

OPENTHEBOOKS.COM 2021

# MEDIA KIT

A SPECIAL INTRODUCTION TO

## OUR TRANSPARENCY WORK

AT OPENTHEBOOKS

JUNE 2021

AS FEATURED IN



Forbes



The  
Boston  
Globe



The  
New York  
Times

C-SPAN CBS

NEW YORK POST

SBG  
SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP

HEARST

Audacy

DRUDGE REPORT

Chicago Tribune

RealClear Politics

CMG  
COX MEDIA GROUP

VOXMEDIA

WMC  
Westwood Media Center

Nation.



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# INTRODUCTION

## 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!

Sincerely,

**Adam Andrzejewski**  
CEO/Founder, OpenTheBooks.com  
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Adam@OpenTheBooks.com

**Tamara Colbert**  
PR Director  
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Tamara@OpenTheBooks.com



## AS SEEN IN



# DR. ANTHONY FAUCI

THE HIGHEST PAID EMPLOYEE IN THE ENTIRE U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT - EVEN OUT-EARNING THE PRESIDENT

Published: January 2021



READ ARTICLE AT FORBES

## TRANSPARENCY, MEDIA AND LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS

- Launched our findings at **Forbes** (700,000 views) that Dr. Fauci earned \$417,000 in 2019 and \$434,000 in 2020 - out-earning all 4.3 million federal employees.
- Between years 2015 and 2020, Fauci had a \$100,000 pay raise from \$335,000 to \$434,000.
- Major television: **NBC Today Show; ABC Jimmy Kimmel Live; FOX News and FOX Business; 180 ABC, NBC and CBS stations of Sinclair Broadcast Group; 198 ABC, NBC, and CBS stations of Nexstar Media Group; Newsmax; and TheBlaze.**
- Repeatedly mentioned on **The Sean Hannity Show at Fox News** and cited on **Outnumbered** with co-host **Emily Compagno** (June 2021).
- Major Radio: **Rush Limbaugh Show, Mark Levin Show, and Jim Bohannon Show.**
- Major websites: **Daily Mail, Newsweek, Daily Caller, Newsmax, The Federalist, Breitbart, Cheddar, Real Clear Politics, MSN News, Washington Times, Washington Examiner, PoliFact, and ZeroHedge.**
- Referenced in **Yahoo! News** when the "Fire Fauci Act" was introduced in Congress by Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY).



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## AS SEEN IN



# BATTLING WASTE IN THE \$1.9 TRILLION AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021



Photo by Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images

## PAID TO STAY HOME: CORONAVIRUS AID BILL PAYS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES WITH KIDS OUT OF SCHOOL UP TO \$21,000

Published: Forbes | March 2021 | 607,000 views

[READ ARTICLE AT FORBES](#)



Photo by Samuel Corum/Getty Images

## IS THERE WASTEFUL SPENDING IN THE NEW \$1.9 TRILLION CORONAVIRUS STIMULUS BILL?

Published: Forbes | March 2021 | 200,000 views

[READ ARTICLE AT FORBES](#)



Photo by Doug Mills-Pool/Getty Images

## \$350 BILLION COVID BAILOUT TO STATES, CITIES & COUNTIES – HERE ARE THE DETAILS

Published: Forbes | March 2021 | 17,000 views

[READ ARTICLE AT FORBES](#)

## TRANSPARENCY AND MEDIA IMPACTS

- Our auditors mapped the \$350 billion bailout to the 50 states, 600 tribes, 7 territories, and 30,000 localities across America. Created an interactive map so citizens can review their local “congressional bailouts.”
- Discovered a new perk for federal employees: paid \$1,400 for up to 15 weeks to stay home if their kids aren’t enrolled in a fulltime school. Cost? \$570 million.
- Partnered with **USA Today** and shared our findings of the wasteful spending in the bill. We helped influence the frame and findings of the piece, “Is Biden’s \$1.9T Covid-19 Relief Package Too Much?”
- **Fox News** covered our findings. **180 ABC, NBC, and CBS stations** owned by **Sinclair Broadcast Group** aired three national segments. We had two hours on **CSPAN’s Washington Journal** program to outline the waste. **Newsmax** aired two interviews including on their national morning show and Sunday “**Save The Nation**” program.
- Our three investigations published at **Forbes** received 825,000 views.
- Other websites providing coverage included **Townhall, Daily Signal, The Blaze, Real Clear Politics, ZeroHedge, The College Fix, Louder with Crowder, The Daily Wire, Yahoo! News, and the Epoch Times.**

## AS SEEN IN

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL  
**WSJ**

**Forbes**

**DRUDGE REPORT**

**FOX BUSINESS**

Daily **Mail.com**

**NEW YORK POST**



**sky**

**DAILY CALLER**

**abc 7**  
LOS ANGELES

**FOX 11**  
LOS ANGELES

**4**  
LOS ANGELES

**POLITICO**

**iHeartRADIO**

**RealClear** Politics



Photo by Joe Klamar/AFP via Getty Images

# TOP PAID L.A. LIFEGUARDS

**TOP PAID L.A. LIFEGUARDS  
EARNED UP TO \$392,000 IN 2019**

Published: March 2021

[✓ READ ARTICLE AT FORBES](#)

**THE \$392,000 LIFEGUARD:  
BAYWATCH AS A UNION SHOP**

Published: May 2021

[✓ READ ARTICLE AT WSJ.COM](#)

## TRANSPARENCY AND MEDIA IMPACTS

- Launched our findings at **Forbes** (240,000 views) and **The Wall Street Journal** (3.2 million subscribers) that Los Angeles County lifeguards are paid up to \$392,000 per year in total compensation.
- We found 82 lifeguards made more than \$200,000 and seven lifeguards made between \$300,000 and \$392,000 in 2019, the latest year available.
- Driving taxpayer costs higher was the overtime payouts and public-sector union membership. We found that a single lifeguard earned \$630,000 in overtime alone during a five-year period!
- Made national and international news including a taped interview at **ABC's Inside Edition**, two pieces in **The Wall Street Journal**, **Drudge Report**, **Fox Business**, **Daily Mail**, **New York Post**, and **iHeart Radio's 'Deep Dive'** podcast.
- Major television, radio, and website coverage including local coverage on **KABC radio**, **ABC-7 Los Angeles**, **FOX11- Los Angeles**, **NBC- Los Angeles**, **Politico**, **California Political Review**, and **California Policy Center**.
- National websites included **The Daily Wire**, **Daily Caller**, **Breitbart**, **Real Clear Politics**, **ZeroHedge**, and more.

## AS SEEN IN



TOP 10

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

PROPOSING EARMARKS



MEMBER NAME	STATE/DISTRICT	PARTY AFFILIATION	EARMARK COUNT	AMOUNT
REP. GARRET GRAVES	LA-6	REPUBLICAN	11	\$1,003,095,881
REP. BETH VAN DUYN	TX-24	REPUBLICAN	11	\$358,493,000
REP. COLIN Z. ALLRED	TX-32	DEMOCRAT	10	\$241,087,000
REP. DON YOUNG	AK-1	REPUBLICAN	23	\$147,707,800
REP. TOM EMMER	MN-6	REPUBLICAN	9	\$125,700,000
REP. JEFF FORTENBERRY	NE-1	REPUBLICAN	3	\$123,750,000
REP. ELISE M. STEFANIK	NY-21	REPUBLICAN	17	\$117,662,864
REP. SHARICE DAVIDS	KS-3	DEMOCRAT	9	\$104,424,600
REP. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT	VA-3	DEMOCRAT	10	\$100,166,928
REP. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA	IL-4	DEMOCRAT	19	\$96,775,857

Source: Congress, proposed earmarks FY2022

# EARMARKS ARE BACK

**\$370 MILLION IN EARMARKS TO 23 NEWLY ELECTED REPUBLICAN FRESHMEN**

Published: June 2021


[READ ARTICLE AT FORBES](#)

**NEW EARMARKS COSTING TAXPAYERS \$10 BILLION PROPOSED BY 324 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS - IS THERE WASTEFUL SPENDING?**

Published: May 2021


[READ ARTICLE AT FORBES](#)

## TRANSPARENCY AND MEDIA IMPACTS

- Our auditors spent a collective 125 hours in one day to compile - from 324 Member of Congress websites - **3,309 earmarks costing taxpayers \$9.3 billion**. Republicans earmarked \$4.7 billion and Democrats \$4.6 billion
- In the initial snapshot (May 2021), 6 of the top 7 Members proposing earmarks were Republicans and 14 out of the top 25.
- 23 Republican freshmen received \$370 million in Pelosi's approved earmarks. These freshmen tipped the Republican House embrace of earmarks.
- Created an **interactive map** of the earmarks by congressional district across USA.
- Five television networks aired our findings including **FOX News**; the **170 ABC, NBC, and CBS stations of Sinclair Broadcast Group** - two segments including an interview with Jan Jeffcoat; **One America News Network (OANN)** interview with Stephanie Myers; **NewsMax, Wake Up America** interview; and **Epoch TV**.
- Other groups providing coverage included **Real Clear Politics, Yahoo! News, Newt's World 360, ZeroHedge, Epoch News**, and **Jim Bohannon's national radio show**.



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## AS SEEN IN



# WASTE OF THE DAY

Published: RealClearPolicy | Daily, since 2/15/2021

 [READ OUR COLUMN](#)

## TRANSPARENCY AND MEDIA IMPACTS

- A daily column at **Real Clear Policy** compiled by our auditors at OpenTheBooks.com showcasing egregious waste, fraud, corruption and taxpayer abuse.
- Topics include **Quid Pro Cuomo; Congressional Perks; Ivy League, Inc.; #MeTooSlushFund; \$70 Billion in USPS Losses; Kennedy Center Bailouts; \$96 Trillion in unfunded Medicare and Social Security benefits;** and more.
- Syndicated on the **Real Clear News Wire** and republished by the **Chicago Tribune, MassLive, Epoch News, Sinclair Broadcast Group** and **Hearst Broadcast Company**.
- **Hearst TV** did three segments on their 30 local stations: **the militarization of traditional regulatory agencies; funding 'mood lighting' in our national parks; and federal employment of interior decorators in the executive agencies.**
- **Sinclair National Desk** Interview: "Who Would Get a 'Golden Fleece' Award Today?" – aired on 170 affiliated stations.

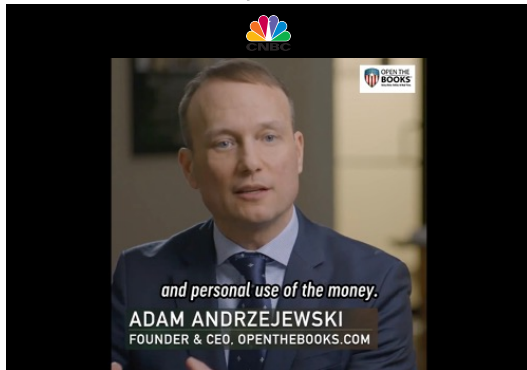


## AS SEEN IN

AMERICAN  
GREED



OPENTHEBOOKS  
CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP  
OVERSIGHT REPORT



### CNBC'S AMERICAN GREED

THE "CON" IN CONGRESS

Aired June 14th

Featured in CNBC's American Greed in an episode: The "Con" in Congress – exposing ex-Congressman, Duncan Hunter and other members of Congress who have been convicted but have never been stripped of their taxpayer-paid pensions.

## AS SEEN IN



### JUNETEENTH

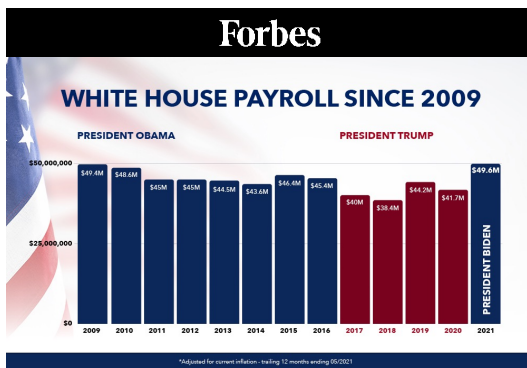
WITH JUNETEENTH, FEDERAL EMPLOYEES  
NOW GET 44 PAID DAYS OFF EACH YEAR

*Is This France? 44 Days of PTO Is Nearly 9 Weeks*

Published June 17th | 173,000 views

Showcased by Drudge Report, Shannon Bream at Fox News, John Fund at the National Review and Stephen Dinan at The Washington Times.

## AS SEEN IN



### WHITE HOUSE PAYROLL

BIDEN'S WHITE HOUSE PAYROLL IS MOST  
EXPENSIVE IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Published July 1st

We published our audit of Biden's White House payroll. Our team of auditors beat every news agency in the country to this story. We were published at Forbes within two hours of payroll release by the White House.

## AS SEEN IN



### THE DEPTH OF THE SWAMP & WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

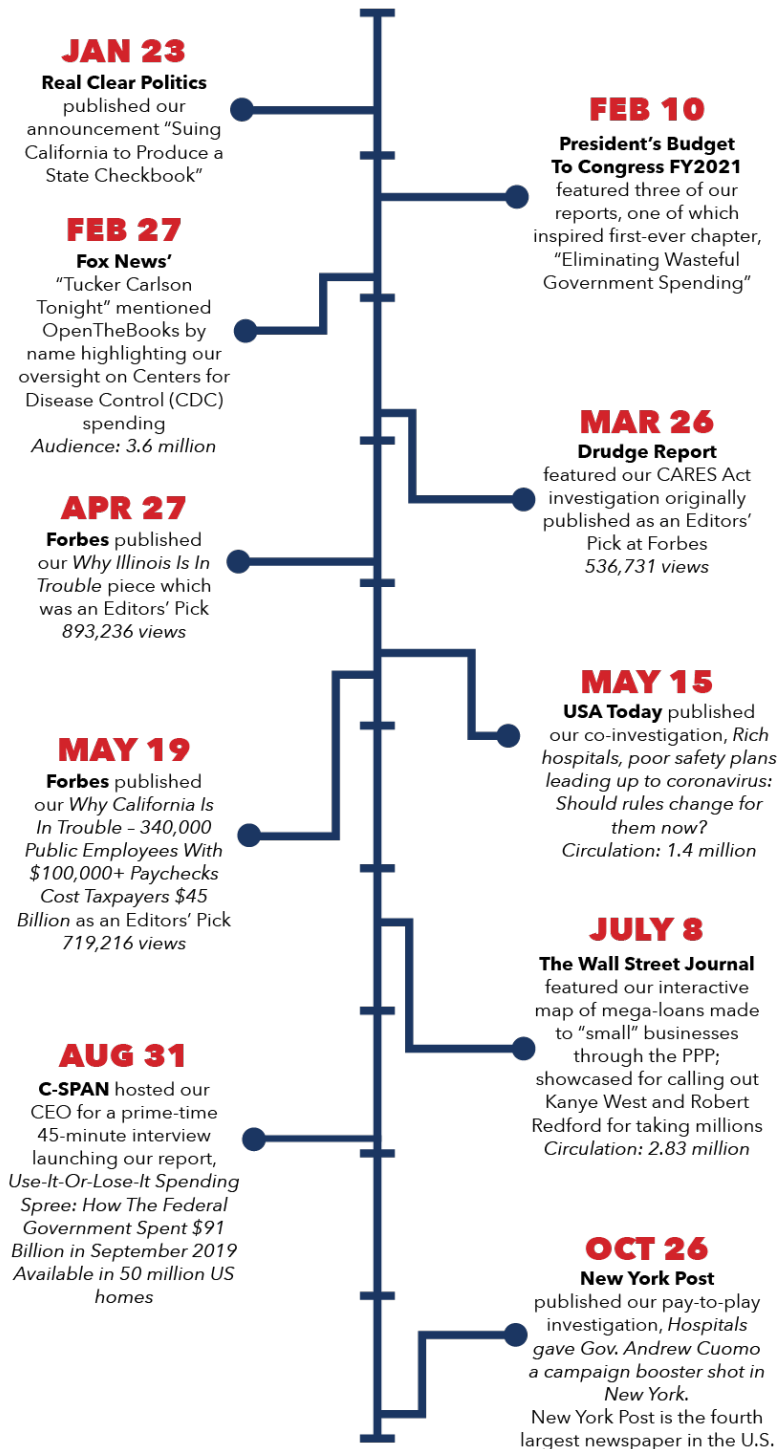
2020-2021 | 3 million YouTube Views

The American people want to know just how corrupt their government is, whether it's at the local, state, or federal levels. It's worse than you could have imagined.



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# 2020 BY THE NUMBERS



# Forbes

## PUBLISHED AT FORBES

### OUR MOST POPULAR INVESTIGATIONS (2020)



#### Why Illinois Is In Trouble

109,000 Public Employees With \$100,000+  
Paychecks Cost Taxpayers \$14 Billion  
905,939 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



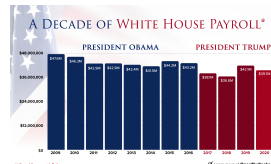
#### Is There Wasteful Spending In The Coronavirus Stimulus Bill?

574,810 views | Published: March 26, 2020



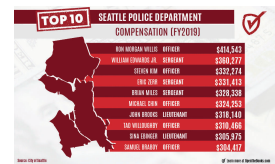
#### Why Are U.S. Taxpayers Providing Public Pensions To Millionaire Members Of Congress?

488,641 views | Published: June 30, 2020



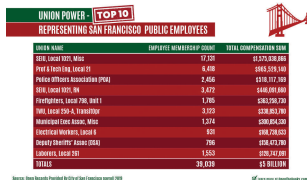
#### Trump's Leaner White House Payroll Saved Taxpayers \$23.5 Million Since 2017

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



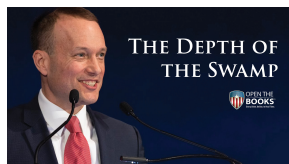
Perks Members Of Congress Give To  
Themselves - The Selfie Report  
108,397 views | Published: May 29, 2020



# KEY MEDIA 2020



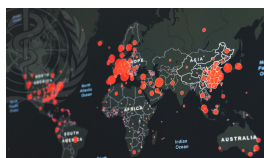
**Real Clear Politics published our announcement "Suing California to Produce a State Checkbook"**  
January 23, 2020



**Hillsdale College National Leadership Seminar presentation by CEO/Founder, Adam Andrzejewski**  
Naples Florida - Audience: 900 attendees  
3 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

# HISTORICAL IMPACT

**Congressional Membership Has Its Privileges** | Published May 29, 2020 | Media: 200 stations – ABC, NBC, CBS & Fox | Backstopped Sen. Mike Braun’s (R-IN) legislation to give Members the choice to opt-out of their congressional pension (S. 439); and Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA) wrote the Transparency Requirements Aimed At Congressional Expenditures (TRACE) Act to require disclosure of PPP funds received by members of Congress.

**Top 82 U.S. Non-Profit Hospitals: Quantifying Government Payments & Financial Assets**

Published June 24, 2019 | Media: Tucker Carlson Tonight on FOX News & USA TODAY  
Backstopped President Trump’s two executive orders on healthcare price transparency by showing that wealthy charitable non-profit healthcare providers and their CEO’s were making big profits. Colorado Governor Jared Polis (D) cited our data in his state of the state address while arguing for price reforms.

**Federal Government’s Use It or Lose It Spending Spree - How The Agencies Spent \$100 Billion In The Final Month Of The Fiscal Year** | Published March 7, 2019 | Media: C-SPAN’s Washington Journal, FOX News Bulls & Bears, NY Post, & CNN | Report and findings cited in full half-page within the President’s Budget To Congress FY2021– with the goal to eliminate the year-end spending spree. Senator Ernst (R-IA) introduced legislation to stop the spree (S. 1238). The House Defense Appropriations Committee Chairman Adam Smith (D-CA) said he will support an amendment on the Defense Authorization bill to curb spending sprees.

**Where’s The Pork? A Study of \$600 Billion In Federal Grant-making FY2016** | Published May 3, 2018

Media: USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, and FOX News | Report inspired the first-ever chapter in the President’s Budget To Congress FY2021, “Eliminating Wasteful Government Spending.” Senator Chuck Grassley’s (R-IA) oversight letter to the Pentagon stopped the purchase of \$1,200 coffee cups.

**Mapping The Swamp, A Study Of The Administrative State** | Published December 26, 2017

Media: Laura Ingraham Show on FOX News | Representative Judy Hice’s (R-GA) legislation on pension and bonus transparency (H.R. 2612) combined two previous bills we helped draft: Representative Mark Sanford’s Federal Employee Bonus Disclosure Act (H.R. 5290) & Representative Ron DeSantis’ The Taxpayer Funded Pension Disclosure Act (H.R. 3200) in the 115th Congress. Privately briefed Office of Management & Budget.

**National Foundation on the Arts & Humanities** | Published July 10, 2017 | Media: The Wall Street Journal  
Cited in President’s Budget to Congress FY2021 as principle reason to eliminate the agencies.

**Ivy League Inc. - Quantifying \$42 Billion In U.S. Taxpayer Subsidies, Tax Breaks, & Federal Payments**

Published March 29, 2017 | Media: The Wall Street Journal & FOX News in seven segments | Report led to new tax on excessive college endowments in the Tax Cuts And Jobs Act of 2017 as cited by the Boston Globe.

**Militarization of America** | Published July 5, 2016 | Media: The Wall Street Journal & FOX News

Report shared that 67 federal agencies spent \$1.4 billion on guns, ammunition, and military-style equipment; our oversight resulted in hearings at the U.S. House Oversight & Government Reform Committee. President Trump adopted our findings to strip rank-and-file paper pushing agencies of arrest and firearm power as specified in “Delivering Government Solutions For The 21st Century.”

**Veterans Affairs Scandal Two-Years Later - Purchased \$20M of high-end artwork** | Published May 25, 2016

Media: Good Morning America & ABC World News Tonight | Oversight stopped procurement of high-end luxury artwork through Sen. Chuck Grassley’s oversight letter to Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert McDonald.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) - cooked the books– bonus scandal** | Published June 3, 2014

Media: USA Today | USA Today cited OpenTheBooks’ oversight during the scandal as the reason the U.S. House voted unanimously to end the bonus program at the agency and acting Veterans Affairs Secretary Sloan Gibson slapped a one-year moratorium on the bonus program.

1.5 MILLION UNIQUE USERS | 2020-2021

# GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE LIBRARY

We are on pace to capture all available 2020 federal and state salaries, bonuses and checkbook spending, along with more municipal spending than ever before.



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In 2020, OpenTheBooks 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.

Our OpenTheBooks.com database is available for all American citizens to access at no-cost. You – tax-paying Americans – need to see how your elected officials are spending your hard-earned tax-dollars.

## SALARIES

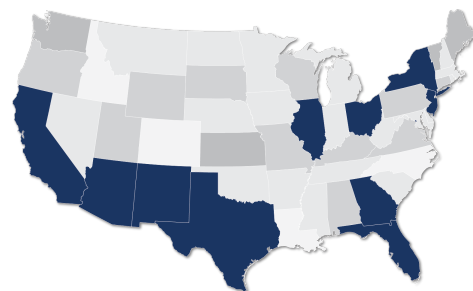
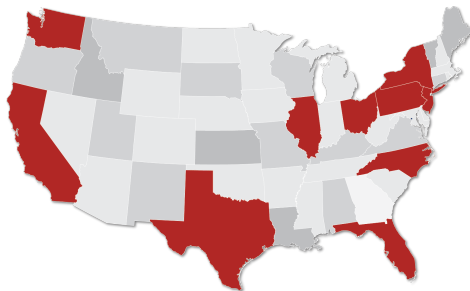
18.8 million total transactions  
\$983 billion

## 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 transaction

### 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.



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# THANK YOU

for covering OpenTheBooks work on behalf  
of the American Taxpayer.

Together, we can show the American people  
how their tax dollars are spent.



The OpenTheBooks Team