

Ex-Bush aide to testify on lawyer firings

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- U.S. President George Bush's former political director will respect executive privilege in a Senate inquiry into the firing of nine U.S. attorneys. From a copy of her opening statement seen by The Washington Post, Sara Taylor, 32, will follow orders not to discuss internal communications when she appears before the Senate Judiciary Committee. That testimony is scheduled for Wednesday. "The president has made the determination that the disclosure of this information would interfere with the operation of the executive branch," Taylor's script said. "I intend to follow the president's instruction. I do not have the ability independently to assess or question the president's determination." Allegations have been raised that the attorney firings last year were politically motivated and committee member Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said the investigation was following a logical path. "With no one in the Justice Department claiming responsibility for the U.S. attorney firings, the arrow points more and more strongly at the White House, and that's where we're headed," he said in the Post article. "We would hope that Sara Taylor tells us everything she knows."

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