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**From:** Gerard, Leo  
**Sent:** Friday, August 29, 2008 3:39 PM  
**To:** Int. Exec Board  
**Cc:** Leadership Team  
**Subject:** Sarah Palin

Brief statement from Obama and Biden, and our talking points:

“We send our congratulations to Governor Sarah Palin and her family on her designation as the republican nominee for Vice President. It is yet another encouraging sign that old barriers are falling in our politics. While we obviously have differences over how best to lead this country forward Governor Palin is an admirable person and will add a compelling new voice to this campaign,” said Senator Barack Obama and Senator Joe Biden.

## Sarah Palin

Palin doesn't have the experience to be President—and will help McCain give us more of the same.

- Today John McCain decided to put the former mayor of a town of 9,000 with zero foreign policy experience a heartbeat away from the presidency.
- Governor Palin shares John McCain's commitment to the agenda of Big Oil, right-wing policies and continuing George Bush's failed economic policies.
- That's not the change we need, it's just more of the same.

Palin lacks the experience that McCain says a President needs.

- John McCain said that a president must have “the national security experience and background to lead this nation. We are facing the transcendent challenge of the 21st century, and that is radical Islamic extremism.”
- But Palin, announced on McCain's 72nd birthday, just doesn't fit that bill. She has no national security experience whatsoever.
- Contrast that with Joe Biden, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, one of the Senate's foremost foreign policy experts, and someone who has traveled the world meeting with allies and enemies, intimately involved in critical issues of war and peace.

- This pick had nothing to do with being qualified to step into the presidency, which Sarah Palin clearly isn't. It had everything to do with the dim political outlook for John McCain's campaign.

A Hail Mary pass—but it won't change the Republican promise of more of the same.

- Clearly McCain was looking for a game changer—because he knows that Americans just aren't interested in what he's offering. But Sarah Palin isn't going to change the fact that the Republican ticket is offering more of the same.

- If John McCain was looking for someone to balance out his image as a Republican insider, he picked the wrong candidate: Sarah Palin does business just like George Bush and Dick Cheney.

The bottom line: John McCain and Sarah Palin won't give us the change we need. They'll give us more of the same

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