

# The Passy Press

## Letter to the Editor

**From:** Lee Gaillard [leegaillard@undisclosed.com](mailto:leegaillard@undisclosed.com)

**To:** Nick Gardiner [enpg@thepassypress.com](mailto:enpg@thepassypress.com)

**Date:** April 4, 2015

**Subject:** Re: New Essay Expose on Our Federal Government & What to Do About It

Dear Sir,

My hat is off to Haven Pell. He has done battle with the many-headed Hydra that calls itself K Street.

But I'm afraid the beast may still live because Mr. Pell did not thrust quickly and cleanly to the heart of the matter. *We need a clearer identification of the problem right up front, and we need a clearer vision of his potential solution.*

Although I still have some minor quibbles about other parts of his essay, I would much have preferred to see a title that pinpointed the specific problem from the get-go. Instead of a title that leaves readers wondering, why not something like: "Time to 'Occupy K Street'?"

Similarly, at the end, the beast needs to feel the point of the sword, not just wonder about a vague threat. Therefore, why not replace the paragraph beginning "Calling attention to the problem..." with something like this split paragraph:

*Such a pledge would have to be meticulously crafted but might be as simple as: "I will not work on Federal Government related business for five years after completing my final term in office." How could the fuller meaning of "support and defend" the Constitution not be more clear?*

*This "pledge" should stand as a clear code of conduct for federal officials, one to be widely publicized and proudly held aloft as a standard to be espoused by all candidates for federal office--one simple enough that violations could easily be tried in the court of public opinion.*

That's all. Get a specific pledge example out there for all to see...and potentially adopt. Those who decline to take the pledge would then be making, as Mr. Pell intended, the very clear statement that if they are elected, it would continue to be business as usual on K Street.

All best regards,

Lee Gaillard

Lee Gaillard served in the Marine Corps Reserves in the 1960s; worked in industry, publishing, and secondary education; and has written widely on aviation and defense issues. He has a BA from Yale and an MA from Middlebury College.