



Opinion: Defining moments

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No matter the ultimate outcome — plea deals, trials, convictions or acquittals — the conclusion to what is arguably the most serious political/governmental scandal in state history will follow the careers of Christie and Fishman and may well dictate the future of each.

DEFINING moments — those instances of uncommon courage or inglorious shame that become so seared into the public psyche that they become forever associated with the persons involved — occur frequently in public life.

Political history overflows with such moments, ones that leap to mind immediately at the mention of a name or an event.

For Governor Christie and for U.S. Attorney Paul Fishman, the indictments of two individuals on charges involving the closing of access lanes to the George Washington Bridge in Fort Lee — immediately dubbed "Bridgegate" by many — qualify as such moments.

