FNC's Special Report with Bret Baier 09/28/22 6:10:25 p.m.
1 minute and 2 seconds

BRET BAIER: Meantime, President Biden is promising the full cooperation of the federal government for areas affected by Hurricane Ian. He has spoken with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis. Obviously, the politics of all of this, the potential rival for presidency in 2024. He talked to him after questions about why he had not done so yet. But they have talked and said they are cooperating. White House correspondent Jacqui Heinrich joins us tonight live from the North Lawn with the latest. Good evening, Jacqui.

JACQUI HEINRICH: Good evening to you, Bret. As this potentially devastating hurricane bears down on the state of Florida, President Biden is attending a political fundraiser to help elect Democratic governors. But, he did reach across the aisle to offer Florida's Republican governor storm support last night.

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN: Yesterday, I spoke with Governor DeSantis for some time.

HEINRICH: President Biden put politics aside to let Florida's Republican governor know Washington will be there for his state after Hurricane Ian.

GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS (R-FL): We all need to work together, regardless of party lines. It's my sense that the administration, you know, wants to help.

(....)

FNC's *Hannity* 09/28/22 9:38:13 p.m. 12 seconds

SEAN HANNITY: Tonight also at this hour, as millions from Florida are suffering from the devastating impact of Hurricane Ian, the President of the United States, well, he's enjoying a lavish Democratic fundraiser. He pretty much ignored the hurricane all day.

(....)

FNC's *The Ingraham Angle* 09/28/22 10:10:47 p.m. 1 minute and 6 seconds

LAURA INGRAHAM: Congressman, it's nice that President Biden did finally reach out to —

## CONGRESSMAN JIM JORDAN (R-OH): Yeah.

INGRAHAM: — Governor DeSantis. But he also declined to cancel a fundraiser tonight to help more, you know, obviously Democrats get elected governor, which just seemed, I don't know, seemed off.

JORDAN: Oh yeah.

INGRAHAM: I don't want to politicize this but it does seem off.

JORDAN: Yeah and if President Trump did that you can imagine what the left would say and you're exactly right. Leadership matters. We had great leadership under President Trump. We're seeing great leadership from the governor. I think the governor said they already have 40,000 line workers on stand-by. He's got National Guard on stand-by. They've got planes ready to go. I think you talk about air, land and sea ready to help the residents and families of his district and he's already set up a way to raise money for the families who we're all praying for who are going to be impacted about this and as you point out, what's Joe Biden doing? Raising money for himself and for the Democrats, the people giving us all the problems unfolding across our country, whether it's crime, whether it's border, whether it's inflation over the last 20 months. So, leadership matters and we're seeing a contrast that we had under real leadership that we had under President Trump and this governor and what we now have with President Biden.

(....)

FNC's *The Faulkner Focus* 09/29/22 11:53:02 a.m. 1 minute and 42 seconds

HARRIS FAULKNER: What causes them to change their schedule, though? Because, I mean, I said the woman had a hard job. She does. So, KJP — Karine Jean-Pierce — or Pierre, said the team has no changes in mind for the President's schedule. At 7:00 eastern last night, let me you what was going on. Well, we all know what was going on. Hurricane Ian was whipping 155 mile-per-hour winds on southwest Florida. Biden went to the Democratic Governors Association in D.C., a Democratic fundraiser. Jose, would you try to change the President's schedule at that time?

JOSE ARISTIMUNO: Well he's able — he's able to do two things at the same time.

FAULKNER: So, what was he doing while he was there? He was raising money for the Democrats.

ARISTIMUNO: He has been in con — you know, he's in close contact with Ron DeSantis every single day. He called him the day Hurricane Ian made landfall in Florida. So, he's — he's been taking — he's been on top of this since day one. But him taking an hour out of his schedule to go

to a fundraiser does not make him incapable of leading the situation.

FAULKNER: All right.

ARISTIMUNO: He's the President of the United States. He can do five things at the same time.

FAULKNER: You had a visual optic and — from last night and you had that, you know, verbal one earlier in the day. Matt, quick last thoughts on what Jose just about, well, he's been on top of this thing the whole time.

MATT GORMAN: Yeah, let's take a step back really quick. If this were Donald Trump or a Republican president going to a fundraiser or not calling a Democratic governor of Florida, the media and Democrats would be howling. It's really hypocrisy [sic] they didn't do it.

FAULKNER: Yeah, it took some time for that phone call to happen. But people can do two things at once. I don't know, bad timing?

(....)

FNC's *Outnumbered* 09/29/22 12:21:54 p.m. 4 minutes and 42 seconds

HARRIS FAULKNER: President Biden is about to get a briefing at FEMA headquarters, we showed you that moments ago. He is drawing some criticism, though, today for attending a political fundraiser last night. 7 p.m., we knew what was going on with Hurricane Ian and that was making landfall in indescribable ways as we are seeing in pictures today, he was at the Democratic governors in D.C. fundraiser. Now, the argument, the argument from my Democrat guest last hour, Pete, was, well, people can do two things at once, what was he exactly doing besides raising money for Democrats?

PETE HEGSETH: He was raising money for Democrats. He was — listen, he's outsourcing the administration of this — and rightfully and understandably so — to a very competent governor in Florida, who's been all over this. At the same time, that's the easiest reschedule I've ever seen. You know this type of — you know it's coming. You see it coming. It's going to be catastrophic and the visual of what a president does in this moment does count and, certainly, you can think of the flip side, had it been Donald Trump, had it been someone else, the level of hysteria that would have been, you know, palling around with rich folks in Washington while this happens. So, yes, you can do two things — he's got people capable of that and they've said there's maximum coordination. But someone — someone in the White House should have seen this and said not happening tonight.

FAULKNER: Well, look, when the press secretary was asked about it, Karine Jean-Pierre said there are no changes to his schedule.

HEGSETH: Well, they would say you should be able to walk and chew gum at the same time and the problem is it's not clear that this President can do one of those things at one time.

FAULKNER: You know, it's — I know that it's unfortunate timing, but just a few hours before that optic was the gaffe hear around the world with the President seeking to speak to and pull from the audience a woman who was deceased, who's name was, you know, one of the sponsors of the bill that they were signing yesterday. And so, the timing is really awkward.

KAYLEIGH MCENANY: Yeah, the timing is awkward. You know, first, let me just say, I went with President Trump to FEMA during hurricane Laura and it was the same day as his convention speech, so it was a tough time for us because we did have to do two things at once. We went to FEMA to be briefed on hurricane Laura, which at that time, had hit Louisiana, was then a tropical storm, was moving to other states. We made the calculated decision give the convention speech. We'll go to Louisiana. We'll go to Arkansas over the weekend, so there are these decisions that have to be made, Harris. But, to your point, the timing of it happening exactly when the hurricane damage is happening and the rhetoric he used. According to notes he said, this is not your father's Republican Party, Biden spoke to MAGA Republicans, tore them down, many of the people whose homes were destroyed — I know this area well — are MAGA Republicans and he's tearing them down at a fundraiser —

FAULKNER: Mmmm.

MCENANY: — as they're incurring this horrific storm damage. So, if you choose a political event, choose wisely your words and certainly on the heels of a really painful gaffe, like the one that you mentioned.

FAULKNER: Yeah, a convention vs. a Democratic governors event in Washington D.C. You mentioned the possibility, the easy nature, Pete, of being able to change that date. And Dagen, really quickly before we move on, Governor DeSantis, many of the politicians in the state of Florida on both sides of the aisle, said let's leave the politics aside. We got to work together —

DAGEN MCDOWELL: Right.

FAULKNER: — on this beast. It came ashore — started coming ashore 11 a.m. Eastern, we covered it.

MCDOWELL: Right.

FAULKNER: So, by 7:00 last night, people were in peril.

MCDOWELL: Right.

FAULKNER: Those who were trying to hunker down, were in hell.

MCDOWELL: Right. And Governor DeSantis showed earlier today an incredible command of

just Florida, of knowing Florida, of interstates, of what was open. It was really incredible to watch, when you juxtapose that with a President who couldn't remember that a congresswoman was killed last month and her staffers as well.

FAULKNER: And he was calling her out of the audience.

MCDOWELL: Right.

FAULKNER: "I guess she doesn't want to come up here."

MCDOWELL: He also said yesterday at the same time that — he went after oil companies. He said the small temporary storm impact on oil production provides no excuse for price increases at the pump, I will ask officials to look into whether price gouging is going on. Well, he never misses a chance to castigate businesses and he displays a lack of fundamental understanding of gas stations and who owns them. 60 percent are owned by mom and pop operations. Instead of President Empathy, we get President Apathy or Antipathy.

MCENANY: Mmm, yeah.