

DATE: 5/7/04  
TIME: 3:44 p.m.  
ACTIVITY: Home Telephone 1 incoming from (217) 523-5129  
CALL#: 736

SPEAKERS:  
LEVINE: Stuart Levine  
CELLINI: Bill Cellini

\* \* \* \*

1 LEVINE Hi.  
2 CELLINI Okay, so I got on the phone.  
3 LEVINE Yes. (laughs)  
4 CELLINI I just had a uh, an interesting  
5 conversation.  
6 LEVINE Uh huh.  
7 CELLINI Uh...  
8 LEVINE I betcha it was with Rosencrans.  
9 CELLINI That's it.  
10 LEVINE (Chuckles)  
11 CELLINI Uh, I never got back to him and there  
12 was a message on my phone at home uh,  
13 this morning that said please give me a  
14 call. And I had promised him I'd get to  
15 him, you know the last two days and I  
16 never. And so I called him a little  
17 while ago and I said Tom uh, geez I  
18 don't know how to uh, uh, uh how, how to  
19 indicate this. I said I did...I said  
20 first of all I apologize for not gettin'  
21 back to you I said but I just been on  
22 the treadmill with some, some crisis.  
23 And I said but I did a little bit of  
24 preliminary checking and I said you may  
25 have uh, caused uh, us both some  
26 problems. And he says how. And I said  
27 well, I said when I made a call to find  
28 out where the status was I was told that

1 uh, yeah, things have been, have been  
2 put on hold and that uh, that somebody  
3 had indicated that they were just  
4 flabbergasted at the amount of uh, funds  
5 that uh, that, that, that you and, and  
6 others have gotten on real estate, when  
7 they evidently weren't aware of all  
8 that. And I said so, I don't know if  
9 we're both gonna get harmed over this  
10 uh, or what. And, and uh, and uh, and I  
11 said uh, evidently I said the best thing  
12 I could gather is that somebody must  
13 have made a run at this administration  
14 in your behalf which cau-, and, and, and  
15 TRS was mentioned. Your behalf for TRS  
16 which caused somebody in this  
17 administration to uh, to check into and  
18 that's when they were flabbergasted at,  
19 at what was uh, what's happenin'. And  
20 um, and he said it absolutely did not  
21 happen. And I said what do you mean.  
22 He said I have never reached out for  
23 anybody to uh, uh, to go to this  
24 administration. And I said well, I said  
25 I'm, I'm, I just, I said all I know is  
26 what was alluded to me and, and it was  
27 somebody I said that, that evidently a  
28 very light complected uh, black  
29 gentleman was supposed to have made the,  
30 the inquiry on your behalf. And he said  
31 it absolutely didn't happen and I said  
32 well, the guy that I was gonna check  
33 with was Tony Rezko but he's in London  
34 and before I could finish it he cut me  
35 off and he said and let me tell you I  
36 don't want any interfacing with that  
37 guy. He said he would never be somebody  
38 that I would go to. He said there are  
39 two people in this administration that  
40 in my opinion that if they're not under  
41 investigation already they're bein'  
42 monitored every step of the way and  
43 that's Tony Rezko and Chris Kelly. Now  
44 that scared the shit out of me when he  
45 said that, you know.

46 LEVINE

Well that, that's also uh, Tom uh, you  
47 know uh, I don't believe a thing that

1 Tom says.

2 CELLINI Well, so then wh-, when I said to him  
3 and you know when he was hammerin' at  
4 that I said Tom, you know uh, I said I,  
5 I frankly I, I said I, I have done some  
6 interfacing here because that's they're  
7 in charge of fundraising and I've been  
8 asked to do some fundraising for the,  
9 for the road people and that's who I've  
10 interfaced with you know. I said so I  
11 know them from that standpoint and I  
12 said the only thing I said while I'm  
13 sittin' here talkin' to you is goin'  
14 through my mind is if some black guy  
15 made some approach maybe it's your folks  
16 from Capri that did that. He said when  
17 I get off this phone heads are gonna  
18 roll if they did. I said well, you're  
19 saying you never talked to anybody.  
20 Somebody did. You know or...

21 LEVINE Mm hm.

22 CELLINI somebody at least is sayin' that they,  
23 they talked in your behalf. And I said  
24 you know did you ever by chance talk to  
25 Stuart. I said now I never got a chance  
26 to talk to Stuart either because I said  
27 Stuart, Stuart was gone somewhere...you  
28 know my nose is gonna grow here. But,  
29 but at that point I didn't think it  
30 would be wise to say, you know that I  
31 talked to you about it. (chuckles) Uh,  
32 I can always have talked to you in  
33 between...

34 LEVINE Mm hm.

35 CELLINI His call, or my call today to him and...

36 LEVINE Mm hm.

37 CELLINI Next time he calls me. He said he's  
38 gonna call me over the weekend. He says  
39 I'm gonna check this out and get to you  
40 to see who may have made a call. He  
41 said and I'll call you over the weekend.

1 But I said did you ever by chance uh,  
2 touch base with Stuart. And he said no  
3 uh, Stuart was out of town uh, or he was  
4 out of town...somethin' about somebody  
5 bein' out of town and he just never got  
6 a chance to. And I said well, uh, you  
7 know again I said let me just say to  
8 you...I said I left, I said did you get  
9 the message that I left you. And, and  
10 he never said he did, but he did because  
11 he clearly did.

12 LEVINE Mm hm.

13 CELLINI And I said well let me just walk you  
14 through that one more time. I said  
15 after you and I chatted I called the  
16 people who are, who I have known for  
17 years over there and asked if there were  
18 difficulties with you and was told that  
19 your shop had sufficiently explained to  
20 them whatever the difficulties may have  
21 been to their satisfaction and therefore  
22 they felt as though that you would be  
23 uh, able to get an increased allocation.  
24 And I said and the uh, uh, uh maybe I  
25 shouldn't have said this to him, but I  
26 did. I said it's Jon Bauman. When I  
27 asked Jon, I said Jon refers to me as  
28 the Pope and Stuart as the Rabbi and I  
29 said Jon Bauman said yes things are  
30 already to go uh, but of course I have  
31 not yet talked to the Rabbi who is the  
32 person who, you know who, who uh, clears  
33 this stuff. (laughs)

34 LEVINE Mm hm.

35 CELLINI And so uh, uh, uh, I said uh, and  
36 remember Tom I told you that after I had  
37 talked to Jon that I called Stuart and I  
38 said to Stuart that I had talked to Jon  
39 and that uh, you evidently had resolved  
40 to their satisfaction the situation and  
41 I said to Stuart is there any problem  
42 that uh, that you could see that has  
43 anything to do with uh, Tom and the  
44 allocation. And I said, and Stuart said



1 no not at all. And I said but you  
2 recall I left you the message that said  
3 there was just a little bit of a two  
4 second lag before he said no not at all  
5 that made me feel that it would be good  
6 for you to probably talk to Stuart to  
7 shore that up. And he said well I never  
8 got a chance to. And I said well I, I  
9 said then I don't know 'cause I haven't  
10 talked to him, you know.

11 LEVINE You know he's, he's uh, it's a shame he  
12 has no wisdom because he is smart. What  
13 he did in his conversation with you it's  
14 obvious to me is he put himself in a  
15 position where he thinks he can say, oh  
16 my God it happened but those assholes  
17 how stupid 'cause it wasn't me and  
18 somehow put himself in a position where  
19 he can uh, uh, uh, uh, uh not say that  
20 he uh, that he reached out and wanted to  
21 help but whatever it may be. 'Cause  
22 he's not sure what he makes of it. He's  
23 also not a 100 percent sure what you  
24 know and what you don't know.

25 CELLINI Yeah.

26 LEVINE Uh, but none of that makes any  
27 difference because um, uh, uh, Tony said  
28 don't give him anything and I'm gonna  
29 send the message back to him from the  
30 guy who was sent to me. (chuckles) You  
31 know.

32 CELLINI Oh, Tony's gonna do it to through that  
33 guy, okay.

34 LEVINE Oh yeah, yeah.

35 CELLINI Alright.

36 LEVINE T-, Tony said that he is going to tell  
37 the guy who made the approach...

38 CELLINI Mm hm.

39 LEVINE That um, uh, that uh, uh, you know Tom

1 should uh talk with uh, with uh, Stuart  
2 uh, and Stuart will a, will a, will a,  
3 you know let him know what I think.

4 CELLINI Well, but he was so, he said, he went  
5 further. He said if I thought for any  
6 reason that I would have to talk with or  
7 deal with either of those two gentlemen,  
8 I would say I don't need this money.

9 LEVINE Uh, well he's gonna uh, first of all  
10 Tony's not lying.

11 CELLINI Yeah, oh hell no!

12 LEVINE So uh, so I mean there's uh, there's uh,  
13 and, and the guy that uh, that Tony  
14 described to me you, you, you told me  
15 uh, uh, you know who it might be and all  
16 that. So uh, it is, it's, Tommy's  
17 lying.

18 CELLINI Yeah. Now, I suppose that I may have  
19 given him uh, a little bit of a hint of  
20 what he could use for cover, but when I,  
21 when I said do you suppose your guys at  
22 Capri.

23 LEVINE Mm hm.

24 CELLINI Because when you call,...

25 LEVINE Mm hm.

26 CELLINI When I call the phone is answered Capri  
27 Capital.

28 LEVINE Mm hm. Well, uh, I mean um, I suppose  
29 that it is theoretically possible that  
30 uh, that uh, uh, Quentin Primo or  
31 whatever his name is.

32 CELLINI Yeah.

33 LEVINE Could of, could of uh, done something  
34 um, uh, uh, on his uh, on his own I  
35 suppose. Uh, but if uh, if, if Tom  
36 feels that he'd rather walk away from

1 the money than deal with Tony then there  
2 it is. (laughs)

3 CELLINI (laughs)

4 (PAUSE)

5 LEVINE I mean this ain't me. (laughs)

6 (PAUSE)

7 CELLINI Well, it was a, he said, he said I'm  
8 sick at my stomach. Tom said I'm sick at  
9 my stomach. This is, this is makin' me  
10 sick at my stomach.

11 LEVINE (chuckles)

12 CELLINI And I said well hey, I said it sure as  
13 hell didn't make me feel too good 'cause  
14 I figured I've been kinda flyin' under  
15 the radar here, you know.

16 LEVINE Mm hm. (laughs) Well, uh, uh, you know  
17 I mean uh, there is no question he also  
18 knows that uh, that um, he's got a huge  
19 business uh, uh, uh, I say it's a huge  
20 business. That he has a lot of assets  
21 under management for this particular uh,  
22 client for which, for which he has never  
23 or not in recent history um, uh, uh,  
24 done anything to uh, to ingratiate  
25 himself with uh, with people who appoint  
26 people there.

27 CELLINI Yeah, yeah.

28 LEVINE To the contrary uh, he uh, he got a lot  
29 of uh, a lot of uh, a lot of, a lot of  
30 uh, a lot of help uh, and uh, and uh,  
31 with no necessity. You know what? It's  
32 like you said to me, there's a whole uh,  
33 uh, uh, avenue of folks that he stepped  
34 on over the years when he felt he didn't  
35 need them anymore. That's his, that's  
36 his modus operandi.

37 CELLINI Yeah, yeah, it really is.

1 LEVINE Yeah.

2 CELLINI Incidentally um, I uh, was a with Chris  
3 yesterday.

4 LEVINE Mm hm.

5 CELLINI Prior to a meeting that uh, we had on  
6 uh, about the, the university.

7 LEVINE Mm hm.

8 CELLINI And uh, um, I, he said w-, what things,  
9 w-, what happened was I told him I would  
10 see him about an hour before that and  
11 uh, I called and I didn't, I got his  
12 machine and I didn't get him and so when  
13 I showed up at five instead of four, he  
14 said I've been standing here since 4  
15 where the hell you been. And I said I  
16 called you. And he says, you didn't  
17 call me...anyway. So, why people were  
18 sittin' outside waitin' for him...he  
19 sais well, well, well quickly what is it  
20 you, what is it you wanted to, had to go  
21 over. Well I quickly hit him with three  
22 things and one of 'em was I said, you  
23 know I believe that Stuart has to be  
24 named at this next, before this next  
25 meeting.

26 LEVINE Mm hm.

27 CELLINI I think (UI)

28 LEVINE Mm hm.

29 CELLINI Before the next meeting?

30 LEVINE Well, if I'm not named before the next  
31 meeting...th-, this next meeting is the  
32 last official meeting uh, during my  
33 term.

34 CELLINI Okay.

35 LEVINE Yeah.

1 CELLINI So it's one before, after that?

2 LEVINE There is, my, my, my appointment is up  
3 in July. The next meeting is in August.  
4 So the, the uh, uh, the teachers to them  
5 this would be Stuart's finished after  
6 this.

7 CELLINI After...

8 LEVINE After the May meeting.

9 CELLINI The May meeting?

10 LEVINE Sure. Uh huh.

11 CELLINI Okay. So I, I said to him are you aware  
12 that uh, that Stuart needs to be re-  
13 appointed. And he said, well there is  
14 sure as hell wouldn't be any problem  
15 with that. I said well you say that,  
16 but (UI)...

17 LEVINE Somebody should do it.

18 CELLINI ...(UI) trusted. And he said well,  
19 hasn't Tony. I said I, I don't know I'm  
20 asking you. And he said give, give me  
21 that sheet you know I, I had put it on  
22 the yellow sheet...

23 LEVINE Mm hm.

24 CELLINI I put TRS appointment and then I put  
25 Stuart, you know...

26 LEVINE Mm hm.

27 CELLINI Question mark. Uh, you know give me  
28 that sheet that'll remind me.

29 LEVINE (laughs)

30 CELLINI And I said well here I said but, but  
31 you're right it's very important, but I  
32 don't know if anybody's addressed it.

33 LEVINE I mean you know Tony says that he has

1 and that the paperwork is goin' through,  
2 but you know who the hell knows and,  
3 and, and um,...

4 CELLINI Okay.

5 LEVINE What I'm gonna do uh, when he gets back,  
6 I'm going to, to go there I'm gonna say,  
7 you know Tony may be unless you go and  
8 carry the papers through yourself it's  
9 just not happening. What, and what I  
10 don't wanna have happen is that the  
11 teachers have in mind that um, in the  
12 months between the meetings uh, you know  
13 I can't be talkin' to staff anyway and,  
14 and uh, and uh, you know there's uh,  
15 they're gonna start thinkin' about who's  
16 gonna be committee heads and all that.  
17 And um, uh, uh, uh, you know it, it's  
18 nothin' that can't be fixed later but  
19 why, why have something that needs to be  
20 undone.

21 CELLINI Yeah. See they, they probably are  
22 thinkin' like they are with all the rest  
23 of 'em, you know you're there until re-  
24 appointed.

25 LEVINE Oh right, right, right and I did, did  
26 point out to Tony although...hold on a  
27 second.

28 (PAUSE)

29 LEVINE Um, that uh, that uh, this is not like  
30 those once your term is expired you're  
31 out uh, uh, until re-appointed you don't  
32 stay there until...But uh, but I'm glad  
33 that you mentioned it but I'm gonna, I'm  
34 gonna uh, uh, at this late date I  
35 certainly don't want uh, I not be re-  
36 appointed. (laughs)

37 CELLINI Yeah, yeah, yeah. Okay, well that's all  
38 I was, those are the two things I wanted  
39 to report.

40 LEVINE Okay, have a good weekend Bill.

1 CELLINI Thank you. Same to you.  
2 LEVINE Bye.  
3 CELLINI Bye.