

Flatulence Without Borders: *All Systems Go*

by Joe 'Kirsch' Curcio

In a recent NASA Advisory Council (NAC) hearing at the Mary W. Jackson NASA Headquarters in Washington, DC, a man claiming to be from Brooklyn, New York - identifying himself only as "*Firpo*" - submitted testimony regarding gastrointestinal events during space travel.

Firpo cited recent Artemis II mission "*operational issues*" involving NASA's Universal Waste Management System (UWMS) - "*the terlit.*"

In his proposal, coined "*The Artemis Methane Initiative*" (TMI), Firpo recommended, in cooperation with corporate sponsorship and potential funding from companies such as Glad, Hefty, and Febreze – that the agency develop NASA-grade odor containment pouches (OCP) - "*high-end Zippy bags for farts.*"

Firpo's "*Gastrointestinal Atmospheric Sampling*" (GAS) research confirmed that without gravity to drive natural convection, flatulence loses its buoyancy-driven movement and no longer dissipates naturally from the astronaut who emitted it.

"*The gas remains suspended around the individual,*" Firpo testified, "*leaving astronauts trapped inside a virtual nebula of their own farts.*"

Firpo further stated that these findings support longstanding investigative conclusions by Snopes, the online fact-checking site, regarding the probable origin of the phrase “*whoever smelt it dealt it.*”

Firpo reportedly acquired extensive knowledge in this field during his study of SBOs - “*Silent But Orbiting*” flatulence - and related malodorous retention events, as documented in his book *The Giving Pants: Behind the Scenes*, published by vanity press giant Austin, Macauley, & Ziggy.

Firpo has also been credited with spearheading the public service campaign: “*If Sitting Is the New Smoking, Then I’m Going to Need a Bigger Ashtray,*” whose print advertisements depict a large-derriered man seated inside an overflowing ashtray of cigarette butts.

**If sitting is the new smoking
I'm gonna need a bigger
ashtray**



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Among Firpo's additional credentials was a recent first-place finish in the "*Fastest Foot Through the Jockey Underwear Leg Hole Without Falling Over*" competition in the annual *Cupid's Undie Run briefs challenge* in Seaside Heights, New Jersey.

According to hearing transcripts, Firpo described the award as further evidence of his "*spherical intellectual roundness*" in the field of gastrointestinal retention and emissions.

Firpo concluded the hearing by attempting to demonstrate zero-gravity gas retention. After distributing cannellini beans to the panel and requesting that all windows be sealed shut, he began assembling two folding chairs and a Craftsman-Ferrari 100-Gallon, 600-Horsepower Shop-Vac.

NASA security immediately escorted Firpo from the building.

"*You can put a man on the moon,*" Firpo reportedly yelled while being removed from the premises, "*but apparently you still can't keep a window shut.*"

The hearing was suspended pending further investigation into Firpo's identity and the status of any outstanding warrants for his arrest.