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Trump Renounces Pledge to Support GOP Nominee

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By: Todd Beamon

Donald Trump said Tuesday that he would no longer support the eventual GOP presidential nominee if it were someone else — even if it's rival Ted Cruz — because "I've been treated very unfairly" by the Republican National Committee and the party establishment.

"No. I don't anymore," Trump told CNN host Anderson Cooper in Milwaukee when asked about honoring the pledge he signed with the RNC at the outset of his campaign. "We'll see who it is."

When Cooper told Trump that Cruz had expressed reluctance to support him earlier in the town hall at the Riverside Theater, the developer said: "Honestly, he doesn't have to support me.

"I'm not asking for his support. I want the people's support.

"He was essentially saying the same thing," Trump said of Cruz. "He doesn't have to support me. I have tremendous support right now from the people.

"I don't really want him to do something he's not comfortable with," he said.

In September, **Trump signed a pledge to support the eventual nominee** in a meeting with RNC Chairman Reince Priebus. The New York businessman kicked off his campaign in June.

He told Cooper Tuesday that he would no longer honor the pledge because "I've been treated very unfairly" by "I think by, basically, the RNC. The Republican Party. The establishment."

He cited how former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney slammed him just before the Utah caucuses as a fraud who is playing the American public as suckers — noting how other establishment candidates like Jeb Bush and Scott Walker have opposed his campaign.

"You have a guy like Mitt Romney, who lost miserably who did a terrible job," Trump said of the 2012 presidential candidate. "He ran a horrible, horrible campaign.

"He ought to sit back and root for us instead of being a negative force."

Trump responded "I don't know" when Cooper asked whether the committee was planning a brokered convention in Cleveland in July to deny him the nomination.

"We'll see what happens," he said. "You'd have upset people if that happened."

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In explaining why he would not support Cruz as the nominee, Trump cited what the senator's campaign did to former rival Ben Carson in the Iowa caucuses and other "terrible things."

"Here's my thing on Cruz," Trump began. "A lot of nasty things have been said.

"I'm a very honorable guy and a very honest guy. I would have never done what he did to Ben Carson.

"I would have never gone to Iowa and said Ben Carson has left the race," he continued. "A lot of people left Ben Carson. Ben Carson is an honorable guy. That's a terrible thing to do.

"Let me just tell you, I don't want his support," Trump declared. "I don't need his support. I want him to be comfortable.

"If he wants to support me, that would be wonderful — because I think I'm going to win."

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