

July 21, 2005

Ben Stein  
National Retirement Planning Coalition  
11710 Plaza America Drive, Suite 100  
Reston, VA 20190

Linda Hollands  
National Association for Variable Annuities  
11710 Plaza America Drive, Suite 100  
Reston, VA 20190

Dear Mr. Stein and Ms. Hollands,

On June 23, your two "associations" rented the auditorium of Blair High School in Silver Spring, MD and also rented 17 school buses from the Montgomery County Public Schools to facilitate a meeting on Social Security that featured President George Bush.

As of now, nearly a month later, the total bill for the event, \$7,332.76, remains unpaid by you.

As you know, this supposed "public meeting" was by invitation only and, in fact, local residents were barred from attending while others were bussed in from out of state.

Since President Bush's approach to Social Security involves a partial privatization that would cut benefits for future Social Security residents, leaving millions of Americans short on income they counted on for their retirement, I guess it's not surprising that your two groups would leave Montgomery County taxpayers holding the bag for the expenses from your event.

President Bush may think that deficit financing works just fine for the federal government. But in Montgomery County we have to pay our bills. So please make good on this obligation.

Sincerely,

George Leventhal  
Vice President  
Montgomery County Council