

ON THE EXONERATING INFORMATION RICK GATES JUST PROVIDED

Yesterday, the government submitted a notice clarifying the record on the Paul Manafort breach determination. The bulk of the filing describes that, after reading about the dispute in public reporting on the topic, Rick Gates provided additional information on the topic that may corroborate part of Manafort's story.

The new Gates information necessarily pertains to the sharing of polling data. That's clearly true because it discusses all the same evidence the government used to substantiate Manafort's lies about the polling data:

- Multiple Rick Gates 302s
- Some other fact about August 2, perhaps the clandestine nature of the meeting
- Kilimnik emails discussing the polling data (I now realize that the government's declaration makes it clear they have 8 emails referencing the polling data)
- A Paul Manafort email telling Gates to print out the polling data, with the polling data attached

Here's where that evidence shows up in the filing:

██████ The January 14, 2019 Declaration In Support of the Government's Breach Determination and Sentencing cited the following multiple strands of evidence in support of the position that Manafort lied when he denied ██████████
██████████: (1) Gates' various statements documented in FD 302s (*see* Declaration ¶ 54); (2) Kilimnik's emails referencing ██████████ (*id.* ¶ 55); (3) the fact that Manafort and Gates ██████████; and (4) the fact that on ██████████
██████████" and attached ██████████
(Declaration ¶ 56). With respect to the ██████████, the Declaration stated, ██████████

In addition, that passage cites paragraphs of the declaration, ¶55 and ¶56, that by structure necessarily deals with the sharing of poll data.

At first, I thought Gates' new information corroborated the NYT story about Manafort sharing data with Kilimnik twice, once in May and once in August. But I now lean towards the new information corroborating Manafort's story that he asked Gates to print out that data for a campaign meeting that day.

I say that in part because the order in which the corroboration was treated, with Manafort's email coming last. In addition, this passage seems to reflect Gates using the poll data to prepare for a meeting.

8, 2017. The Court referred to the ██████████ issue in the February 13, 2019 hearing.² During the February 15, 2019 interview, Gates said he remembered that he used ██████████
██████████ in preparing for the ██████████
██████████

As to this passage, I suspect it clarifies that just one of the oligarchs that Manafort intended to receive the data was Russian – Oleg Deripaska – and that (as Andrew Weissmann appeared to say at one point) the other recipients were his Ukrainian paymasters.

