

## John Hodge law

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**From:** John Hodge law  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 11:47 AM  
**To:** neil.jacobs@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** SharpieGate

Dear Dr. Jacobs:

As one who relies on NOAA weather forecasts on a daily basis for professional activities, I am outraged at the politicization of the agency's work as exhibited in the "SharpieGate" controversy. Did the "political officers" get to you and your staff? The facts in this matter are quite obvious. The President made a mistake in stating that there was a high (95%) probability that the hurricane was going to hit Alabama. So as not to unduly alarm the citizens of that state, the weather office in Birmingham issued a corrective statement. Now it appears that your agency was ordered by someone to make it appear that Trump's claims were in fact correct. As a scientist, I find this to be totally outrageous, a slap in the face to the professionals whose work we depend on daily, an "abuse of process," and a huge black mark on NOAA.

I call upon you to defend the work of your employees and to try to restore integrity to your agency immediately. Whoever was behind this needs to be identified and called out.

NOAA has enjoyed a stellar reputation because of the vital work that your employees do. Their work is not political, but now by bending to Trump's facade, the objectivity of the agency has been damaged.

We know that in this situation, the "Emperor" has no clothes. No amount of political coverup can whitewash the fairly simple set of facts. I am calling upon you as the acting head of NOAA to publicly exercise leadership and restore the integrity to NOAA.

Please set the record straight, stand up to the political officers, and honor the work of your staff. I would kindly appreciate a personal response as to what you and NOAA will be doing to address this debacle. Thank you. JOHN HODGE

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