

Socialism Saves Capitalism

Banner “Bail-Out” Wall Street 2008

Date: 2008

Media: Vinyl impregnated cotton with adhesive vinyl lettering.

Comment: This large green banner was produced for the Nader-Gonzales Campaign. Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzalez, independent candidates in 2008, for President and Vice President respectively, protested the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, commonly referred to as the “Wall Street Bailout” or the Stimulus. The banner features the ironic slogan ‘Socialism saves Capitalism’. The banner was prominently displayed at the Nader-Gonzales anti-bailout rally at Federal Hall, 26 Wall Street in New York City, Thursday 16 October 2008.

Their opposition slogan to the Stimulus was “Jail Time Not Bail Time - Stop the Bailout” and it became a key component of the Nader-Gonzales campaign, in direct opposition to both the Republican and Democratic positions which supported the Act.

Ephemeral topical political banners like this rarely survive, but images of this banner and the 16 October 2008 rally were featured on the Nader-Gonzales website.

Dramatic demonstrations and progressive slogans became hallmarks of the Nader-Gonzales Campaign, which repeatedly came under fire during and after the campaign for comments critical of Senators Barrack Obama and John McCain, former President Bush and Democrats and Republicans in general. Ultimately the Nader-Gonzales campaign was unsuccessful, garnering only 738,475 votes nationwide or 0.56 percent of the popular vote.

Provenance: Acquired by the Zaricor Flag Collection (ZFC3186) in 2008 directly from the Nader-Gonzales Campaign, Washington, D.C. www.FlagCollection.com