Sep 26 - Sherrill interview on Meidas Touch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=Iku-nfraDKA>

Yeah. So, it's we found out about it because a journalist came forward and said, you know, Jack Chidarelli's team is has your personnel record and they shouldn't have it. &gt;&gt; Um, they tried to give it to me and I I, you know, I looked at it and they shouldn't have all this stuff. Your social security is in there. So, he, you know, we got in touch with him. Um, shortly thereafter, I think we got a letter from the archives alerting us to this data breach that was inappropriate. So then we got to work digging through exactly what happened. And what we've pieced together is that um, my primary was June 10th. So on June 9th, uh somebody working with Chidurelli, somebody who Chitterelli had vetted as his lieutenant governor, so someone you know in connection with him and someone who by the way is a former military officer, should have known better, um foyed my military records and was told that uh he did not have access to them, that they were privileged, you know, confidential information, um personal identifying information, PII type stuff, and he didn't have access and he needed to get my permission to release him. So on June 10th, I went shortly thereafter, he makes a phone call and I'm he said he c got in touch with a real helpful person. So this real helpful person um who he got in touch with ended up releasing all my documents and even this guy said I was you know it was kind of shocking and I was shocked and disgusted that I got this because it had a lot of like it had our social in it. It had a lot of identifying information and so he knew they shouldn't have released it but that didn't stop the campaign from disseminating that information. And then if you kind of track into it more to see, well, was this just a mistake or was this nefarious conduct, you know, you find out, first of all, the timeline is ultra suspicious. &gt;&gt; Yeah. &gt;&gt; Again, you go into all of their procedures. They should have had a signature from me. They didn't. They should have had my social security number. The person at the archives went into a VA website that they had access to. This isn't something you or I could go on. This is government website, a special website. they had access to. They pulled my social security number from that and then used that to get access to my records. And then they should have I they should have notified the Navy, which they didn't do. So all of this was conduct that shows you that this was a weaponization of my records, my personal information that working in conjunction with the Trump administration and their archives, um, the Jack Chidarelli team was able to get access to. and then despite like I this stuff was stamped in different places with like PII and stuff like that knowing it shouldn't be disseminated did so anyway to sort of weaponize this and I am just you know here in New Jersey we are known for like tough knockdown &gt;&gt; oh yeah &gt;&gt; out fights I have them all the time I I will go toeto toe with anybody because I'm you know I am going to serve the people of New Jersey, no matter what it takes. Gosh darn it. But nevertheless, this lack of honor, this this just complete disregard for somebody's personal identifying information. My parents' information was in there. They're in their 80s and now I'm try I'm worried about protecting their credit and and you know how I can do that and not to mention my own. Um it is really it is really a a a new low I think. Um and I think the people of New Jersey of course should be really concerned about somebody running to be governor who has no you know if he's going to do this to me. Imagine how he's going to treat the information of the people of New Jersey. And that's what sh I mean the details of the story and I've read the articles are so much worse, you know, and the way they're trying to spin it, the archives and your opponent are trying to spin it as, oh no, it was just a clerk who who sent the wrong file and and you're it's clear as you go through this. That's far that's so far from the truth. This was an act by a person with a personal agenda who sent it to your opponent who then like you said was shocking is a veteran got this and did know better. I did no better and yet still gave it to the opponent and who then gave it to reporters. So step by step you see Jack Shidarelli and his machine and this is machine politics. We're talking New Jersey are will do anything to win and and and they sat on this and you and another point is that was June. It's October to October 1st next week. I mean it's I guess that's just October surprise of some kind as they combed through it to find negative. I mean it does say a lot about your opponent and his morals and his ethics and he wants to lead. I mean it it does this surprise you at all in a certain sense? &gt;&gt; You know it it doesn't. I mean sadly it should. This should be so beyond the pale. And yet when we see attack after attack after attack from Trump and MAGA Republicans on people. I remember several years ago listening to a recording that somebody from the Jim Johnson crew uh somebody pretty much threatening Don Bacon's wife because he wasn't voting for Jim Johnson as speaker and how he was going to put this out online and she was going to be, you know, everybody was going to hate them and they were going to come after them and he kept saying all these key words in he'd say like in a nonviolent manner like obviously very well aware of just how to skirt the law while insinuating all the threats possible and I think knowing that we have people who've tried to kidnap the governor of Michigan I mean we know who these people are and how threatening they can be so to see that kind of um attack that kind of utilization of the federal government against individuals was in some ways Not surprising. It was incredibly disappointing though to see it um sort of transplanted here in New Jersey. But my opponent keeps saying he's going to do that. You know, he said he can't think of anything he disagrees with Trump on. He said it's his job to support the president. He says stuff like he's never going to take him to court. And um so again and again, we see that this is how he intends to do this. He wants to remake our court like Trump did. That kind of stuff. And so, you know, I guess he keeps telling us who he is, &gt;&gt; you know. &gt;&gt; Right. Right. You know, and and another thread to pull on this, I think, and we touched a little bit, but I do want to go back to it, is I'm a veteran. And, you know, I've I was in the Army 22 years, four years at West Point. Uh, I graduated in the top twothirds of my class. Uh, and my It's funny when when this came out, my fiance said to me, he goes, &quot;Wow, are you worried about them releasing your academic records?&quot; Like, &quot;Hey, I was I was number 600 on 900. Thank you very much. You know, she goes, &quot;You think they'll use it against you? That I'm stupid? &gt;&gt; My body is squeeze fat.&quot; &gt;&gt; Yeah. I mean, I think I think everybody &gt;&gt; the best people graduate. &gt;&gt; Well, the thing, you know, the joke is that because I did the study, my eyes didn't go bad then and I was able to fly. All the smart people, their eyes went back. But but again, as a veteran, you know, more more serious side of this is it is shocking that there are people in our government that have so little they went into the VA. I mean, what you just said was even more shocking that my question is wrong because you they went into the VA database to get your personal identifying information to use to authorize release records that never should have released at all to a political opponent. I mean, this is a lot. This is a lot for the entire veterans community. If the V the VA's got 9 million of our records, right? But I mean that the larger issue here for us as veterans, you and I and our community that we're a part of is really shocking is I mean they could they will how far will they go to destroy someone who was opponent if they'll do this. &gt;&gt; Well, that's just it. And this is part of why I'm speaking out so much on this issue because I'm a sitting member of Congress, &gt;&gt; right? and &gt;&gt; they can &gt;&gt; and and I ability to fight back to to have this platform to talk about it and to push back against it and to to get agencies um that I can have help get my credit secured and stuff like that. You know, imagine the veteran who writes an op-ed against Jack Chidarelli &gt;&gt; against Donald Trump and what are they going to do to that person? Imagine, you know, I have been out of the military for quite some time. A lot of that information was not as recent as it would have been if id just gotten out say two years ago or less. &gt;&gt; Right? &gt;&gt; So imagine if all that was there. Imagine if there was stuff about my children. I mean my parents were in there but you know there's nothing that I think that the toughest part right now about running. There's a lot of sleepless nights. There's a lot of punches you take in the face. There's a lot of really nefarious conduct um by you know MAGA Republicans. There's all this is kind of what you sign up for, but what you don't sign up for is putting your family in danger in any way. And so all of this is to say that if this can happen to me, imagine how they could just quash somebody that doesn't have the resources or access that I do. &gt;&gt; Right? And this, you know, and this is what they want you to think. They want, you know, Trump and people like Jack Chidarelli want to shut you down and shut down your voice and make sure you don't speak up and you keep your head down. And if you do, oh, look what we can do. &gt;&gt; And this is what we're fighting. And and I just like you, I know the veterans community very, very well. And I think this will have the opposite effect. &gt;&gt; Yeah. I think I think we have to carry that message to our fellow veterans like this. You are just they will they will not respect your service. They will not respect your privacy and and we all know from service it's all out there. There's nothing you can't hide anything in the military right they go through you know it's like Jesus I mean how far is it to start releasing our DD8 you know our background what DD86 whatever now your your secret you know that that's every dirty suit you've ever had is in there. I mean why not I mean it's that easy. everything you've it's everything everyone you love. Right. Right. So my um I was going through a background check for security clearances at the US attorney's office when there was that data breach. And I remember my husband coming to me and going, &quot;Oh man, that is going to be you're you better be really careful because you've got to secure all your credit and stuff like that.&quot; I go, &quot;Oh honey, we have to be really careful.&quot; Like when they do a security background, you know, when they're doing your background check, they're it's not you in a, you know, in a bubble, it's like all the people, you know, right? &gt;&gt; You ever know exactly &gt;&gt; right, I mean, nothing is safe here. And that's why this, you know, this is so important. This fight is so important. I think the governor's race is so important. This is one of only two races in the entire nation. and Trump knows that if I win like I think New Jersey is capable of showing up for a kind of victory here, then that is a huge shot across the bow um about, you know, for his power because that will show all of the people running for Congress, uh all the the people up for governor next year that his policies aren't popular, that that something has to shift. And so I think, you know, this is so critically important to sort of hopefully finally maybe drive a wedge in some of the um you know in the Republican party so it's just not monolithically taking the entire country off a cliff. &gt;&gt; Yeah. And people wake up that this is all of us run this way. You know, it's the old saying, you know, you're who's to say you're not gonna be next? just they if there's writing I mean you go back to what you said earlier they're threatening Don Bacon for those who aren't paying attention Don Bacon's a Republican you know I mean I mean so &gt;&gt; Right so if you think you're safe because you're Republican today &gt;&gt; wrong right &gt;&gt; right right and and you know that's why when this happened a bipartisan group of people came out against it conservative talk radio here has come out against this type of behavior um this This is just this is beyond the pale. It really really is. &gt;&gt; Yeah. It's fascinating to me. They they talked about your graduation, but they didn't I I got I dug into your past, too, and I found this scandalous document right here. And this is for those who aren't familiar with it. This is from the Naval Academy superintendent. That's the three star that runs the joint. It's the Naval Academy. We still respect them. And that is the Navy Achievement Medal, which is a medal. And you got the Navy Chief Medal as a midshipman which for those understand I think you were third class which makes you what your second year if I'm correct at the Navy Academy. I don't speak Navy. &gt;&gt; All those strikes my year sophomore year I was a youngster. &gt;&gt; A youngster they call him. So tell us about this shocking document from your time at the Naval Academy and why you had it. &gt;&gt; Well um that's nice you put that up. Uh I no longer have the pilot eyes I once had. So um &gt;&gt; I will bring it up. It's your nam. It's your It's your n for saving your classmates's life. That's So for those who can't read it, that is a Navy achievement she received as a midshipman for an emergency, a medical emergency while sailing offshore in bad weather when your classmate had a heart problem, right? Or she collapsed. Is that &gt;&gt; Yeah. So you make it sound a lot um classier than it was. Uh &gt;&gt; I just read the document. I'm just &gt;&gt; You know, it's Navy Carl. We we were not, you know, I wasn't on a sailboat, unfortunately. I was on a what was called a yard patrol craft. &gt;&gt; Okay. &gt;&gt; Small. It would look like a mini destroyer. It was a training craft for seammanship and navigation. And so &gt;&gt; no, we remember mocking the carry. &gt;&gt; Sure you did. And um so we were out at sea and we were off the coast of North Carolina and they had just had some hurricanes come through. the seas were incredibly rough and the winds were bad and so a lot of people these these ships are I I would say you know barely seaorthy I think they're mostly meant to be in the Chesapeake for training you know we taking them farfield and so we're off the coast of North Carolina and in kind of the Outer Banks area which are known you know to be quite rough ste &gt;&gt; and a hurricane had blown through so it was really really um tough so a lot of people were getting seasick And I don't get motion sick very often. So I was at that hel, you know, I was up on the bridge and a few people were. We kind of had a skeleton crew going because so many people were really, really sick. And um I remember I was sent down at one point to feed ice chips to um and I remember one of the comments I got to this day because it still kind of cracks me up. I went over to one person. I said, &quot;Um, you're supposed to eat some ice chips.&quot; And she looked at me and she goes, &quot;Who are you?&quot; Flores slim to die. Tempers were high. &gt;&gt; What did the I joined the army for a reason, Mikey? &gt;&gt; Great. Um, but we were I, you know, so we had the skeleton crew. So, um, one of my classmates had, you know, was trying to stand watch, but I don't think she'd eaten in quite some time. I think she'd been throwing up like most of the people on the the ship. So she came up and ended up passing out. &gt;&gt; Oh wow. &gt;&gt; And hit her head as she passed out and um had I think some I think some mild seizures but then uh stopped breathing and her heart stopped beating. So uh myself and another machinim gave her rescue breathing and CPR for several hours because the helicopter could not we we weren't in stable enough waters and the winds were too bad to to get in there. I mean, I know you or I could have done it, but uh they couldn't like get in there to really be stable to safely evacuate her. So, it took them some time. And so, for a couple hours, we were able to provide CPR and rescue breathing. And um and then she she was okay. She she ended up in, you know, doing great. So, um, but it was a it was really, um, it was a real crisis. And, uh, I that was probably one of the first situations like that. Not the last you find yourself in in the military. There are just these intense moments. And um, and I tell people the military put you some real and some not. you know, the helicopter dunker, which we in the Navy had to do, is when you got strapped in and blindfolded and turned upside down and dropped in the water and had to swim out, which put me like I felt like I was in a crisis situation. I hated that thing. So, sometimes manufactured, sometimes real crises, but it happens so often that you do become, I don't want to say comfortable, but you know how to operate in a crisis. And I don't think you realize that. I don't know if you did. when I was young and the academy and stuff like that, I don't think I realized how that, you know, how that operated. &gt;&gt; Yeah. &gt;&gt; Until you're years later and you realize you you have a way of approaching a crisis. &gt;&gt; Yep. &gt;&gt; You know, and you just you just have been through so many &gt;&gt; Yep. &gt;&gt; that you just sort of get to it and uh and I kicks him &gt;&gt; on that very funny. I was I was in Colorado with my family of dropping our oldest uh my fiance's oldest off of college and we're coming down the mountain and there's a giant a guy a motorcycles got hit add head on and all the traffic stopped and nobody's doing anything and I'm like oh I throw the car park and I just get out and I start I started directing traffic I fast with the radio we you know we just got it all organized and people like who are you like ah it's a dude &gt;&gt; that's still fascinating &gt;&gt; you know and my and my fiance is like do you do that often like yeah I mean somebody had to you I'm absolutely shocked as I sit here because I was driving down the street in one of our towns and everyone was stopped. And so we pulled up behind a car and we're just waiting there. I'm like, what's going on? And so I, you know, get out and there's a motorcycle guy down. There is a woman in her driveway that seemed apparently had hit him and she seemed to be sort of just sitting there and other people were just sitting. The person that was had arrived on the scene first was just sitting there and I I just was puzzled but yeah &gt;&gt; exactly &gt;&gt; you have all those training too. So I got out of like it immediately comes back to you call 911 lend you know like that's your first thing &gt;&gt; ego are you okay you all the stuff I I just I can't believe you had &gt;&gt; so I'm like the suburbs of New Jersey not the mouse Colorado so yours uh yours seem to be much &gt;&gt; it's great the the volunteer firefighter with the radio she goes who are you like just some [ \_\_ ] it's like great well good [ \_\_ ] go make those cars move so we get the ambulance okay I Got it. You're in charge now. And I'm running I run past my family and my fiance's like, &quot;This [ \_\_ ] guy.&quot; So anyway, good talk. I know you got to go. You probably got none of your interviews lined up. I've taken so much your time. I We could talk all day. I'm so sorry this happened to you and I appreciate you standing out and I know it's painful because they're going to try and throw that they can at you and they'll dig things up. I didn't even I'm not going to touch the lies and the BS and the spend, but glad you're in the fight. We wish you the best of luck because you got your election just a month. Um, it's a key election and our friend Abigail Spammaker, who by the way, I think introduced us, which is the one here, I think we were at the DNC and Abigail's like, you know, Mike, you know, like I've never met. She goes, &quot;God damn it, you need to.&quot; So, it's like, &quot;You have too much in common. You should know each other.&quot; So, we uh I really appreciate your time. Tell your team. I said, &quot;Thank you very much.&quot; And, uh, good luck out there. We We're following you. Let's know if we can do anything to help. Yeah. &gt;&gt; Well, I really appreciate it. And if everyone could go to mikeysherald.com, sign up to chip in to volunteer to phone bank to canvas to text banking. We can use all the help we can get. We've got a real fight on our hands here. We do have just a little over a month left. So um I I think this is such a central race to really this nation and the future and uh we'd love your help. So thank you so much.