

Using Senator Bob Kerry's [sic] office (Kerry was just elected to be head of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee) and the Democratic National Committee (DNC) to influence the White House.²⁰⁴

Kitto published this strategy to his client just two weeks after his O'Connor & Hannan colleague, Patrick O'Connor, became actively involved in the St. Croix's opposition efforts. O'Connor's long history of active involvement in national Democratic politics included substantial fund-raising efforts, stretching back to the 1960 Presidential campaign. In 1968, he served as Sen. Humphrey's presidential campaign treasurer, and then as the DNC Treasurer in 1969 and 1970. He had been active in numerous other national campaigns, including Walter Mondale's 1980 presidential run and Al Gore's primary campaigns in 1988, for which he and his wife, Evelyn, served on the finance committee. O'Connor had raised money for each of these candidates and many other Democrats, had served as chairman of the House and Senate Campaign Council for four years, and had attained the status of a DNC trustee for his substantial fund-raising and personal contributions in the early 1990s.

The O'Connors' fund-raising activity in recent years included roles as Minnesota finance chairs for the Clinton-Gore ticket in 1992, which stemmed from their friendship with the Vice President. Though Patrick O'Connor's personal financial contributions had waned during 1993 and 1994, by early 1995 the DNC was looking to him again as a contributor and a member of its old guard who could help introduce the new party leadership to important Democrats in Minnesota.

To that end, DNC Regional Finance Director David Mercer reached out to the O'Connors in early 1995 for help in introducing the new DNC national chairman, Donald Fowler, to

²⁰⁴*Id.*