

Romney Aide Reports 'No Decision' on Vice Presidential Pick
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By Ashley Parker

From the beginning, Mitt Romney has said that his search for a vice-presidential candidate is a closely guarded secret, the details known only by him and Beth Myers, his longtime confidante spearheading the selection process. But on Monday, after a report in The New York Times that Mr. Romney's friends believe that he has already reached a decision, his campaign pushed back, telling a group of reporters that nothing had been finalized.

"No decision's been made on V.P.," said Eric Fehrnstrom, a top Romney adviser, speaking to a press pool in Baton Rouge, La. "There is no decision on V.P."

When specifically asked by The Associated Press outside a Louisiana fund-raiser if the nomination could occur this week, Mr. Fehrnstrom said: "Technically, it could, but the governor hasn't made a decision. It will only happen after he makes a decision."

Mr. Romney plans to go overseas next week to visit several countries, and aides have said that his vice-presidential announcement could come as early as this week, or after he returns from abroad at the beginning of August.

Mr. Romney, the former governor of Massachusetts, spent part of Monday in Baton Rouge, at a \$50,000-per-plate fund-raising luncheon with Gov. Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, who has recently popped up on an unofficial list of potential running mates. Introducing him, Mr. Jindal touted Mr. Romney's career in the private sector.

"I am thrilled he's a successful businessman man," Mr. Jindal said. "You don't want an unsuccessful businessman in the White House."

Mr. Fehrnstrom told the press pool that while Mr. Romney and Mr. Jindal did spend some one-on-one time together, the topic that has the political class buzzing did not come up.

"He met with Governor Jindal, but they didn't talk about V.P.," Mr. Fehrnstrom said

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