

STATEMENT FROM NBC NEWS

Tim Russert, NBC News' Washington Bureau Chief and moderator of "Meet the Press," has received a subpoena to testify before a special grand jury investigating the leak that disclosed the identity of Valerie Plame and the fact that she worked for the C.I.A. Russert and NBC News intend to fight the subpoena in Federal court. Russert was not the recipient of the leak.

NBC News is resisting the subpoena because of the potential chilling effect on its ability to report the news. NBC News President Neal Shapiro said, "The American public will be deprived of important information if the government can freely question journalists about their efforts to gather news. Sources will simply stop speaking to the press if they fear those conversations will become public."

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