

# The Rocky Mountain Foundation

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wednesday, April 15, 7:00 AM MDT

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## Tancredo Speech Blocked by Leftist Protesters at University of North Carolina

### Disruption of student sponsored campus event caught on three videos now on YouTube

(Chapel Hill, NC) Leftist students and professors at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill disrupted a scheduled speech by former Congressman Tom Tancredo on Tuesday evening, with campus police closing the hall after a window was broken and exits were blocked by chanting protesters. Tancredo had been invited to speak on the topic of in-state tuition for illegal aliens, a legislative proposal being hotly debated across North Carolina.

"Sadly this kind of violence happens every week on a university campus somewhere in the country, but I feel sorry that the students who came to hear me speak were denied that opportunity," said Tancredo afterwards.

"The multi-culturalist radicals on America's campuses have declared open warfare on free speech, and for the most part, they are getting away with it," Tancredo said in an interview following the event. "There is no freedom of speech on hundreds of university campuses today for people who dare to dissent from the radical political agenda of the socialist left and the open borders agitators.

Tancredo said he will be very surprised if UNC administrators take any action against the people who used violence to shut down free speech in Chapel Hill. "Mob rule has become business-as-usual on American campuses, and no one has the courage to deal with it -- not administrators, not trustees, and not legislators."

The disruption was caught on video by eyewitnesses and several videos are now posted on YouTube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TJ7vcgQjkDQ>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7naTR5QCxo>.

<http://www.carolinapoliticsonline.com/2009/04/14/leftist-activists-disrupt-tancredo-speech-at-unc/>

Tancredo was invited to speak on the campus by a chartered UNC student organization, Youth for Western Civilization. About 50 students from the host organization filled the front part of the lecture hall, with protesters arriving in a group and filling up the rear of the hall. The event was open to the public and many of the protesters appeared to be townspeople or professors, not students.

The disruption of the event began as Tancredo entered the room and before he began his speech. Police did not intervene to stop protesters from disrupting the meeting. Police halted the proceedings and closed the hall only after a window was broken and protesters became increasingly violent. Police used pepper spray on some protesters who refused police orders to stop blocking hallways and exits.