



THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2005

Bush Distances Himself From DeLay

by Michael in New York on [4/14/2005 02:57:00 AM](#)

The fun keeps on coming for Tom DeLay, who tried to ignore the ethical swamp he's sinking in and attack judges who dare to disagree with him. In a day or two, he'll have to blame a vast, right-wing conspiracy for his troubles. Ricky Santorum said he has to come clean (DeLay pretended it was a compliment). Newt Gingrich said DeLay needed to stop trying to blame the left and deal with his problems in a forthright manner. Rep. Christopher Shays of Conn. said he should step down.

And now Bush is sidling away from DeLay as well. According to the New York Times, [at a White House press briefing, Scott McClellan said](#)

"... the president supported what Mr. DeLay and other Congressional leaders were doing 'to move forward on the agenda that the American people want us to enact.'

"But Mr. McClellan suggested that the relationship between Mr. Bush and Mr. DeLay, a fellow Texan, was more business than social.

"'Sure,' Mr. McClellan said, when asked if the president considered Mr. DeLay a friend. He went on, 'I think there are different levels of friendship with anybody.'"

Ouch.



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