

Branstetter, Jennifer

From: Tomalis, Ronald
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 6:59 PM
To: Branstetter, Jennifer
Subject: Fw: Angry Gov ensures questions about his Sandusky decisions will persist

----- Original Message -----

From: Eller, Timothy (PDE)
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 05:44 PM
To: Tomalis, Ronald
Cc: Bolden, Elizabeth; Hickernell, Jessica; Kelley, Janet; Koser, Erica; Gouker, Jordan
Subject: Angry Gov ensures questions about his Sandusky decisions will persist

Angry Gov ensures questions about his Sandusky decisions will persist

Pete DeCoursey
Capitolwire
July 12, 2012

Gov. Tom Corbett was angry and offended today when a reporter asked him – as questions mount about Penn State's handling of the Jerry Sandusky child abuse case – if he wished he had done anything differently.

Corbett not only got podium-pounding mad, an extreme rarity for him in public, or private, he said the media and public had no right or reason to ask that question. Which of course, probably will mean 200 new Monday morning quarterbacks will press him about it in the future.

Angela Coulombis of the Philadelphia Inquirer, an unflappable, insistent and well-mannered reporter, noted that Corbett was refusing to answer anything about the critical report on former Penn State official. Even so, she noted that former FBI director Louis Freeh's report scorched PSU former football coach Joe Paterno and former university president Graham Spanier for their decisions. With that being the case, did Corbett believe he, as the attorney general who started and staffed the case, should have done anything differently? Or acted sooner or "alerted the public somehow?"

An angry Corbett turned on her and angrily retorted: "Why are you all obsessed with that?"

Coulombis responded: "It is a really important question, governor."

"It has been answered," Corbett spat out, taking this question, as he sometimes does, very personally. "It has been answered over," he smacked the podium with a resounding thump! "And over," Thump! "And over!" Thump!

Corbett said Sandusky was convicted on "45 of 48 counts," convictions that will lead to life imprisonment. "We do not hold up investigations for anything."

Then he paused, and red-faced, scolded Coulombis: "You are disparaging the reputations of the men and women in that office who have worked very hard to get the result that justice was served and a monster was taken off the street.

"They are not going to hold it up for anything. It takes a long time to develop these cases. They have the experience. I have the experience. I've handled cases like this."