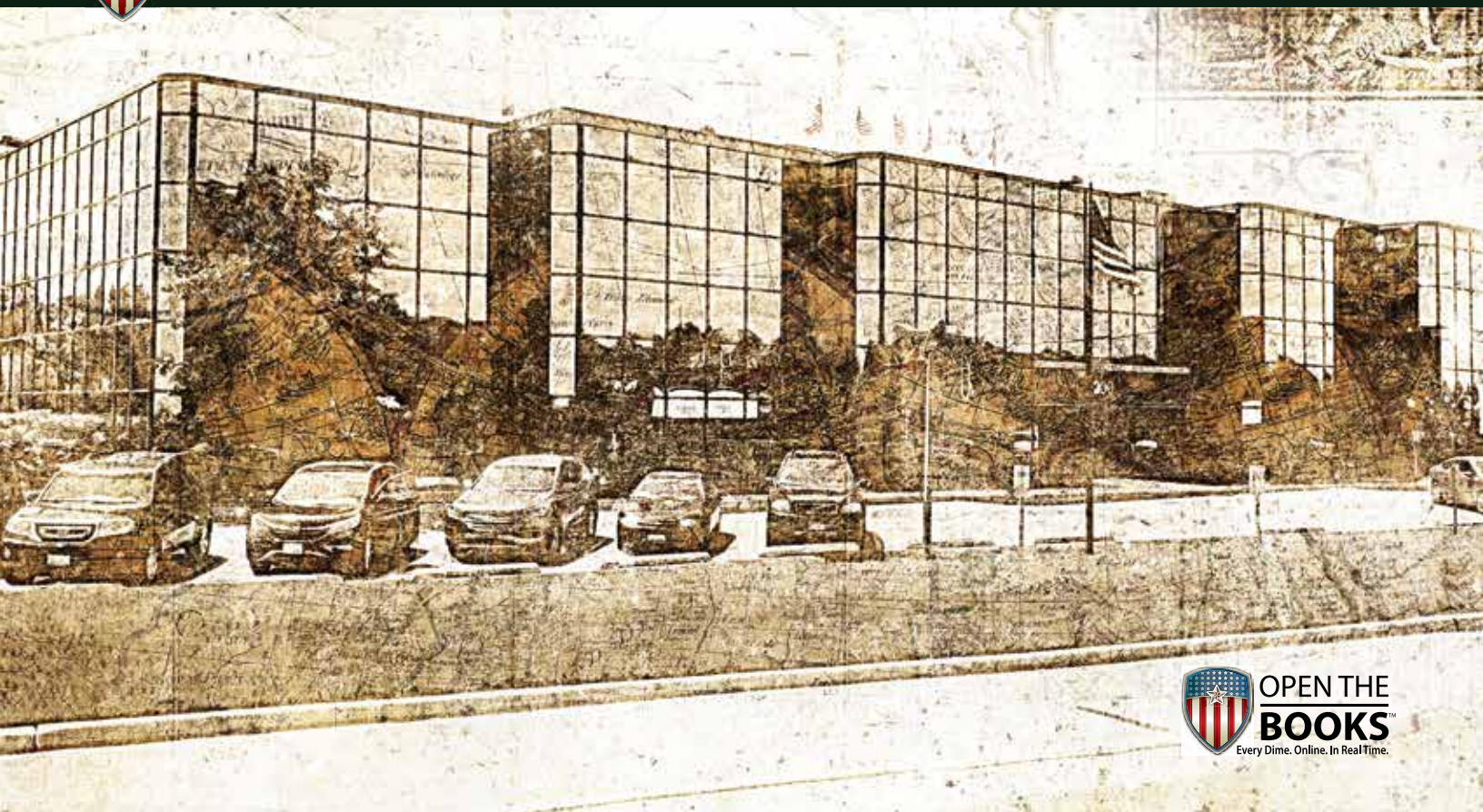


OPENTHEBOOKS.COM | AMERICAN TRANSPARENCY

2016–2017 ANNUAL REPORT
IMPACTS AND SUCCESSES

OPEN THE BOOKS ANNUAL REPORT



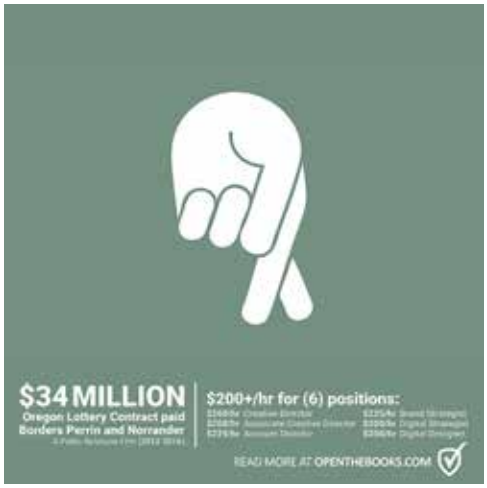
OPEN THE BOOKS™
Every Dime. Online. In Real Time.


$25 BILLION (2010-2015) FEDERAL CONTRACTS AND GRANTS
VS. $22 BILLION (2010-2015) UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT TUITION
IVY LEAGUE
READ OUR OVERSIGHT REPORT IVY LEAGUE, INC. AT OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


$10,000
The National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities gave to Borderlands Theatre to support performances in which participants stood next to a cactus for up to an hour.
LEARN MORE AT OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


LANE COUNTY OREGON
FREEDOM'S NOT FREE IT COSTS $23,487.
LANE COUNTY OREGON'S FEE FOR FOIA REQUEST OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE SALARIES.
JOIN THE TRANSPARENCY REVOLUTION AT WWW.OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


Trump's leaner White House payroll means
$22 MILLION IN TAXPAYER SAVINGS
vs. the Obama administration.
OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


$34 MILLION
Oregon Lottery Contract paid Borders Perrin and Norrander
$200+/hr for (6) positions:
READ MORE AT OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


$400 MILLION ARMING BORDER PATROL, CUSTOMS, & IMMIGRATION OFFICERS WITH GUNS, AMMUNITION AND MILITARY-STYLE EQUIPMENT SINCE 2006.
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The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City received grants in 2016 totaling over
$550,000
from the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities despite having assets over $3.7 billion.
LEARN MORE AT OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


THE OREGON STATE SELF-PROMOTION 'PR' MACHINE
Eighty-seven state agencies spent $275 million dollars to convince taxpayers to spend more taxpayer dollars on a larger size and scope of government – and more regulations.
READ MORE AT OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


$41.8 MILLION
Total public employee payroll per year at National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities.
With 432 employed staff, the average total taxpayer cost amounts to $135,000 per employee.
LEARN MORE AT OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


SUNSHINE WEEK
OPEN THE BOOKS
Our Call to Open the Florida Pensions
In the Sunshine state, the public retirement annuities are hidden despite a $22 million unfunded liability and payouts greater than thirteen state budgets.
EVERY DIME. ONLINE. IN REAL TIME. WWW.OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


"IF WE DON'T SUBSIDIZE IVY LEAGUERS NOW, HOW WILL THEY LEARN HOW TO ASK FOR A BAILOUT LATER?"
MALCOLM GLADWELL (@GLADWELL)
IVY LEAGUE
READ OUR OVERSIGHT REPORT IVY LEAGUE, INC. AT OPENTHEBOOKS.COM


DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
POLICE
182,000 VS. 200,000+
U.S. MARINES
FEDERAL OFFICERS WITH ARREST & FIREARM AUTHORITY
READ THE OVERSIGHT REPORT ON THE MILITARIZATION OF AMERICA @ OPENTHEBOOKS.COM



"OpenTheBooks.com is putting sunlight through a magnifying glass."
– Dr. Tom Coburn | Honorary Chairman, OpenTheBooks.com

TO OUR SUPPORTERS

OpenTheBooks.com is the strongest voice in America for robust transparency and adversarial auditing of all public expenditures. Thank you for supporting our transparency revolution!

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."***

In the age of big data, the interpretation is clear: **Every Dime. Online. In Real Time.**

Today, we are the world's largest private database of government spending with 4 billion individually captured transactions posted online. We will not stop until we capture every dime taxed and spent from every level of government across America: federal, state and local.

Not only do we open the books, we audit them.

In 2016, our oversight report on Veterans Affairs exposed $20 million in high-end art expenditures during a period when up to 1,000 sick veterans died while wait-listed to see a doctor. Good Morning America and ABC World News Tonight ran our report. Within 35 days, VA Secretary Robert McDonald apologized and instituted new rules to stop taxpayer abuse.

In addition to our oversight report on the Veterans Affairs Scandal, we published four federal oversight reports in 2016-2017. Each of these investigations debuted on either the front or editorial page of a major national newspaper such as the *Wall Street Journal* or in a segment on a national television channel such as ABC News or FOX News.

Our objective is to empower the American people with hard data and easy-to-use technologies. Then, citizens can finally exercise their constitutional right of government oversight – holding the political class accountable for tax and spend decisions.

Thank you for being a part of our transparency revolution!

Sincerely,

Adam Andrzejewski

Adam Andrzejewski
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Thomas W. Smith
Chairman
Craig Mijares
Chief Operating Officer
Matthew Tyrmand
Deputy Director

How We Are Funded

American Transparency (OpenTheBooks.com) is an independent public charity. We do not accept government money. We depend solely on the generosity of our private-sector donors. In 2016, our partnership with Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel enhanced transparency, allowing citizens to search 151 million state expenditures from their mobile phones. We did it pro bono, even though it cost us $40,000.

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PART 1

OUR CLARION CALL *for* FEDERAL PENSION TRANSPARENCY

Transparency Impact

Annually, we celebrate national Sunshine Week, sponsored by the American Society of News Editors and Reporters Committee for Freedom. This year, for the third time, we issued our clarion call to open the books on federal pension data.

Currently, federal pensions are hand-calculated in a windowless, Cold War-era underground complex in Pennsylvania. Moody's estimates federal employee pensions have a $3.5 trillion-dollar liability, and taxpayers guarantee all of it. At this point, taxpayers are legally barred from seeing their congressman's pension information or any federal employee's pension information. Federal courts have consistently ruled that disclosing federal pension amounts of retired congressmen or civil service employees *violates their privacy rights*.

Media Impact

$3.5 Trillion Taxpayer Liability Housed Inside a Cave – Let the Sun Shine on Federal Pensions
Adam Andrzejewski | March 14, 2017 | Forbes

READ THE ARTICLE

Open the Books on Federal Pensions
Adam Andrzejewski | March 15, 2016 | The Hill

READ THE ARTICLE

Unearth the Secrets of Federal Pensions
Adam Andrzejewski | March 16, 2015 | The Washington Times

READ THE ARTICLE

Legislative Impact

Opening the books on federal pensions will take an act of Congress. Working closely with U.S. Representative Ron DeSantis (FL-6), the **Taxpayer-Funded Pension Disclosure Act** requires transparency of pension records under the Freedom of Information Act.

"Releasing data on federal pensions will require an act of Congress, and we are leading the way. The Taxpayer-Funded Pension Disclosure Act will empower citizens with the data and technologies to hold their government accountable like never before." – U.S. Representative Ron DeSantis (FL-6)



Read our 'Case for Federal Pension Transparency'

DOWNLOAD REPORT



Read the Taxpayer-Funded Pension Disclosure Act of 2017

DOWNLOAD REPORT

WASHINGTON Examiner

OPINION

Make federal pensions transparent

by Rep. Ron DeSantis and Adam Andrzejewski | Jun 27, 2017

Every year, the federal government pays $125 billion in tax dollars for federal pensions. In spite of this being such a large amount of money, there is a remarkable lack of transparency surrounding these funds.

Taxpayers deserve to know the details of the lucrative pensions of career bureaucrats and members of Congress. Basic questions deserve answers: How many years were worked, how much money was paid-in and by whom, how quickly did they break-even on their own contributions, and just how much did the taxpayers finance?

Releasing data on federal pensions will require an act of Congress, and we are leading the way. The Taxpayer Funded Pension Disclosure Act will empower citizens with the data and technologies to hold their government accountable like never before.

Today, pension data is not merely opaque; it is literally hidden in an underground complex in Pennsylvania. Federal employees hand-calculate federal pensions in a process that has not changed since the Cold War era. How many mistakes has the government made in that cavernous complex? No one knows because we're all in the dark.

The case for greater federal pension transparency can easily be made by looking at the fraud that has already been exposed by non-profit organizations like Open The Books at the state level. In the 32 states that have pension transparency – including California, Illinois, New York and Oregon – citizens have exposed significant amounts of waste and mismanagement.

Auditors at Open the Books uncovered a pair of union bosses in Illinois who substitute taught for one day in the public schools and then retired, in order to collect a pension that will amount to $1 million dollars over their lifetime.

At the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, data shows that a police lieutenant with a final salary of $129,000 received a starting pension of $172,000. An assistant airport operations manager retired with a final salary of $89,000, but soon began collecting a $103,000 pension. An electrician quit with a base salary of $76,000 and collected a pension of $79,000.

With relatively little transparency, we've found numerous examples of waste and abuse across the country. Consider what we'd find if we could see more at the federal level.

For instance, former IRS chief Lois Lerner used her authority to infringe the rights of American citizens and consistently obstructed congressional investigations.

Wouldn't it be nice to see her pension information? Her pension is estimated to equal nearly $2 million in lifetime payout.

According to the Office of Personnel Management, in 2012, 21,000 retired federal employees were collecting pensions exceeding $100,000. Since then, the number has likely doubled or tripled. Moody's estimates federal employee pensions have a $3.5 trillion-dollar unfunded liability, and taxpayers guarantee it all. All of this information should be posted online in real time.

Revealing this data across the board will allow citizens and policymakers to have a productive debate about pensions. Pulling this data out of the government's underground pension cave and into the light will protect taxpayers, retirees, and near-retirees who have a right to ensure these taxpayer dollars are well-spent.

Mr. DeSantis is the congressional representative from Florida's 6th District and is the sponsor of The Taxpayer-Funded Pension Disclosure Act. Mr. Andrzejewski is the CEO of OpenTheBooks.com.

PART 2

CAPTURED GOVERNMENT SPENDING

POWERED BY OPENTHEBOOKS.COM CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER CRAIG MIJARES AND TEAM

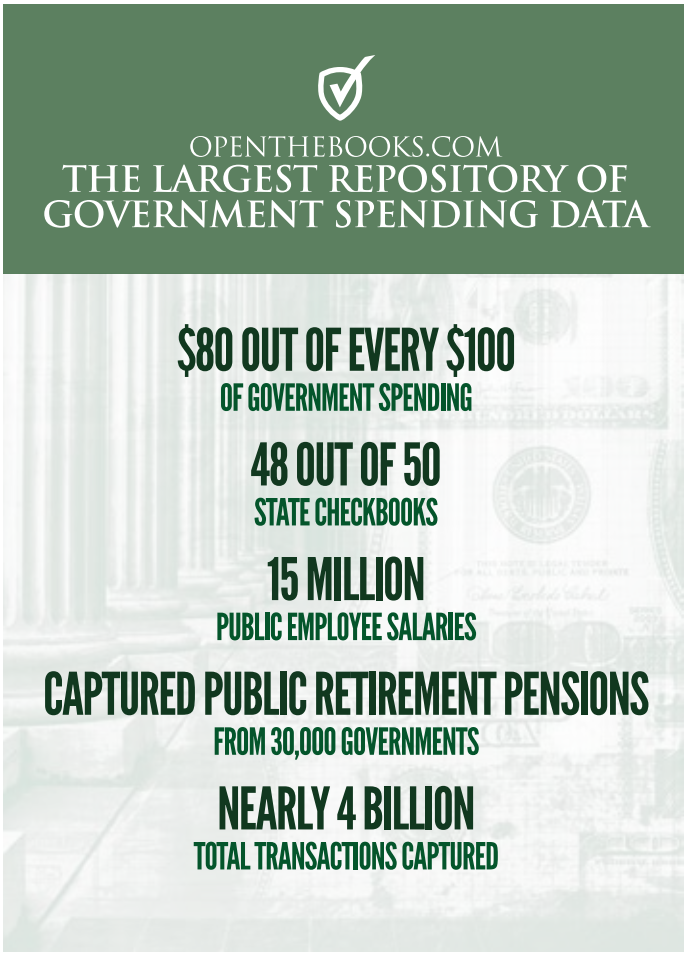
We believe posting public spending online will empower citizens, journalists, watchdogs, and challengers to the incumbent political class to expose wasteful practices while ensuring a more efficient allocation of government resources.

Our goal: capture and post online every dime spent by every level of government.
Today, we have nearly 4 billion government expenditures online.

RECENT MILESTONES

- We refreshed 2.3 billion lines of existing data – federal, state, and local – and added an additional 1.5 billion transactions.
- We developed a proprietary software "custom tool" to standardize our data capture department.
- In the last 180 days, our capture experts sent and received 145,000 email communications with government entities across America. Last year, our mailroom sent nearly 10,000 follow-up letters to governments.
- Augmenting our full-time staff, we started a volunteer program with students from Olympic Heights High School in Boca Raton, Florida. Initially, fourteen students volunteered during an eight-week period. All were effective and were offered employment opportunities. After 15-months, thirteen of the fourteen are still employed. These high school students impacted our research, data loading, data entry, and data capture teams in 2016-2017.





DATA COMMONS

We have an unmatched data commons interface featuring more than 4 billion lines of captured government spending. We've created a tool making it simple for you to find what you need. The OpenTheBooks Data Commons License is the only one-stop shop for federal, state, and local spending.



Our data commons includes:

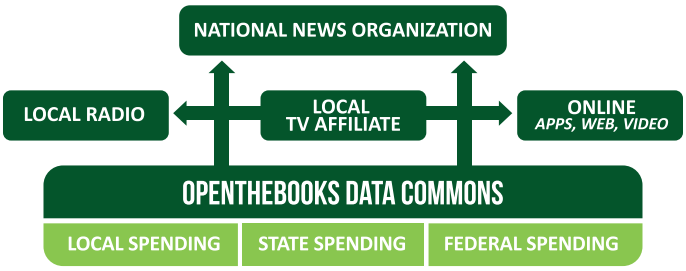
- 100 percent of all disclosed federal expenditures since FY2000.
- 100 percent of all federal employee salaries and bonuses since FY2007.
- 90 percent of all disclosed state-level checkbook expenditures, public employee salaries and pensions (subject to FOIA laws).
- 60,000 of 90,000 municipal level units of government with 70 percent of all public employee salaries within the most popular 15 states.

We tore down the walls of government opacity. So you can investigate.

Whether your organization is committed to investigative journalism, soft news reporting, public consulting, or public policy analysis – a government response to a Freedom of Information Act Request takes days, weeks, months or years.

What you're looking for, we've already captured, and with an OpenTheBooks Data Commons License from American Transparency, all platforms across your firm will benefit from hard data.

Our interface ensures a smooth user experience with one-click access to government raw data production. Researchers can search by key word, type of spending, vendor name, agency, date, year, region, amount, and more. Radio stations, TV affiliates, media outlets, universities, state and national think tanks, and more can utilize our OpenTheBooks one-stop shop for federal, state, and local government spending.



PART 3

OVERSIGHT

Each of our Open The Books Oversight reports debuted on either the front page or the editorial page of a major newspaper such as *The Wall Street Journal*, or was covered in segments aired on ABC's Good Morning America, Fox News, or ABC, NBC, CBS broadcast affiliates across America.

FEDERAL OVERSIGHT



The Veterans Affairs Scandal – Two Years Later

As seen on ABC Good Morning America and World News Tonight

Released May 2016

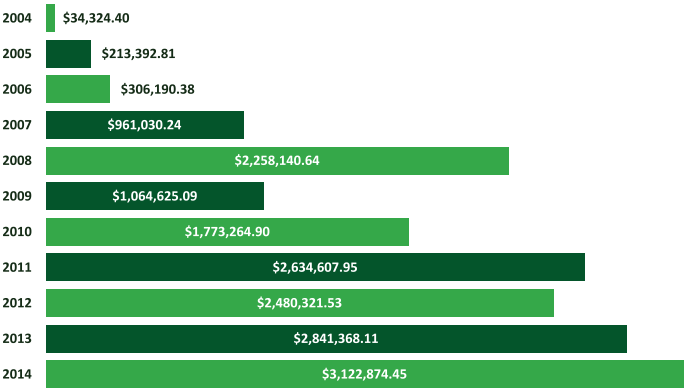
DOWNLOAD REPORT

Transparency Impact:

- During and after the VA wait-time scandal, the agency added nearly 40,000 positions to payroll, but only 3,591 were doctors (2012-2015).
- The VA spent $20 million on a high-end art portfolio during a period when up to 1,000 sick veterans died while waiting to see a doctor. The VA claimed lack of Congressional funding.

$19.67 MILLION

ARTWORK PURCHASED BY VETERANS AFFAIRS (FY2004–FY2014)



*Plus, $2 million in 'Special Projects' since 2009

Media Impact:

- **Broadcast news coverage:** network and cable television programs generated 13.8 million views for an equivalent advertising value of $1.45 million. ABC Good Morning America and ABC World News Tonight both aired impactful segments highlighting our oversight. ABCNews.com featured our oversight report on their homepage and ABC radio played segments across America (source: TVEyes.com).
- **Mainstream media coverage:** CSPAN, *USA Today*, FOX News – Special Report, Fox & Friends, 44 ABC, NBC, CBS, and FOX local affiliates, *Forbes, The Daily Mail, The Hill,* Real Clear Politics, *Investor's Business Daily, Orange County Register, Washington Examiner*, and Circa News – Sinclair Broadcast Group.
- **New media coverage:** Daily Caller, FOXNews.com, Washington Free Beacon, Breitbart, Reason.com, Liberty Blitzkrieg, Military.com, Newsmax, American Military News, Concerned Veterans for America, Stars and Stripes, Law Firm Newswire, Mississippi Watchdog, and more.
- **Nearly 2,000 PDF downloads of the report at our website, OpenTheBooks.com.**

Legislative Impact:

- **Report directly inspired U.S. Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley** to write VA Secretary Robert McDonald an oversight letter regarding all of our findings. As a result, VA apologized for the artwork spending and instituted new rules to stop future abuses. ***"We acknowledge the poor decision making regarding art work purchases... The VA's new policy on the Acquisition of Artwork and Decorative items was published Department wide on August 18, 2016. This includes cost thresholds and approval levels for purchases..."***
- **Report directly inspired U.S. House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Jeffrey Miller** to subpoena VA art spending records.
- **Legislative strategy:** several members of Congress reached out to us to help craft impactful legislation to curb federal abuses of power.

VETERANS AFFAIRS ADDS 39,454 EMPLOYEES TO PAYROLL

ONLY 3,591 ARE DOCTORS

Good Morning America: VA Costly Art Collection
July 29, 2016

WATCH SEGMENT

Report: VA Spent Millions on Costly Art as Veterans Waited for Care
Elizabeth McLaughlin | ABCNews.com | July 29, 2016

READ THE ARTICLE

ABC World News Tonight – Taxpayer Dollars & VA Spending on Art
July 29, 2016

WATCH SEGMENT

Fox & Friends – VA Artwork
August 7, 2016

WATCH SEGMENT





Militarization of America

As seen in the Wall Street Journal, on CNBC Squawk Box, and featured during the U.S. House Committee of Oversight and Government Reform Hearing (7-6-16)

Released June 2016

DOWNLOAD REPORT

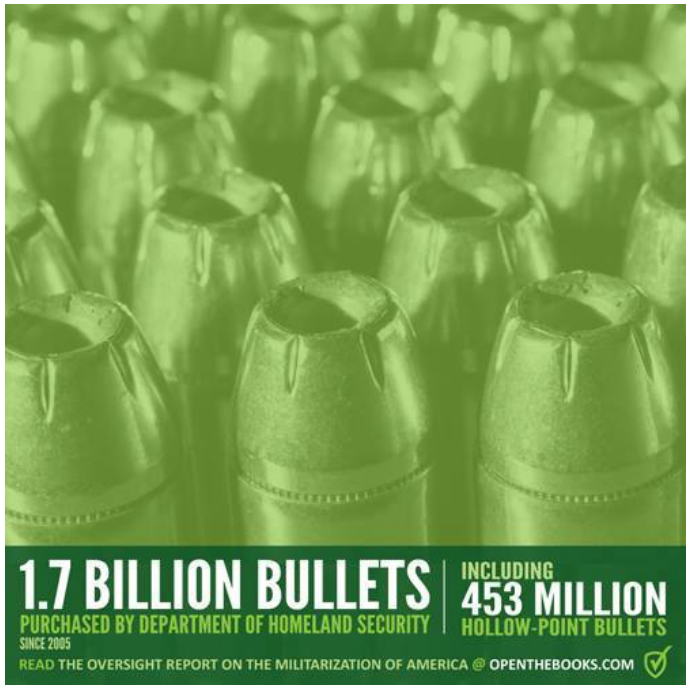
Transparency Impact:

- $1.5 billion was spent by 67 non-military federal agencies outside of the Department of Defense on guns, ammunition, and military-style equipment since 2006.
- $335 million was spent by 53 regulatory/administrative agencies on guns, ammunitions, and military-style equipment.
- The number of federal officers with arrest and firearms authority (200,000+) now exceeds the number of U.S. Marines (180,000).

Media Impact:

- **Premium placement of a *Wall Street Journal* op-ed:** The column, "Why Does the IRS Need Guns" by our founder Adam Andrzejewski and former U.S. Senator and our Honorary Chairman Tom Coburn, launched our report.
- **Mainstream media coverage:** *Wall Street Journal* (x2), *Washington Post, Boston Globe,* CBS News, COX News Washington Bureau – TV and radio, CNBC, *Forbes, New York Daily News, The Washington Times, Washington Examiner,* Circa News (Sinclair Media Group), FOX News, Real Clear Politics, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution, The Palm Beach Post, The Oklahoman,* and more. **Print readership: circ. 6.822 million.**
- **Center-right new media coverage:** Drudge Report, Daily Caller, Breitbart, Glen Beck TV, Mark Levin Radio, Jim Bohannon Radio, Instapundit, PJ Media, Against Crony Capitalism, Washington Free Beacon, Zero Hedge, The Federalist, American Conservative, Gateway Pundit and more.
- **66 major earned media hits and 99 additional earned media hits:** CNBC Squawk Box and 34 news segments on ABC, NBC, CBS, and FOX local TV affiliates of COX News and Sinclair Broadcast with an equivalent "advertising value" of $53,269 reached 919,949 viewers **(source: TVEyes.com)**.
- **More than 12,600 PDF downloads of our report at our website, OpenTheBooks.com.**





Legislative Impact:

- **Report directly inspired the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform** hearing on July 6, 2016, "Firearms and Munitions at Risk – Examining Inadequate Safeguards."
- **Before the hearing, we published "Firepower for the feds?" on the *Washington Times* editorial page**, outlining some of the questions the committee should ask including: Why did the federal prison system code women's sanitary pads as body armor? Why did the Coast Guard purchase cable television and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) spend $179,418 on copiers? Why did the agencies code these transactions as guns?
- **Chairman Jason Chaffetz** cited our data during his opening statement and U.S. Representative Mark Meadows used our findings exclusively in his five-minute grilling of administrators from Homeland Security, the Bureau of Prisons, and the Bureau of Land Management.
- **Legislative strategy sessions:** Several members of Congress reached out to us to help them craft impactful legislation to curb federal abuses of power.
- **Additional private briefings:** We briefed U.S. Representative Tom Price, Chairman of the House Budget Committee, and other key staff at the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in Washington, D.C.

Why Does the IRS Need Guns?

Tom Coburn and Adam Andrzejewski | June 17, 2016
The Wall Street Journal

READ THE ARTICLE

An Assault Weapons Ban for the IRS (And Other Federal Regulatory Agencies)

Adam Andrzejewski | June 21, 2016 | Forbes

READ THE ARTICLE

The FDA is stockpiling military weapons – and it's not alone

Jeff Jacoby | June 26, 2016 | Boston Globe

READ THE ARTICLE

Firepower for the feds?

Adam Andrzejewski | July 5, 2016 | Washington Times

READ THE ARTICLE





Federal Funding of America's Sanctuary Cities: $27 Billion

As seen on NBC, CNN, and Fox News

Released February 2017

DOWNLOAD REPORT

Transparency Impact:

- We quantified – for the first time – the amount of funding to sanctuary cities. We found $26.74 billion in annual federal grants and direct payments flowed into America's 106 sanctuary cities (FY2016).
- We broke out the 12 major American cities – where one in five illegal entrants reside – which received $15.983 billion in federal funds.

$26.741 BILLION

IN ANNUAL FEDERAL GRANTS AND DIRECT PAYMENTS FLOWED INTO AMERICA'S 106 SANCTUARY CITIES (FY2016)

Media Impact:

- **'What is a Sanctuary City?'** By Suzanne Ciechalski trended as the NBC News U.S. & World **'The Day's Top National and International News'** story on February 10, 2017.
- **Highlighted by Real Clear Politics**, our article on *Forbes* trended **#4 most popular** for a week.
- **Broadcast news coverage:** NBC, CNN, Fox News, and the ABC, NBC, CBS broadcast affiliates of COX News and Meredith/Nexstar.
- **New media coverage:** *Forbes, The Daily Caller, Washington Free Beacon, Heritage Foundation's Daily Signal, American Thinker,* and Megyn Kelly's personal website.
- **Nearly 4,000 PDF downloads of our report at our website, OpenTheBooks.com.**

Legislative Impact:

- On January 25, 2017, President Donald J. Trump issued the *Executive Order: Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States*. The order denies federal funding to sanctuary cities who choose not to comply with federal laws regarding deportation of illegal entrants.
- Through our report, lawmakers, journalists, and citizens finally know how much money is at stake regarding sanctuary cities. Between now and October, members of Congress will decide whether to continue funding these sanctuary cities.



We mapped the $27 billion flowing to 106 cities, and **more than 100,000 people searched the map.**

VIEW THE MAP

What is a 'Sanctuary City?'

Suzanne Ciechalski | February 11, 2017 | NBCNewYork.com

READ THE ARTICLE

What Sanctuary Cities Stand to Lose if Feds Have Their Way

Ray Sanchez | April 21, 2017 | CNN.com

READ THE ARTICLE



Ivy League, Inc.

As seen in the Wall Street Journal and Fox News

Released April 2017

DOWNLOAD REPORT

Transparency Impact:

- Ivy League payments and entitlements cost taxpayers $41.71 billion in various forms of government benefits, payments, or advantaged tax treatment over a six-year period.
- The Ivy League colleges received more revenue from federal contracting ($25 billion) than undergraduate student tuition ($22 billion).
- The Ivy League received more money annually from the federal government than sixteen state governments.
- The $120 billion endowment is equivalent to the next 51 years of free undergraduate student tuition with no further gifts. The endowment is equal to $2 million per undergraduate student.



Media Impact:

- **Exclusively aired by Fox News channel in six segments reaching 9 million viewers.** Coverage included the Special Report with Bret Baier, Fox & Friends, Your World with Neil Cavuto, and Intelligence Report with Trish Regan.
- **Broadcast news coverage:** Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson at Sinclair Broadcast Group to 183 ABC, NBC, CBS, and Fox affiliates.
- **Mainstream media coverage:** Our preliminary report published on the editorial page of *The Wall Street Journal* in an op-Ed by James Piereson and Naomi Schaefer Riley titled "The Ivy League Doesn't Need Taxpayers' Help."
- **Nearly 10,000 users downloaded our PDF report at our website, OpenTheBooks.com.**

Legislative Impact:

- Upstate New York U.S. Representative Tom Reed (NY-23) has vowed to hold hearings on the Ivy League in the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee.

The Ivy League Doesn't Need Taxpayers' Help

James Piereson and Naomi Schaefer Riley | October 17, 2016

Wall Street Journal

READ THE ARTICLE

Special Report with Brett Baier – $42 Billion Funneled to the Ivy Leagues

March 29, 2017

WATCH SEGMENT



National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities (NFA-H)

As seen in The Wall Street Journal and on the Sean Hannity Show on Fox News

Released July 2017

DOWNLOAD REPORT

Transparency Impact:

- The National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities (NFA-H) granted $441.1 million to 3,163 entities including nonprofit organizations, higher education institutions, other government entities and government-labeled "Indian tribes."
- Grants totaling $146.2 million flowed to 2,099 non-profit organizations with existing assets of $64.2 billion. In the most recent fiscal year, these entities recorded $20.7 billion in revenues.
- A total of 71 "asset-rich" nonprofit organizations and higher education institutions – each with more than $1 billion in existing assets – received $20.5 million in grants.
- The total public employee payroll at NFA-H amounts to $41.8 million per year earned by 432 staffers. The average salary is $96,500 (FY2016).
- In a case study, we found $30 million in taxpayer grants flowing to the New York Public Theater since 2009. The Public Theater put on Shakespeare in the Park, which premiered its production of Julius Caesar this month, sparking political drama over an on-stage murder of a Trump-like Julius Caesar.

Media Impact:

- **Mainstream media coverage:** Wall Street Journal, Washington Times, Real Clear Policy, The Daily Caller, The Daily Signal, Washington Free Beacon, Talk Media News, Forbes (5,100 views), Breitbart (14,667 shares), and Daily Mail – the fourth largest circulation of any English-language daily newspaper in the world.
- **Broadcast news coverage:** One America News and the Sean Hannity Show on Fox News.

Legislative Impact:

- For the first time in history, a presidential proposed budget calls for the elimination of the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA), the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH), and the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). We quantified the amount of money at stake in those sub-agencies. These findings can and will aid lawmakers in deciding whether to continue funding the NFA-H.

It Costs Taxpayers a Bundle, But Is It Art?

Roger Kimball | July 10, 2017 | The Wall Street Journal

READ THE ARTICLE

Study Finds Millions of Dollars in Federal Arts Grants Going to Rich Nonprofits, Universities

Valerie Richardson | July 10, 2017 | The Washington Times

READ THE ARTICLE

Julius Caesar's Parent Company – The New York Shakespeare Festival – Received $30M From Taxpayers

Adam Andrzejewski | June 13, 2017 | Forbes

READ THE ARTICLE

Head of New York Public Theater DEFENDS Julius Caesar production showing bloody killing of Trump – as it's revealed the company has received $30m in taxpayer funding since 2009

Emily Crane | June 13, 2017 | Daily Mail

READ THE ARTICLE

The Sean Hannity Show on Fox News – $30 Million in Taxpayer funding of Julius Caesars' Parent Company

June 13, 2017

WATCH SEGMENT



Lawyered Up

As seen at Real Clear Politics, Forbes, and the American Bar Association (ABA)

Released April 2016

DOWNLOAD REPORT

In April, we released a snapshot oversight report Lawyered Up **Federal Spending on Attorneys** revealing the government's private army of lawyers. The federal government employs 25,060 lawyers in more than 200 agencies – that's more than a combat division.

The number of federal lawyers exceeds the total public payroll headcount of twelve states. If the feds were a private-sector law firm, they would exceed the Top 7 Largest Private Law Firms – combined. Only 11,000 federal attorneys are employed at the Department of Justice pursuing crime and criminals. So what are the other federal lawyers doing? Enforcing the regulatory states of America!

25,060 Layers Cost Taxpayers $26.2 Billion Since 2007

Adam Andrzejewski | May 1, 2016 | Real Clear Politics - Forbes

READ THE ARTICLE



Truth in Lending: The U.S. Small Business Administration's $24.2 Billion Bad Loan Portfolio

As seen at Real Clear Politics

Released August 2016

DOWNLOAD REPORT

In September 2016, we worked with the Real Clear Politics new vertical, Real Clear Investigations, to reveal the $14 billion going – not to Main Street – to Wall Street. Our snapshot oversight report showed 160,000 failed Small Business Administration (SBA) loans since 2000, costing taxpayers $17.5 billion. The SBA lent $200 million to private country clubs – golf clubs, swim clubs, beach clubs, and tennis clubs. We mapped the SBA's failed loans across America and over 7,400 users searched our map.

The Small Business Administration Picks Losers Over Winners

Adam Andrzejewski | September 7, 2016 | Forbes

READ THE ARTICLE

Small Business Administration Channels Billions to Wall Street Firms

James Varney | December 20, 2016 | Real Clear Investigations

READ THE ARTICLE

Fox News Tampa – SBA Failed Lending

December 12, 2016

WATCH SEGMENT

STATE OVERSIGHT

California

Open the California State Checkbook

For the second year, we called on California to open its state checkbook. Published on Real Clear Politics, our editorial in March 2016 explained that California's chief financial officer – the Controller of California – Betty Yee said the checkbook records aren't accessible. This isn't the first time: former controller John Chiang gave us the same response.

There is no dispute that the California Controller pays tens of millions of bills annually: "*about 46 million payments annually, 24 million through warrants (state equivalent of checks) and 22 million via electronic fund transfers (EFT). Daily that's about 183,000 payments, 97,000 warrants and 86,000 ETF. Payments include, among other things, state departments operating costs and payroll, personal income tax refunds, and retirement warrants*."

But the on-the-record response provided to us by Rick Chivaro, Chief Counsel for State Controller's Office, tells an entirely different story: "*… Consequently, because of the way the claims are batched and processed by this office, we are unable to locate or otherwise provide you with the documents requested.*"

Mapping the Highly-Compensated California Public Employees



In November 2016, at *Forbes*, we exposed 218,667 California public employees making six-figure salaries costing taxpayers $35 billion. We mapped these salaries on an interactive map at OpenTheBooks.com. Through this research, we pegged the ZIP code with the most six-figure federal employees: 90012, Los Angeles. In this ZIP code alone, there are 42,007 six-figure employees costing taxpayers $7.5 billion per year.

'$100K Minimum Wage' for 220,000 Highly-Compensated California Public Employees Cost Taxpayers $35B

Adam Andrzejewski | November 11, 2016 | Forbes | 70,573 views

READ THE ARTICLE

Mapping the 100,000+ California Public Employee Pensions



Also in November, we mapped the California public employees making pensions over $100,000 using data from CalPERS – America's largest pension fund. Our research quantified the $2.8 billion annual cost to pay out 21,862 six-figure public-sector retirees. Just one county, Riverside County, had 461 six-figure retirees, and the top 12 retirements each exceeded $200,000 per year.

We discovered a '$1 Million General Manager' position at the Los Angeles Sanitary District (LASD). In 2007, General Manager James Stahl retired on a $303,420 pension. His replacement, Stephen Maguin, retired on a pension of $345,408 five years later. Today, the new General Manager earns a salary of $336,972. Therefore, it takes $1 million to fund a general manager position with two retirees and only one active worker.

Mapping the $100,000+ California Public Employee Pensions at CalPERS Costing Taxpayers $3.0B

Adam Andrzejewski | November 26, 2016 | Forbes | 50,159 views

READ THE ARTICLE

Illinois

Illinois Constitutional Officer – Auditor General Frank Mautino (Springfield, Illinois)

We exposed up to $500,000 in odd payments from Frank Mautino's legislative campaign fund. Through editorials at *Forbes* and *Daily Herald,* we called for Mautino's resignation.

We revealed $225,000 Mautino spent on gas and vehicle repairs at a single gas station for 'campaign vehicles,' and over $94,000 spent to repay $26,000 in loans at his local bank. Investigations have opened at the Illinois Board of Elections, and the Internal Revenue Service. **The U.S. Attorney convened a grand jury. Mautino pled his Fifth Amendment right to both federal authorities and the Illinois Board of Elections investigators.** The Edgar County Watchdogs also helped compile data and break the study.

Is New Auditor General Frank Mautino the Next Illinois Corruption Crisis?

Adam Andrzejewski | January 22, 2016 | Forbes | 22,541 views

READ THE ARTICLE

Editorial: Ethics Questions Nag Illinois Auditor General Mautino

Editorial Board | January 28, 2016 | Chicago Daily Herald

READ THE ARTICLE

Mapping the Illinois Legislative Retirement Pensions

In 2015, Illinois taxpayers paid $71,818 per legislator – that's $15.8 million total – to fund the Illinois legislative retirement system. We found the highest pension earner in Illinois – Arthur Berman (D) – bringing in $19,652 a month, or $235,824 annually. Berman is a long-forgotten state senator who retired from Springfield in 2000.

The 'Pension Palace' for Illinois Lawmakers 2016

Adam Andrzejewski | March 31, 2016 | Forbes | 41,502 views

READ THE ARTICLE

Mapping the Highly-Compensated Illinois Public Employees

When we mapped Illinois's most highly-compensated public employees, we found Cook County animal control officers making $105,000, suburban school administrators at $503,000, university doctors earning $1.3 million, and 72 small-town managers out-earning every U.S. governor. There are 50,000 public employees in Illinois earning six-figure salaries and costing taxpayers $8 billion a year.



'Minimum Wage' of $100,000+ for 50,000 Highly-Compensated Illinois Public Employees Cost Taxayers $8 Billion

Adam Andrzejewski | May 20, 2016 | Forbes | 107,511 views

READ THE ARTICLE

New York & New Jersey

In working with the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, we forced open the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey vendor checkbook to find $5.6 billion spending in 2014. The Manhattan Institute used our database of salary and pension data to prepare an exhaustive investigative series titled, "*Bloated, Broke and Bullied*," published in their *City Journal* magazine in July and an editorial by Steven Malanga in the *Star-Ledger* – the largest circulation newspaper in New Jersey. The Sunday *New York Post* published Judith Miller's piece 'Witless Protection' covering extreme Port Authority police compensation packages. The editorial board then penned an editorial in the same newspaper.

Our work exposed a police lieutenant who retired in 2013 with an annual salary of $129,000 and then began collecting a pension of $172,000. An assistant airport operations manager retired with a salary of $89,000, but soon started collecting a $103,000 pension. An electrician quit with a base salary of $76,000 and began collecting a pension of $79,000.

Bloated, Broke, and Bullied
Steven Malanga | Spring 2016 | City Journal

READ THE ARTICLE

Port Authority should replace expensive pension plan to help stay afloat
Steve Malanga | June 5, 2016 | Star-Ledger

READ THE ARTICLE

Jersey lawmakers look to dig the $135B pension hole even deeper
Post Editorial Board | April 2, 2017 | New York Post

READ THE ARTICLE

Inside the terrible, no good mess of the Port Authority police
Judith Miller and Alex Armlovich | December 10, 2016 | New York Post

READ THE ARTICLE

Oregon

Brad Avakian – Bureau of Labor and Industry Administrator

Brad Avakian is the man who regulated the wedding cake bakers into bankruptcy. We discovered his mixing of state agency resources with his campaign during the entire primary and general election cycle in 2015-2016. We showcased it at *Forbes,* and when he was questioned by major newspapers, the campaign admitted that state employees worked the campaign on state time – but said they 'made up the time later!' In November, Avakian lost his statewide race at the ballot box, marking the first time a Democrat lost statewide since 2002. Franklin Graham at the *Christian Post* cited our work as a principal cause.

Brad Avakian's Political Hacking of the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry
Adam Andrzejewski | October 24, 2016 | Forbes

READ THE ARTICLE

Franklin Graham Hails Defeat of Oregon Official Who Fined Christian Bakers $135K
Brandon Showalter | November 17, 2016 | Christian Post

READ THE ARTICLE

Low Blows Cited in Oregon's Hottest Election Battle
Andrew Selsky | October 30, 2016 | Seattle Times

READ THE ARTICLE

Forbes Article Raises Questions About Employees Who Volunteered for Avakian Campaign
Hillary Borrud | October 24, 2016 | The Oregonian

READ THE ARTICLE

Oregon *(continued)*

Governor Kate Brown and Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum

In February, at *Forbes*, we published our finding that 207 state contractors in Oregon gave $805,876 in campaign cash to Governor Kate Brown ($518,203) and Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum ($287,673) since 2012. These businesses hold lifetime state contracts worth at least $2.6 billion. As a result, *The Oregonian* and the *Portland Tribune* reported our findings and our piece at Forbes trended No. 3 'Most Popular' in the opinion section. The Hugh Hewitt National radio program dedicated ten minutes to our interview, and local radio programs across Oregon carried the story.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown and AG Ellen Rosenblum Blaze the Oregon Trail of Political Patronage

Adam Andrzejewski | February 13, 2017 | Forbes | 45,604 views

READ THE ARTICLE

Lane County Oregon's $23,487 Transparency Tax

Lane County Oregon wants to charge us $23,487 to produce a record of the public employee salary record. We battled it, delivering comment at its board meeting in August 2016. Our public comment resulted in 12 segments airing on KEZI (ABC), KMTR (NBC), KVAL (CBS), and KLSR (FOX) in the Eugene broadcast market as well as coverage from the KATU (ABC) in Portland. In total, 157,601 local viewers watched the coverage. The *Register-Guard* published our editorial, "Lane County's Price for Transparency: $23,487" in August of 2016. This led to the *Oregon Catalyst* "Lane County's $23,487 Wall To Public Records." The *Oregon Transformational Newsletter* published our Question and Answer with Jim Pasero in August of 2016.

Lane County's price for transparency: $23,487

Adam Andrzejewski | August 3, 2016 | Register-Guard

READ THE ARTICLE

State Senator Mark Hass

In June 2017, we published an article at *Forbes* exposing Oregon State Senator Mark Hass's various conflicts of interest. Hass works for a public relations firm called Cappelli Miles, creating multiple conflicts of interest in his legislative voting. Hass didn't declare a conflict until after he voted on legislation affecting the state agency Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI), even though Cappelli Miles had done $1.1 million worth of business with the OFRI. Now, Hass is spearheading the largest tax hike in Oregon history with his gross receipts tax.

Mr. Conflict-of-Interest, Oregon Senator Mark Hass, Spearheads $1.6 Billion 'Business Tax'

Adam Andrzejewski | June 10, 2017 | Forbes

READ THE ARTICLE



PREVIOUS OVERSIGHT (2014–2015)

The Federal Department of Self-Promotion

Published December 2015



We released an oversight report on federal agency expenditure on public relations: The Federal Department of Self- Promotion, $4.4 Billion on Public Relations. Our report debuted on the front page of *TheHill* and *The Washington Times* newspapers. The State Department received a 'Golden Hammer' weekly award by *The Washington Times* for the nation's worst example of waste. COX News Media ran a segment on their ABC, CBS, and FOX affiliates in twelve major cities. *Breitbart, The New York Observer, Orange County Register,* and the *New York Daily News* all covered our report. During our segment on CBS-Atlanta, COX News reported that U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (WY) called for a Government Accountability (GOA) investigation.

DOWNLOAD REPORT

U.S. Environment Protection Agency

Published October 2015



Our oversight report on the U.S. Environment Protection Agency was featured in editorials at *The Wall Street Journal* by former U.S. Senator Dr. Tom Coburn, I*nvestor's Business Daily* by Stephen Moore, and twice in *The Washington Times* by Edwin Feulner. Our findings included extravagant spending: $715 million fighting 'enviro-crime' with 200 armed 'Special Agents'; $92 million on high-end, luxury furniture; 200 public affairs officers paid over $160 million; and 1,000 lawyers paid over $1.1 billion.

With $72 billion in grant-making since 2000, the EPA would rank as the #1 U.S.A. private foundation. The FOX News Channel showcased our report in six segments: Megyn Kelly, Bill O'Reilly, Brett Baier, Tucker Carlson - FOX and Friends (2X), and Stuart Varney. *The Washington Times* conferred their "Golden Hammer" award on EPA for our exposure of EPA(s) $92 million in high-end furniture. Earned media highlighting our report included the Rush Limbaugh Show, Drudge Report, Washington Free Beacon, Forbes, Breitbart, Newsmax, Daily Caller, and many others.

DOWNLOAD REPORT

Export-Import Bank

Published May 2015



Our oversight report on the Export-Import Bank (EX-IM) was featured in Washington Examiner, Forbes, National Review, Newsmax, Breitbart, RedState, Daily Signal and an editorial at *The Washington Times* by Edwin Feulner. Through FOX news contributor Deroy Murdock and Marita Noon, our content was featured in nationally syndicated newspaper columns. Although other national organizations were exposing the truth on Ex-Im for years, we added needed details and context to the national debate ahead of the June 30, 2015 bank reauthorization deadline.

DOWNLOAD REPORT

Farm Subsidies in America's Urban Areas – Chicago, New York City, and Washington, D.C.

Published January 2014



In New York City, Wall Street financiers, Rockefellers, wealthy heirs and Upper East Side recipients all received subsidies. Even the non-profit National Audubon Society collected nearly $1 million in subsidies including New York tobacco subsidies and Minnesota lamb slaughter aid.

In Chicago, the city ranks seventh out of over 1,200 municipalities in Illinois in the receipt of federal farm subsidies. Even Reverend Minister Louis Farrakhan, the founder of the Nation of Islam, opened up two charities and collected over $317,000 – an amount comprised of farm subsidies and, separately, commodity loans during a sixteen-year period.

National media coverage included the Megyn Kelly Show on FOX News, *Washington Examiner*, The Blaze, and National Review.

Federal Funding of Fortune 100 Companies

Published March 2014



We quantified all federal contracts, loans, grants, direct payments, insurance payments and farm subsidies since 2000 into the Fortune 100: $1.2 trillion. *An average of a quarter billion dollars outside of contracts flowed to each of the Fortune 100 in the form of grants, loans or subsidies*. Ten companies in the Fortune 100 have segmented their businesses so that a quarter billion dollars of "small business" loans bank-rolled their national product distribution networks.

National media coverage included economist Steve Moore's front page column at *Investor's Business Daily*, Bill Maher's HBO, David Stockman's Contra-Corner, AlterNet, and National Review.

U.S. Small Business Administration – Lending to the Wealthy Lifestyle

Published November 2014



Exposed public loans and guarantees for private country clubs, golf resorts, yacht clubs, pet resorts, upscale plastic surgeons, wineries and other businesses catering to the lifestyles of the very wealthy. Highlights: $160 million in loans and guarantees flowed to private country clubs; $142 million into ZIP code 90210; $9.2 billion flowed to investment bankers- a taxpayer backstop for their investments; $60 million in lending to high-end jewelers including Rolex.

National media coverage included the front page at the *Washington Times* and the editorial page at *Investor's Business Daily*.

"Certainly, this report will lead to oversight hearings in Congress." – Kelly Riddle, *Washington Times*

"**Now, OpenTheBooks.com exposes the loan portfolio of an agency that has strayed far from its mission of aiding aspiring entrepreneurs, particularly minorities, build pioneering businesses in credit-starved areas."** – Stephen Moore, *Investor's Business Daily*

DOWNLOAD REPORT

OPEN THE BOOKS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Director of Government Oversight: Frank Bruno



Frank Bruno (Hillsdale 2017) was our first intern - starting in the summer of 2015. Since then, Bruno helped recruit and manage our summer intern program.

In late June 2016, Bruno and Open The Books CEO Adam Andrzejewski were invited to privately brief the U.S. House Oversight and Government Reform Committee in Washington, D.C. Impressing key committee staff, Bruno was chosen for the committee's prestigious Fall 2016 internship.

In the lead up to the November elections, Bruno participated with behind-the-scenes work prepping members for public hearings, including those regarding then-presidential candidate Hillary Clinton's e-mail servers. Other hearings covered topics such as the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority, the 2020 Census, the EpiPen Crisis, and Cybersecurity.

After graduating from Hillsdale College, Frank Bruno joined OpenTheBooks.com as the full-time Director of Government Oversight in May 2017.

Intern Testimonial



"My research internship at American Transparency was an incredible experience that taught me so much about journalistic integrity and proper research methods. Attention to detail was a very vital skill that I learned at American Transparency; it was extremely interesting work that was not to be done haphazardly. I really enjoyed my time at American Transparency, and I believe it was an excellent learning experience that I will carry with me into the future."

– Michael Momper
Research Intern Summer 2016
Bellarmine University | Louisville, Kentucky



Summer 2017:

Lauren Adams | Hillsdale College '20
Adam Cieply | Hillsdale College '19
Patrick Farrell | Hillsdale College '20
Alec Mena | Hillsdale College '19
John Zachariah Shuster | Emory University '19
Madalen Strumpf | Purdue University '19
Daniel Sutkowski | Loyola University Chicago '19



Summer 2016:

Madeline Conover | Hillsdale College '18
Paul Mittermeier | Hillsdale College '17
Michael Momper | Bellarmine University '17
Daniel Sutkowski | University of Loyola Chicago '19

PART 4

ALLIES

Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel
(Columbus, OH)



In December 2016, Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel's office white-labeled our Open The Books mobile app that contains all state-checkbook spending in Ohio. The app is free for Apple and Android users. Mandel is the first state treasurer to take this significant step towards transparency, and more state treasurers are lining up to follow his example. Before Mandel, Ohio ranked last in the nation on transparency, now it ranks #1 of the 50 states. Our work was pro-bono.

"I believe the people of Ohio have a right to know how their tax money is being spent. By posting local government spending online, we are empowering taxpayers." – Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel



Open The Books powered the Ohio Checkbook transparency app for Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel: 151 million transactions for a half trillion dollars of state spending since 2009. Plus, 562,000 public employee salaries from 2,030 municipalities.

Treasurer Josh Mandel Announces National Transparency Partnership
Office of the Ohio Treasurer | November 28, 2016

READ THE ARTICLE

Real Clear Investigations
(Washington, D.C.)

As part of the Real Clear Politics family, OpenTheBooks.com is a founding partner of the new Real Clear Investigations platform. We investigated the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) – the agency lending to mom and pop businesses on Main Street. Our findings included $14 billion flowing to Wall Street – not Main Street.

Small Business Administration Channels Billions to Wall Street Firms
James Varney | December 20, 2016 | Real Clear Investigations

READ THE ARTICLE

Reclaim New York
(New York City, NY)

This is the first time transparency has been pursued at the local level in New York. We split the state into nine regions and have collected, cleaned, and loaded 11.6 million individual transactions (FY2014-FY2016) from 1,215 units of local government. The data is currently available on ReclaimNewYork.org and OpenTheBooks.com. Also, our teams provided affidavits to help Reclaim win five transparency lawsuits to enforce open records law in New York state. Highlighted by USA Today during 'National Sunshine Week 2017' as a local transparency model to be replicated in other states.

Dutchess scores high in review of county websites
Matthew Leonard and Sean Lahman | March 10, 2017
USA Today Network

READ THE ARTICLE

Edgar County Watchdogs
(Illinois)



National Watchdog Model – Edgar County Watchdogs 'SPN UNSUNG HERO' AWARD WINNER

The most robust watchdog model in the country using open data, citizen engagement, and earned media to squeeze-out waste, fraud and corruption.

Two retired military veterans Kirk Allen and John Kraft spearhead the initiative. They've sparked seven concurrent federal investigations – including Illinois Auditor General Frank Mautino, largest school districts, park districts, county health departments, airport districts, etc. Since 2013, more than 260 local and elected public officials have resigned their positions in the face of the transparency.

In 2016, the Watchdogs spearheaded five pieces of national reform legislation through the Illinois General Assembly and signed by the Governor. We nominated the Watchdogs for the State Policy Network Unsung Hero Award and they won.

State Financial Officers Foundation
(Mission, KS)

"SFOF is founded on the belief that state financial officers could and should play a greater role in promoting conservative, fiscally responsible public policy." – State Financial Officers Foundation

We are part of a select group of leaders "from the public and private sectors to help state financial officers develop and implement pro-growth policies."

We've been published in their magazine *The Fiscal Note*, twice addressed their national meetings, and hosted a fundraiser for them in Chicago, Illinois.

- **Summer 2016 Volume 1 Issue 1:** Originally published at *Forbes*, our article, "A 'Minimum Wage' of $100,000 for 50,000 Illinois Public Employees," was printed in the State Financial Officers Foundation's publication *The Fiscal Note*.
- **Fall 2016 Volume 1 Issue 2:** Originally published at *Forbes*, our article, "The VA's $20 Million Art Collection," was printed in the State Financial Officers Foundation's publication *The Fiscal Note*.

State Financial Officers FOUNDATION

PART 5

KEY SPEECHES, EARNED MEDIA, *and* ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

KEY SPEECHES

The Open-Government Movement: How Posting All Public Spending Online Can Transform U.S. Politics

The Manhattan Institute For Policy Research
New York City, NY | April 18, 2017



Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants; electric light the most efficient policeman," wrote Louis Brandeis in 1914. Today, the Freedom of Information Act and internet make it possible to post online all spending at the federal, state, and local levels. This kind of radical transparency can transform U.S. politics. Since 2011, American Transparency, a nonprofit, has built and operated OpenTheBooks.com, the largest private repository of U.S. public-sector spending. The ultimate goal: post "every dime, online, in real time." To date, OpenTheBooks.com has captured nearly 4 billion government spending records, including nearly all disclosed federal government spending since 2000; 48 of 50 state checkbooks; and expenditures in 60,000 localities across America. OpenTheBooks.com's discoveries of government corruption scandals led to congressional hearings, subpoenas, accountability audits, and corrective legislation. Adam Andrzejewski is founder and CEO of OpenTheBooks.com.

WATCH THE SPEECH

OpenTheBooks.com CEO Adam Andrzejewski Talks About Government Spending

Bradley, Foster & Sargent, Inc. Trinity College, University of Connecticut School of Business
Hartford, Connecticut | April 20, 2016



Adam Andrzejewski, CEO of OpenTheBooks.com, gave a talk discussing his organization's mission during an event hosted by Trinity College, UConn School of Business, and Bradley, Foster & Sargent at The Hartford Club on April 20. A nonprofit organization, OpenTheBooks.com is the world's largest private repository of government spending information made freely available online, including through a mobile app. In 2009, Andrzejewski launched a bid for governor of Illinois in the Republican primary, running on a platform of government transparency. To fulfill a campaign promise, he founded OpenTheBooks.com with the mission of documenting government spending by posting "every dime online." Andrzejewski's work has been featured in numerous publications including *USA Today, Forbes Magazine, The Wall Street Journal, Investor's Business Daily*, and more. He is also a contributor to Forbes.com. The annual lecture, now in its seventh year, was sponsored by Bradley, Foster & Sargent, a Hartford-based investment advisory firm that offers internships to students from the UConn School of Business and Trinity College.

Property Casualty Insurers Association of America

Swissôtel Chicago | Chicago, IL | November, 2016

Founded by the mantra 'every dime online,' OpenTheBooks.com is becoming a force to empower citizens seeking to put sunshine on government spending at the local, state and federal levels. Join us for an educational, interactive and eye-opening dive into the numbers driving massive budgetary deficits. Introductions by Jeffrey Junkas, AVP, PCI State Government Relations, PCI.

Dear Adam,

Thank you for speaking at our Legislative and Political conference in Chicago.

I was overwhelmed by the scope and depth of the government spending you outlined. Truly unsustainable numbers. We appreciate your commentary as we better understand the new challenges and opportunities that are a result of the elections.

Sincerely,

David A. Sampson
President and CEO
of Property Casualty Insurers Association of America



EARNED MEDIA
KEY RADIO/PODCAST SEGMENTS

The Bond Buyer, Wall Street, New York City, NY

Adam Andrzejewski with Paul Burton | June 8, 2017

Podcast – The Power of Transparency

Adam Andrzejewski, founder and CEO OpenTheBooks.com, talks about how his database of public spending could make governments more accountable. Andrzejewski ran for governor in Illinois, which he calls the "Super Bowl of corruption." He cites outlandish salaries, waste at the federal level, and "compensation buckets" at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Hosted by Paul Burton.

LISTEN TO SEGMENT

Hugh Hewitt National Radio Show

Adam Andrzejewski with Hugh Hewitt | February 16, 2017

Hugh Hewitt, National Radio Show, hosts the Founder and CEO of OpenTheBooks.com, Adam Andrzejewski to discuss the latest investigations at OpenTheBooks. Topics covered include Oregon Ethics, California pensions, Federal Funding of America's Sanctuary Cities, and more...

LISTEN TO SEGMENT

KEY TELEVISON SEGMENTS



$42 Billion Funneled to the Ivy League

Fox & Friends | New York City, NY | April 2016

Our CEO Adam Andrzejewski explained the $42 billion taxpayer subsidies, special tax-breaks, and federal payments going to the eight Ivy League colleges in the past six years in a three-minute segment on Fox & Friends. "The Ivy League needs to start paying their own way. The Ivy League has turned into a political machine, and a political favor factory and now … their federal contract business exceeds their education business," Andrzejewski said.

WATCH SEGMENT



Coverage on VA Scandal and Costly Art

ABC World News Tonight | New York City, NY | July 2016

ABC World News Tonight covers the OpenTheBooks.com oversight discovery regarding the VA's purchase of $20 million on high-end art. Senator Mark Kirk from Illinois demands a moratorium on VA art purchases.

WATCH SEGMENT



Coburn Calls for IRS Assault Rifle Ban

Squawk Box CNBC | New York City, NY | June 2016

Dr. Tom Coburn, Honorary Chairman of OpenTheBooks.com was the guest on CNBC's Squawk Box. Coburn questioned why general-administration federal agencies have a need for AR-15's and calls for an 'assault weapons ban at the IRS.'

WATCH SEGMENT



VA Costly Art Collection

Good Morning America | New York City, NY | July 2016

ABC News Good Morning America covered our oversight finding that the VA pent $20 million on art from 2004-2014. Much of the spending occurred at a time when veterans were experiencing lengthy waits for treatment at VA facilities. The Veterans Affairs agency admitted publicly around this time that its health care operations were overwhelmed and understaffed.

WATCH SEGMENT

Vets React to VA's $20M of Art

ABC | Charolette, NC | July 2016

WSOC Channel 9 in Charlotte, North Carolina captured the reactions of local veterans to our OpenTheBooks.com oversight finding that the VA spent $20 million on artwork between 2004 and 2014. Our CEO Adam Andrzejewski appeared in the segment to comment.

WATCH SEGMENT

VA Defends Pricey Artwork

KTVU–SF Fox | San Francisco, CA | June 2016

On a segment with Fox News affiliate KTVU-SF, our CEO Adam Andrzejewski explained how the VA's $1.2 million 'Cubed-Rock' Sculpture is not an example of "creating a healing environment," despite the Palo Alto VA Medical Center's administrator who argued it was.

WATCH SEGMENT

SBA Failed Lending

Tampa Bay Fox 13 | Tampa Bay, FL | December 2016

Our CEO Adam Andrzejewski appeared on 'Money, Power, Politics Show' with Craig Patrick for a four-minute segment on our oversight investigation of the Small Business Administration's lending to the wealthy lifestyle. Andrzejewski detailed the $1.5 million in lending to Lamborghini auto dealers, millions to private country clubs, hundreds of millions to subdivisions of the Fortune 100, and $9.2 billion to the most successful investment firms in the country.

WATCH SEGMENT

The VA's 20 Million Artwork Purchase

Fox & Friends | New York City, NY | August 2017

Our CEO Adam Andrzejewski appeared on Fox & Friends to discuss the VA's $20 million artwork purchase. Andrzejewski explained our common-sense policy and social media campaign #VetsArt4VA. "Veterans should benefit. Nobody tells the veterans story like a veteran... Veterans should be the ones with their story and their artwork in the VA medical center," Andrzejewski said.

WATCH SEGMENT

MEDIA METRICS

Total Media Mentions (Source: Meltwater Inc.)



Website Metrics





Top 5 Downloaded Reports

1. The Militarization of America: 12,646 downloads
2. Ivy League, Inc.: 9,750 downloads
3. America's Sanctuary Cities: 3,985 downloads
4. The Department of Self-Promotion, Federal Self Promotion: 2,224 downloads
5. The VA Scandal Two Years Later: 1,966 downloads

34,446 Total Downloads on All Reports

Top 5 Interactive Maps

1. Federal Funding of Sanctuary Cities: 89,360 users
2. California Public Employees with $100K+ Salaries: 32,883 users
3. CalPERS Pensions $100K+: 12,885 users
4. Illinois Public School Employee Pensions $100K+: 11,993 users
5. Illinois Federal Employee Salaries $100K+: 10,983 users

219,397 Total Views on All Maps

Email Metrics

From 2016 to June 15, 2017 we have emailed **68 special alerts to 3.3 million individual email addresses**. The emails were opened 361,986 times with an open rate of just over 14 percent. Our subscriber list is growing – it's currently at 100,224 active addresses. Between our subscriber email list and our mobile app downloads (we can text those cell phones), we can reach nearly 200,000 politicians, pundits, media, citizens, activists and influencers across America.



Forbes

2015 420,000 Unique Views

2016 900,000 Unique Views

2017 1.2 Million Unique Views *(through 6/30/2017)*

Most Popular Forbes Pieces

1. Trump's Leaner White House Payroll Project To Save Taxpayers $22 Million: 114,107 views
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2015 16,000 Fans

2016 85,759 Fans

2017 125,003 Fans *(through 6/30/2017)*

Did You Know?

We have a highly engaged Facebook fan base. In 2017, we have nearly 1 million engagements (likes, shares, and comments) from our 125,000+ fan base.

YouTube

2016 10,702 Minutes on 2,356 Views

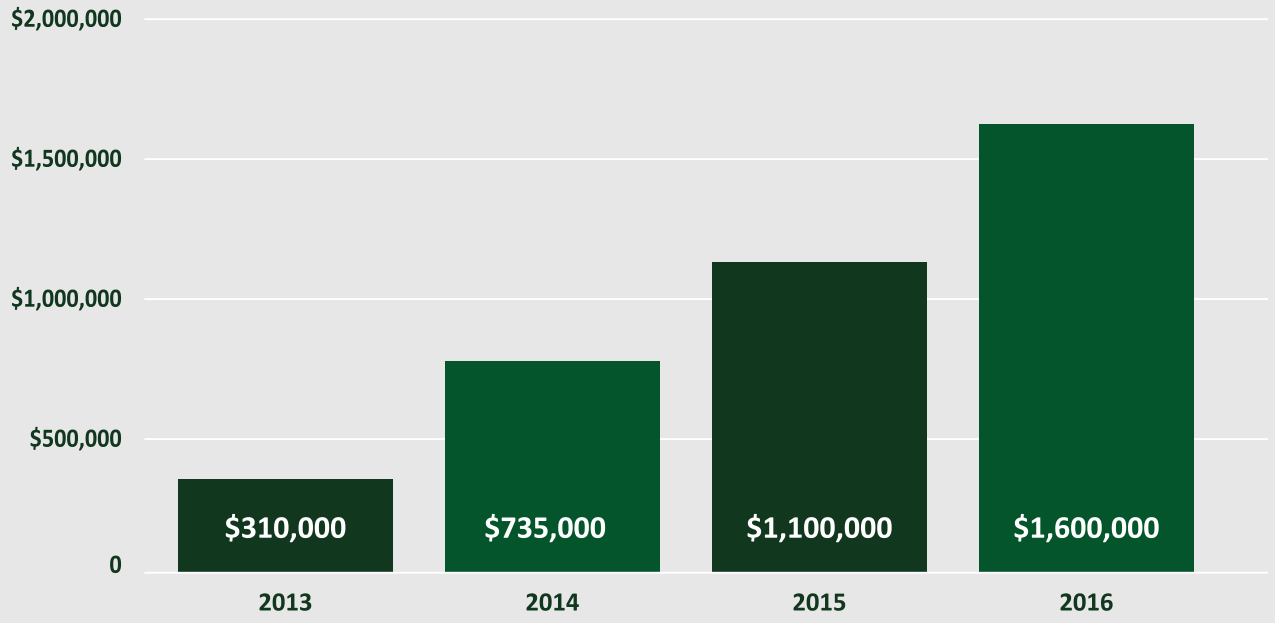
2017 52,256 Minutes on 19,436 Views *(through 6/30/2017)*

Google AdWords ***Provided for free to Open The Books from Google.*** *(through 6/30/2017)*

46,697 Interactions | 2.99 Million Impressions | $1.54 Per Click Average "Cost" | $71,948 "Total Cost"

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Open The Books Total Revenue by Fiscal Year



39 Foundations, Charitable Organizations, Trusts, Institutes and Non-Profits	**$1,389,900**
329 Individuals	**$186,400.25**
Total	**$1,576,300.25**

Revenue FY2015: $1.1 Million | FY2016: $1.6 Million

Financial information ending on 12/31/16

KEY PEOPLE AND BOARD



Honorable Dr. Tom Coburn | Honorary Chairman

Muskogee, OK. Former U.S. Congressman, United States Senator and 2014 Time List: 100 Most Influential People in the World. Co-Sponsor of 2006 "Google Your Government Act" which opened United States Government checkbook spending to online transparency for the first time in history. Identified the "Bridge to No Where" in Alaska which helped to end the congressional practice of wasteful earmarks. Coburn's annual Waste Book was an oversight primer on federal taxpayer abuse. An entrepreneur with a career in obstetrics, Dr. Coburn delivered over 4,000 babies before the Senate passed a rule to stop his practice of medicine. Married to Miss Oklahoma (1967), Tom and Carolyn Coburn raised three girls.



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, on the board of Socrates Sculpture Park, and on the Advisory Board of Metro Bank in London. 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, and Chief Executive Officer

Hinsdale, IL. Today, Andrzejewski is the CEO of OpenTheBooks.com, a regular columnist at Forbes and has contributed opinion editorials to publications such as The Wall Street Journal, Washington Times and Real Clear Politics. In 2016, Andrzejewski's oversight work regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs procurement of high-end artwork helped reform policy. In 1997, Adam co-founded HomePages directories with his brother and after nine years of work, the company's sales grew to $20 million. Today the company is the largest publisher for community telephone directories. In 2007, Andrzejewski sold his shares in the company to his brother and an investor. In 2009-2010 Andrzejewski ran for the republican nomination for Governor of Illinois. He received an endorsement from Nobel Laureate and Solidarity founder Lech Walesa. His campaign slogan of "Every dime, online, in real time" became the motto for OpenTheBooks.com, which is continuing the mission today. Adam has run the Chicago Marathon five times including 1995,1997, 1999, 2001, and 2015.



Hilary Till | Board Member, Treasurer

Lake Forest, IL. Ms. Till has B.A. with General Honors in Statistics from the University of Chicago and MSc. Degree in Statistics from the London School of Economics (LSE). She studied at the LSE under a private fellowship administered by the Fulbright Commission. Ms. Till is a principal of Chicago-based Premia Capital Management, LLC. Previously, she was a senior vice president at Putnam Investments in Boston; and prior to joining Putnam, she was a quantitative analyst at Harvard University's endowment. Ms. Till is a member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's Working Group on Financial Markets, and also serves on the North American Advisory Board for the London School of Economics.



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 | Board Member

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.



Lisa Markham | Board Member

Chicago, IL. 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 VP with Citibank she has an MBA 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 the Reason Foundation, Competitive Enterprise Institute, and local think tanks in Illinois.



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.



Matthew Tyrmand | Deputy Director

New York, NY. Matthew Tyrmand is the Deputy Director for American Transparency. Matthew Tyrmand joined Adam Andrzejewski in 2013 to aid in evolving OpenTheBooks into a national transparency leader. Previously, Tyrmand spent a decade in finance running healthcare and telecommunications portfolios for top hedge funds on Wall Street. Matthew is a graduate of the Atlas Leadership Academy and Think Tank MBA and a member of The Philadelphia Society. He graduated from the University of Chicago in 2003. Matthew's father, Leopold Tyrmand, was a fierce anti-communist writer and was the co-founder of the Rockford Institute and founding editor of Chronicles of Culture after he left Poland for America. Matthew's autobiography (2013) debuted on the best-seller list in Poland and he is active, as a Polish dual citizen, in the Polish civil, political, and economic debates and acts as an adviser to the current Polish government.



Morton Blackwell | Board Advisor

Morton Blackwell began in 1960 to identify, train, and place bright young conservatives for leadership in the public policy process. Barry Goldwater's youngest elected national convention delegate in 1964, Blackwell chaired the state College Republicans and Young Republicans in Louisiana.

In 1980, he organized the national youth effort for Ronald Reagan, going on to serve on President Reagan's White House Staff. In 1984, Blackwell left the White House to work full-time as the President of the Leadership Institute, his educational foundation that he began in 1979. His Institute is dedicated to training and placing conservatives. In 2016, his Leadership Institute trained 10,274 people in its 47 types of training schools. His CampusReform.org website received more than 5.3 million unique visitors in 2016. Since 1988, he has served as the Virginia Republican National Committeeman. He now ranks number 4 in tenure among the 168 members of the RNC.



Patrick H. Caddell | Board Advisor

Patrick H. Caddell is a political strategist, consultant and FOX news contributor. He served as chief public opinion pollster and senior advisor for the campaigns of Democratic Presidential candidates George McGovern (1972) and Jimmy Carter (1976). Caddell went on to serve as a personal advisor for President Carter from 1977-1981. He has advised over 150 political campaigns including those of Gary Hart, Walter Mondale, Jerry Brown, Joe Biden, Edward Kennedy, Edmund Muskey and Mario Cuomo. He was the Co-founder and President of Cambridge Survey Research, Inc. a firm that provided public opinion research for corporate institutional clients such as Exxon, Westinghouse, General Electric and Citibank. In addition, Mr. Caddell served as a strategic media consultant for Apple computers and Coca Cola. From 1981-1984 he was a member and Vice Chair of the US Military Academy at West Point by presidential appointment.

Mr. Caddell has had extensive television, film and media experience as well. He has served as a consultant on a number of major motion pictures such as Apocalypse Now, Reds, Air Force One, In the Line of Fire, and Breakout. In addition, Caddell was a writer, producer and consultant on the Emmy Award Winning NBC series The West Wing. He has appeared on all major news networks as a political expert and is currently a regular FOX News contributor and columnist for Breitbart.com. Patrick Caddell graduated from Harvard University and currently serves as the President of Caddell Associates.



James R. Copland | Board Advisor

James R. Copland is a senior fellow with and director of legal policy for the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research. He has testified before Congress as well as state and municipal legislatures; he has authored many policy briefs, articles, and opinion pieces; and he has made hundreds of media appearances and is frequently cited in news articles in leading periodicals.

In 2011 and 2012, Copland was named to the National Association of Corporate Directors "Directorship 100" list, which designates the individuals most influential over U.S. corporate governance. Copland was previously a management consultant with McKinsey and Company and a law clerk for Ralph K. Winter on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He has served on many private company, public, and nonprofit boards. Copland has degrees from Yale, the London School of Economics, and the University of North Carolina.



Edwin Feulner | Board Advisor

Washington, D.C. Mr. Feulner's leadership as president of The Heritage Foundation transformed the think tank from a small policy shop into America's powerhouse of conservative ideas and what the New York Times calls "the Parthenon of the conservative metropolis." He is a longtime officer and director of three grant-making foundations: the Sarah Scaife Foundation, the Aequus Institute, and the Thomas A. Roe Foundation. Born in Chicago, Feulner graduated from Regis University with a bachelor's degree in English, and received an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business in 1964. He later attended Georgetown University and the London School of Economics, and then earned a doctorate degree at the University of Edinburgh in 1981. Feulner is the author of eight books: The American Spirit (2012), Getting America Right (2006), Leadership for America (2000), Intellectual Pilgrims (1999), The March of Freedom (1998), Conservatives Stalk the House (1983), Looking Back (1981) and Trading with the Communists (1968). He and his wife, Linda, have two grown children.



Suhail A. Khan | Board Advisor

Washington, D.C. Director of External Affairs at Microsoft Corporation, a member of Conservative Action Project, and Senior Fellow at the Institute for Global Engagement- a Christian religious freedom think tank. Mr. Khan served the Bush Administration White House and U.S. Department of Transportation - was awarded the Secretary's Team Award (2005) and the Secretary's Gold Medal for Outstanding Achievement (2007). Elected to the Board of Directors of the American Conservative Union (2006) and awarded the Young Conservative Coalition's Buckley Award (2010). RNC Chairman Reince Prebus appointed Khan to the RNC Asian Pacific American Advisory Council (2014). Education: University of California at Berkeley, B.A. and University of Iowa, J.D.



Roger Kimball | Board Advisor

New York, NY. Mr. Kimball is an American art critic and social commentator. Kimball is the editor and publisher of The New Criterion and the publisher of Encounter Books. He was educated at Cheverus High School, a Jesuit institution in South Portland, Maine, and then at Bennington College, where he received his B.A. in philosophy and classical Greek, and at Yale University. He currently serves on the board of the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, the board of Transaction Publishers and as a Visitor of Ralston College, a start-up liberal arts college based in Savannah, Georgia. He also served on the Board of Visitors of St. John's College (Annapolis). Kimball lectures widely and is a frequent contributor to many newspapers and journals, including The Wall Street Journal, National Review, The Spectator, The New Criterion, The Times Literary Supplement, The New York Sun, Modern Painters, Literary Review, The Public Interest, Commentary, The New York Times Book Review, The Sunday Telegraph, The American Spectator, The Weekly Standard, and The National Interest. Kimball is the author of Tenured Radicals: How Politics Has Corrupted Higher Education; The Fortunes of Permanence: Culture and Anarchy in an Age of Amnesia; and other books. In 2006, Kimball inaugurated Roger's Rules, a popular column at Pajamas Media.



Ruth King | Board Advisor

New York, NY. Ms. King is on the executive committee of Americans for a Safe Israel and contributes a monthly column to their publication "Mideast Outpost," and on the Board of the London Center for Policy Research. As a contributing editor of Family Security Matters she researched and published "2014 Where They Stand" - a comprehensive guide to the 2014 national elections that covered the Senatorial and Congressional races in every district in all fifty states, detailing the domestic and foreign policies of all incumbents and challengers of both major political parties. This project will be updated in the 2016 elections. She is also editor and publisher of Ruthfullyyours.com a daily blog which lists many columns on the Middle East, terrorism, foreign policy, and domestic issues such as immigration, energy, and politics.



Vince Kolber | Board Advisor

Chicago, IL. Mr. Kolber started RESIDCO in 1982- completing both aviation & rail transactions in excess of $1.2BN- including syndications, non-recourse debt securitizations, restructurings, hedging, asset repositioning and remarketing assignments. Pioneered the use of privately placed derivatives in large ticket equipment leasing; established applications for residual value insurance & puts in both aviation & rail structured financings. Graduated with an MBA from the University of Chicago and a B.S. from Wharton. Mr. Kolber is active in parochial school philanthropy at Sacred Heart & the Big Shoulders Foundation and serves as Chairman of the Chicago Committee of the Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.



Herbert London | Board Advisor

New York, NY. Prominent and influential activist, politician, professor, academic and tutor. Mr. London is President of London Center for Policy Research. London ran for Governor of New York (1990) and New York Comptroller (1994) – credibly running both campaigns. Former President of Hudson Institute (1997 – 2011), London is currently President Emeritus. He is the former John M. Olin Professor of Humanities at New York University creating the Gallatin School of Individualized Study (1972) serving as dean until 1992.



Vanessa Mendoza | Board Advisor

New York, NY. Ms. Mendoza is the executive vice president of the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, New York City. She joined the Institute in 2006 as a policy analyst for the Center for Legal Policy, where her work focused on the center's 'Loser Pays' project. She was recruited to work with the development team, was named vice president for development in 2009 and in 2012, named executive vice president of the Institute. Vanessa earned her J.D. from Fordham University School of Law and her B.A. from New York University with a concentration in the fields of political science, history, and election law. Vanessa lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. with her husband and son. Vanessa serves on the board of the next generation leadership organization, Teneo.



Stephen Moore | Board Advisor

Washington, D.C. Leading economic writer and policy analyst. In 1999, he founded and served as president of the Club for Growth. Mr. Moore is a former member of The Wall Street Journal editorial board from 2005 – 2014. The Heritage Foundation announced that Moore would become a Distinguished Visiting Fellow (2014). Education: B.A. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; M.A. from George Mason University in economics. Moore also spent ten years as a fellow of the Cato Institute.



Deroy Murdock | Board Advisor

New York, NY. Political commentator and Fox News Contributor, a Media Fellow with the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace at Stanford University, and a Senior Fellow with the Atlas Network. Mr. Murdock's weekly column — "This Opinion Just In…" — appears in the New York Post, The Washington Times, the Boston Herald, The San Francisco Examiner, and other newspapers across America. A frequent guest on CNBC, CNN, C-Span, MSNBC, and other TV and radio outlets, Murdock has spoken/ debated at Cato Institute, the Council on Foreign Relations; Harvard Medical School, the Heritage Foundation; the National Academy of Sciences; Dartmouth, Stanford, and many other venues. Murdock is a native of Los Angeles, a graduate of Georgetown University, and earned an MBA from New York University.



Grover Norquist | Board Advisor

Washington, D.C. Mr. Norquist is the founder and president of Americans for Tax Reform. He is the creator and organizer of the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, a public written commitment to oppose any and all tax hikes, signed by most members of the U.S. Congress. Norquist chairs the Washington, DC - based "Wednesday Meeting," a weekly gathering of more than 150 elected officials, political activists, and movement leaders. He serves on the board of directors of the American Conservative Union, the Center for the National Interest, the Parental Rights Organization and the National Rifle Association. Norquist is a graduate of Harvard College & Harvard Business School. He lives in DC with his wife, Samah, & daughters, Grace and Giselle.



James O'Keefe III | Board Advisor

New York, NY. Mr. O'Keefe is an American journalist, filmmaker, and Founder of Project Veritas, a nonprofit organization dedicated to citizen journalism. His work has prompted state and federal investigations, congressional action, and inspired several states to reform their election laws and induced high-level resignations in Washington. O'Keefe is a graduate of Rutgers University. A congressional resolution was introduced in 2009 praising him for his work. He is the recipient of the Robert Novak Award for Journalistic Excellence (2011) and was placed on the Forbes 30 under 30 for media moguls.



James Piereson | Board Advisor

New York, NY. President of the William E. Simon Foundation, a private grant-making foundation located in New York City. The foundation has broad charitable interests in education, religion, and problems of youth. For 20 years, from 1985 to 2005, he was executive director and trustee of the John M. Olin Foundation. A preeminent conservative scholar, educator, author and representative, Piereson serves on the boards of several other tax-exempt institutions, including: The Pinkerton Foundation, the Thomas W. Smith Foundation, The Center for Individual Rights, The Philanthropy Roundtable (Chairman, 1995-99), the Foundation for Cultural Review (Chairman), the American Spectator Foundation, the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, and DonorsTrust.



Adrienne Price | Board Advisor

Scarsdale, NY. Ms. Price specialized in real estate investment banking at Goldman Sachs, then ran a commercial real estate company where she owned and managed warehouses, and sold the business in January, 2007. Currently, Ms. Price is a private investor. She was a Wexner Heritage Foundation Fellow, and served on a variety of national and local boards. Currently, she serves on the Boards of the Middle East Forum and Friends of Yemin Orde. A proud graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with 3 degrees (Wharton, The College, The Graduate School), Ms. Price is the President of her class and serves on the Executive Board of the Alumni Class Leadership Council. Ms. Price also holds an M.M. from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.



Avik Roy | Board Advisor

New York, NY. Senior Fellow at the Manhattan Institute and the Opinion Editor at Forbes. In 2012, Roy served as a health care policy adviser to Mitt Romney. Roy is also principal author of The Apothecary, the influential Forbes blog on health care policy and entitlement reform. He is a frequent guest on TV, including Fox News, Fox Business, NBC, MSNBC, CNBC, Bloomberg, PBS, CBS, and HBO. His work has also appeared in The Wall Street Journal, The Atlantic, USA Today, Health Affairs, and National Affairs, etc. Roy is a member of the Advisory Board of the National Institute for Health Care Management, and co-chairs the Fixing Veterans Health Care Policy Taskforce.



Peter Schweizer | Board Advisor

Peter Schweizer is the President of Government Accountability Institute and a best-selling author. He is a partner in the Washington, D.C. firm Oval Office Writers which provides speechwriting and communications services. From 2008-9, he was a consultant to the Office of Presidential Speechwriting in the White House. His books have been translated into eleven languages and include several New York Times or Washington Post bestsellers. Peter is the author of the book Extortion: How Politicians Extract Your Money, Buy Votes, and Line Their Own Pockets. Both Extortion and his previous book, Throw Them All Out were New York Times bestsellers and were featured on CBS's 60 Minutes. Schweizer's most recent work was "Clinton Cash LP." His articles have appeared in Foreign Affairs, The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, National Review, and elsewhere. Peter received his M.Phil. from Oxford University and his B.A. from George Washington University. He lives in Florida with his wife, Rhonda, and his children.



Norb Svanascini | Board Advisor

Park Ridge, IL. Mr. Svanascini is Founder and Chairman of AmericanEagle.com- the technology vendor for American Transparency. Americaneagle.com is an industry leading one-stop shop in Web site design, development, hosting and marketing. Mr. Svanascini's two sons, Tony and Michael, also own and run the business that has provided service to over 5,000 websites including WhiteHouse.gov, the Big Ten, Atlantic 10, Big East, NFL, NHL, NBA, NASCAR, Fortune 100, and Meadowlands Super Bowl Stadium. An immigrant to America at age 7, Mr. Svanascini has patented a network based card game of skill, can explain How Economies Work in under Ten Minutes, and is a licensed pilot.



Richard A. Viguerie | Board Advisor

Richard A. Viguerie transformed American politics by pioneering the use of computerized direct marketing in political and ideological spheres. His innovative skills and groundbreaking marketing strategies helped build the conservative movement, which contributed to the election of Ronald Reagan, the first conservative president of the modern era. Viguerie motivated millions of Americans to participate in politics for the first time. He is our era's equivalent of Tom Paine, using a direct mail letter rather than a pamphlet to deliver his call to arms. In his latest book Takeover, he explains how the Republican Party lost key elections because it failed to roll back the tide of big government. Viguerie is the chairman of American Target Advertising, a 52-year-old direct marketing agency based in Northern Virginia. His firm's use of direct mail in politics continues to enable candidates and causes to raise money from millions of small contributors, rather than from a few "fat cats."



Mary Beth Weiss | Board Advisor

Hinsdale, IL. Entrepreneur and owner of Hawthorne Ranch in Carpentaria, CA. Mary Beth has played a substantial role in public policy at the Federal, State and Local levels for many years. She is on the Financial Advisory Board of Midwest Division of the Salvation Army. Married to Richard Weiss, they have extensive national and local networks in the non-profit, political, tea party, think tank, academic and conservative journalist communities across America.

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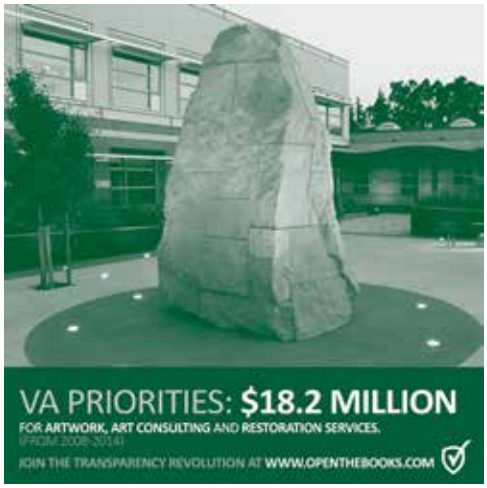
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