Assistant	Charlotte, NC
Myra Heafner	Concerned Citizen	Gastonia, NC
Nancy A. Northrop	International Business Consultant	Paris, France
Nancy Langston	A concerned citizen	Camden S.C.
Nancy Ogilvie	Hopeful American	Baja, Mexico
Nelson Gerard	Entrepreneur, Business Owner, Employer	Boca Raton, FL
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Pam Stilp	Bookseller	Milwaukee, WI
Pamela E. Morrell	Seasoned Realtor	Rock Hill, SC
Patricia Viamonte	retired teacher	Sun City Center, FL
Paul Colavita, M.D.	Heart Surgeon	Charlotte, NC
Pusong Pinoye	Retired, will fight for freedom and democracy	Silicon Valley, Califorr
R. Alvin Waddell	4th Generation Home Builder	Lake Wylie, SC
Ralph Brendle	Small Business Owner	Fingerville, SC
Randy Carder	Small Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
Randy Wells	Father & Investment Manager	Waxhaw, NC
Raúl A. Baragiola	Alice and Guy Wilson Professor, U of Va.	Charlottesville, Va.

Raymond G. Chambers	Chairman, MCJ Amelior Foundation	New York, NY
Rentz Tyler	Sales Representative	Johnson City, TN
Rianne Bell	Small Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
Richard A. Severin,	U.S.M.C.(retired Vietnam DAV)	Charlottesville, VA
Richard Brownlee	Professor @ Darden School of Business	Charlottesville, VA
Richard Cantwell	CEO Odell International,	Huntersville, NC
Robert Davies, Jr.	Small business owner	Charlotte, NC
Roger Young	Owner, Ammas Lodge, Author	Charlotte, NC
Ronald G. Sherrill	Chairman and CEO, SteelFab, Inc	Charlotte, NC
S. Mirium Ross, SSDN	Spiritual Directot	Milwaukee, WI
Sam Jacks	Medical Software Sales Executive	Charlotte, NC
Sam McMahon	Business Owner, Investor	Charlotte, NC
Stephen Ense	Businessman	VA and Mexico
Steve Blakley, Jr.	Businessman, Volunteer	Charlotte, NC
Susan Bromfield	Pres. Chamber of Commerce	Lake Wylie, SC
T.L. "Fountain" Odom,	Atty, small business owner, beekeeper.	Manteo, NC
Thomas E. Norman, Ret.	US Army	Charlotte, NC
Thomas S. Coble	Businessman	Clayton, NC
Thomas S.Dennard	CEO, Grandbridge Real Estate Capital	Charlotte, NC
Tom Ferrigan	Concerned American	ISLE OF PALMS SC
Tom Harmon	Retired	Knoxville, TN
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Tony Morrell	Small Business Owner	Greenville, SC
Tracy Reeves	Owner, Keller Williams Realty	Fort Mill, SC
Ty Boyd	International Motivational Speaker	Charlotte, NC
Velva Woollen	Community Activist	Charlotte
W. Fletcher Wright	Ret. Deloitte Vice Chairman	Charlotte, NC
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Wes Clark	Business Owner	Charlotte, NC
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Willy E. Stewart	Business Owner, Immigrant	Raleigh, NC
Worth Williamson	Retired Banker, Grandparent	Charlotte, NC
Xan Law	Businessman	Charlotte, NC

ADDENDUM

Here are a few words of advice from the men who held the same high office you now hold.

"If Tyranny and Oppression come to this land, it will be in the guise of fighting a foreign enemy"

James Madison

"This is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people no longer. It is a government of corporations, by corporations, and for corporations. - How is this?"

Rutherford B. Hayes

"It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes a principle which if acted on, would save one-half the wars of the world."

"A democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where fifty-one percent of the people may take away the rights of the other forty-nine."

"The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not...It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes."

"I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them."

"My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government."

"I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property - until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered."

"Single acts of tyranny may be ascribed to the accidental opinion of a day; but a series of oppressions, begun at a distinguished period and pursued unalterably through every

change of ministers, too plainly prove a deliberate, systematic plan of reducing [a people] to slavery."

"When the representative body have lost the confidence of their constituents, when they have notoriously made sale of their most valuable rights, when they have assumed to themselves powers which the people never put into their hands, then indeed their continuing in office becomes dangerous to the State, and calls for an exercise of the power of dissolution."

"Merchants have no country. The mere spot they stand on does not constitute so strong an attachment as that from which they draw their gains."

Thomas Jefferson

"There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured by what is right with America."

"Part of our essential humanity is paying respect to what God gave us and what will be here long after we are gone."

William J. Clinton

"Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan "press on" has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race."

Calvin Coolidge

"All men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

"You cannot build character and courage by taking away men's initiative and independence. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them, what they could and should do for themselves."

Abraham Lincoln

"I wonder how far Moses would have gone if he'd taken a poll in Egypt? What would Jesus Christ have preached if he'd taken a poll in Israel? It isn't polls or public opinion of the moment that counts, it's right and wrong."

Harry Truman

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. The world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hope of its children....."

Dwight Eisenhower

"In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin... We have room for but one flag, the American flag. We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language. And we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people."

Theodore Roosevelt