

McCarty decided to do something about it. Last fall, he approached his friend, Kris Draper, told him he'd cleaned up his life, and he thought he had a little hockey left in him. So he plays for the Flint Generals in the IHL, works his way up to the Red Wings AHL affiliate, the Grand Rapids Griffins. And then in March, as the playoffs approached, Darren got a call from the Red Wings offering him a shot with the team.

This guy got his life back together, seized the moment, and scored the opening goal in game two of the series against Nashville. That is a stout story. And—where are you, Darren? Yes, congratulations to you.

One of the things that is really interesting about the Stanley Cup is that every player on the championship team gets to take the trophy home for a day. Red Wings players took the Cup on adventures across the world to Sweden, Finland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Russia. Coach Babcock took the Cup water skiing; slalom or two skies? [Laughter]

Anyway, several players had young relatives baptized with the Cup. Others let their children use it as a bowl for cereal, for ice cream, and donuts. Tomas Kopecky took it home to Slovakia and used it as a bowl for a special Slovakian broth. No telling what was in that special Slovakian broth. [Laughter]

Many Red Wings used their time with the Cup to lift the lives of others. Kris Draper took the Cup to Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. That must have been a joyous moment for them to see the Cup. Coach Babcock took it to visit the disabled residents of a Sherbrooke Community Center. Brian Rafalski took it to a Wisconsin veterans home.

Chris Osgood, Dan Cleary, Kris Draper, and Brett Lebda took the Cup to visit the troops at Michigan's Selfridge Air National Guard Base. And today Red Wings players took the Cup to visit wounded warriors at Walter Reed. As the Commander in Chief of a fabulous military, I thank you for honoring our troops.

There is a sign over the door of the Red Wings locker at Joe Louis Arena that reads this: "To whom much is given, much is expected." The Red Wings live up to those words on the ice and off the ice. And so I

congratulate the players, their wives/girlfriends, the coaches, all those who support the team; the unheralded heroes in the locker room that make sure the lives of these players is as comfortable as possible—the trainers, the laundry handlers, the equipment handlers. I congratulate you for achieving a dream that millions of kids dream about, including those in the room.

Thanks for bringing the Cup to the White House. Good luck for the rest of the season. May God bless you.

And now it is my honor to bring Captain Nick Lidstrom to the podium.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:37 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Christopher Ilitch, vice president, and Michael and Marian Ilitch, owners, Detroit Red Wings; Gary B. Bettman, commissioner, National Hockey League; Johan Franzen, right wing, Gordie Howe, former right wing, Kris Draper, center, Chris Chelios, defenseman, Brett Lebda, defenseman, Darren McCarty, right wing, Tomas Kopecky, right wing, Brian Rafalski, defenseman, Chris Osgood, goal tender, and Dan Cleary, right wing, Detroit Red Wings; and entertainer Chuck Norris. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Niklas Lidstrom, defenseman and team captain, Detroit Red Wings.

Statement on Signing the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008

October 14, 2008

Today I have signed into law H.R. 928, the "Inspector General Reform Act of 2008." The Act amends various authorities related to Federal Inspectors General.

Section 6 of the bill gives Inspectors General the right to obtain legal advice from lawyers working for an Inspector General. It is important that Inspectors General have timely and accurate legal advice. It is also important that agencies have structures through which to reach a single, final authoritative determination for the agency of what the law is. This determination is subject to the authority of the Attorney General with respect to legal questions within, and the President's authority to supervise, the executive branch and, of course, the courts in specific cases or controversies. To this end, the "rule of

construction” in section 6 ensures that, within each agency, the determinations of the law remain ultimately the responsibility of the chief legal officer and the head of the agency.

Section 8 of the bill includes provisions that purport to direct or regulate the content of the President’s budget submissions, including provisions that purport to direct the President to include the comments of Inspectors General with respect to those submissions. The President’s budget submissions are recommendations for enactment of legislation appropriating funds. The executive branch shall construe section 8 of the bill in a manner consistent with the President’s constitutional authority to recommend for congressional consideration such measures as the President shall judge necessary and expedient.

George W. Bush

The White House,
October 14, 2008.

Statement on Signing the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009

October 14, 2008

Today I have signed into law S. 3001, the “Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.” The Act authorizes funding for the defense of the United States and its interests abroad, for military construction, and for national security-related energy programs.

Provisions of the Act, including sections 851, 902, 1211(2), and 1508(b), purport to impose requirements that could inhibit the President’s ability to carry out his constitutional obligations to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, to protect national security, to conduct diplomatic negotiations, to supervise the executive branch, to appoint officers of the United States, and to execute his authority as Commander in Chief. The executive branch shall continue to construe such provisions in a manner consistent with

the constitutional authority and obligations of the President.

George W. Bush

The White House,
October 14, 2008.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Certifying the Secretary of the Treasury To Purchase Troubled Assets

October 14, 2008

Dear Madam Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Pursuant to section 115(a)(2) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–343) (the “Act”), I hereby certify that it is necessary for the Secretary of the Treasury to exercise the authority granted under the Act to purchase, or commit to purchase, troubled assets up to the limit of \$350 billion outstanding at any one time.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

Remarks Prior to a Cabinet Meeting

October 15, 2008

I called my Cabinet together for them to get a full understanding of the extraordinary actions we’ve taken. Many of the Cabinet members are involved with helping make sure this economy is strong in the future—no Cabinet member more involved than Secretary Paulson. And we have taken extraordinary measures because these are extraordinary circumstances.

As I said yesterday, it’s very important for the American people to know that the program is designed to preserve free enterprise, not replace free enterprise. Decisions we took to enhance liquidity and make sure our financial instruments are strong is a temporary decision. For example, the equity purchases in the banks is designed so that these