

PAUL★PELLETIER

DEMOCRAT FOR CONGRESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 1, 2017

27 YEAR PROSECUTOR WHO TOOK ON SOME OF THE COUNTRY'S BIGGEST CRIMINALS AND CRIMINAL ENTERPRISES ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN AGAINST COMSTOCK IN VIRGINIA'S 10th

Describes Comstock as Out of Touch and Tethered to Paul Ryan Instead of Doing the Right Thing for her Constituents

McLean, VA— Paul Pelletier, longtime prosecutor and Northern Virginia resident who took down some of the country's biggest criminals and criminal enterprises, today announced that he is running for Congress in the 10th district of Virginia against incumbent Barbara Comstock.

"I've spent 27 years as a federal prosecutor, fighting for justice and doing things that mattered to people every day," said Pelletier. "For almost three decades I took on crooked Wall Street executives, drug kingpins, big pharma, criminal doctors and attorneys and corrupt politicians from both sides of the aisle."

"We need leaders in Congress who are willing to stand up for what's right and get things done to make people's lives better."

Pelletier had a long and distinguished career with the Department of Justice, earning hard-fought convictions in a broad array of criminal cases across the country, including complex financial fraud, white collar crime, domestic and international corruption, drug trafficking, and health care fraud. Pelletier also directed the public corruption prosecutions of Jack Abramoff, former Congressman Robert Ney, and former Congressman William Jefferson. One of Pelletier's most enduring legacies is the creation of the Department of Justice's Health Care Fraud strike forces across the US, which continue to save taxpayers tens of billions of dollars.

"We have a broken system, Washington is failing us because our elected officials are not representing us. We desperately need better than what we are getting from Barbara Comstock," remarked Pelletier. "Her voting record shows she is more concerned with helping Paul Ryan and the Party leaders than helping the people of our district."

On every serious issue Northern Virginia faces, Comstock has failed her constituents. She repeatedly voted to repeal the ACA, votes that would have left tens of thousands of Northern Virginians without adequate healthcare choices that they deserved and needed. Only when Paul Ryan gave her the green light, and to provide herself cover, did she vote against the latest Republican attempt to destroy the ACA. However, she hasn't offered alternative ideas or solutions to ensure that the people she represents would always have access to affordable healthcare.

“Time and time again, Comstock has proven that she prefers partisan politics over practical solutions that would help the people of Northern Virginia, from failing to bring resources to arm us in fighting the opioid epidemic, to staying silent on the infrastructure bill that would not only begin to address Northern Virginia’s transportation issues, but also provide good jobs and pump up our economy.”

“Barbara Comstock is an established politician, I am a career public servant with a non-partisan record of solving difficult problems. I’m ready to do in Congress what I did successfully for almost 30 years at Justice,” said Pelletier.

Pelletier has twice been recognized by the U.S. Attorney General with the Department of Justice’s highest honors for his efforts fighting fraud and drug trafficking. In fact, one of his drug cash seizures -- nearly \$200 million he located in secret Swiss bank accounts -- earned a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest drug cash seizure at that time. Pelletier’s success at the DOJ is featured in Pulitzer Prize winner Jesse Eisinger’s 2017 book *The Chickens**t Club*.

Pelletier left the Department of Justice in 2011 and served as a partner at Mintz Levin, and currently as a partner at Pepper Hamilton LLC, in both firm’s Washington, DC offices.

“I have spent my entire adult life fighting for what's right and making things better for the families in my community and our country. My passion for justice and to get things done is unparalleled. I want to go to Congress and solve big problems with common sense solutions,” said Pelletier.

The Paul Pelletier for Congress campaign also launched an announcement video, <https://youtu.be/oAKQagLbX2w> and website www.paulforvirginia.com.

###