

Gov. Christie: People I Held Responsible Have Now Been Held Responsible By U.S. Attorney And A Jury

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Transcript:

Charlie Rose: People look at this trial and say it's bad for Chris Christie. What happened in this trial was bad because people that had worked for him one way or the other were engaged in something that put people's lives at risks, some say.

Governor Christie: Well I think – listen, in the end of course. And that's way on January 9, 2014 I apologized for having trusted people who were undeserving of my trust. And I fired them. And that's all I could do Charlie, I wasn't a prosecutor anymore. And then we completely cooperated with every investigation, turned over every document, gave over my personal telephone, and testified under oath at the U.S. Attorney's office for hours. I didn't hide a thing, and you know why, because I had nothing to hide. And those who have a partisan agenda will continue to attack me, but the reason I'm so happy to be sitting here with you today, is because I have known for three years I did absolutely nothing wrong, and now this trial has happened and the people who I held responsible three years ago have now been held responsible by the U.S. Attorney and a federal jury.

...

Governor Christie: The fact is that if people-- if the media and others attack you relentlessly for three years, and you cannot defend yourself because you are in the middle of cooperating in a judicial process and cannot stain that process, then if there's only one line of information that people will be given believe the line of information they're being given. So you know, anything like that from The Washington Post or anybody else, that's a snapshot in time, Charlie.

Charlie Rose: Right.

Governor Christie: I can't tell you how many times I've been told my political career was over. Here I am. And I will tell you this. What matters to me most is my reputation, and that's what I'm fighting for. And that's why I am here telling you the truth of not only what I know but the truth of what happened in the trial because if you read the reports of the trial you wouldn't even know what happened there.

...

Governor Christie: You know what Charlie, when I hired a new Assistant US Attorney, when I was US Attorney, before I swore them in I asked them to do one thing for me. I have the seal of the Department of Justice up on my wall and I said, read that seal for me. They said, sir? I said just read it out loud. What's it say? And they'd say Department of Justice. I said it doesn't Department of prosecution does it? It says Department of Justice. Our job is not to prosecute, our job is to make sure justice is served.

Charlie Rose: And you believe in Bridgegate, justice was done?

Governor Christie: I believe in the jury system Charlie and if-

Charlie Rose: Why can't you say I believe justice was done?

Governor Christie: Well, look because I think it's a more important answer than that. It's not just justice, this amorphous thing. You got to talk specifically about what happened, 12 regular citizens from all walks of life got in a box and spent seven weeks of their life, every day, listening to evidence and then they voted unanimously for guilt for these two people. I believe in that system. I believe in it. It's not flawless, but I believe in it.

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