

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE WEEKLY UPDATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DNC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

March 9, 2012

This week, the President reaffirmed the unbreakable bond that exists between the United States and Israel – first during his address at the 2012 American Israel Public Affairs Committee Policy Conference, and then the following day at the White House where President Obama welcomed Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for a bilateral meeting. The President also announced new actions the Obama Administration is taking to help America's homeowners and their families, including critical relief to servicemembers and veterans who were wrongfully foreclosed upon or denied a lower interest rate on their mortgages. During a meeting with the Business Roundtable, President Obama emphasized the importance of positioning America to be competitive in the 21st century with an economy built to last that focuses on our country's core strengths: American manufacturing, American energy, American innovation, and the best skills and education for American workers. The President also toured a manufacturing plant in North Carolina, where he promoted an all-of-the-above approach to American energy and announced a new \$1 billion National Community Deployment Challenge aimed at boosting the deployment of clean, advanced vehicles across the country. On Friday, the Department of Labor released February jobs numbers, which showed that the economy has now seen two straight years of private sector job growth for a total of more than 3.9 million jobs over that period. And the Democratic National Committee announced the launch of an important new initiative, the DNC Women's Institute, to ramp up the DNC's efforts – in conjunction with the Obama campaign – to reach out to women voters during the 2012 election and beyond.

Additionally, the Republican presidential candidates kept up their sprint to the far right wing of the Republican Party – and Mitt Romney continued to pander to Tea Party voters and alienate key general election voters. This week, the GOP field's deceptive tactics and distortions included attacks on Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and misrepresentations of President Obama's record on dealing with Iran. In response, Democrats pushed back hard on these attacks and ensured that voters in the Super Tuesday states and across the country knew the truth about both the President's and the Republican candidates' records.

President Obama Reaffirms Unbreakable Bond Between United States and Israel at AIPAC Policy Conference, Bilateral Meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu

This week, the President reaffirmed America's unbreakable commitment to Israel and its security – beginning with his speech on Sunday at the 2012 American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Policy Conference. During his remarks, President Obama discussed actions the Administration has taken in strong support of Israel. He said:

"But as you examine my commitment, you don't just have to count on my words. You can look at my deeds. Because over the last three years, as President of the United States, I have kept my commitments to the state of Israel. At every crucial juncture -- at every fork in the road -- we have been there for Israel. Every single time.



"Four years ago, I stood before you and said that, 'Israel's security is sacrosanct. It is non-negotiable.' That belief has guided my actions as President. The fact is, my administration's commitment to Israel's security has been unprecedented. Our military and intelligence cooperation has never been closer. Our joint exercises and training have never been more robust. Despite a tough budget environment, our security assistance has increased every single year. We are investing in new capabilities. We're providing Israel with more advanced technology -- the types of products and systems that only go to our closest friends and allies. And make no mistake: We will do what it takes to preserve Israel's qualitative military edge -- because Israel must always have the ability to defend itself, by itself, against any threat."

You can watch President Obama's speech at the 2012 AIPAC Policy Conference [here](#).

The following day, the President welcomed Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to the White House, where the two leaders held a bilateral meeting that reaffirmed the unbreakable bond between the United States and Israel and which provided an important opportunity to discuss a number of strategic issues of mutual concern. Before the meeting began, the President delivered remarks, in which he said:

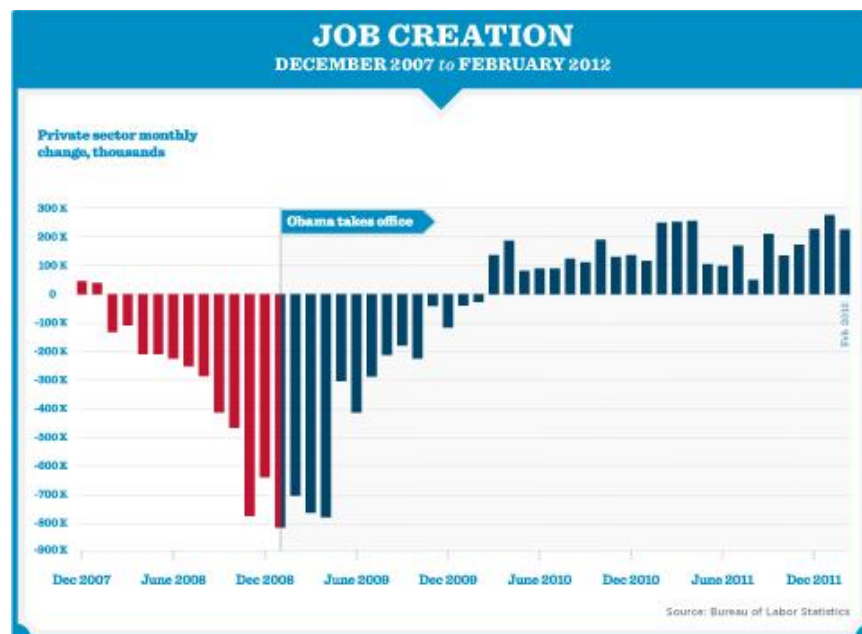
"This visit obviously comes at a critical time. We are seeing incredible changes that are taking place in the Middle East and in North Africa. We have seen the terrible bloodshed that's going on in Syria, the democratic transition that's taking place in Egypt. And in the midst of this, we have an island of democracy and one of our greatest allies in Israel.

"As I've said repeatedly, the bond between our two countries is unbreakable. My personal commitment -- a commitment that is consistent with the history of other occupants of this Oval Office -- our commitment to the security of Israel is rock solid. And as I've said to the Prime Minister in every single one of our meetings, the United States will always have Israel's back when it comes to Israel's security. This is a bond that is based not only on our mutual security interests and economic interests, but is also based on common values and the incredible people-to-people contacts that we have between our two countries."

Watch both the President's and Prime Minister Netanyahu's remarks prior to their meeting [here](#).

Economy Adds Private Sector Jobs in February for Two Straight Years of Growth

On Friday, the Department of Labor released jobs numbers for the month of February, showing that the economy has now seen two straight years of private sector job growth for a total of more than 3.9 million jobs over that period. These numbers are a clear sign that the President's policies are working and that our economy is moving in the right direction – as demonstrated in the following chart:



We are steadily creating jobs – including in the American manufacturing sector, which is now adding jobs for the first time since the 1990s. But as the President has emphasized, we must do more to speed up America’s economic recovery – that’s why he has laid out a blueprint for an economy that’s built to last and focuses on American manufacturing, American energy, skills for American workers, and a renewal of American values.

President Obama Announces New Actions to Help America’s Homeowners During Press Conference

During a press conference on Tuesday, the President announced two new steps the Obama Administration is taking to provide support to America’s homeowners and their families. The first is offering relief to servicemembers and veterans – including a minimum of \$116,785 plus lost equity and interest for those who were wrongfully foreclosed upon or denied a lower

interest rate on their mortgages. Additionally, the Administration is reducing fees for Federal Housing Administration borrowers who are looking to refinance, which will save them roughly \$1,000 a year. During his press conference announcing these new actions – which build on initiatives the President has already rolled out to lend a hand to homeowners across the country – President Obama said:



“Now, if Congress refuses to act, I’ve said that I’ll continue

to do everything in my power to act without them. Last fall, we announced an initiative that allows millions of responsible homeowners to refinance at low interest rates. Today we’re taking it a step further -- we are cutting by more than half the refinancing fees that families pay for loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration. That’s going to save the typical family in that situation an extra \$1,000 a year, on top of the savings that they’d also receive from refinancing. That would make refinancing even more attractive to more families. It’s like another tax cut that will put more money in people’s pockets. We’re going to do this on our own. We don’t need congressional authorization to do it.

“We’re also taking a series of steps to help homeowners who have served our country. It is unconscionable that members of our armed forces and their families have been some of those who have been most susceptible to losing their homes due to the actions of unscrupulous banks and mortgage lenders. Over the last few years that happened -- a lot.

“So as part of the landmark settlement we reached with some of the nation’s largest banks a few weeks ago, here’s what we’re going to do: If you are a member of the armed forces whose home was wrongfully foreclosed, you will be substantially compensated for what the bank did to you and your family. If you are a member of the armed forces with a high interest rate who was wrongfully denied the chance to lower it while you were in active serve, which banks are required to do by law, the banks will refund you the money you would have saved along with a significant penalty.”

You can watch the President’s press conference [here](#).

During Meeting with Business Roundtable, the President Discusses Jobs and Economic Growth

On Tuesday night, President Obama met with the Business Roundtable – a group whose members include top executives from some of the largest companies in America. During the meeting, the President talked about the need to focus on our country’s core strengths. He also stressed the importance of positioning America to be competitive in the 21st century with an economy built to last, and he said:

"So the economy is getting stronger, and the recovery is speeding up. And the question now is, how do we make sure that it keeps going?"



"I've been talking a lot recently about how we can do that -- how we can help companies like yours hire more workers, bring more jobs back to America; how we can leave an economy that's not just restored to pre-crisis levels, but positions ourselves to be competitive in this 21st century economy over the long term -- an economy built to last.

"I think we have to focus on our core strengths: American manufacturing; American energy; American innovation; the best skills and education for American workers."

Read the full transcript of President Obama's remarks [here](#).

President Obama Tours Manufacturing Plant in North Carolina, Promotes All-of-the-Above Approach to American Energy

The President on Wednesday toured a manufacturing plant for Daimler Trucks North America in Mount Holly, North Carolina, where he discussed his vision for an all-of-the-above approach to American energy. President Obama talked about the Obama Administration's efforts to pursue new sources of domestic energy, expand oil and gas production, and reduce our dependence on foreign oil through the continued development of renewable energy. He also announced a new \$1 billion National Community Deployment Challenge aimed at boosting the deployment of clean, advanced vehicles across the country -- including the trucks assembled at the Mount Holly plant, which run on natural gas. During his remarks, President Obama said:

"So we're making progress, Mount Holly. But at the end of the day, it doesn't matter how much natural gas, or flex-fuel or electric vehicles you have if there's no place to charge them up or fill them up. So that's why I'm announcing today a program that will put our communities on the cutting edge of what clean energy can do.



"To cities and towns all across the country, what we're going to say is, if you make a commitment to buy more advanced vehicles for your community -- whether they run on electricity or biofuels or natural gas -- we'll help you cut through the red tape and build fueling stations nearby. And we'll offer tax breaks to families that buy these cars, companies that buy alternative fuel trucks like the ones that are made right here at Mount Holly. So we're going to give communities across the country more of an incentive to make the shift to more energy-efficient cars."

Watch the President's speech [here](#).

Democratic National Committee Announces Launch of DNC Women's Institute

This week, the Democratic National Committee announced the launch of an important new initiative, the DNC Women's Institute. DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz held multiple events this week centered on the launch of the Institute, including a formal launch with several women Members of Congress and calls with both the DNC Women's Caucus and notable women bloggers. Chair Wasserman Schultz emphasized that in 2012, the primary focus of the DNC Women's Institute will be to support, complement and expand the efforts of the Obama campaign's outreach to women through national women's groups, associations and organizations, the DNC, and women leaders.

Over the long term, the Institute will also provide a structure in the party to engage women at all levels and provide meaningful resources and tools both to them and to Democratic candidates in races for years to come. It will serve as a home base for women to get information about issues, candidates, and most importantly, how they can become active.

For more information on the DNC Women's Institute and to sign up to get involved, you can go [here](#).

Holding Republicans Accountable

Heading into Super Tuesday, the Republican presidential candidates began the week by continuing to leapfrog each other to the far right wing of the Republican Party – with Mitt Romney pandering to Tea Party voters and alienating key constituencies he would need to compete in the general election. From false attacks on Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor to misrepresenting the President's record on dealing with Iran, the GOP field's shameless tactics of distortion were on full display this week – and Democrats across the country were there to aggressively counter these attacks and make sure voters in the Super Tuesday states and nationwide knew the truth about both the President's and the Republican candidates' records.

On Monday, DNC Senior Advisor for Hispanic Affairs Juan Sepúlveda released a statement in response to Mitt Romney's latest attacks against Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. It said:

"Mitt Romney is, again, choosing to pander to the extremes in his party and his latest attacks on Justice Sotomayor are yet another clear sign that he is on the wrong side of every issue of importance to Hispanic voters.

"Let's not forget: Justice Sotomayor was confirmed with the support of nine Republican senators because she has unparalleled judiciary experience, intellect, respect for the Constitution, and common sense. That's why she belongs on our nation's highest court, and that's why she's a role model for our families. Unfortunately, this is not Romney's first attack on Sotomayor. It's clear that, in Justice Sotomayor, Mitt Romney does not see a role model, but a political pawn that he can attack at will if it gets him a vote."

Additionally, U.S. Senator John Kerry, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, released a statement on President Obama's commitment to preventing a nuclear Iran. Senator Kerry made it clear that Mitt Romney and the other Republican candidates were not being honest about the President's record on dealing with Iran – saying:

"The nuclear issue with Iran is deadly serious business that should invite sobriety and serious-minded solutions, not sloganeering and sound bites. I'm troubled to see this issue become just another applause line on the Republican presidential stump. Everyone who seeks to be Commander in Chief should lay out for the American people with precision what they would do to meet this challenge, rather than launching

partisan grenades to create the impression of differences that don't exist, or invite war with haste and bluster.”

On Tuesday, DNC Executive Director Patrick Gaspard released a memo in advance of Super Tuesday titled, “With Super Tuesday Looming, Mitt Romney’s Vast Spending Advantage Gives Him an Edge but His Blatant Hypocrisy and Extreme and Out-of-Touch Positions Will Be His General Election Kryptonite.” The memo highlighted the fact that Romney’s hard turn to the right is causing independent voters to sour on him as a general election candidate – and that even Republican primary voters do not trust him to lead. It said:

“While he may find himself on top in any number of contests this evening, make no mistake: with the millions upon millions in outspending his opponents and the laundry list of extreme, out-of-touch positions that have characterized Romney’s campaign since day one, Mitt Romney will emerge from Super Tuesday badly wounded among general election voters – and tonight will be anything but a victory lap.”

And following the results of Super Tuesday, DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz released a statement, which said:

“Even after pandering to the Tea Party on everything from immigration to contraception, refusing to condemn the slanderous rhetoric of Rush Limbaugh, and after trying to buy the election with millions in negative ads from him and his allies, Mitt Romney is barely limping ahead of a weak and flawed field. Voters in his own party are learning what independent voters who have flocked away from him in droves already know: Mitt Romney has no core values, will say anything to get elected and can't be trusted to lead.”



The DNC also released a new web video titled, “Fact-Checking the Unfounded Distortions on President Obama’s Support for Israel.” You can view it [here](#).

On Thursday, the DNC achieved a major victory for preserving access to the ballot when the Third Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the DNC in *DNC vs. RNC*, a case where the RNC was trying to overturn a consent decree they agreed to in 1982 that forced them to cease voter intimidation tactics. DNC Counsel and Voter Protection Director Will Crossley wrote of the decision:

“The Democratic Party will always stand on the side of those defending access to the ballot for all eligible Americans. The right to vote is the sacred right of all Americans and we must not forget how hard many Americans fought – African-Americans and women in particular – to secure that right. The Third Circuit’s decision in *DNC v. RNC* reaffirms the legal protections that those targeted by Republican voter suppression tactics may continue to depend upon.”

Also, Mississippi Democratic Party Executive Director Rickey Cole and women’s rights activist Cristen Hemmins held a press conference call welcoming Mitt Romney to the state by making sure voters were informed about Romney’s extreme positions that are out of touch with Mississippi’s working and middle-class families. And U.S. Senator Robert Menendez and Congressman Xavier Becerra held a press conference call to discuss Mitt Romney’s rift with Hispanics after continuing to run to the right during the GOP nominating contests.

On Friday, the DNC released a new video titled, “Mitt Romney: Against Individual Mandates Except When He's For Them.” The video highlights Mitt Romney’s hypocrisy and deception on the issue of individual mandates in health care reform. You can view it [here](#).

The Alabama Democratic Party hosted a press conference call that set the record straight on why Mitt Romney is wrong for Alabama – with Birmingham Mayor William Bell pointing out that Romney has repeatedly proven he will say and stand for anything to get elected, including failed attempts to talk like a native Southerner when in fact voters know they can't trust a single word he says.

Key Issues in the News and Background

Romney Record in Massachusetts: Poor Jobs Growth, More Debt, Bigger Government (3/5/12)

Key Point: Mitt Romney's record as Massachusetts governor is one of poor jobs growth, piling on debt, and growing government.

- Going into tomorrow's Massachusetts primary, Mitt Romney is running for president on the same failed promises he made while running for governor ten years ago. He says he'll grow jobs and shrink deficits, even though his past record fails to support his ability to do so. Romney's past record is one of poor jobs growth, piling on debt, and growing government.
- Mitt Romney's making the same case to America that he made to Massachusetts a decade ago. He said he would grow jobs and shrink both deficits and government, but Romney:
 - Ranked 47th out of 50 in job growth. He beat only Michigan, Ohio and Louisiana – which was still recovering from Hurricane Katrina.
 - Watched the state's manufacturing decline by twice the national average, the third-worst record in the country.
 - Grew debt in Massachusetts by 16.4 percent while raising taxes and fees by \$750 million a year on middle-class families and businesses.
 - Increased public-sector jobs at six times the rate of private-sector jobs.
- Now Romney's trying to do it again. He's making the same failed promises, with policies that would do the opposite.
 - His tax plan would add \$5 trillion to the deficit over the next 10 years, and disproportionately give trillions in tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans.
 - 18 million working families would actually pay higher taxes because Romney would end current tax breaks for college, children and earned income.
 - He's proposed deep cuts to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid that would shred our system of retirement security and leave millions without health insurance.
- Meanwhile, President Obama's record is the opposite:
 - He's helped businesses create 3.7 million jobs in the past 23 straight months.
 - Manufacturing has added more than 400,000 jobs since 2010, and February 2012 was the 31st straight month the sector grew.
 - His budget would cut the national deficit by \$4 trillion over 10 years in a balanced way that asks everyone to do their part and pay their fair share.
 - Government employment under the President's watch is down 2.6 percent, a record unmatched even by Ronald Reagan.

###

Romney's Run to Right Hurts Him With Women Voters He'd Need in November (3/5/12)

Key Point: Mitt Romney's run to the right is hurting him with the women voters he'd need to win in November.

- While Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum see who can pander most to the far right-wing, they're alienating the women voters they would need to win in November.
- Romney's run to the right may be winning him Tea Party voters, but he's losing support from women after alienating them with his policies. Romney:
 - Recently embraced the Blunt Amendment, which would take women's health decisions out of women's hands and give it to their bosses. It would let employers severely restrict women's access to any kind of health coverage, including contraception, pre-natal care, mammograms and more.
 - Said he would have supported a so-called "Personhood amendment" in Massachusetts to define life as beginning at the moment of conception. It could have banned all abortions and likely banned many common forms of birth control.
- It's no wonder Romney is losing among women by almost 18 percent. In Ohio alone, less than a third of women view him favorably.
- Romney is viewed favorably by only 28 percent of voters – the worst in recent history among candidates who eventually won their party's nomination.
 - Please see [this NBC/Wall Street Journal poll](#) on Romney's underwater image.

###

The President Is Strongly Committed to Stopping Iran from Developing Nuclear Weapons (3/5/12)

Key Point: President Obama is strongly committed to stopping Iran from developing nuclear weapons.

- Mitt Romney is misleading voters and completely distorting President Obama's record on Iran. President Obama is strongly committed to stopping Iran from developing nuclear weapons.
- Romney says he would enact crippling sanctions, isolate Iran internationally and keep a military option on the table – but President Obama is already doing all three. He's making Iran weaker and more isolated today than ever before.
- President Obama spoke yesterday at AIPAC's Policy Conference, making clear his determination to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons.
 - He explicitly said that the military option is on the table, and that for both America and Israel, containment is not an option for dealing with the Iranian nuclear threat.
 - Iran's leaders shouldn't doubt the President's resolve. It is in both America's and Israel's national security interests to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons.
- President Obama has also strengthened our unbreakable bond with Israel. He's:
 - Providing increased security funding every year he's been in office – even under our current fiscal restraints – so Israel can maintain its qualitative military edge.
 - Fighting attempts to de-legitimize Israel in international forums.
 - Putting more pressure on the Iranian regime than at any time in history.
- President Obama believes American support for Israel has always been – and should be – bipartisan. The special relationship between the United States and Israel is simply too important to be distorted by partisan politics.

###

Romney's Hypocrisy, Out-of-Touch Positions Would Hurt Him Come November (3/6/12)

Key Point: Mitt Romney's vast spending advantage can't overcome the blatant hypocrisy and extreme and out-of-touch positions that would hurt him in November.

- Republicans across the country are voting in today's Super Tuesday primaries, and Mitt Romney faces a risky situation. Though Romney may outspend his way to a few victories tonight, he can't overcome the blatant hypocrisy and extreme and out-of-touch positions that would hurt him in the general election.
 - Please see [this DNC memo](#) on the subject.
- Romney has vastly outspent his opponents to buy his primary wins, and today's primaries are no exception. While the Obama campaign has organized in places like Ohio throughout the primary process, Romney came in on the airwaves a week in advance.
 - Romney and his allies have outspent the competition nearly two times over in the states voting today.
 - In Ohio alone, Romney and his allies outspent Rick Santorum on the airwaves by 4-to-1.
- Romney's extreme and out-of-touch positions would hurt him in the general election. Just in the last week, Romney has:
 - Dismissively said college students should "shop around" for affordable tuition. He didn't mention how he supported a budget plan that would've cut Pell Grants by 25 percent, or how his tax plan would eliminate that are helping those students pay for college.
 - Embraced the Blunt Amendment, which would take women's health decisions out of women's hands and give it to their bosses. It would let employers severely restrict women's access to any kind of health coverage, including contraception, pre-natal care, mammograms and more.
 - Recklessly pledged to repeal Sarbanes-Oxley, the bipartisan law that that held corporations accountable and reformed Wall Street after the Enron scandal. Romney would let Wall Street write its own rules again and bring back the policies that created the economic crisis in the first place.
- Romney's blatant hypocrisy and dishonesty would also hurt him in the general election. Voters don't trust Romney, who will say and stand for anything to get elected. He has:
 - Railed against earmarks and federal spending, but in 2002 while running for governor he bragged about his ability to get taxpayer dollars for the Olympics.
 - Opposed President Obama's landmark health reform, but in 2009 he argued the Massachusetts law could be a national model.
 - Misled voters and distorted the President's record on Iran. Romney says he would enact crippling sanctions, isolate Iran internationally and keep a military option on the table – but President Obama is already doing all three.
- No matter how many primaries Romney wins tonight, he's a long way from the 1,144 delegate total he'll need to clinch the nomination. Romney has 180 delegates, and only 437 more are at stake today. Winning today's primaries comes at a cost for Romney: losing the independent and moderate voters he'd need to win in November.

###

Weakened Republican Field Alienates Voters, Lacks Organization to Win in November (3/7/12)

Key Point: The Republican candidates came out of Super Tuesday badly bruised, having alienated mainstream voters and lacking the organization they'd need to win in November.

- Tuesday's primaries reinforced on a large scale what we already know about the Republican race: Voters are unenthusiastic about the Republican candidates, and the race's negativity is turning off voters.
 - A leading Republican pollster called the race "corrosive" for the GOP and Barbara Bush called it one of the worst campaigns in her memory.
 - Recent polls indicate Democrats are far more enthusiastic about President Obama than Republicans are about their candidates – in fact, in Ohio, last night's largest primary state, President Obama got more votes than the leading Republican while running unopposed.
 - Turnout has been down from 2008 in important states like Virginia, Iowa, Florida, Nevada, Colorado and Missouri.

- The Republican primary is far from over, with two-thirds of the delegates still up for grabs. No matter the eventual nominee, all the Republican candidates own the same Tea Party platform that's turning off the voters they would need to win in November. They're alienating independents, women and young Americans.

- Though Mitt Romney outspent his way to a few victories yesterday, he comes out of Super Tuesday with weakened prospects for the general election. Just as he has throughout this primary season, he again lost among the key voter groups who decide general elections. Romney lost:
 - Independent voters by 28 percent in Virginia, 13 percent in Georgia, 11 percent in Tennessee, and 4 percent in Ohio.
 - Young voters by 24 percent in Virginia, 21 percent in Tennessee and 7 percent in Ohio.
 - Voters who care most about "strong moral character" by 46 percent in Tennessee, 41 percent in Ohio, 41 percent in Oklahoma and 30 percent in Virginia.
 - Middle-class voters in Ohio, Oklahoma and Tennessee.

- While Republicans leave after each primary to campaign in the next states and try to outspend each other with negative ads, we've been on the ground since 2008. We never left, and we've been building the strongest grassroots campaign in history. Today we have:
 - 15 offices in Florida.
 - 10 offices in both Ohio and Pennsylvania.
 - Eight offices in Iowa, eight in Michigan and another eight in North Carolina.
 - Seven offices in New Hampshire, six in Wisconsin and six in Colorado, with Nevada adding its sixth office next week.
 - Five offices in Virginia and four in Arizona.
 - Three offices in New Mexico – a number that will double in the next month.
 - Three offices in California, with two more opening in April.
 - Offices in Minnesota and New Jersey.

###

President Obama Will Win All the Delegates He Needs To Win the Nomination (3/7/12)

Key Point: President Obama will win all the delegates he needs to win the nomination.

- Though a fringe candidate may win a delegate in Oklahoma's Democratic primary, President Obama will win all the delegates he needs to win the nomination.
 - Please see [this Washington Post article](#) on the subject.

- In every primary there is a fringe candidate that appears on the ballot and attempts to capture delegates from a sitting president. The same thing happened in 1996's Democratic primary when Lyndon LaRouche challenged President Clinton and got enough votes in Louisiana to win a delegate.

- A fringe candidate winning primary votes is nothing new. In 2008's Democratic primary, Jim Rogers got nearly 4,000 votes. In 1992, three fringe Republican candidates – Pat Buchanan, Howard Phillips and Alan Keyes – won a total of 21 delegates.
- The party is reviewing the election results and will abide by previously established rules regarding the allotment of delegates. No matter what, we know President Obama will win the majority of delegates at this year's convention. In fact, recent polls indicate Democrats are far more enthusiastic about President Obama than Republicans are about their candidates:
 - Republican enthusiasm is weak across the country, with turnout down from 2008 in important states like Virginia, Iowa, Florida, Nevada, Colorado and Missouri.
 - In Ohio, yesterday's largest primary state, President Obama won more votes than the leading Republican while running unopposed.

###

Guggenheim Documentary Showcases President Obama's First Three Years In Office (3/8/12)

Key Point: On March 15th the campaign will release a documentary highlighting some of the many tough calls President Obama has had to make in the last three years.

- Today the Obama campaign is releasing the trailer of a forthcoming 17-minute documentary. The full documentary will debut on March 15th, and it highlights some of the many tough calls President Obama has had to make in the last three years.
 - Please see [this new trailer](#) previewing the documentary.
- The film was directed by Davis Guggenheim and narrated by Tom Hanks. It's titled "The Road We've Traveled" because the story of President Obama, his presidency and this campaign is about understanding where we've come from and where we're going.
- The film covers some of the many tough calls President Obama has had to make in the last three years, like how he:
 - Inherited the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression and laid the groundwork for a recovery with strong roots and an economy built to last.
 - Made the bold decision to rescue the American auto industry when it was on the verge of collapse and saved more than one million jobs up and down the supply chain.
 - Finally reformed health care after nearly a century of failed attempts, so every American can have access to quality and affordable health insurance.
 - Kept his promise to the American people and brought the Iraq war to a responsible end.
 - Decided to act on an uncertain window of opportunity to finally get Bin Laden.
- This film isn't just about the tough calls President Obama has made, or about how they're paying off. It's about why he made them. It's about his fundamental belief in what America can be when we stand by the basic values that made our country great.
- This film is about hard work, responsibility, playing by the same rules and recognizing that we're all in this together. Those values have guided the President through every tough call he's made.

###

Romney Used To Support a Federal Individual Mandate, Now He Opposes It (3/9/12)

Key Point: Mitt Romney used to support an individual mandate for health insurance, but now that he's running for president, he opposes it.

- Mitt Romney is running on his opposition to President Obama's landmark health reform. He says his similar law in Massachusetts and its so-called individual mandate shouldn't be applied to the whole country, but in 2009 he argued the exact opposite. Romney will say anything to get elected.
 - Please see [this new DNC video](#) on Romney's hypocrisy.
- The health care law's individual responsibility requirement, or individual mandate, requires Americans who have access to affordable coverage to obtain health insurance or pay a fine. The Massachusetts health reform law Romney brags about has a similar individual mandate. Romney now claims he never wanted it to apply to the rest of the country, but voters deserve the truth.
 - Romney was asked in a 2008 Republican presidential debate whether he supported an individual mandate on a national level. In response, Romney said, "I like mandates."
 - Romney wrote an op-ed in 2009 arguing that the Massachusetts law – including the individual mandate – should be adopted nationally. He said they "established incentives for those who were uninsured to buy insurance."
 - Please see [Romney's 2009 op-ed in USA Today](#).
- The individual responsibility requirement in the health care law won't affect most Americans, including those who get coverage from their employer. And if a person or family can't get affordable health insurance, they're exempt from the requirement.

###

Businesses Add Jobs; We Need To Do More To Keep Putting Americans Back To Work (3/9/12)

Key Point: February's positive jobs growth show we're making progress, but we need to do more to keep putting Americans back to work.

- The 233,000 private-sector jobs that businesses created in February show President Obama is leading a steady, consistent recovery for the middle class. The private sector created 518,000 jobs in the past two months and more than 3.9 million jobs over the past 24 months.
 - Please see [this chart](#) showing that the President's policies not only helped the private sector stop the free fall, but reverse the trend.
- While this momentum is encouraging for the middle class and small businesses, we need to do more to strengthen the economy and put Americans back to work. The President is doing everything he can to get Americans back to work, including taking executive actions when Republicans in Congress refuse to do their jobs.
- The worst economic crisis since the Great Depression wasn't created overnight, and we always knew the economy wouldn't recover overnight. That's why the President is:
 - Holding Wall Street accountable.
 - Cracking down on those who take advantage of consumers.
 - Putting more money into working families' pockets so they can fuel the recovery.
 - Cutting taxes 18 times for small businesses to help them hire and grow.

###