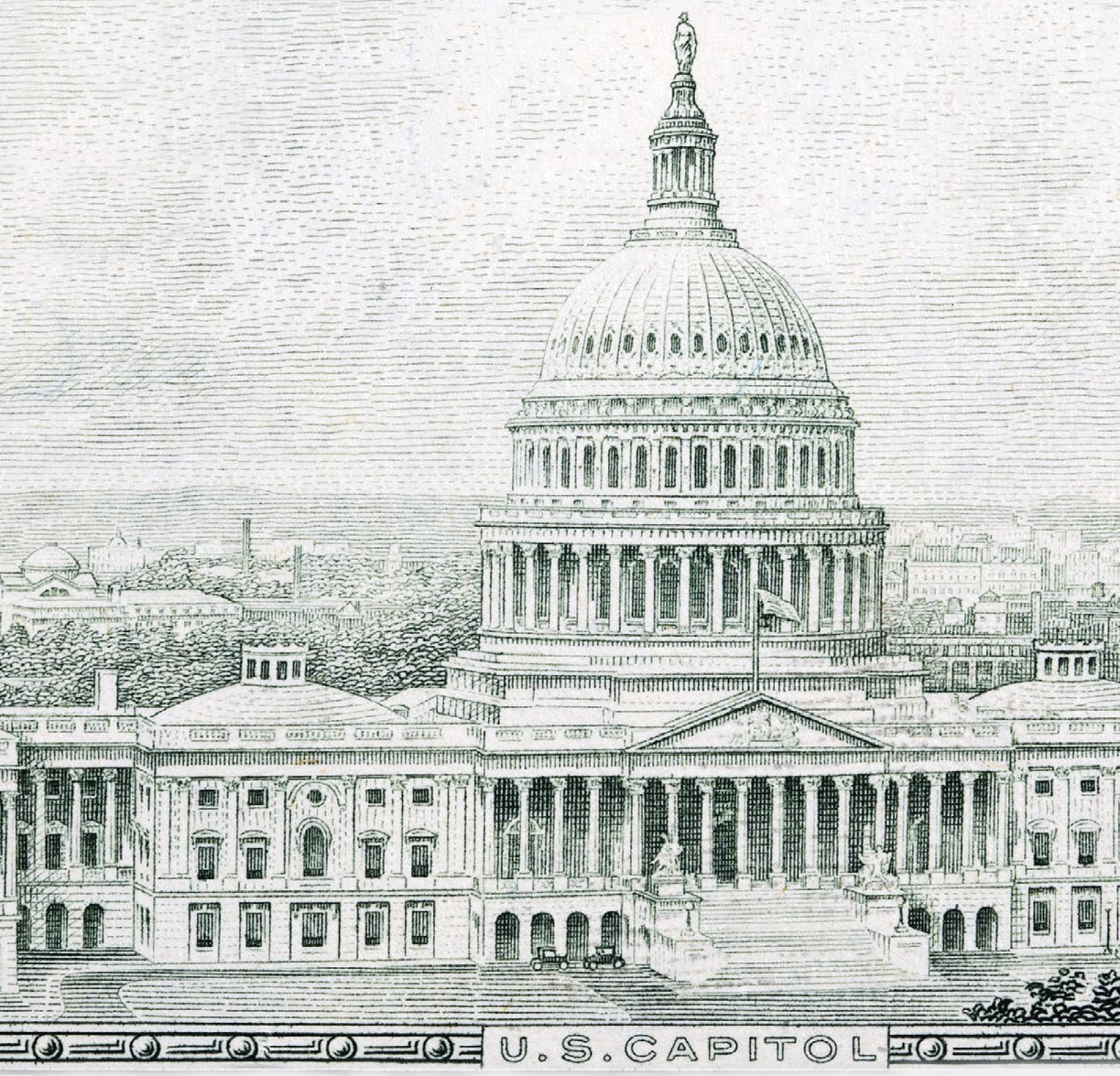
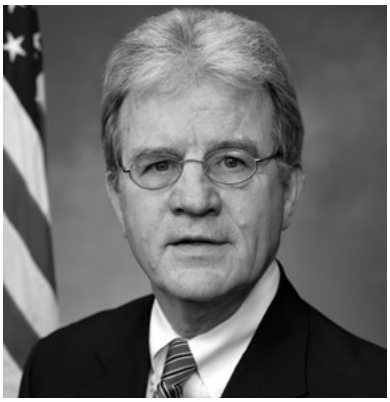
OpenTheBooks

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



OPEN THE BOOKS™
IT'S YOUR MONEY!

IN MEMORIAM



U.S. SENATOR TOM A. COBURN, M.D.

March 14, 1948 - March 28, 2020

OpenTheBooks Honorary Chairman
Former U.S. Senator
Co-Sponsor of the 2006 "Google Your Government Act"
Public Law 109-282,109th Congress

TIME 100
MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE 2013

"You can be a vital part of the OpenTheBooks' drive to rally Americans."

"OpenTheBooks.com is one of the fastest growing and most effective organizations that I have seen. They expose the truth and provide us the transparency that we deserve."

"OpenTheBooks.com is doing the work I envisioned when the Coburn-Obama bill became law. Their innovative app and other tools are putting sunlight through a magnifying glass."

REST IN PEACE



Letter From Our Chairman
Thomas W. Smith

In the last 20 years, our country's national debt has exploded. In 2001, when George W. Bush took office, the national debt was $5.8 trillion. It took around 225 years -- booms, busts, depressions, wars, etc. -- to amass that much national debt. In just eight years, Bush and a compliant Congress doubled the number to $11.7 trillion. In Barack Obama's two terms, another $8.6 trillion was added. During the past four years, Donald Trump and Congress fought many battles, but not over this: In that time, America's future was mortgaged to the tune of another $6.7 trillion. Today, the national debt is around $27 trillion, a four-fold increase in the last two decades. That doesn't count unfunded mandates. And there is no end in sight.

Whenever human beings gather to accomplish a task, any task, without strong and effective oversight, a natural evolution takes place. Whether it be in business, academia, philanthropy, or government, every activity morphs from the original goal to self-aggrandizement. In government, this process is particularly toxic. There are no profits, let alone a profit motive. No concern with productivity. No incentive to turn off the proverbial lights. No measure of success. No motivation to end counterproductive activities.

Add to this mix the influence of public employee unions. Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Harry Truman were opposed to them for reasons that long ago became apparent. The goal of all unions is self-preservation – just as management's is to maximize profits. But public employee unions add two other noxious elements to the mix: (1) defending job incompetence and (2) heavy-handed involvement in the electoral process in a search for pliant politicians who can help them achieve their objectives by spending ever more of the public's money.

Now, out of the blue, the experts-for-hire have a new scheme to justify continued fiscal irresponsibility: modern monetary theory. It holds that so long as interest rates are lower than inflation rates, politicians can spend away. That is not a theory. It is idle wordplay, and the victim of such sophistry is the American taxpayer -- and future generations of American taxpayers.

Never in our history has fiscal soundness been more important. The exploding annual deficits of the last 20 years have produced a national debt as a percentage of the gross domestic product that is as high as it was during World War II even though our nation is at peace. Moreover, many severely underfunded programs such as Social Security and Medicaid are not included in today's debt calculations, although they should be.

The passage of a 5,593-page must-pass-quickly bill in December was indisputable evidence that the national debt will never be addressed from the top down. That legislation was sent to the Senate two hours before the vote. Who can read 2,800 pages per hour, 47 pages per minute? How can a responsible lawmakers vote on bills they have not read? While our political leaders have repeatedly told us how important this bill was to the survival of so many Americans, they delayed the bill for months for political reasons. A crucial-to-the-survival-of-so-many-Americans pork-filled bill? Some $10 million to Pakistan for "gender programs"? Another $700 million to Sudan for Lord knows what? And on and on and on.

History has a clear and repeated message: If we do not address this exploding debt, it will bring to life all-knowing leaders, leaders who Friedrich Hayek said possessed the "fatal conceit." They think they know more than is knowable. Leaders who have all the answers for everything they define as a problem: More regulations. More government control. More taxes. This is a noxious cure that has never succeeded, one that has left country after country in economic tatters.

Fortunately, the world in changing. Today, we have the means to address this financial irresponsibility, this threat to our country as our founders envisioned it. We are immersed in the Information Age, the Big Data world, the Cloud world, the Bitcoin world. The cost of communications is close to zero. Smartphones, iPads, and computers are a crucial part of everyday life. With the touch of a finger, one click, information on every topic is available 24 hours a day. Buy anything. Sell anything. Today, instant access to information is embedded in our culture. Why should government expenditures be exempt?

Transparency has always been the best antidote to rein in profligate government spending. Having instant information at our fingertips gives fiscally responsible Americans a powerful new weapon in the War on Waste. Today, there is no reason why every local, state, and federal government expenditure is not online, in real-time, available to every citizen. Taxpayers should be able to attend a school board meeting and pull up school expenses on their phones.

OpenTheBooks has a formidable weapon to unleash the voting public's ability to address this exploding national debt, this lack of transparency, this threat to our democracy -- the OpenTheBooks Government Expenditure Library, which contains over 5 billion (and growing) local, state, and federal government expenditures. Last year, we filed 40,500 Freedom of Information Act requests. We sued several government entities to encourage them to provide us the same information we collect from other states.

The OpenTheBooks Government Expenditure Library is open to everyone: Citizens. Politicians. Students. Academics. Scholars. Journalists. Think tanks. Everyone -- 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Transparency can be as revolutionary as the Internet has been for the economic well-being of the world. Transparency can not only enhance the odds of the survival of this, the greatest country in the history of the world but, over time, it will contribute to our prosperity, our health, and our happiness. Wasted taxpayer dollars are not just nonproductive. Waste allowed to exist encourages more waste. Fraud allowed to exist encourages more fraud. A financially sound economy, one that works to remove waste, fraud, duplication, and incompetence, will increase respect for government, for the rule of law.

OpenTheBooks places the future of this great country more firmly in the hands of the voters. To ensure our elected officials realize this, we have to communicate continuously with them what we expect and how we will vote. I suggest we begin with one clear public statement: "I will never vote for anyone who has voted for a bill they have not read." Register that statement at OpenTheBooks.com/READTHEBILL.

Obviously, our elected officials are unwilling to address this explosive, increasingly crucial national debt problem. Fortunately, we the taxpaying voters today have a weapon at our fingertips to successfully wage a War on Waste. Successful because our political leaders will quickly recognize that if they want to be reelected, they will have to respond accordingly.

Sincerely,

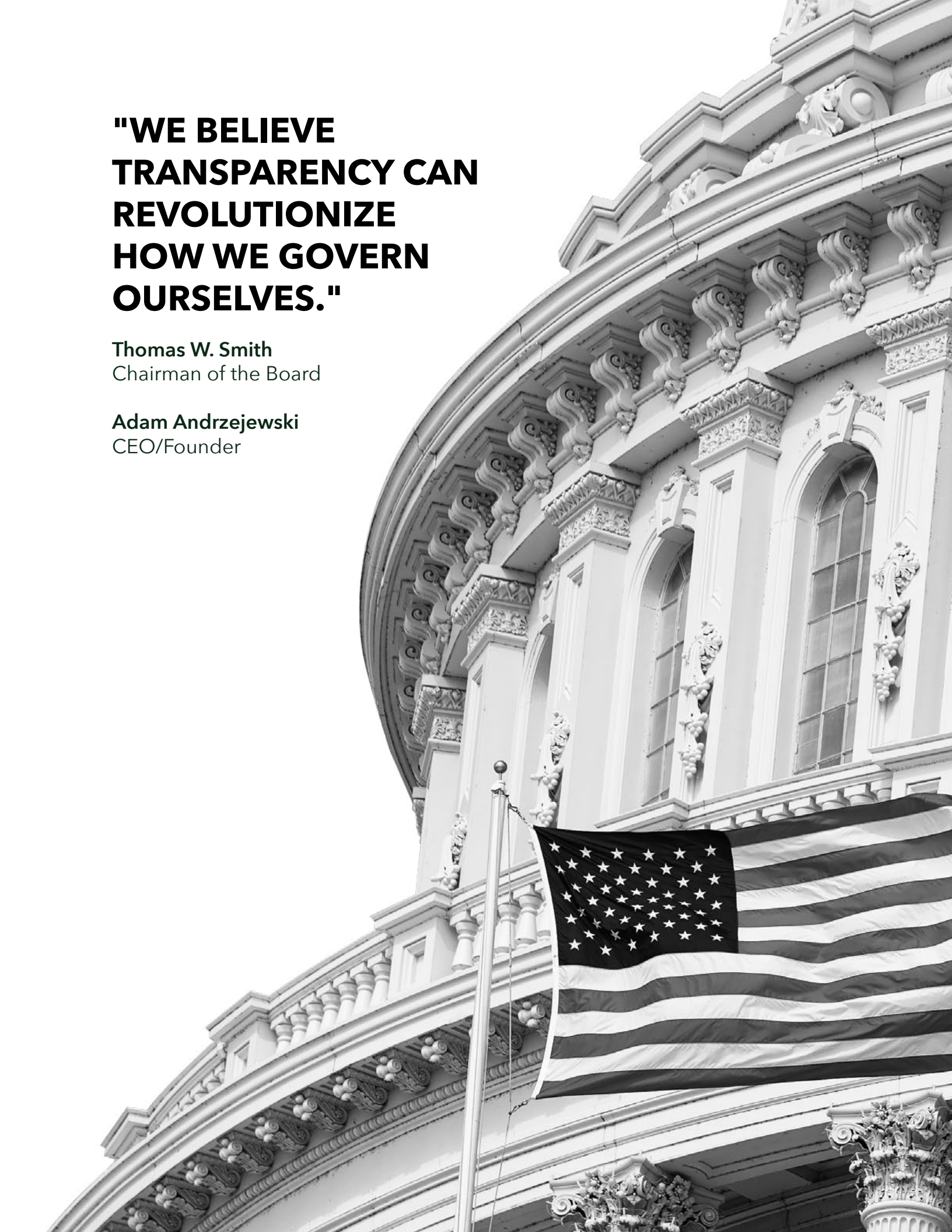


Thomas W. Smith, Chairman

"WE BELIEVE TRANSPARENCY CAN REVOLUTIONIZE HOW WE GOVERN OURSELVES."

Thomas W. Smith
Chairman of the Board

Adam Andrzejewski
CEO/Founder



Letter From Our Chief Executive Officer & Founder Adam Andrzejewski



Little did we know what 2020 would bring…

Thanks to your help, 2020 was our strongest year. We refused all government bailouts and kept all our promises to open and audit the books.

In March 2020, we shifted to a war footing by cutting all unnecessary expenses. Yet, we published more reports, received more media coverage, increased our website traffic, and our budget.

In 2020 we filed 40,500 Freedom of Information Act requests; published 40 investigations in the national media; launched six federal oversight reports; and sued California for their state checkbook expenditures.

Our national reputation continues to grow.

The Tucker Carlson Show on Fox News, The New York Times, USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, Boston Globe, C-SPAN, and many others cited our work. Our investigations published at Forbes received 5 million views. On YouTube, our presentation to the Hillsdale National Leadership Seminar has 2 million views. The President's Budget To Congress FY2021 cited our organization and two of our oversight reports.

Today, we are the world's largest private database of government spending with $6 trillion in captured expenditures posted online.

In 2021, our goal is 100 oversight studies. Our objective is to promote our database as the OpenTheBooks Government Expenditure Library – so that everyone – all tax-paying citizens across America – can have access to public spending, at every level.

OpenTheBooks.com is the strongest voice in America for robust transparency and auditing of all public expenditures. Our mission has a constitutional basis. Article I, Section 9 of the United States Constitution reads, "…a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time."

We believe that transparency is revolutionizing U.S. public policy and politics.

Thank you for playing such a significant role in the Transparency Revolution!

Adam Andrzejewski
CEO/Founder, OpenTheBooks.com

CONTENTS

In Memoriam: U.S. Senator Tom A. Coburn, M.D..... **II**
Letter from Thomas W. Smith..... **III**
Letter from Adam Andrzejewski..... **VII**
OpenTheBooks 2020 At A Glance..... **1**
Key Metrics..... **2**
Revenue by Fiscal Year..... **3**
California Lawsuit..... **4**
OpenTheBooks Government Expenditure Library..... **5**
The President's Budget to Congress..... **6**
2020 Oversight Reports..... **7-13**
Our Most Popular Forbes Investigations..... **14**
Key Media..... **15**
Legislation..... **16**
The Depth of the Swamp..... **17**
Board of Directors, Key People, and Interns..... **18-20**
Planned Giving..... **21**
Connect with OpenTheBooks..... **22**

"Power tends to corrupt and
absolute power corrupts absolutely."
Lord Acton

OPENTHEBOOKS 2020

AT A GLANCE

"When you can't make them see the light, make them feel the heat."
President Ronald Reagan

$6 TRILLION
CAPTURED TOTAL PUBLIC EXPENDITURES

23 MILLION
VIRTUALLY EVERY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE SALARY & PENSION RECORD AT EVERY LEVEL OF LOCAL, STATE, & FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (FY2018)

Forbes
10.2 MILLION
ALL-TIME VIEWS AT FORBES ON OUR 150 EDITORIALS

14.2 MILLION FACEBOOK ENGAGEMENTS (LIKES, CLICKS, REACTIONS, COMMENTS, ETC.)

1,087,472
WEBSITE SESSIONS AT OPENTHEBOOKS.COM

502,585
FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

200,000
EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS

41,500 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUESTS FILED

3,062
MEDIA MENTIONS

40
INVESTIGATIONS PUBLISHED

6
OVERSIGHT REPORTS

49 of 50
CAPTURED STATE CHECKBOOKS BY OPENTHEBOOKS.COM

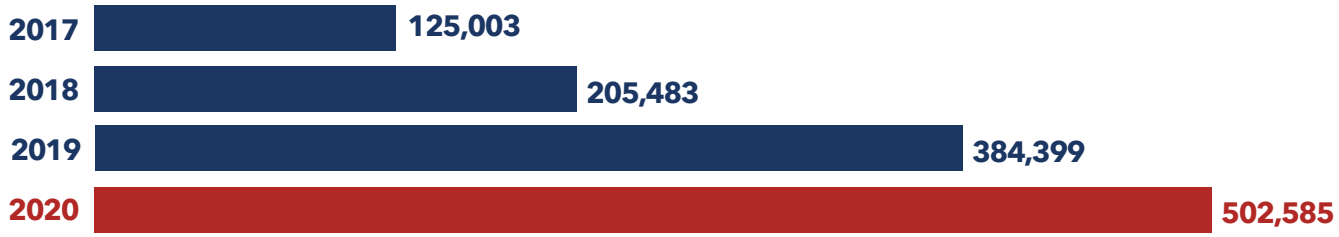
1
LAWSUIT AGAINST CALIFORNIA FOR REFUSING TO PRODUCE THEIR STATE CHECKBOOK

2 MILLION
YOUTUBE VIEWS ON *THE DEPTH OF THE SWAMP* BY CEO/FOUNDER ADAM ANDRZEJEWSKI
National Leadership Seminar
Hillsdale College
Naples, FL | February 2020

2 **PRESIDENT'S BUDGET TO CONGRESS FY2021** CITED OUR *USE-IT-OR-LOSE-IT SPENDING SPREE* OVERSIGHT REPORT AND OUR REPORT ON THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

KEY METRICS (2017-2020)

Facebook Followers



FORBES Editorials Page views (OpenTheBooks)



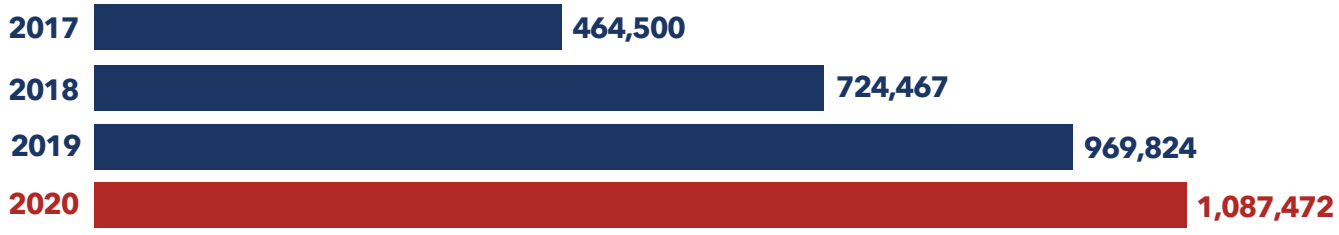
Total Media Mentions

Source: Meltwater

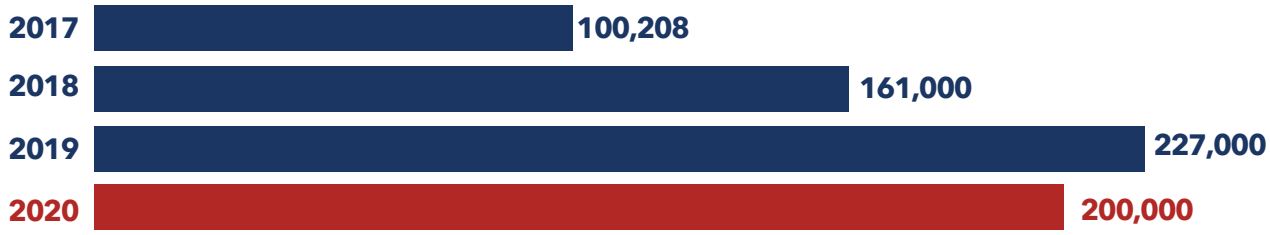


Website Sessions

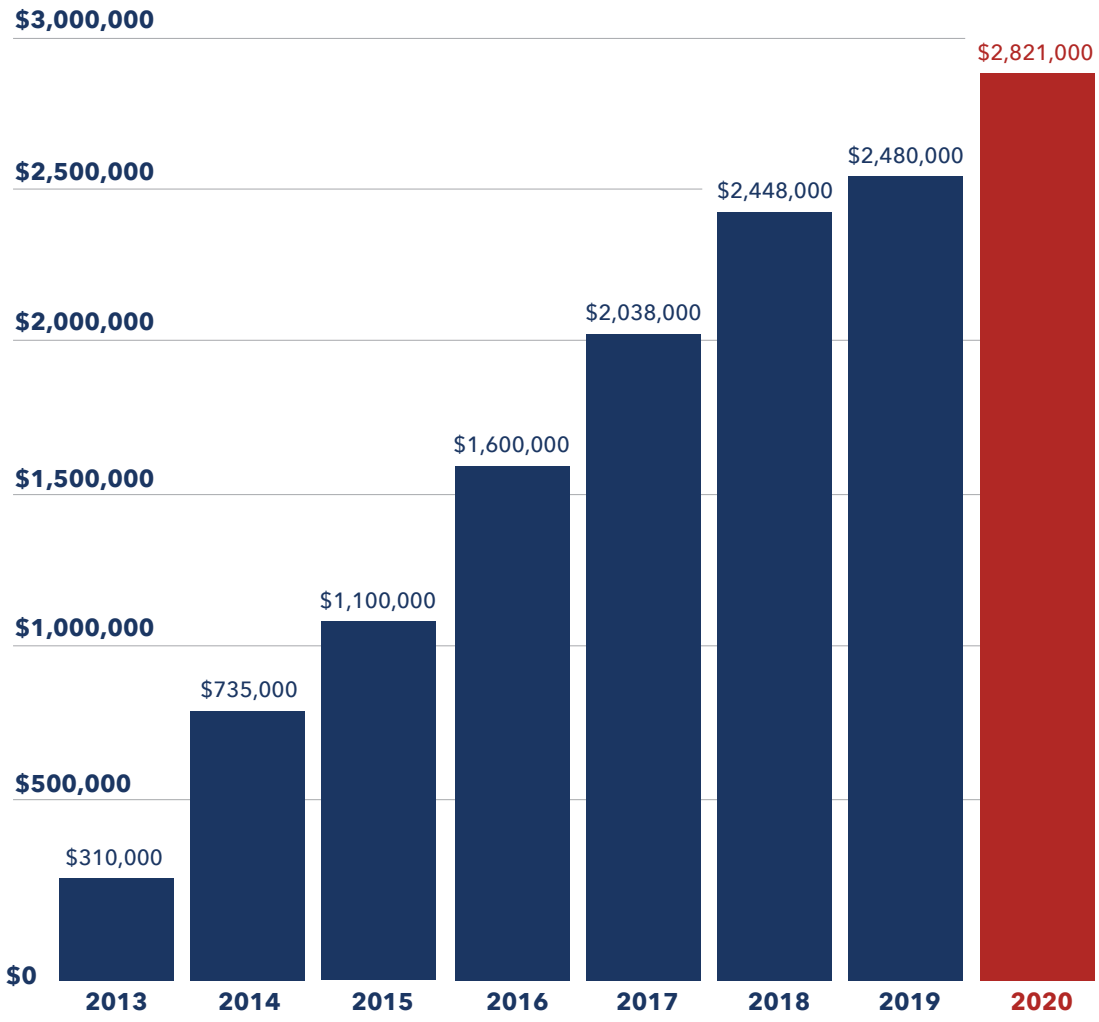
SOURCE: GOOGLE ANALYTICS



Email Subscribers



REVENUE BY FISCAL YEAR



MORE DONATIONS = MORE INVESTIGATIONS

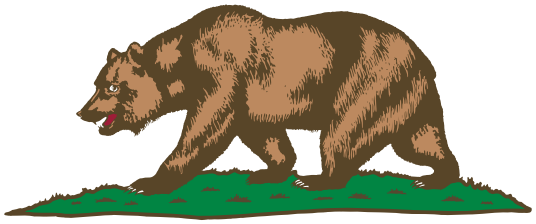
Thanks to your investments, our revenues continue to climb.

AS SEEN IN

Forbes · Las Vegas Review-Journal · RealClear Politics · The Sacramento Bee · CalMatters · Orange County Register · ZeroHedge · The Mercury News

★ CALIFORNIA LAWSUIT

OpenTheBooks vs. The State of California



OUT OF THE 50 STATES, CALIFORNIA IS THE ONLY STATE THAT REFUSES TO PRODUCE ITS STATE CHECKBOOK TO OUR AUDITORS.
AS A RESULT, WE SUED THEM.

Sign the Petition at **http://bit.ly/CAPetition** to help force California to open their books.

Our lawyers: Cause of Action, Washington, D.C.

OPENTHEBOOKS GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE LIBRARY

DATA CAPTURE BY CRAIG MIJARES, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER & TEAM

Over the past 12 months, OpenTheBooks has filed **40,500 Freedom of Information Act requests** – the most in American history – enabling our auditors to capture 23.5 million public employee salary and pension records and $6 trillion in public-spending.

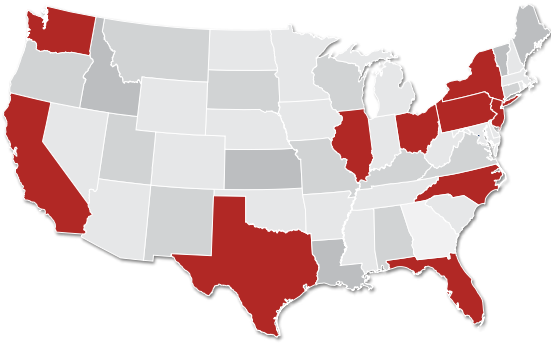
OpenTheBooks captured 100% of 2019 federal salaries, bonuses and checkbook spending available. We have captured all available 2019 state salaries, pensions, and checkbook spending.

SALARIES
18.8 million total transactions
$983 billion

CHECKBOOKS
164 million total transactions
$6.01 trillion

PENSIONS
4.7 million total transactions
$9.1 billion monthly/
$109 billion annually

TOP 10 SALARY SPENDING STATES



1. CALIFORNIA
$131,642,608,776 spent
1,885,254 salary records

2. NEW YORK
$95,734,774,625 spent
1,745,501 salary records

3. TEXAS
$75,474,608,431 spent
1,616,578 salary records

4. FLORIDA
$38,582,954,632 spent
875,955 salary records

5. ILLINOIS
$35,897,521,481 spent
646,905 salary records

6. OHIO
$27,708,673,339 spent
655,503 salary records

7. NEW JERSEY
$26,446,973,023 spent
398,919 salary records

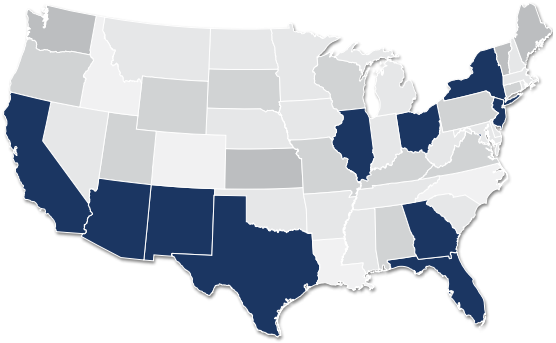
8. WASHINGTON
$26,424,534,050 spent
488,741 salary records

9. NORTH CAROLINA
$25,002,854,175 spent
569,574 salary records

10. PENNSYLVANIA
$23,254,524,069 spent
425,337 salary records

**Please note this data is inclusive of both state and local salary collection.*

TOP 10 CHECKBOOK SPENDING STATES



1. CALIFORNIA
We are suing California for their state checkbook.

2. NEW YORK
$369,937,779,925 spent
16,552,924 transactions

3. TEXAS
$191,761,288,118 spent
22,471,942 transactions

4. FLORIDA
$118,381,891,406 spent
5,800,778 transactions

5. ILLINOIS
$102,117,796,411 spent
4,755,389 transactions

6. OHIO
$99,252,611,534 spent
23,968,717 transactions

7. NEW MEXICO
$81,924,911,103 spent
2,504,361 transactions

8. NEW JERSEY
$81,793,092,424 spent
1,661,281 transactions

9. ARIZONA
$80,526,668,903 spent
15,623,582 transactions

10. GEORGIA
$79,425,109,680 spent
1,093,271 transactions

**Please note this data is inclusive of both state and local checkbook collection.*



THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET 2021
Submitted to Congress

Published February 2020

The Budget Highlights our OpenTheBooks Oversight Report entitled
The Federal Government's Use-It-Or-Lose-It Spending Spree:

"September, the end of the Federal fiscal year, is traditionally characterized by a surge in spending. Studies of Federal spending have shown that one out of every nine dollars in Federal contracts was spent in the last week of the fiscal year. On average, the Federal Government spends $3.2 billion a day in contracts. In the last two days of 2018 alone 1, agencies spent $10 billion a day.

According to data from the nonprofit group, Open the Books, of the $97 billion spent by 67 Federal agencies in a "Use It or Lose It" spending spree in the final two days of 2018, expenditures included:

- China tableware ($53,004)
- Alcohol ($308,994)
- Golf carts ($673,471)
- Musical equipment, including pianos, tubas, and trombones ($1.7 million)
- Lobster tails and crab ($4.6 million)
- Workout and recreation equipment ($9.8 million)

While there are many reasons that last-minute improper spending occurs, there are currently misaligned incentives in the budgeting process which encourages this practice. Agencies recognize that if significant balances are left in their accounts at the end of a fiscal year, the Congress will likely reduce their topline budget in future fiscal years.

While some end of year spending is legitimate, the Administration is committed to closely scrutinizing how it spends money at the end of the fiscal year, and curtailing wasteful and questionable purchases. Americans deserve a Government that is meticulous at avoiding wasteful and unnecessary spending."

A Budget for America's Future - Page 17

CLICK HERE TO READ THE BUDGET

2020 OVERSIGHT REPORTS



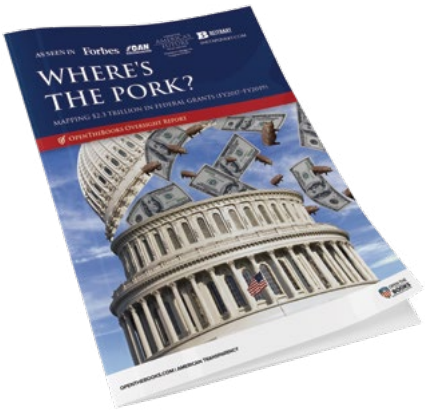
READ THE REPORT

Congressional Membership Has Its Privileges
Salaries, Pensions, Travel & Other Taxpayer-Funded Perks



READ THE REPORT

The Federal Government's Use-It-Or-Lose-It Spending Spree
How the Federal Government Spent $91 Billion in September 2019



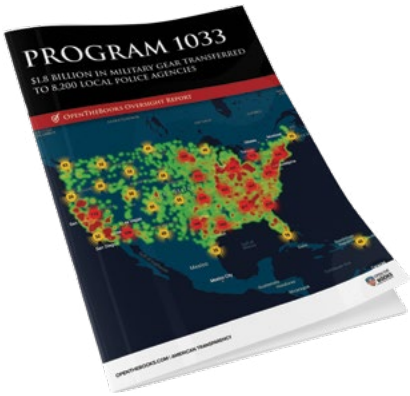
READ THE REPORT

Where's The Pork?
Mapping $2.3 Trillion in Federal Grants (FY2017-FY2019)



READ THE REPORT

Improper Payments
Analyzing $2.3 Trillion Mistakenly Spent by the U.S. Government Since 2004



READ THE REPORT

Program 1033
$1.8 Billion in Military Gear Transferred to 8,200 Local Police Agencies



READ THE REPORT

The Militarization of the U.S. Executive Agencies
Non-Military Federal Agency's Purchases of Guns, Ammunition & Military Style Equipment (FY2015-FY2019)

AS SEEN IN

Forbes SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP abc NEWS NBC NEWS CBS NEWS FOX NEWS channel CNBC AMERICAN GREED



CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES

Salaries, Pensions, Travel & Other Taxpayer-Funded Perks

Published: June 2020

READ THE REPORT

MEDIA AND LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS

- **CNBC's American Greed:** No convicted Member of Congress has ever been stripped of their federal pension. Showcased Jesse Jackson, Jr.; Duncan Hunter; and Chaka Fattah. Airing: First Quarter, 2021
- **Forbes, Editors' Pick:** *Why Are U.S. Taxpayers Providing Public Pensions To Millionaire Members Of Congress?* June 30, 2020 | 458,056 views
- **Forbes, Editors' Pick:** *Perks Members Of Congress Give To Themselves* | May 29, 2020 | 93,588 views
- **Sinclair Broadcast Group:** ABC, NBC, CBS & FOX 200 stations, Congressional Approval May Be Low, But The Perks Are Plentiful | June 12, 2020 | 2.3 million audience
- **Forbes:** *Disgraced Congressman Chris Collins Will Likely Lose His Federal Pension – No Member Has Ever Been Stripped Of Their Pension,* October 1, 2019 | 59,997 views.
- **Forbes, Editors' Pick:** *Disgraced Congressman Duncan Hunter Will Likely Get His $1.2 Million In Federal Pension – Despite His Felony Guilty Plea,* January 9, 2020 | 62,960 views
- **Legislation:** Sen. Mike Braun's (R-IN) bill to give Members the choice to opt-out of their congressional pension (S. 439). Legislation passed the U.S. Senate – June 2020

AS SEEN IN

Forbes · Washington Journal C-SPAN · Washington Examiner · Make 'em Squeal · A Budget for America's Future Fiscal Year 2021 President's Budget To Congress FY2021 · The Epoch Times



THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S USE-IT-OR-LOSE-IT SPENDING SPREE

How the Federal Government Spent $91 Billion in September 2019

Published: August 2020

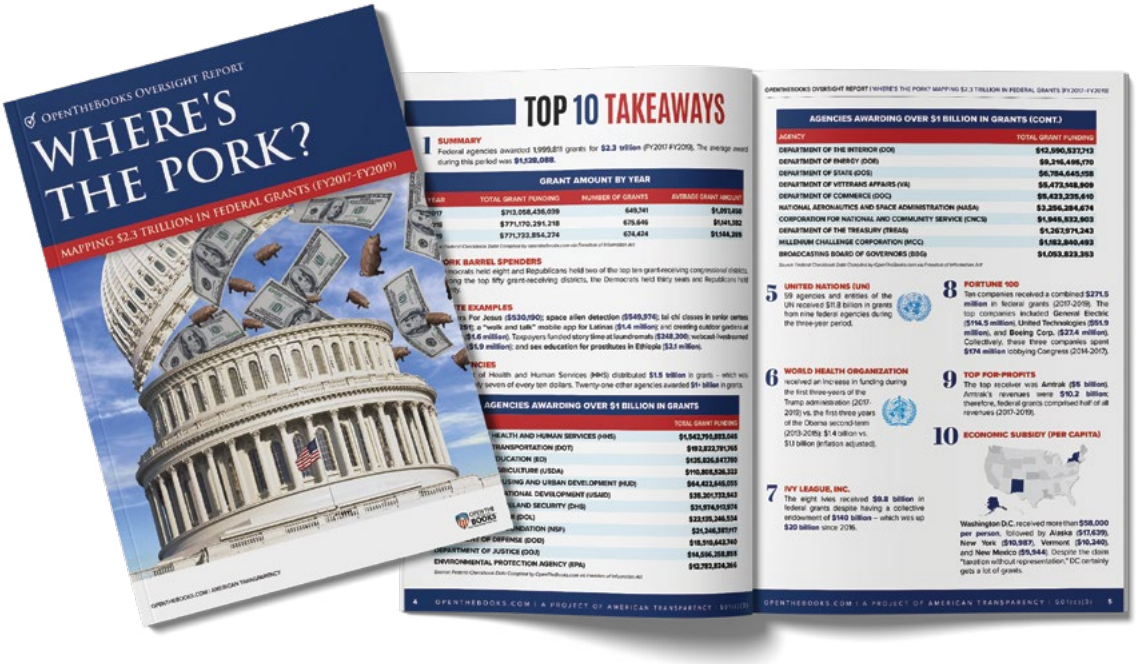
READ THE REPORT

MEDIA AND LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS

- **CSPAN's Washington Journal** program hosted CEO Adam Andrzejewski for a prime-time 45-minute interview in exclusive TV launch of the report– Available in 50 million US homes – August 31, 2020
- Cited in the **President's Budget to Congress FY2021** (Feb 2020)
- **Legislation:** U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst Year-End Fiscal Responsibility Act (S.1238) & Rep. Dan Crenshaw Year-End Fiscal Responsibility Act (H.R.4559)
- **Paul Bedard's Washington Secrets** column highlighted our report at the Washington Examiner – August 21, 2020
- **Forbes, Editors' Pick**, *Ten Ways Binge Buying Bureaucrats Spent $91 Billion In A Year-End Spending Spree 2019* – August 25, 2020
- **The Epoch Times**, Mark Tapscott's Politics Colum – August 20, 2020
- September **Squeal Award by Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA)** and oversight letter to Health and Human Services regarding their excessive Use-It-Or-Lose-It 2019 spending.
- **Jim Bohannon's Radio Show** featured 60-minute radio interview – 500 radio stations across the country with 6.5 Million listeners and a Talkers' Top 17 host – September 2, 2020

AS SEEN IN

Forbes · OAN One America News · A BUDGET FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE FISCAL YEAR 2021 President's Budget To Congress FY2021 · INSTAPUNDIT.COM · RealClearPolitics



WHERE'S THE PORK?

Mapping $2.3 Trillion in Federal Grants (FY02017-FY2019)

Published: October 2020

READ THE REPORT

MEDIA AND LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS

- Inspired the new chapter, Eliminating Wasteful Spending in the **President's Budget To Congress** FY2021.
- **Forbes, Editors' Pick:** $3.5 Billion Has Flowed From U.S. Taxpayers To The World Health Organization Since 2010 | April 14, 2020 | 52,066 views. Data featured simultaneous to the Executive Order to defund WHO.
- **Bill Martinez Live:** Featured on 300 radio stations through the show syndicated on the Genesis Radio Network with a 20-minute interview.
- Interview segment on **One America News Television Network**. Available in 35 million homes.
- Featured by **PJ Media at Instapundit**, Mark Tapscott post – October 1, 2020
- Initiated **RealClearPolitics' daily #WasteOfTheDay** featured blog to include daily examples of "Where's The Pork" – debuting February 15, 2021.

AS SEEN IN



IMPROPER PAYMENTS

Analyzing $2.3 Trillion Mistakenly Spent by the U.S. Government Since 2004

Published: November 2020

READ THE REPORT

MEDIA AND LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS

- **ABC, NBC, CBS, & FOX affiliates of the COX Media Group (CMG):** Federal Government Pays People Who Shouldn't Be Receiving Payments | November 30, 2020 | Watchdog Says Six Million Active Social Security Numbers For People 112+ | December 18, 2020
- **Forbes,** 20 Largest U.S. Federal Agencies Admit Improper And Mistaken Payments Of $2.3 Trillion Since 2004 | December 3, 2020
- **Real Clear Policy** posted our oversight report on their website.
- Radio interviews included **Jim Bohannon's 500 stations, Michael Berry's (Houston, TX), WLS Chicago Bill Cameron, Rob Schilling podcast, Jeff Reynold PJ Media podcast,** and **Dave Ellsworth- Little Rock, AR.**
- **Washington Examiner,** 20 Large Federal Agencies Wasted $2.3 Trillion In Improper Payments Since 2004 | December 7, 2020

AS SEEN IN

Forbes | MAKE 'EM SQUEAL | OPEN THE BOOKS INTERACTIVE MAP | WHITE HOUSE MEMO TO DEFUND "LAWLESS" CITIES



PROGRAM 1033

$1.8 Billion in Military Gear Transferred to 8,200 Local Police Agencies

Published: September 2020

READ THE REPORT

MEDIA AND LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS

- **Forbes,** $14.8 Billion Flows To Five Major U.S. Cities Where Civil Unrest Looms And Police Stand Down. "What's at stake in the defunding of lawless cities." August 8, 2020 | 62,841 views.
- **Forbes, Editors' Pick:** California Leads All States In Taking Advantage Of Military Surplus Wear-Gear Under Program 1033– September 17, 2020
- Popular interactive OpenTheBooks map of Program 1033 gear by ZIP Code received 34,714 views
- **Legislation:** U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst's Ending Taxpayer Funding of Anarchy Act (S. 4085) to restrict federal funding to anarchist jurisdictions – June 25, 2020. Our data used in Ernst's Squeal Award (August 2020)

SOFT LAUNCH: DECEMBER 31, 2020
HARD LAUNCH: JANUARY 2021



THE MILITARIZATION OF THE U.S. EXECUTIVE AGENCIES

Non-Military Federal Agency's Purchases of Guns, Ammunition, and Military-Style Equipment for FY2015-FY2019

READ THE REPORT

KEY FINDINGS

- 27 traditional law enforcement agencies spent $800 million on guns, ammunition, and military-style equipment during fiscal years 2015 and 2019.
- 76 administrative agencies spent $110.6 million on guns, ammunition, and military-style equipment between fiscal years 2015 and 2019.
- Non-DOD federal employees with firearms (200,000+) now out-number U.S. Marines (186,000).
- Non-military federal spending on guns and gear averaged an inflation-adjusted $192 million per year since 2006. In the last two years examined (2018-2019), spending averaged $173 million, about 10 percent below the long-term average.
- The Internal Revenue Service, with its 2,159 "Special Agents," spent $21.3 million on guns, ammunition and military-style equipment between fiscal years 2006 and 2019. The agency stockpiled 4,500 guns and five million rounds of ammunition.
- Veterans Affairs spent $25.5 million including 11 million rounds of ammunition since 2010. The VA has 3,957 law enforcement officers up from zero in 1996.

Forbes

PUBLISHED AT FORBES
OUR MOST POPULAR INVESTIGATIONS



Why Illinois Is In Trouble
109,000 Public Employees With $100,000+ Paychecks Cost Taxpayers $14 Billion
906,313 views | Published: April 27, 2020



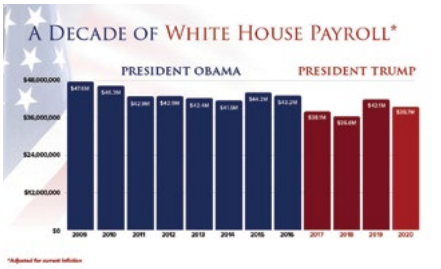
Why California Is In Trouble
340,000 Public Employees With $100,000+ Paychecks Cost Taxpayers $45 Billion
750,811 views | Published: May 19, 2020



Is There Wasteful Spending In The Coronavirus Stimulus Bill?
574,810 views | Published: March 26, 2020



Why Are U.S. Taxpayers Providing Public Pensions To Millionaire Members Of Congress?
488,641 views | Published: June 30, 2020



Trump's Leaner White House 2020 Payroll Saved Taxpayers $23.5 Million Since 2017
474,856 views | Published: June 30, 2020



Why The City Of Seattle And Their Police Department Is In Trouble
228,856 views | Published: June 23, 2020



Why San Francisco Is In Trouble
19,000 Highly Compensated City Employees Earned $150,000+ In Pay & Perks
190,778 views | Published: September 1, 2020



Why New York Is In Trouble
290,304 Public Employees With $100,000+ Paychecks Cost Taxpayers $38 Billion
190,005 views | Published: May 26, 2020



Trump's New War On Wasteful Spending
An Advance Draft Of The President's Budget To Congress FY2021
171,785 views | Published: February 6, 2020



Reps Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez And Jerry Nadler Want $4 Billion In Coronavirus Funding For Museums
126,614 views | Published: April 21, 2020



Why Texas Is In Trouble
78,064 Public Employees With $100,000+ Paychecks Cost Taxpayers $12 Billion
114,681 views | Published: July 29, 2020



Perks Members Of Congress Give To Themselves - The Selfie Report
108,397 views | Published: May 29, 2020

KEY MEDIA



Real Clear Politics published our announcement "Suing California to Produce a State Checkbook"

January 23, 2020



Hillsdale College National Leadership Seminar presentation by CEO/Founder, Adam Andrzejewski

Naples Florida – Audience: 900 attendees
2 million YouTube views | February 20, 2020



Fox News' "Tucker Carlson Tonight"

Highlighted our data oversight on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) spending.
Audience: 3.6 million
February 27, 2020



Drudge Report Featured our CARES Act Investigation

Originally published by Forbes
536,731 views | March 26, 2020



USA TODAY: "Rich hospitals, poor safety plans leading up to coronavirus: Should rules change for them now?"

Circulation: 1.4 million | May 15, 2020



Wall Street Journal featured our interactive map of PPP mega-loans made to "small" businesses

Circulation: 2.83 million | July 8, 2020



Real Clear Politics: HEROES ACT – Democrats Wasteful Bailout

By Thomas W. Smith & Adam Andrzejewski
August 28, 2020



CSPAN hosted our CEO for a prime-time 45-minute interview

Launched our "Use-It-Or-Lose-It Spending Spree" oversight report.
Available in 50 million U.S. homes.
August 31, 2020



New York Post: "Hospitals gave Gov. Andrew Cuomo a campaign booster shot New York"

New York Post is the fourth largest newspaper in U.S. | October 26, 2020



ABC News Atlanta and NBC News Pittsburgh featured our oversight report, "Improper Payments"

November 23, 2020



ABC News Atlanta and NBC News Washington, D.C.

Featured our oversight "Checks To Dead People"
December 18, 2020



The Boston Globe cited our "Congressional Membership Has It's Privileges" oversight report in its "The Arguable" newsletter

December 21, 2020

LEGISLATION

OPENTHEBOOKS HELPED INSPIRE FOUR BILLS IN CONGRESS.

Legislation H.R. 2612
Federal Employee Disclosure Transparency Act

Moody's estimates that the unfunded federal pension liability is $3.5 trillion. Yet, pension data is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Furthermore, in FY2018, there were one million federal bureaucrats who received a "performance bonus." Yet, none of those bonuses were disclosed.

We worked closely with U.S. Rep. Jody Hice (R-GA) and Freedom Works, Washington D.C., to introduce this bill designed to open the books on federal pensions and reveal how $1.1 billion was spent on one million performance bonuses.



The Case For Federal Pension Transparency

READ THE REPORT



The Case For Federal Performance Bonus Transparency

READ THE REPORT

Legislation S.1238
End-of-Year Fiscal Responsibility Act

In FY2019, U.S. Senator Joni Ernst introduced this bill to stop the wasteful practice of "Use-It-Or-Lose-It" year-end spending. This bill used data collected in our oversight report showing that nearly $100 billion in federal contracts were spent in the last month of the fiscal year. In other words, federal agencies spent 20% their annual budgets in the final 8% of the year in order to avoid having their budgets cut the next fiscal year.

Legislation S.1333
Stopping Improper Payments to Deceased People Act

A bi-partisan bill co-sponsored by U.S. Sens. Kennedy (R-LA) and Carper (D-DE) would stop improper payments to dead people. The bill relied on data compiled from inspector general reports and from our federal improper payments investigation published in Forbes. We found nearly $1 billion in annual payments to people who are deceased.

Legislation S.2722
SWAG Act – Stop Wasteful Advertising By The Government Act

Sponsored by Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA), this bill would stop all federal advertising unless specifically mandated by law. The legislation was built on our 2015 oversight report, The Department of Self-Promotion, How The Feds Spent $4.5 Billion On Public Relations.

OPEN THE BOOKS™
IT'S YOUR MONEY!

AS SEEN ON YOUTUBE

2 MILLION VIEWS 55,000 LIKES 7,415 COMMENTS

THE DEPTH OF THE SWAMP



HILLSDALE COLLEGE

BY ADAM ANDRZEJEWSKI, CEO OF OPENTHEBOOKS.COM
HILLSDALE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR
NAPLES, FLORIDA | FEBRUARY 20, 2020

PORK, CORRUPTION, WASTE, FRAUD, SAN FRANCISCO POOP,
NEW YORK RATS, IVY LEAGUE, INC. AND MORE

"THE SWAMP IS DEEPER THAN ANY OF US DARED TO IMAGINE..."

▶ WATCH ON YOUTUBE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & KEY PEOPLE



Thomas W. Smith | Chairman of the Board

New York, NY. Mr. Smith is the founding partner of Prescott Investors. He was the managing partner of Whitcom Investment Company in New York and a partner with Reynolds and Company. Mr. Smith is currently a trustee of the Manhattan Institute. He has served on a number of corporate boards. He is the past Chairman of the National Center for Policy Analysis and the past Chairman of St. Ann School in New York City. He was a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. He received his Master's Degree in Economics from the University of California – Berkeley and his Bachelor's Degree from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.



Adam Andrzejewski | Founder, Board Secretary & Chief Executive Officer

Adam Andrzejewski is the CEO and Founder of OpenTheBooks.com. Adam is an entrepreneur – and before founding OpenTheBooks, he co-founded HomePages Directories, a $20 million publishing company (1997-2007). Most recently, Adam has spoken at Harvard Law School and the Columbia School of Journalism. In 2020, Adam's findings through OpenTheBooks.com were featured in the President's Budget to Congress. As a contributor at Forbes, Adam's editorials have received 11+ million views. His works have been featured on Good Morning America, ABC World News Tonight, the Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Chicago Tribune, FOX News, and CNN. In 2010, Adam ran for Governor of Illinois. He's a graduate of Northern Illinois University. Adam has run the Chicago Marathon seven times. He's married to Kerry with three daughters and lives in Hinsdale, Illinois.



Bruno Behrend, J.D. | Board Member

River Forest, IL. Mr. Behrend, J.D., is the past Chairman of American Transparency. Just prior to helping found American Transparency, he was the director of the Center for Transforming Education at The Heartland Institute, where he remains a Senior Fellow on education issues. Behrend is a graduate of the University of Illinois (1983) with a degree in finance and a graduate of IIT-Kent College of Law (1990). He is licensed to practice law in Illinois. In 2008, Behrend coauthored Illinois Deserves Better - The Ironclad Case for an Illinois Constitutional Convention, the release of which coincided with a campaign to pass a referendum calling for a Constitutional Convention in Illinois.



Jameson G. Campaigne | Treasurer

Ottawa, IL. Mr. Campaigne co-founded (1960) and later was a long term board member of Young Americans for Freedom, the first nationwide conservative youth group. After college, Jameson rose to managing editor at the Henry Regnery Company, and published works by Frank Meyer, William F. Buckley, Jr., Russell Kirk, and many others. In 1975, he founded Green Hill Publishers and Jameson Books (1986) producing more than fifteen million copies of conservative books. Jameson serves the American Conservative Union board (since 1974), and the National Humanities Institute, Mont Pelerin Society member (1971), and helped found or served on the board of the National Tax Limitation Committee, The Media Institute, and The Philadelphia Society.



Chuck Chokel | Board Member

Born and raised in Shaker Heights, Ohio. Graduated from Williams College (1975) and from the University of Chicago (1977) with a MBA degree. Worked at Chubb Corp while going to night school. In 1978, joined Progressive Corp. and held 14 different positions with steadily increasing responsibilities. During 23 years, Chuck rose to be Co-CEO, Chief Investment and Capital Officer. He managed Progressive's $10+ billion portfolio and was a member of Progressive's Board of Directors. In 2001, Chuck was the CFO of Conseco Financial for eleven months. Between 2002-2008, Chuck was Senior Partner of White Mountains Insurance Group and served as Chief Claims Officer at One Beacon; Co-CEO at One Beacon; Head of Internal Audit for White Mountains Group; CFO for White Mountains Reinsurance Group; and on the board of Esurance for five years. He has completed 300 triathlons including forty half ironman distance events and eleven full ironman distance events. Competed in Hawaii Ironman World Championships in 2005 and 2006 and finished both years. In 2019, Chuck won his age group in the Senior Olympic triathlon.



Lisa Markham | Board Member

Sarasota, FL. Ms. Markham has been a lifelong Libertarian since reading Hayek's The Road to Serfdom at age 15. She attended Smith College where she read Medieval History, French and Italian. A former vice president with Citibank, she has a Master's of Business Administration from Kellogg at Northwestern and a Master's Degree in the Fine and Decorative Arts from the University of Glasgow in Scotland. She participates in the promoting of transparency, accountability, and honest government through her leadership role at American Transparency.



Craig Mijares | Chief Operating Officer

Boca Raton, FL. Craig Mijares is the Chief Operating Officer for American Transparency. Mr. Mijares has a B.A. in Computer Information Systems from DeVry University. He has worked in executive compensation and benefits administration for over 20 years with an industry leading firm where he has lead teams of over 100 associates. Mijares is responsible for our overall technology direction, and is the chief designer of the OpenTheBooks.com portal. Mijares is the prime driver of our award winning Open The Books mobile application, widget, interactive mapping features, proprietary data capture tools, spending clocks, and SNAPSHOT™ Transparency Reports.



Courtenay Lyons | Development Director

New York, NY. Courtenay Lyons is the Director of Development for American Transparency. Mrs. Lyons joined OpenTheBooks in 2020 with nearly 10 years of experience in philanthropy. Most recently, she served as a consultant at CCS Fundraising where she worked with several leading nonprofit institutions in the greater New York area. Prior to CCS, she spearheaded donor strategy and communications for the Thomas Jefferson Foundation (Monticello). Courtenay graduated from the University of Virginia with a B.A. in American Politics in 2012 and is a graduate of The Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership. She resides in Manhattan with her husband, John, and their dog, Gracie.



Sejzelle Erastus-Obilo | Media Associate & Graphic Designer

Since Sejzelle's journey with OpenTheBooks began in 2019, she has spearheaded the organization's design and marketing, refining its brand image. This includes designing oversight reports and graphics for social media, Forbes, and more. Prior to OpenTheBooks Sejzelle freelanced for 7 years - clients included Chevrolet and The Arrivals Group Immigration Law. Sejzelle is a Benedictine University alumna, with a BBA in Marketing. She was born in England and has lived in Aurora, IL for 15 years.



Matthew Tyrmand | Deputy Director at Large

Matthew joined founder Adam Andrzejewski in 2013 and helped launch OpenTheBooks nationally. Previously, Tyrmand spent a decade plus running healthcare and telecommunications portfolios for top hedge funds on Wall Street. He is a graduate of the Think Tank MBA of the Atlas Leadership Academy, a Claremont Lincoln Fellow, and a member of the Philadelphia Society. He graduated from University of Chicago in 2003. He is also an engaged Polish dual citizen and active in the Polish and European-wide civil, political, and economic debates and is published widely in Poland as an editorialist and analyst and the author of two books.

SUMMER INTERNS

Sponsord by Chuck Chokel, Board Member

Brett Abbott
University of Indiana,
Kelley School of Business,
Bloomington, Indiana

John Gerald
Colgate University,
Hamilton, New York

Eric Gough
Hillsdale College,
Hillsdale, Michigan

Tyler Guerriero
University of Pittsburgh,
Joseph M. Katz Graduate
School of Business,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Anita Kinney
Northwestern University
Law School,
Evanston, Illinois

Craig Smith
Amherst College,
Amherst, Massachusetts

PLANNED GIVING

HELP STRENGTHEN AND PRESERVE THE OPENTHEBOOKS GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE LIBRARY WITH A PLANNED GIFT

Making a planned gift will show your support, help enhance our database and operations, and positively impact future generations of tax-paying Americans.

We recommend consulting your tax advisor about how making a gift to OpenTheBooks might help you achieve the following financial benefits:

- Showing your support for OpenTheBooks while retaining control of your assets during your lifetime
- Receiving an income tax charitable deduction for the fair-market value of your gift of appreciated securities while avoiding capital gains tax on the sale of such assets
- Reducing tax consequences of unused retirement savings
- Receiving an income tax deduction or, if the gift is made as a bequest, an estate tax deduction
- Reducing your taxable estate, because assets contributed to the OpenTheBooks during your lifetime or following your lifetime will not be included in your estate for estate tax purposes

Planned gifts provide for the future of OpenTheBooks.

If you are interested in learning more about making a planned gift to OpenTheBooks please reach out to our Development Director, Courtenay Lyons at 401.648.2599 or Courtenay.Lyons@OpenTheBooks.com.

CONNECT WITH OPENTHEBOOKS

FACEBOOK: OpenTheBooks
TWITTER: @Open_The_Books
INSTAGRAM: @OpenTheBooks
LINKEDIN: OpenTheBooks.com

PHONE: 312.320.1867
EMAIL: Adam@OpenTheBooks.com
ADDRESS: 202 S. Frontage Road, Suite 106, Burr Ridge, IL 60527
WEBSITE: OpenTheBooks.com

JOIN THE TRANSPARENCY REVOLUTION

Help us open the books on local, state, and federal spending. With your help, we can change the narrative on taxation and spending, educate Americans, and create informed debate.

STAY INFORMED & PARTNER WITH US

Join our fast-growing community to receive news and updates from our CEO and Founder, Adam Andrzejewski.

Sign up at OpenTheBooks.com/members/registration to learn about our data and findings in real time.

SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Your gift will be used to directly help us post every dime, online, in real time. Make your tax-deductible gift today at www.openthebooks.com/donate/



OPEN THE BOOKS™
IT'S YOUR MONEY!

© 2021 **OpenTheBooks** | A project of American Transparency 501(c)(3) All Rights Reserved.
200 S. Frontage Rd, Suite 106, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 | **OpenTheBooks.com**