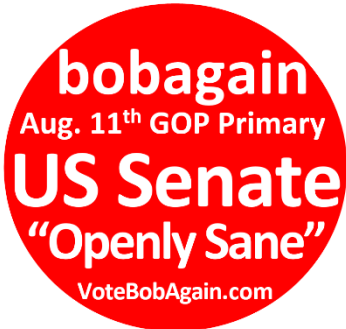


To be added to the campaign **NEWS RELEASE** e-mail list, send your request to: **votebobagain@gmail.com**



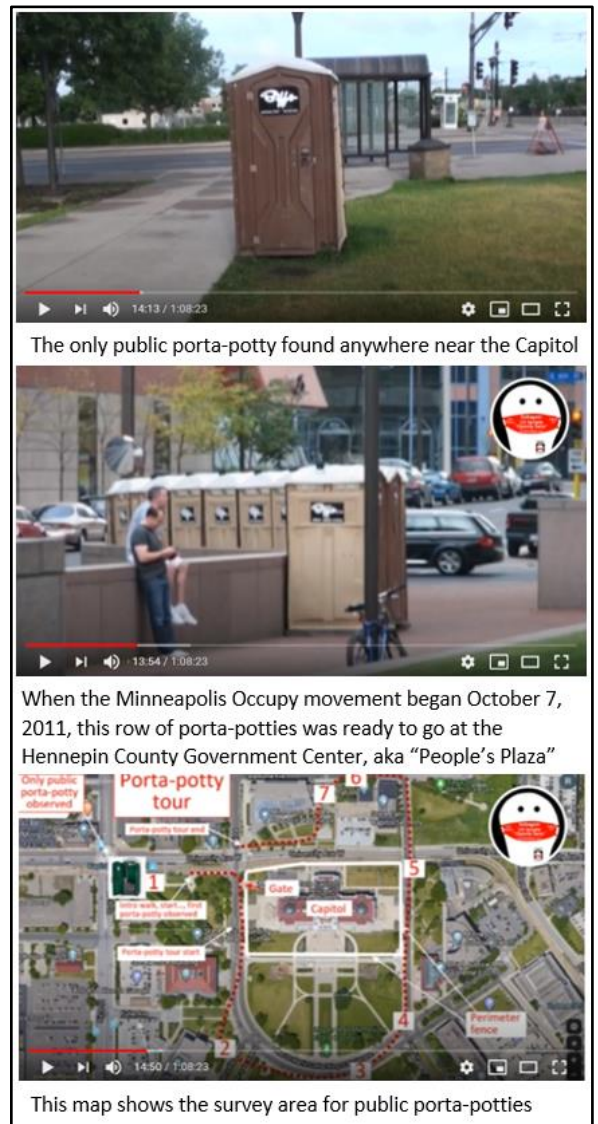
## **NEWS RELEASE – MN candidate-journalist will be at Columbus statue pedestal at 5 PM July 13th to “publicly, actively investigate, as a journalist, a privacy right of *We the People* to carry out normal bodily functions”; offers up video report**

Note: a .pdf version of this NEWS RELEASE, with graphics, is attached

Contact: [votebobagain@gmail.com](mailto:votebobagain@gmail.com), cell: (612) 812-4867 ([www.votebobagain.com](http://www.votebobagain.com) is running)

**Minneapolis, July 13, 2020** – Acting in his capacity as a journalist, “Openly Sane” GOP US Senate candidate and self-described “candidate-journalist” Bob “Again” Carney Jr. (“bobagain”) will “publicly, actively investigate, as a journalist, a privacy right of *We the People* to carry out normal bodily functions” at the Columbus statue pedestal at 5 PM July 13th. “If others, including other journalists, also want to participate in investigating this right, I will work with them,” bobagain said. On June 10<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM a group of people illegally pulled the Columbus statute down. “I intend this July 13<sup>th</sup> investigation to be not just a peaceful but a peaceable event and believe that nothing I plan to do involves breaking any law,” bobagain said.

The tearing down of the Columbus statute June 10<sup>th</sup> and its implications are examined by bobagain, functioning as a journalist in his new video report: [Escape from History 2020 MinnLeg 1st Special Session](#). On the



first day of the first Special Session bobagain obtained a press credential, as a journalist for MinnGhost.com, a new web site that has since expanded to a MinnGhost youtube.com channel. The MinnGhost video report includes a “Porta-potty tour” segment, from 12:55 to 16:29 on the timeline (the whole report is one hour and eight minutes.) The video report examines the possibility that a “Minnesota establishment” may have actually preferred that the Columbus statute be torn down in broad daylight, exactly as the event did in fact unfold. The unlawful protest gave them a powerful argument for a claim that entire Capitol area -- including the grounds and surrounding blocks -- must be tightly secured, partly to protect the Capitol building itself, which was recently rennovated at a cost of over \$300 million.

In the video, bobagain, who is also a registered lobbyist for *We the People*, examines the First Amendment right of *We the People* “peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” His analysis demonstrates that tearing down the Columbus statute went outside the bounds of that Constitutional right. As bobagain argues, defending the right “peaceably to assemble” is essential to the preservation of liberty; he also claims that right properly includes a right of *We the People* to bring privately funded porta-potties for continuing peaceable assemblies at places like the State Capitol grounds while the Legislature is in Session. The video contrasts a June 2<sup>nd</sup> peaceable assembly in front of the Capitol building with the unlawful Columbus statute protest. See 16:59 to 25:43 for this content.

To test his Constitutional theory regarding “a privacy right of *We the People* to carry out normal bodily functions”, bobagain plans to bring resources including a tall plastic enclosing structure, which he will use while carrying out his “public, active investigation.” “Others may also use the resources I am bringing to participate in my investigative reporting,” bobagain said. Regarding COVID-19, “I’ll be wearing a mask, and social distancing of six feet is respectfully requested,” bobagain added. As a candidate-journalist, bobagain plans to be videotaping, and regards anyone who shows up, including other members of the media, as “part of the story – I have as much right to ask them questions as they have to ask questions,” bobagain asserted, while also acknowledging that answers may not be forthcoming.

### ***We the People* must not be locked out of our Capitol and our public spaces**

The current journalistic initiative was triggered when bobagain went to the State Capitol on June 12, the first day of the first Special Session, only to find the Capitol building surrounded by a perimeter fence, guarded, and closed to the public. “Fortunately since I’m a candidate-journalist I was able to obtain a MinnGhost.com press credential at Room G27 in the Administration Building; I used the credential to carry out the investigation reported on in [Escape from History 2020 MinnLeg 1st Special Session](#), bobagain said.

The current investigaiton is relevant partly because of a hope it will pave the way for a continuing “peaceable assembly” of *We the People* on the Capitol grounds, where petitions to the Government can be drafted, discussed, signed and delivered. “Having practical means for making reasonable accommodations required by human biology is an essential element to the exercise of our fundamental Constitutional rights,” bobagain said.

Noting the reality of COVID-19, bobagain stressed two points. First, he is determined to do everything he can to ensure that any assemblies are “peaceable” – not just “peaceful” -- which the media seems to present as merely the absence of physical violence. As noted above, this point is elaborated in the video. Second, all possible caution must be taken due to the danger of COVID-19. “This is a deadly disease. *We the People* can continue to exercise our First Amendment rights by taking extensive precautions, but such precautions are absolutely essential,” bobagain said. “I must add however, that while advocating for extensive precautions, I cannot assume any personal responsibility for the possibility that one or more people may become infected. We can and must all do our best, but we can’t do more than that,” he concluded.

The planned investigation is also relevant to better understanding the right of *We the People*, including homeless people, to peaceably assemble at locations such as city parks. “In Minneapolis, the Park and Recreation Board purports to authorize homeless encampments. I use the word ‘purports’ because we need to understand that what this really amounts to is a claimed authority of a Government entity. At the most basic level, *We the People* must carefully examine and question any claim of authority made by any Government entity to control where, when, and in what manner people can be in public spaces, and how we accommodate ourselves to fundamental realities of our physical existence, including normal bodily functions. We need to carefully consider the proper extent of a Constitutional right of *We the People*, including homeless people, to both assemble on a semi-permanent, and possibly even a permanent basis at the public spaces of our cities, and our right to privacy to carry out normal human bodily functions. Our thinking must proceed in the context of the ways our society provides for the ability of all people to provide for their basic needs, individually and as families. Only when all people are able to provide for their basic needs, including of course shelter, can restrictions on the manner of living peaceably in public places be justified,” bobagain concluded.

<end>

Prep and pd for by Carney for Senate Committee, 4232 Colfax Ave. So., Mpls., MN 55409