



**Come to Galt's Gulch** Explore Rand's ideas at a free seminar this summer. Apply by 3/31! [www.TheHS.org](http://www.TheHS.org)  
**Washington DC Coupons** 1 ridiculously huge coupon a day. It's like doing DC at 90% off! [www.Groupon.com/Washington-DC](http://www.Groupon.com/Washington-DC)  
**Hear the Best in HR Speak** Sir Richard Branson and Tony Hsieh speak on the Latest HR Trends. [www.Annual.SHRM.org](http://www.Annual.SHRM.org)  
 Ads by Google

« This Week in Innocence

### So I Have Some News

Tuesday, March 22nd, 2011

... although if you follow me on Twitter or Facebook, you probably already know by now.

In May, I'll be leaving *Reason* to work as a crime reporter for the *Huffington Post*. As you may know, AOL bought *Huffington Post* several months ago, and they're hiring a ton of great people to build out a serious journalism program. I'll be working with some really talented folks, like (former Agitator guest blogger) Ryan Grim, and Peter Goodman and Tim O'Brien, who came over from the *New York Times*. I'll be covering the same beat I do now, only with a much bigger platform, and with the resources to delve into bigger, more in-depth projects.

So what does all this mean for the blog? Come May, The Agitator will be hosted over at *Huffington Post*. I'll continue to blog here daily, and I've been assured that there will be no content restrictions or editorial control over what I post. The blog will likely look a little different (I imagine there will be more ads), and the comments section will probably be a bit more crowded, but otherwise, things here will stay the same. So I hope you'll all keep reading.

The really cool part is that my Nashville Blog (which I've been neglecting) will be hosted on AOL's music site. Which means that blogging there will now be part of my job, and my 300 readers per day at that site will increase by a magnitude of ... well, a hell of a lot. I'm thinking that will allow me to access and interview some pretty cool people in the music scene here. And maybe have some of them give concerts from my living room. Yes, that also means I'll continue to live in Nashville.

I'll be leaving *Reason* with nothing but fond feelings for my colleagues and admiration of the great work they do. I'm biased of course, but I think it's the most provocative, interesting, intellectually honest opinion magazine on the newsstand. For all of the vilification of the Koch brothers over the last few months, if it weren't for the Cato Institute and Reason Foundation (both are Koch-funded, though neither is nearly as dependent on Koch as all of this recent nonsense would suggest), I wouldn't be in a position to get a great opportunity like this. Were it not for *Reason* and Cato, it's likely that few people outside the state of Mississippi would know the name Cory Maye—or for that matter, Steven Hayne—and I would never have had the opportunity to write the stories I write, and to bring some attention to the issues I cover.

So I guess I'll close this post announcing that I'll be leaving the libertarian "movement", at least as a full-time employee, with a warm thanks to Nick Gillespie (who hired me at *Reason*), Matt Welch, David Nott, and all the other supportive people at the Reason Foundation and at *Reason* magazine. Thank-yous also to Ed Crane, David Boaz, and Gene Healy at Cato, all of whom first gave me the unbelievable opportunity to actually make a living writing about issues that I think are important.

I'm very excited about what's happening at the revamped *Huffington Post*. I hope you'll all follow me over there, and continue the lively, interesting, viewpoint-diverse comments discussions we have here on a daily basis.

Digg it | reddit | del.icio.us | Fark

- Home
- Advertise
- About Radley Balko Publications
- Speaking Info
- Multimedia
- Resume
- Picasa Photos
- Recommendations
- Traffic Stats
- RSS Feed
- Email Radley Balko



Buy One Buy Agitator Gear

**Donate**

\$12/month Recurring Donation

**Subscribe**

\$6/month Recurring Donation

**Subscribe**

My Amazon wishlist

**GOLD DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR**

**Goldline INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

A Leader in Gold and Precious Metals Since 1960

**CLICK FOR A FREE INVESTOR KIT**

**CAPELLA UNIVERSITY**

**Online master's and PhD programs for busy professional lives**

Radley recommends...



[The Cult of the Presidency](#)  
Gene Healy  
New \$16.34  
Best \$3.79



[Mugged by the State](#)  
Randall Fitzgerald...  
New \$27.95  
Best \$0.01



[Where I'm Calling From](#)  
Raymond Carver  
New \$10.88  
Best \$0.88



[Generation Kill](#)  
Evan Wright  
New \$10.20  
Best \$0.01



[Meditations](#)  
Marcus Aurelius, M...  
New \$8.80  
Best \$4.66

[Privacy Information](#)

Select Category

Select Month

Search



logo design by Brian Kieffer



This entry was posted on Tuesday, March 22nd, 2011 at 4:09 pm by Radley Balko and is filed under Uncategorized. You can follow any responses to this entry through the RSS 2.0 feed. You can leave a response, or [trackback](#) from your own site.

## 105 Responses to "So I Have Some News"

#1 | **A McGillican** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:14 pm

Congrats Radley. Look forward to following your work at the new venue. also, my opinion of the Huffington post / AOL deal just improved greatly.

#2 | **Nick T.** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:14 pm

Congrats, Radley. You deserve it.

I look forward to commenting on your articles as always, but with a hint of bitterness towards the new "bandwagon" Agitatorots, the way fans who've followed a band since their days of obscurity resent the new fans who joined up after the third album hit it big.

#3 | **Richard Head** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:15 pm

congrats, you do great work.

#4 | **lunchstealer** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:20 pm

Congratulations, Radley. Well deserved.

And yeah, the commentariate is about to get a lot noisier and a lot more sports-bar-y, to quote a dhexism. Sad, but if phrases like 'new professionalism' and 'another isolated incident' are spoken on more lips, it'll be a Good Thing™.

#5 | **Pablo** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:23 pm

Congratulations. You deserve that and a lot more. It's great that your work will reach a bigger audience. I've long thought that if more people were aware of the outrages you chronicle here, there'd be a greater opportunity for things to change.

#6 | **Andrew S.** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:24 pm

G'luck. And I'm glad that all your HuffPo blogging is going to be in one place, since going to the rest of that site scares me. :)

(while you're there, can you tell Arianna to stop letting idiots like Jenny McCarthy and other anti-vaccination loonies spread their idiocy, and instead get some real doctors in there?)

#7 | **Ron** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:25 pm

Congratulations, Radley. I may have some broad areas of fundamental disagreement with you, but you have opened my eyes on the scourge of police militarization and helped me realize that the drug war is lost (as much as I hate to admit it its true).

#8 | **tim** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:28 pm

Nothing kills a blog faster then relieving control of it and moving it large presences such as NYT or HuffingtonPost.

#9 | **Shankar G.** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:30 pm

Looking forward to reading you on a new, bigger platform, and also looking forward to the completely clueless comments that the Huffington Post is famous for.



#10 | **Rhayader** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:31 pm

Best of luck. I mean, it sorta sucks — I personally think your work adds more to *Reason* than it will to HuffPo, where good stuff tends to get lost in celebrity rehab stories. I think Grim's awesome and I see plenty of great content there, but there's nothing like cranking through a single RSS feed as consistently great as *Reason*'s. Obviously I think a great journalist like yourself should make whatever career choices work best for him, but honestly I'm kinda bummed.

---

#11 | **VikingMoose** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:31 pm

Congratulations and best of luck, Radley!

The more eyes that read your excellent work, the better!

basically echoing Pablo, Lunchstealer (if that is his real name), and lunchstealer's quote of dhex (of course that is his).

and Andrew S.: +1 about the anti vaccine idiots! awesome!

and double congratulations that your f'book announcement caused a sighting of the rare "Gunnels", which is always a multi-eponymous treat!

---

#12 | **Muffy** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:31 pm

Leaving us for the pinko communist marxist huffington post, huh?

Keep up the good work, and I am so glad your writing will get a broader audience! The more who know to shut the fudge up, to tape police interactions, and the ways 'the system' works against its people the better off we will be as a nation.

---

#13 | **Carl Drega** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:36 pm

I'm happy for you, but sad for me.

---

#14 | **Chris in AL** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:37 pm

Congrats Radley. Well deserved.

---

#15 | **SJE** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:38 pm

Congratulations. Of course, I'd love to see how the "Koch brothers conspiracy" crowd processes a Reason/Cato person working for liberal icon Arianna.

---

#16 | **B** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:40 pm

Congratulated you on FB already, but I also wanted to say here...

Congratulations! The issues you cover and the way you cover them need a wider audience, and I hope (and think) that the HuffPo will provide that.

I can't say that I'm looking forward to what will likely happen in the comments section (I already participate a lot less than I did some years ago, when it really was just a few dozen regulars) but really that is rather beside the point. Onward and upward, and all the best.

---

#17 | **highnumber** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:41 pm

What Lunchstealer, Andrew S., and Herr Moose said! Good job, congratulations and watch out for the health woo-woos.

---

#18 | **Leah** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:42 pm

Andrew S., +1

I am really happy for you, congratulations!

On a personal level, though, I am a bit terrified of what will happen to the only comments section on the internet that I can read without wanting to bleach my

eyeballs. I hope I'm wrong about what the new commenters will be like!

---

#19 | **ClubMedSux** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:44 pm

Great news for you Radley, and I hope it'll bring the idea of liberty to a wider audience.

At the same time, I have to admit that as a regular commenter I'm rather disappointed (not that I expect you to make your career decisions based on a handful of folks you've never met, obviously). It was less than a week ago that I commented: "Rereading the comments above, I feel compelled to point out that I can count on one finger the number of websites where you'll get a discussion as thoughtful as this in the comments." I suppose there's a chance that the thoughtful, rational discussion will continue over at the Huffington Post, but I'd put the odds right around the odds that Obama and Congress will team up to balance the budget and decrease the federal deficit.

---

#20 | **Aresen** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:51 pm

Congrats and good luck, Radley.

Considering the Huffpo commentariat, you might want to buy some flame-proof body armor.

---

#21 | **Helmut O' Hooligan** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:54 pm

Congratulations from a long time (sometimes occasional) commenter!

That does sound like a pretty serious journalism program! I must say I did not see that coming. You will definitely add some class, and a healthy dose of skepticism, to HuffPo. Though you call yourself a libertarian, I am confident that your investigative journalism and your opinions will make people of all ideological leanings think about the status quo, and the many ways that we can empower individuals to live their lives with out excessive state intervention. Thank you for your efforts to date, and here's to an exciting future!

---

#22 | **Fred** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:54 pm

I wish you well, I really do. Unfortunately, I won't be reading you much anymore, as I refuse to give eyeballs to the cesspool that is the Huffington Post. They're hiring some good people, but the "community" over there is filled with truly horrible people who love to throw words like libtard around. You're already being vilified for working for Fox News and supporting free markets.

---

#23 | **Timothy** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:56 pm

N00000000000000000000000000000000!

HuffPo? To join the likes of Jenny McCarthy and Deepak Chopra peddling anti-scientific nonsense and hysteria? This is pretty unfortunate. Hopefully you'll be able to lead some kind of revolution to clean up that pile of garbage.

---

#24 | **firehat** | March 22nd, 2011 at 4:59 pm

Congratulations, Radley! Like the others, though I'm glad you and your amazing work will get more exposure, I'll weep just a little over the impending influx of new commenters.

---

#25 | **John Jenkins** | March 22nd, 2011 at 5:00 pm

Well, commenting and reading the comments is going to get a whole lot less fun going forward :-)

---

#26 | **EH** | March 22nd, 2011 at 5:02 pm

Congratulations, for real, but I can hardly stand visiting HuffPo. However, they are indeed bulking up on their content post-AOL, so maybe they'll start making enough money not to run popover and popunder ads, the most common way

that websites convince me to stop visiting (second is Disqus/3rd party comment plugins like what HuffPo uses).

---

**#27 | CTD |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:03 pm

What #13 Carl Drega said.

Awesome news for you, Radley. You truly deserve the success.

Me, I'll miss this place, though. Can't really see myself commenting much among thousands of mush-brained leftists and authoritarian statist. The smart little community and discussions here will sorely missed. (To echo others, this in no way means I feel that you have any obligation whatsoever to kowtow to our needs.) I'll still be a religious reader, but I doubt I'll participate much anymore.

Congrats!

---

**#28 | Mark Draughn |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:03 pm

Congratulations, Radley, and good luck. Among other things, I expect you'll be a great ambassador for libertarianism. I've always thought that there were a lot of freedom-loving people among the liberals, and I think the issues you write about are exactly the kinds of things that will appeal to them and show them the true path to freedom. No pressure, though.

---

**#29 | Mike Leatherwood |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:05 pm

Let me see here... leaving a non-profit for a for-profit....probably a bigger paycheck...bigger audience....chance for even more growth...

Sounds very Libertarian to me. Good luck with it! I know this ragtag group will still follow you and make sure you don't become "soft" ;)

Congrats!

---

**#30 | Joshua Lyle |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:07 pm

Congratulations, and best of luck with your new audience!

---

**#31 | Dakota |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:07 pm

Have fun. It speaks to your integrity and the quality of your work that through the other jobs this blog has been consistent in both quality and ideals. I've been reading at this same URL for well over 8 years and it's never failed to impress. It's one of my few go to places I direct the waffling statist to. The Agitator never fails to open eyes to the State's underbelly.

---

**#32 | MDGuy |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:08 pm

Congratulations Radley. Echoing previous posters, I also fear the nadirs the comments section might sink to at HuffPo, but I think if your reporting on police militarization and other assorted crimes of the state gets a wider audience, it'll be worth it.

---

**#33 | SamK |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:10 pm

I fear HuffPo commenting...we'll see I suppose, fingers are crossed for a successful transition.

---

**#34 | dsmallwood |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:11 pm

dude, if this is a promotion / bump / boost / whatever, then hooray and bully for you. i've been reading for years. i think since 2005, maybe 2004. this site has been an eye opener and i have shared it with many people.

i think my corp security blocks the Huff post, so bummer for me. i guess i'll have another reason to rush home though.

**#35 | scott |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:12 pm

Congrats to you, Radley. It's not hyperbole to say that you're probably the person most responsible for my conversion to libertarianism, and your charismatic powers of persuasion seem limitless. I mean, who else could possibly get me to become a regular visitor to AOL \*and\* the HuffPo?

---

**#36 | André |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:12 pm

I already said congratulations on facebook as well, but I'll echo everybody else in saying it here too: this is something you've more than earned, and I can't wait to have (approximately) 3-4 million people per day being exposed to the ideas of limited government and individual liberty.

In re: the commentariat, if we get a rep system back and Dave Krueger keeps posting, I'll be fine wading through the garbage.

---

**#37 | gonzostl |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:20 pm

Congrats, I will keep reading you no matter where you go. Also excited to see what you can do with the music blog.

---

**#38 | TC |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:22 pm

Gawd you drive a hard bargain.

I suppose I can change my bookmarks, hopeful I'll not have to wade through too much swamp to find your pieces.

A big congrats on gaining a larger platform, because the work you do is invaluable on many fronts. The more that hear it the better off the world will be and changes can happen sooner rather than later.

Will catch you on the other side.

---

**#39 | Lorraine Fay |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:24 pm

Congratulations on the new gig, and thanks for all your past work on the Mississippi issues with Hayne, Cory Maye, and all the rest. I'll just keep on reading!

---

**#40 | Ed Crane |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:24 pm

Nice post, Radical. Congrats on the new job and good luck. Stay in touch.

Ed

---

**#41 | freedomfan |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:25 pm

Congratulations, Radley. This is an opportunity for a much bigger audience. I hope they appreciate what they are getting.

I join others in expressing a little worry about the new venue. Both from the perspective of a reader of your wide-ranging blog and from the perspective of a commenter. That is, as a reader, I wonder if the HoPo will be as happy when you post a Morning Links roundup, many of whose articles are pro-freedom but not focused on police issues? And, as an occasional commenter, my experience is that most sites with a large audience (nothing really specific to HoPo) trend toward idiocy in the comment section, which can become self-perpetuating as the better commenters give up on reading through 200 "GOP LIES!" and "typical DEMS!" comments.

Anyway, at least the wheat-to-chaff ratio at the HoPo will improve a bit. Kudos.

---

**#42 | mgd |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:32 pm

I wish you well. I'll miss reading your thought-provoking pieces. Reason will be poorer without you.

**#43 | pris |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:32 pm

I hope you can change the face of Huff Po. This is a fabulous opportunity for you and all Libertarians. Please let us know where your Nashville Music Blog will be. I rarely visit AOL, but enjoy your blogs. It is exciting to see someone I have followed move up in their profession. Congrats!

---

**#44 | Max |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:36 pm

Long time reader, first time commenter. Congrats on the move. Huffpo is gaining an excellent reporter. Even though I'm liberal and totally disagree with most of your economic posts, I'm also glad that there will be more balance over there. I look forward to seeing more great work from you – the most interesting criminal justice reporter in the biz.

---

**#45 | Sean L. |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:37 pm

I have all sorts of mixed feelings. Of course I think you should do what's best for your career, and this move will certainly get you more coverage...

...which is for the greater good of all libertarians. The more state-apologists (left or right) that read these articles, the better. Was it Penn Gillette who said, "If Hitler had a show, I'd go on that, too"?

But, echoing countless others, I spend at least equal time on the comments here than the articles. That will be sorely missed.

AN IDEA: Maybe we can all use some kind of code when commenting that will indicate we're original agitator-tots.. Like putting "AGT" at the top of comments or suffixing our handles with \_TA (for 'The Agitator') That way we can separate the wheat from the chaff.

---

**#46 | Dante |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:37 pm

I remember back when you were just a Republican who wanted to smoke pot.

You sure have grown up nice.

Congratulations and best wishes.

---

**#47 | Chuchundra |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:37 pm

Well, that explains the CD I just got in the mail that said "Join Now For 900 Free Hours Of Radley Balko!"

Best of luck to you, dude. You do some important work here and it's great that more people are going to see see it.

---

**#48 | goober1223 |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:53 pm

You definitely deserve it, Radley. Congratulations! Go celebrate over a long weekend, then get back to work on Monday!

---

**#49 | goober1223 |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:55 pm

Most importantly, do they have an internet wizard over there that can get our Karma system back?

---

**#50 | goober1223 |** March 22nd, 2011 at 5:57 pm

Oh, and the funny thing about your note of "fond feelings" about your colleagues at Reason is that it's the first time I've heard such a sentiment and actually believed that the person was telling the whole truth. Maybe it's because you omitted that "heavy heart" bull crap.

Either way, enjoy the fruits of your earnest labor.

---

**#51 | Greg C. |** March 22nd, 2011 at 6:01 pm

Unless there is something very weird going on, I would assume this blog would still be accessible at Theagitator.com and the other at nashvillebyline, and the archives and everything would be preserved, just hosted somewhere else, right? Otherwise it would be a waste of established domains/real estate, IMHO. The associated AOL music blogs, for example, all have their own domains like spinner.com, boombox.com. Its not like readers should have to actually go to Aol.com or huffpost.com to access the blogs. look at spinner.com, for example. It has it's own domain but its surrounded by AOL content and ads.

I would assume the relationship with the Huffington Post ( as far as it affects Agitator readers), other than the bloghosting/ad content, would be very similar to how it is with Reason now. Radley works for reason and posts articles for his job on the reason site, while also maintaining the agitator. I don't see how changing jobs should make things much different other than the job assignments being posted on Huffpost rather than reason.

**#52 | Ken |** March 22nd, 2011 at 6:06 pm

It's a great loss to Reason, but I'm happy to see your ideas, and the things you fight for, getting to a much larger audience. To echo Mark, you'll be a great ambassador for libertarian ideas. Fight the good fight over there.

And HuffPo — well, it's not like you're contractually OBLIGATED to write about using homeopathic crystals to cure the AIDS caused by vaccines or anything, right? You'll class up the joint. Good luck.

**#53 | The\_Chef |** March 22nd, 2011 at 6:20 pm

Oh my God the comment section is going to be epic. The trolling will be insane and the ad hominem about industry skills will shake the rafters.

**#54 | Dal |** March 22nd, 2011 at 6:20 pm

Grats Radley! I think there's a message here too...that there's actually alot more in common between libertarians and true liberals then between these groups and the mainstream rep/dem ideologies that claim to represent them.

I consider myself equal parts libertarian and liberal (basically, I hate ALL authority), and find myself in the rather weird situation of dividing my blog time between sites like Agitator, HuffPo, Hit & Run, Salon, etc. So to me, this marriage makes perfect sense. Who knows, maybe Mr. Balko will be a key builder in bridging this artificial divide between 'right' and 'left'...

**#55 | Irving Washington |** March 22nd, 2011 at 6:27 pm

Congratulations and best wishes for the new gig.

Any early insight into format, timing, length, etc. of your feature pieces?

**#56 | WillyTee |** March 22nd, 2011 at 6:38 pm

Congrats, Radley

**#57 | Elliot |** March 22nd, 2011 at 6:44 pm

Huffington Post?

Horrible.

You might as well dump raw sewage into the comment section now, to get readers used to what's coming.

Warren Meyer's *Coyote Blog* will move up to my number 1 libertarian blog if the Huffington Post transition is as awful as I dread. The comment participants are mostly libertarian. And, he's in Arpaio's neighborhood, so he's got some good posts about the corruption there, as well as the hype over immigration and violence. Plus, he's got some great material on global warming.

I hope I'm wrong about this.



#58 | **Mitch** | March 22nd, 2011 at 6:45 pm

As a longtime reader, but a first time commenter, congrats on the move. It's a great opportunity, and you'd be crazy not to avail yourself of it.

---

#59 | **Mathew Crawford** | March 22nd, 2011 at 6:51 pm

You are one of the best journalists I read and I don't doubt that will change no matter who you write for. I hope you continue to expand on the trust you've gained with your readership by writing many awesome articles askew from the level of politics that corrupts the facts and ruins most media these days. May those ethics and values carry over to your new colleagues as well!

---

#60 | **cks** | March 22nd, 2011 at 6:52 pm

Good luck! May you open many more eyes and minds...and upgrade your home sound system, too.

---

#61 | **justinslot** | March 22nd, 2011 at 6:56 pm

Congrats! Free from the Kochtopus at last. (He said kiddingly. Mostly. I wonder if this will change Balloon Juice opinions on you.)

Hate to see the breakup of this commentariat though.

---

#62 | **Jay** | March 22nd, 2011 at 6:56 pm

It sucks Radley...

Now Hit & Run will be nothing but Nick posting links to videos with Glenn "Nuke North Korea" Reynolds.

/Jay

---

#63 | **johnl** | March 22nd, 2011 at 7:02 pm

The comments sections are going to be like an aftershock to the original post. I hope Daisy and her friends continue to make appearances.

---

#64 | **Eric H** | March 22nd, 2011 at 7:22 pm

Congrats, Radley. I'm sure this is going to be a great career move, and you deserve it more than anyone else.

I was hoping when I saw the news on Twitter, though, that you'd keep the Agitator separate. It would have been nice if you could have posted your articles on Huffington Post while also maintaining this site as your personal blog, kind of like the way you have it set up with Hit and Run now.

I'm sure your content will continue to be excellent, but I will be sad to lose your comment section. I think this may be one of the very few places on the internet with political discussions that actually remain insightful and civil.

I also hope you keep doing your things like photo blogging and Five-Star Fridays.

Best of luck and congratulations again.

---

#65 | **CyniCAI** | March 22nd, 2011 at 7:23 pm

#25 | John Jenkins — "Well, commenting and reading the comments is going to get a whole lot less fun going forward :-("

Maybe not, John. Might be more people to have fun picking on!

---

#66 | **Stormy Dragon** | March 22nd, 2011 at 7:29 pm

Hopefully good for Radley, terrible for the comments section.

Instead of one of the few communities where non-partisan libertarians can talk, we'll be lost in a sea of partisan cheerleaders who just shout down anything

that doesn't toe the party line.

If it gets Radley's investigative journalism more exposure, it'll be worth it, but I expect he's just going to be the token libertarian who gets trotted out in the few months before an election to prove big government liberals can get along with libertarians (as long as they don't expect anything actually libertarian to happen) but who disappears off the face of the earth the other 90% of the time.

---

**#67 | Stormy Dragon |** March 22nd, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Maybe not, John. Might be more people to have fun picking on!

That doesn't work out as well when the people to pick on outnumber you 19-to-1

---

**#68 | Nate |** March 22nd, 2011 at 7:33 pm

Where do I get my secret decoder ring to let all the commenters over at HuffPo know I've been commenting at The Agitator (however erratically) since the before times?

---

**#69 | Alch |** March 22nd, 2011 at 7:35 pm

Best of luck to you. I will follow your reporting to any site. I hope more people will wake up to how things really work when police have no fear.

---

**#70 | Mrs. C |** March 22nd, 2011 at 7:37 pm

I wish you the best...just stay true to yourself...

I will continue to pray for you...

Congratulations and Good Luck.

---

**#71 | Buddy Hinton |** March 22nd, 2011 at 7:54 pm

@ 23:

O, *Timmerthies!!!*

and, of course, congrats to Mr. Balko.

---

**#72 | John Jenkins |** March 22nd, 2011 at 8:00 pm

I don't really care whether I'm outnumbered, so much as wading through all the shit comments to read interesting ones. Sites like this one have a self-selecting membership who have an interest in the subject and so at least have a passing understanding.

In my experience, larger-traffic websites have probably the same number of those people (who would have found it anyway) and a lot more people who don't have a clue, any real interest, and just want to bark whatever their political leanings require them to bark at that time depending on who is in power.

Of course, it's obviously a larger platform for Radley, so it's an unqualified good for him (I assume he will have greater resources at his disposal as well) and his reporting. I think it's sure to be a negative for discussions around his reporting.

Those of you who commented at the Volokh Conspiracy early on versus today will have observed this phenomenon in action.

---

**#73 | Jeremy |** March 22nd, 2011 at 8:01 pm

You are one of my personal heroes, Radley. You deserve all this success and more! Good luck.

---

**#74 | Marty |** March 22nd, 2011 at 8:12 pm

things are rolling for you! and rightfully so... congratulations.

---

**#75 | Matt |** March 22nd, 2011 at 8:35 pm

Congrats and best of luck to you, Radley.

For God's sake don't get sucked in by "The AOL Way."

---

**#76 | The Mossy Spaniard |** March 22nd, 2011 at 8:46 pm

I can't really say anything that hasn't been said already, but hey, congrats on the new gig. A couple commenters above me have said that your presence at HuffPo might light a civil libertarian fire under some liberal asses. I sure hope so.

Thanks sincerely for the excellent work you do, and be assured that you're a point of light in a vast political darkness.

---

**#77 | Elliot |** March 22nd, 2011 at 8:55 pm

I put the Huffington Post RSS feed under the "Bad Guys" category in my reader. A quick perusal of the articles from today reminds me why: I see all sorts of nauseatingly smug Democrat partisan crap. I simply don't understand how a self-respecting libertarian would want to be associated with such intellectually low class content.

@Cynical, you may want to pick on commenters, but you have to jump through the registration hoops there just to get started. I applied to be able to post comments there a few years ago, but it took over a day, IIRC, and by that time, it seemed a bit pointless to post a comment to yesterday's news, after several dozen other comments had already been posted. I simply never bothered after that experience, and seeing how a tiny minority of reasonable remarks were drowned out by the partisan idiots.

---

**#78 | jrb |** March 22nd, 2011 at 9:10 pm

Congrats, Radley!

I used to hide Huffington Post on newsnow, but from everything I've seen AOL is turning it into something solid. I'm looking forward to see what they make of it and what you can do with, potentially, a huge audience.

---

**#79 | Roberta X |** March 22nd, 2011 at 9:18 pm

This is sad news, but the bills are a lot easier to pay once you've taken the blue pill. Good luck, Radley. I'll miss you.

---

**#80 | André Kenji |** March 22nd, 2011 at 9:18 pm

It will be nice to Radley, and we could see him on MSNBC.

But I'll miss this site as it is. And I agree with all the criticisms aimed at the Ariana Huffington people. It's true that a big part of Reason Magazine since Matt Welch transformed it in Republican lite is unreadable, but, even so.

---

**#81 | Packratt |** March 22nd, 2011 at 9:24 pm

Definitely wish you the best of luck Radley and I definitely hope to see your work continue to move towards wider audience markets. Your reporting perspective and depth is definitely in short supply so this is definitely a good move for you and for everyone I think.

All the best!

---

**#82 | happyEntrails |** March 22nd, 2011 at 9:27 pm

Well, this is one way to run away from the Koch conspiracy over at Reason :) Tuck that tail between your legs bro.

---

#83 | **Dan** | March 22nd, 2011 at 9:48 pm

Congrats Radley. If anyone can make the move from blogosphere to hyposphere work, it will be you.

---

#84 | **Nipplemancer** | March 22nd, 2011 at 9:53 pm

Congrats Radley. Your reporting has always been important to me, and I'm glad to see your audience increase exponentially. Your nutpunches will be missed over at H&R.

I hope that commenting on Theagitator will remain easy, accessible, and for the most part unmoderated for those of us who despise registration and enjoy using the word fuck a whole lot.

But seriously, Huffpo?? I guess they need you more than we do since it is a bit like preaching to the choir here and at Reason.

---

#85 | **Unfortunatetruth** | March 22nd, 2011 at 9:58 pm

Apparently, your desire for acceptance amongst the left continues. Pajamas Media will never accept you and the Huffington Post and their cretin commentators sure as hell will not accept you.

Over the last 10 years, you have gone from a libertarian with some unfortunate rightward leanings to a libertarian with some unfortunate leftward leanings.

---

#86 | **LauraB** | March 22nd, 2011 at 10:17 pm

"I've been assured that there will be no content restrictions or editorial control over what I post."

I never took you to be so gullible. Got that in writing, I hope?

In truth, I wish you all the best. I just don't think that direction is one which will lead you there...fight the good fight!

---

#87 | **hexag1** | March 22nd, 2011 at 10:20 pm

Puffington Host!

or PuffHo for short.

---

#88 | **jeff** | March 22nd, 2011 at 10:34 pm

Congrats. As much as I like Reason, you are (or were, I guess) preaching to the converted there. Your work deserves a wider audience, and it's good to hear you'll have one, now.

Keep on shinin' the light.

---

#89 | **Bonduca** | March 22nd, 2011 at 10:38 pm

Congrats - how about a Nashville meet-up/"sendoff" in April or May?

---

#90 | **John Harrold** | March 22nd, 2011 at 10:40 pm

A simple request. Can you push for full RSS feeds? That may be what they're going to do anyway, but I have no idea. So I thought I'd ask.

---

#91 | **The Johnny Appleseed Of Crack** | March 22nd, 2011 at 10:47 pm

*I don't really care whether I'm outnumbered, so much as wading through all the shit comments to read interesting ones. Sites like this one have a self-selecting membership who have an interest in the subject and so at least have a passing understanding.*

John Jenkins, that's a good point.

It would be awesome if you could just automatically set a filter that hides all comments posted by individuals of your choosing (as well as all direct responses to those comments). Lots and lots of the idiotic comments are often generated

by a small group of people.

Congrats, Radley. But I'm sad you're leaving Reason.

---

**#92 | TP |** March 22nd, 2011 at 10:59 pm

Congrats Radley!! That's great news!

---

**#93 | Mike Trumper |** March 22nd, 2011 at 11:21 pm

Congratulations. Good to hear that you will have a much bigger platform to get your message out. You have consistently provided some of the best blogs on crime, drug war, etc on the web.

Best of luck in your new job.

---

**#94 | GÄC |** March 22nd, 2011 at 11:29 pm

Radley, I have to echo most of the statements above. Reading your blog here and your articles at Reason have been a huge eye-opener for me, and probably one of the biggest kicks for me to move from being a moderate Republican to libertarianism. Hopefully you will be able to provide the same service to some of the people over at Huffington. And I for one look forward to seeing some of the logical contortions some of the authoritarians will have to do to argue against your articles now they don't have the Koch/CATO line to attack you with any more.

All the best with the new position!

---

**#95 | johnl |** March 22nd, 2011 at 11:42 pm

It's going to be a bit of a stretch for me to trust a publication that's not Koch funded.

---

**#96 | Scott |** March 23rd, 2011 at 12:42 am

ditto with what #86 said. It will be very difficult for me to continue following if AOL/HuffPost does not allow full RSS feed access.

---

**#97 | Rick H. |** March 23rd, 2011 at 12:58 am

Radley: Thank you for sticking with this li'l blog as long as you have. Pretty sure I won't be able to stomach whatever partisan rah-rah drowns the new comments section, but I'll still look forward to your articles. Congratulations.

---

**#98 | J.S. |** March 23rd, 2011 at 2:20 am

Best of luck Radley. I won't be reading HuffPo though.

---

**#99 | demize! |** March 23rd, 2011 at 2:38 am

You despicable sellout, you disgust me! JK. Best of luck. Please make the RSS. transition as painless as possible for Luddites like me.

---

**#100 | Episiarch |** March 23rd, 2011 at 3:03 am

Congratulations, Radley. Someone who delivers work of your quality and importance deserves both a bigger audience and a bigger paycheck.

*Oh my God the comment section is going to be epic. The trolling will be insane and the ad hominem about industry shills will shake the rafters.*

Could be fun, actually; shooting fish in a barrel (but a lot of fish), though if registration is required, I hope Radley will be in control of his own moderation as he is here. We should be able to drive a bunch of TEAM BLUE dipshits into a frenzy, and maybe change the preconceptions of a few as well.

#101 | **Episiarch** | March 23rd, 2011 at 3:10 am

By the way, who will be picking up the criminal justice beat at reason?

---

#102 | **TomG** | March 23rd, 2011 at 7:35 am

Radley, I'll keep reading you, but honestly the Huffington Post sucks ass.

---

#103 | **MassHole** | March 23rd, 2011 at 9:02 am

Wow. As was said above, sad for me, but happy for you. I've been coming to this site every day for years now and find myself the better for it. The issues you bring to light need to be shouted from the rooftops. I sincerely hope this move will allow you to do that.

Congrats Radley.

---

#104 | **K** | March 23rd, 2011 at 9:04 am

Best of luck, been reading since 2003. I hope this succeeds in bringing your work to an even larger audience and helps to transform Huffington Post into a legitimate news source.

---

#105 | **T. Reed** | March 23rd, 2011 at 9:22 am

Does this mean your dogs will be getting a food upgrade?

---

---

### Leave a Reply

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website

Submit Comment

---



This work is licensed under a  
Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial NoDerivs 2.5 License.

---