Campaign Finance in the 21st Century Addendum and Highlights from the 2016 Election

After spending \$5.6 million during the last presidential election year, outside groups have reported spending more than \$15 million on West Virginia elections so far in 2016 — closely rivaling the \$16.3 million in reported spending by candidates for executive, legislative, and judicial offices.¹ (The chart below compares candidate spending and outside spending going back to 2010², the year of the *Citizens United* decision.)



- This year's outside spending by race breaks down as follows:³
 - o Attorney General \$5,310,217
 - o **Governor \$3,689,683**
 - o Supreme Court \$3,644,315
- To date, spending by outside groups has played a larger role in 2016 state supreme court elections than in past years.⁴ According to the Center for Public Integrity, an increasing amount of money spent on state supreme court races originated from outside the election states, mostly from D.C.-based organizations.⁵ A similar trend is occurring in state attorneys general races.⁶
- The top spending groups this election cycle are:⁷
 - Mountaineers Always Free PAC, formed by the Republican Attorney Generals Association (RAGA) to help Patrick Morrisey (R) retain his position as West Virginia's Attorney General. The group, which has received much of its funding from coal and electricity companies, has spent \$5.3 million supporting Morrisey and attacking his opponent, Delegate Doug Reynolds (D-Cabell).^{8,9,10}

- The Republican State Leadership Committee's Judicial Fairness Initiative spent \$2.6 million supporting Beth Walker, the winner of the May Supreme Court race, and attacking two of her opponents, Darrell McGraw and Bill Wooton. The RSLC's top donors include the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the nation's two largest tobacco companies, Wal-Mart, and Koch Industries.¹¹
- The Republican Governors Association (RGA), through its Right Direction PAC, has spent nearly \$2.5 million to help Senate President Bill Cole (R-Mercer) in his race against Democrat Jim Justice. According to the Center for Responsive Politics (CRP), the RAGA, the RSLC, and the RGA have several major donors in common.^{12,13}
- West Virginia Family Values, a super PAC funded by labor unions and trial attorneys, has spent \$2.2 million in several state Senate races, primarily in support of Democrats and against Republicans.
- Good Jobs West Virginia has spent more than \$900,000 in the Governor's race attacking Bill Cole. The group's top donors are the Democratic Governors Association (DGA) and Jobs and Opportunity, a federal PAC funded primarily by the DGA.¹⁴ The DGA's top donors include Blue Cross/Blue Shield and several major pharmaceutical companies, according to CRP.¹⁵

District	Candidate	Against	For	Candidate Total	Race Total
4	Brian Prim	\$29,727	\$661,086	\$690,814	\$911 <i>,</i> 812
	Dustin Lewis	\$7,577	\$648	\$8,225	
	Mitch B. Carmichael	\$186,175	\$26,599	\$212,774	
11	Denise Lynne Campbell	\$8,854	\$98,467	\$107,321	\$234,655
	Gregory L. Boso	\$110,494	\$16,839	\$127,334	
14	Bob Williams		\$95,372	\$95,372	\$200,539
	Randy E. Smith	\$96,790	\$8,377	\$105,167	
16	Patricia Puertas Rucker	\$35,750	\$8,340	\$44,090	\$185,119
	Stephen G. Skinner	\$12,413	\$128,616	\$141,029	
8	Chris Wesley Walters	\$38,090	\$16,382	\$54,472	1 <u>51/0.0/U</u>
	Glenn D. Jeffries	\$7,884	\$114,314	\$122,198	
2	Lisa Zukoff		\$104,063	\$104,063	\$157,457
	Mike Maroney	\$45,054	\$8,340	\$53,394	
1	Jack Yost		\$103,701	\$103,701	\$136,768
	Ryan W. Weld	\$23,778	\$9,289	\$33,067	
6	Chandler Swope	\$26,190	\$6,844	\$33,034	·
	Robert Rocky Seay		\$83,686	\$83,686	
3	Gregory K Smith		\$78,680	\$78,680	\$106,565
	Mike Azinger	\$25,891	\$1,993	\$27,884	
9	D. Michael Goode		\$78,215	\$78,215	\$100,588
	Sue Cline	\$15,914	\$6,459	\$22,373	
10	David G. Perry		\$73,045	\$73,045	\$98,470
	Kenny Mann	\$17,834	\$7,591	\$25,425	
7	Arthur E. Kirkendoll		\$900	\$900	\$900
Total Spending		\$688,415	\$1,737,847		\$2,426,262

• Third party organizations have also spent **\$2.4 million in various state Senate races** (See table below for spending totals and race ranking).

Sources

¹ https://cfrs.wvsos.com/#/home, https://cfrs.wvsos.com/#/ieec list/8

⁴ https://www.brennancenter.org/press-release/new-analysis-2016-judicial-elections-see-secret-money-andheightened-outside-spending, https://www.brennancenter.org/press-release/new-analysis-outside-spendingsurges-important-state-judicial-races-election-day-nears

https://www.publicintegrity.org/2013/06/13/12793/dc-based-groups-bombarded-state-high-court-races-ads ⁶ https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/conservative-groups-pour-money-into-races-for-state-

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⁸ http://www.wvgazettemail.com/news-politics/20160923/national-gop-group-spends-big-on-morrisey-reelection#sthash.I3yOgyL3.dpuf

https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/conservative-groups-pour-money-into-races-for-stateattorneys-general/2016/09/23/7a57030c-7e86-11e6-8d13-d7c704ef9fd9_story.html

http://www.wvgazettemail.com/news-election/20161024/gop-group-has-spent-5m-on-morriseys-ag-campaign

- ¹¹ https://www.opensecrets.org/527s/527cmtedetail_contribs.php?ein=050532524&cycle=2016
- ¹² https://www.opensecrets.org/527s/527cmtedetail_contribs.php?ein=113655877

¹³ https://www.opensecrets.org/527s/527cmtedetail_contribs.php?ein=464501717&cycle=2016

¹⁴ http://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/fecimg?_201610149032491837+0

¹⁵ https://www.opensecrets.org/527s/527cmtedetail_contribs.php?ein=521304889&cycle=2016

² https://cfrs.wvsos.com/#/election_list/-2/-2/en

³ https://cfrs.wvsos.com/#/ieec_list/8