

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2026

Jay Mitchell Demands Retraction of Defamatory Ad and False Statements from Robertson Campaign

BIRMINGHAM, AL—Former Supreme Court Justice and Alabama Attorney General candidate Jay Mitchell has formally demanded a retraction of the defamatory advertisement and false statements made about him by opponent Katherine Robertson and her campaign.

The advertisement and statements falsely declare that Mitchell was a “registered foreign agent for Uzbekistan,” that he was “a lobbyist for a Muslim country,” and that he “represented a Muslim regime,” when public records and contemporaneous reporting clearly show the opposite.

Mitchell provided pro bono legal representation to a pro-democracy opposition group called the Sunshine Coalition of Uzbekistan, when its leader—Sanjar Umarov—was wrongfully imprisoned by the brutal authoritarian government of Uzbekistan. Mitchell’s advocacy on Capitol Hill resulted in a Congressional resolution demanding humane treatment for Umarov. In a rare display of bipartisan support, that resolution passed both houses of Congress unanimously. Umarov was later released from prison and returned to his family in the United States.

Mitchell said, “***This ad and Katherine’s campaign statements are not just ‘politics as usual.’ They are bald-faced lies. I have provided irrefutable facts and evidence about the matter—both to the press and to my opponent directly—that prove her claims are false. I am calling on Katherine to do the right thing and correct the record.***”

Despite the truth being well documented and widely reported, Robertson’s campaign has continued and expanded the ad’s dissemination, having already spent at least \$410,933 to broadcast it statewide.

In the attached letter to Robertson and her campaign manager, Mitchell demands an immediate retraction pursuant to Alabama law. He will continue telling the truth to Alabama voters.

Contact:

✉ press@jayforalabama.com

🌐 www.jayforalabama.com

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Jay Mitchell



ALABAMA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: Demand for Retraction Pursuant to Ala. Code 6-5-186

Dear Katherine Green Robertson,

This is a demand for retraction of the defamatory advertisement and declarations that your campaign is presently disseminating across the state, which contain three demonstrably false statements:

1. That I once served as “a registered foreign agent for Uzbekistan.”
2. That I was “a lobbyist for a Muslim Country.”
3. That I “represented a Muslim regime.”

None of these statements are true. The public records attached to this letter prove that these statements are not true. To the contrary, I was fighting against the corrupt government of Uzbekistan.

The public records regarding my 2007 pro bono representation of the Sunshine Coalition of Uzbekistan clearly show that I was representing an opposition political party in Uzbekistan whose aims were “Democratic, free market, and human rights reforms” after their leader, Sanjar Umarov, was jailed by the Uzbekistan government. See Exhibit A. That work resulted in the passage of U.S. Senate Resolution 195, a bipartisan call for the humane treatment of Mr. Umarov. See Exhibit B. This was not difficult to understand if you or your campaign had made even a minimal attempt to review the public records and reporting regarding this representation. Your campaign, thus, either knowingly published a false and defamatory advertisement and statements or, at a minimum, acted with a reckless disregard for the truth.

I was astonished to learn that, even after the documents relating to this matter were distributed by my campaign earlier this week and the true facts were widely reported in the media, your campaign has not only continued to run the false and defamatory ad, but has also increased its dissemination.

I demand that you and your campaign immediately cease the dissemination of this advertisement and false statements, issue a formal public retraction of the false statements that it contains, and desist from repeating these false statements in any forum. Please understand that this demand for retraction is being sent pursuant to Alabama Code 6-5-186.

Sincerely,

Jay Mitchell

Candidate for Alabama Attorney General

Jay Mitchell



ALABAMA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Exhibit A

1. Name and address of registrant Maynard, Cooper and Gale, P.C. 1901 Sixth Avenue North 2400 AmSouth/Harbert Plaza, Birmingham, AL 35203	
3. Name of foreign principal Sunshine Coalition of Uzbekistan	4. Principal address of foreign principal
5. Indicate whether your foreign principal is one of the following: <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foreign political party <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign or domestic organization: If either, check one of the following: <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary group <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Individual-State nationality _____	

6. If the foreign principal is a foreign government, state: a) Branch or agency represented by the registrant. Not Applicable b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals. Not Applicable
7. If the foreign principal is a foreign political party, state: a) Principal address. 9/33 Chimkentaskava St., Tashkent 700029, Republic of Uzbekistan b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals. Sanjar Umarov, Chairman c) Principal aim. Democratic, free-market, and human rights reforms in Uzbekistan
Formerly OBD-67

Exhibit B

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 2, 2005

Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate on the arrest of Sanjar Umarov in Uzbekistan.

Whereas the United States supports the development of democracy, free markets, and civil society in Uzbekistan and in other states in Central Asia;

Whereas the rule of law, the impartial application of the law, and equal justice for all courts of law are pillars of all democratic societies;

Whereas Sanjar Umarov was reportedly arrested in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on October 22, 2005;

Whereas Sanjar Umarov is a businessman and leader of the Uzbek opposition party, Sunshine Coalition;

Whereas Sanjar Umarov was reportedly taken into custody on October 22, 2005, during a crackdown on the Sun-