



FOR- PROFIT PRESIDENT

The First 100 Days of Donald Trump's
Presidency: Enriching His Private Business,
Carrying Out a Corporate Takeover and Putting
Profits Before People

May 3, 2017

By Rick Claypool, Research Director for Public Citizen's
President's Office

About Public Citizen

Public Citizen is a national non-profit organization with more than 400,000 members and supporters. We represent consumer interests through lobbying, litigation, administrative advocacy, research, and public education on a broad range of issues including consumer rights in the marketplace, product safety, financial regulation, worker safety, safe and affordable health care, campaign finance reform and government ethics, fair trade, climate change, and corporate and government accountability.

Public Citizen
1600 20th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20009
P: 202-588-1000
<http://www.citizen.org>

© 2017 Public Citizen.

INTRODUCTION

From day one, President Trump has used his position to expand and enrich his private businesses, lead an unprecedented corporate takeover by installing CEOs and corporate cronies at the highest levels of government and advance policies that prioritize expanding Big Business profits at the expense of the public interest.

Much of what happened over the course of Trump's first 100 days in office was presaged by his transition, which was characterized by a rapid influx of corporate-connected staff who were made responsible for transferring power to the incoming administration.¹

The transition staff members were soon upstaged by Trump's cabinet nominees, a selection of CEOs and corporate-backed Republican officials who constitute an unprecedented corporate cabinet.²

And while plans for dramatic cuts to federal programs³ and high-level meetings with corporate executives regarding business matters before the government⁴ were going on before Trump took the oath of office, the true depth of the administration's unswerving commitment to an especially savage version of corporate capitalism is now, as we approach the first 100 days under the Trump administration, utterly clear.

¹ <https://medium.com/public-citizen/corporate-interests-infest-trump-transition-at-federal-agencies-c42d32cb5ec1-.p9i4ho9yq>

² <http://corporatetcabinet.org/>

³ <http://thehill.com/policy/finance/314991-trump-team-prepares-dramatic-cuts>

⁴ <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/trump-meetings-mergers-lawyers/>

DAY 100

Saturday, April 29, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

During a “very friendly” phone call with Rodrigo Duterte, President of the Philippines, Trump invites the authoritarian leader to visit the White House.⁵

Duterte has reportedly ordered extrajudicial killings of thousands of his people.

A \$150 million Trump Tower is slated to open soon in Manila, the capital of the Philippines, where Trump and his daughter Ivanka also have trademark applications pending.⁶

⁵ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/30/us/politics/trump-duterte.html>

⁶ <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/politics/philippines-tower-raises-ethics-issues-trump-family-article-1.3126521>

DAY 99

Friday, April 28, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order to begin rolling back offshore drilling restrictions put in place after the BP oil spill disaster.⁷

Profits Before People ✓

The EPA's main climate change web site goes down, pending updates to reflect "the agency's new direction" under the Trump administration.⁸

⁷ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/27/us/politics/trump-offshore-drilling.html>

⁸ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/apr/29/epa-trump-website-climate-change-peoples-climate-march>

DAY 98

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

White House Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney floats wildly inaccurate conspiracy theory that government officials deliberately undercount regulatory costs in order to justify regulation.⁹

The truth is that regulators rely on information supplied by regulated industries in order to calculate costs, and that benefits – such as lives saved and pollution prevented – are notoriously difficult to quantify.¹⁰

The Washington Post fact-checked Mulvaney's claims, and awarded them “three Pinocchios.”¹¹

Corporate Takeover ✓

To prevent Trump from cancelling the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the U.S. Chamber of Commerce urges its corporate CEO members to lobby the White House.¹²

Enriching Private Business ✓

Despite Trump's press conference in January before taking office, in which he tried to demonstrate his separation from his businesses while still retaining ownership, that process, ProPublica finds, is still incomplete.¹³

⁹ <https://www.bna.com/obama-regulators-failed-n57982087276/>

¹⁰ <https://www.citizen.org/media/press-releases/omb-director-mulvaney-floats-demonstrably-false-conspiracy-theory-regulatory>

¹¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2017/05/03/budget-director-mulvaney-s-claim-that-obama-imposed-regulations-without-considering-costs/>

¹² <https://www.wsj.com/articles/trump-says-nafta-partners-persuaded-him-to-keep-u-s-in-trade-pact-1493320127>

¹³ <https://www.propublica.org/article/trump-resigning-from-businesses-finally-almost-done>

DAY 97

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

Profits Before People ✓

The Trump administration releases the broad outlines of a tax plan that reduces taxes on corporations and “pass-through” companies to 15 percent, repeals the estate tax, eliminates investment taxes that help fund the Affordable Care Act, and lowers the top income tax rate to 35 percent (from 39.6 percent).¹⁴

The result of the plan would be a massive transference of wealth from public coffers to corporations and the wealthiest Americans, including Trump.¹⁵

The amount the tax plan would benefit Trump is unknown, as the president has yet to disclose his tax forms. Responding to a question from a reporter, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said Trump has “no intention” of releasing his tax returns.¹⁶

Profits Before People ✓

A new version of the Trump-backed Republican bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act is introduced. In an effort to appeal to the earlier version’s right-wing opponents, the new version weakens protections for people with pre-existing conditions.¹⁷

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order to review national monuments, potentially a step toward gutting protections that prevent oil and gas drilling on some public lands.¹⁸

Profits Before People ✓

FCC chairman Ajit Pai introduces his plan to replace net neutrality rules a plan that relies on broadband corporations promising to regulate themselves.¹⁹

¹⁴ <http://money.cnn.com/2017/04/26/news/economy/trump-tax-plan-wealthy/index.html>

¹⁵ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/trump-planning-to-seek-tax-rate-of-15-on-pass-through-companies-1493145858>

¹⁶ <http://thehill.com/homenews/administration/330701-mnuchin-trump-has-no-intention-to-release-tax-returns>

¹⁷ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/obamacare-repeal-pre-existing-conditions_us_5900124fe4b0026db1dc423b

¹⁸ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/25/us/politics/national-monuments-energy-drilling.html>

¹⁹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/26/technology/net-neutrality.html>

DAY 96

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Doug Seaton, a professional union buster, is said to be on Trump's "short list" of nominees to join the National Labor Relations Board, a federal agency whose purpose includes protecting the rights of workers to join together to form a union.²⁰

Profits Before People ✓

Instead of punishing corporations that ship jobs overseas, a Public Citizen report finds that these corporations are being awarded government contracts.²¹

²⁰ <http://www.politico.com/tipsheets/morning-shift/2017/04/union-buster-to-nlrb-219959>

²¹ <https://www.citizen.org/media/press-releases/new-report-reveals-trump-not-punishing-corporations-offshore-american-jobs>

DAY 95

Monday, April 24, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Springs, Fla., is promoted in a blog post on websites for the State Department, the U.S. embassy in the United Kingdom and the U.S. embassy in Albania. Following criticism from journalists and ethics experts, the blog post is taken down.²²

Profits Before People ✓

MetLife, which contributed \$100,000 to Trump's inauguration,²³ asks an appeals court to delay a ruling over its status as a "too big to fail" institution, citing the Trump administration's intention to review the policy.²⁴

²² <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/24/state-department-us-embassy-mar-a-lago-237537>

²³ <https://www.axios.com/where-all-trumps-inaugural-came-from-2368572855.html>

²⁴ <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-04-24/metlife-seeks-delay-in-too-big-to-fail-case-amid-trump-s-review>

DAY 94

Sunday, April 23, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

A White House official tells Reuters to expect executive orders to expand offshore oil and gas drilling and fossil fuel development on public lands in the week ahead.²⁵

²⁵ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-energy-idUSKBN17P0JC>

DAY 93

Saturday, April 22, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

The New York Times details Trump's inner circle of unofficial confidants, including billionaire corporate executives such as Rupert Murdoch (News Corporation), Steven Schwarzman (Blackrock), Steven Roth (Vornado Realty), Philip Ruffin (casino owner), Carl Icahn (Icahn Enterprises, Federal-Mogul) and Thomas Barrack, Jr. (Colony Capital).²⁶

²⁶ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/22/us/politics/donald-trump-white-house.html>

DAY 92

Friday, April 21, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order to weaken Obama-era restrictions on corporate “inversions,” a scheme multinational corporations use to avoid paying U.S. taxes²⁷ and two memoranda directed at weakening parts of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform law, including the body charged with designating financial institutions “too big to fail.”²⁸

Corporate Takeover ✓

ProPublica reports Temporary beachhead team members becoming permanent members of the administration, including at least five who are former lobbyists who are now working from within the agencies they once lobbied.²⁹

²⁷ <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/corporate-inversion-rules-to-be-reviewed-under-trump-order-mnuchin-says-2017-04-21>

²⁸ http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/04/21/Trump-targets-more-Obama-era-regs-that-guard-against-corporate-abuses/5711492800182/

²⁹ <https://www.propublica.org/article/trump-temporary-officials-some-now-permanent-employees>

DAY 91

Thursday, April 20, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

An inventory of Trump properties by USA Today finds that Trump's corporations own at least 422 condo units, 12 mansions and "dozens" more smaller pieces of real estate, with the total value estimated to be at least \$250 million.³⁰ USA Today makes the point that any person or corporation could buy one of these properties, including potentially at an above-market price, to ingratiate themselves with the president. Since the election, Trump companies have sold \$23 million in properties; about half of the sales went to limited liability companies.

³⁰ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/04/20/trump-owns-250m-condos-and-you-could-buy-one/100566302/>

DAY 90

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Less than one week after former ExxonMobil CEO and current Secretary of State Rex Tillerson meets with Russian President Vladimir Putin,³¹ the Wall Street Journal reveals that ExxonMobil is lobbying for a waiver from U.S. sanctions on Russia so that it can drill for oil with Russia's state-run oil company.³² (Trump said no.³³)

Profits Before People ✓

FCC chairman Ajit Pai moves to eliminate rules that prevented telecommunications corporations from raising prices on other businesses and limited how many broadcast channels could be owned by a single corporation.³⁴

Corporate Takeover ✓

An in-depth analysis by the International Business Times reveals how the Trump administration appears to be crafting policies that are particularly beneficial for Blackstone, a financial firm whose CEO Stephen Schwarzman routinely officers policy advice to Trump and, likewise, how Blackstone appears to be pursuing investments that reflect Trump policy priorities.³⁵

³¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/12/world/europe/tillerson-putin-lavrov-russia-syria.html>

³² <https://www.wsj.com/articles/exxon-seeks-u-s-waiver-to-work-in-russia-despite-sanctions-1492620677>

³³ <http://www.vox.com/world/2017/4/21/15387254/exxon-russia-rex-tillerson-waiver>

³⁴ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/19/technology/ajit-pai-fcc-telecom-deregulation.html>

³⁵ <http://www.ibtimes.com/political-capital/how-billionaire-trump-adviser-evades-ethics-law-while-shaping-policies-make-money>

DAY 89

Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

The Federal Election Commission releases a 500-page report on contributions to Trump's inauguration. Corporations contributed a significant portion to the \$106.7 million haul, including Reynolds American, Boeing, AT&T, General Motors, Murray Energy Corporation, Comcast, Anthem and Northrop Grumman. Among the most generous donors – those who gave at least \$1 million – were billionaires Sheldon Adelson, Robert Mercer, Charles Schwab and Paul Singer.³⁶

Profits Before People ✓

To promote American manufacturing, Trump visits the Madison, Wis., headquarters of Snap-On, a tool corporation that reportedly manufactures some of its products in China, is embroiled in lawsuits and is accused of engaging in predatory lending practices with its franchisees.³⁷

³⁶ <https://www.publicintegrity.org/2017/04/19/20827/donald-trump-inauguration-bankrolled-corporate-giants>

³⁷ <http://www.businessinsider.com/trump-visiting-snap-on-while-franchisees-furious-2017-4>

DAY 88

Monday, April 17, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump speaks on the phone with Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the President of Turkey, the location of Trump Towers Istanbul, congratulating him on a vote consolidating his authoritarian powers.³⁸

Corporate Takeover ✓

An analysis by Public Citizen reveals Trump has met with at least 190 corporate executives – averaging more than two a day. Counting repeat attendees, he has had at least 222 corporate executive meetings.³⁹

Corporate Takeover ✓

Reuters details the influence of Gary Cohn, a former Goldman Sachs executive who Trump nominated to lead the National Economic Council, in steering the administration toward corporate-friendly policies.⁴⁰

³⁸ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trump-business-erdogan_us_58f66bbae4b0de5bac41a125

³⁹ <http://www.citizenvox.org/2017/04/17/corporate-executives-swamp-white-house/>

⁴⁰ <http://www.reuters.com/article/usa-trump-cohn-idUSL1N1HP1D6>

DAY 87

Sunday, April 16, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

In response to thousands of activists demonstrating in more than 150 cities nationwide who called for Trump to make his tax returns public in order to reveal potential conflicts of interest, the president tweets, “I did what was an almost an impossible thing to do for a Republican-easily won the Electoral College! Now Tax Returns are brought up again?” and “Someone should look into who paid for the small organized rallies yesterday. The election is over!”⁴¹

⁴¹ <http://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trump-calls-investigation-tax-day-protesters-tweets-election-over-n747101>

DAY 86

Saturday, April 15, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Reporting by ProPublica and the New York Times finds that a slew of former lobbyists are now working within the Trump administration to deregulate the industries they previously represented from the outside, in some cases in apparent violation of the Trump administration's ethics policy.⁴²

⁴² <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/15/us/politics/trump-appointees-potential-conflicts.html>

DAY 85

Friday, April 14, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

The White House announces it will not make visitor logs public, a reversal of the Obama administration's policy, which enabled journalists, advocates and the public to track corporate lobbyists and others who were influencing policy in the executive branch.⁴³

Profits Before People ✓

The Trump administration awards a \$110 million contract to build a new immigrant detention center to GEO Group, a private prison company that contributed \$225,000 to a pro-Trump super PAC and \$250,000 toward Trump's inauguration.⁴⁴

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump nominates two Republican former members of Congress to oversee the Export-Import Bank, an agency Trump called "unnecessary" on the campaign trail.⁴⁵ While some corporate-backed groups such as the Koch brothers' Americans for Prosperity and the Club for Growth support eliminating the agency, large manufacturers such as General Electric and Boeing that sell products abroad support the agency, as does the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.⁴⁶

Corporate Takeover ✓

Nancy Beck, a policy director for the American Chemistry Council (a chemical industry lobbying group whose members include ExxonMobil, Monsanto, Bayer, Dow Chemical, and DuPont), is Trump's pick to head the EPA office charged with regulating the chemical industry.⁴⁷

⁴³ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/white-house-says-it-wont-make-visitor-logs-public-237235>

⁴⁴ <https://mic.com/articles/174221/private-firm-wins-110-million-contract-for-new-immigrant-detention-center-in-texas>

⁴⁵ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/white-house-says-it-wont-make-visitor-logs-public-237235>

⁴⁶ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-eximbank-idUSKBN17F03C>

⁴⁷ <http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2017/04/trump-just-put-chemical-industry-hack-charge-assessing-chemicals-epa>

DAY 84

Thursday, April 13, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

In an interview on Fox News, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt says the U.S. should “exit” the Paris climate agreement.⁴⁸

Corporate Takeover ✓

Dow Chemical sent letters to Trump cabinet members – EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke – lobbying them to ignore findings that pesticides the corporation manufactures are harmful to endangered species.⁴⁹ Dow CEO Andrew Liveris leads a group of Trump’s CEO advisors and the corporation contributed \$1 million to the president’s inauguration.

⁴⁸ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/04/14/trumps-epa-chief-scott-pruitt-calls-for-an-exit-to-the-paris-climate-agreement/>

⁴⁹ <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/dow-chemical-pushing-trump-administration-scrap-risk-study-article-1.3078798>

DAY 83

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump flip-flops on his campaign promise to label China a currency manipulator.⁵⁰ The change comes after the billionaire CEO of Blackstone, Steve Schwarzman, urged him to make the decision. Labeling China a currency manipulator, Blackstone informed investors, would damage the firm's profits.⁵¹

Profits Before People ✓

Education Secretary Betsy DeVos withdraws borrower protections that prevent predatory practices by student loan servicers.⁵²

⁵⁰ <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-flips-campaign-promise-label-china-currency-manipulator/story?id=46758466>

⁵¹ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/trump-schwarzman-blackstone-influence-237341>

⁵² <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/devos-reverses-obama-era-directives-aimed-at-protecting-student-loan-borrowers-2017-04-12>

DAY 82

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump holds the second meeting of the Strategic and Policy Forum, a policy advisory group made up of more than a dozen CEOs representing corporations including General Motors, IBM, Wal-Mart, PepsiCo and Boeing.⁵³

Profits Before People ✓

Mick Mulvaney, director of the White House Office of Management and Budget, solicits public comments for deregulatory priorities.⁵⁴

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump administration nominees announced today⁵⁵ include Marshall Billingslea, a Deloitte executive, to be assistant secretary for terrorist financing for the Department of the Treasury; John Marshall Mitnick, general counsel for the corporate-backed Heritage Foundation, to be general counsel for the Department of Homeland Security; and John Sullivan, a partner in the corporate law firm Mayer Brown whose clients include “major oil and gas companies, consulting, accounting, and financial services firms, petrochemical companies, and manufacturers,”⁵⁶ to be deputy Secretary of State.

Profits Before People ✓

Carlos Muniz, an aide to Florida's attorney general who is credited with preventing the state from suing Trump University, is named to be general counsel of the Education Department.⁵⁷

Profits Before People ✓

The Department of Agriculture delays implementation of rules intended to level the playing field for poultry and livestock farmers in their dealings with the “Big Meat” agribusinesses they supply.⁵⁸

⁵³ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/donald-trump-david-bill-koch-brothers-237059>

⁵⁴ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/reorganizing-the-executive-branch>

⁵⁵ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/11/president-donald-j-trump-announces-intent-nominate-personnel-key>

⁵⁶ <https://www.mayerbrown.com/people/John-Sullivan/>

⁵⁷ https://mobile.nytimes.com/aponline/2017/04/11/us/politics/ap-us-devos-trump-u.html?_r=0&referer=https://t.co/lOMxAmmWVl

⁵⁸ <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-04-21/farmers-have-a-beef-with-trump-and-big-meat>

DAY 81

Monday, April 10, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Neil Gorsuch, Trump's U.S. Supreme Court nominee, is sworn in.⁵⁹ Reuters characterizes Gorsuch as a "friend to business" when he was a private lawyer.⁶⁰

Profits Before People ✓

Toyota Motor Corporation announces a \$1.33 billion investment, and Trump takes credit, despite the plan having been in the works for three years.⁶¹

Profits Before People ✓

A 25-year employee of the EPA resigns with a scathing letter to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt that compares Pruitt's denial that carbon dioxide causes global warming to the denial by tobacco CEOs that cigarettes cause cancer.⁶²

⁵⁹ <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/neil-gorsuch-sworn-supreme-court-justice/story?id=46699857>

⁶⁰ <http://www.reuters.com/article/usa-court-gorsuch-business-idUSL1N1FM261>

⁶¹ <https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-04-10/trump-takes-credit-as-toyota-spends-1-33-billion-on-camry-plant>

⁶² <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/politics/article/Morale-is-rock-bottom-budget-cuts-indefensible-11063573.php>

DAY 80

Sunday, April 9, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

An analysis by Slate of Trump's traveling finds that, in less than three months in office, the Trump has already spent twice the amount of President Obama's annual travel budget.⁶³

63

http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_slatest/2017/04/09/trump_has_already_spent_almost_double_obama_s_annual_travel_budget.html

DAY 79

Saturday, April 8, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

At Mar-a-Lago, Trump meets with billionaire corporate CEOs, including Stephen Schwarzman of Blackstone⁶⁴ and, separately, David and Bill Koch.⁶⁵

⁶⁴ <http://www.politico.com/tipsheets/playbook/2017/04/wh-still-making-calls-looking-for-a-deal-on-health-care-mulvaney-rising-status-17-ceos-to-the-white-house-for-a-meeting-with-potus-congressmans-dad-writes-a-letter-to-the-freedom-caucus-219696>

⁶⁵ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/donald-trump-david-bill-koch-brothers-237059>

DAY 78

Friday, April 7, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump nominates Kevin Allen Hassett from the corporate-backed American Enterprise Institute to be the chair the Council of Economic Advisors;⁶⁶ Nemoi Rao, a faculty member at the Koch-backed law school at George Mason University and an opponent of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, to be the administrator of the Office of Management and Budget's powerful Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs; Russell Vought of the corporate-backed advocacy group Heritage Action to be deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget; and Dr. Mark Green, founder and CEO of an emergency room staffing company, to be Secretary of the Army.⁶⁷ Green, also a Tennessee state senator, has been sharply criticized for supporting legislation permitting discrimination against transgender people.⁶⁸

⁶⁶ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/07/president-donald-j-trump-announces-intent-nominate-personnel-key>

⁶⁷ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/07/president-donald-j-trump-announces-intent-nominate-personnel-key>

⁶⁸ <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/politics/lgbt-advocacy-groups-slam-army-secretary-nominee-mark-green-article-1.3043141>

DAY 77

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump prepares an executive order to expand offshore oil drilling.⁶⁹ Fossil fuel corporations, including ExxonMobil and Citgo Petroleum, collectively contributed at least \$10 million to Trump's inauguration.⁷⁰

Enriching Private Business ✓

One day after Ivanka Trump joins her father for a dinner meeting with China's President Xi Jinping, the Chinese government approves three new trademarks for Ivanka's company, Ivanka Trump Marks LLC, bringing the total up to 16.⁷¹

Enriching Private Business ✓

The Georgian ambassador posts a tweet promoting the Trump International Hotel in Washington, D.C., calling it a "great" hotel that has "so far the best service I've seen in the United States!"⁷²

⁶⁹ <https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-04-06/trump-said-to-ready-order-to-expand-oil-drilling-in-u-s-waters>

⁷⁰ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/19/us/politics/trump-inauguration-sheldon-adelson-fundraising.html>

⁷¹ <https://apnews.com/d9e34f23a64947d99e4a7d757012c509>

⁷² <https://thinkprogress.org/georgian-ambassador-accidentally-illustrates-trumps-conflicts-of-interest-6a110be0d921>

DAY 76

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump returns to Mar-a-Lago for a meeting with China's President Xi Jinping.⁷³

Corporate Takeover ✓

Amid rumors of internal feuding between Trump advisors Jared Kushner and Steven Bannon, Breitbart News – the far-right nationalist website where Bannon was CEO – publishes a series of articles attacking Kushner.⁷⁴

Profits Before People ✓

The EPA proposes eliminating programs that protect children from lead paint exposure.⁷⁵

⁷³ <https://apnews.com/9cee0e6069ac4bbd90d009fa3ff961ee>

⁷⁴ <https://mediamatters.org/blog/2017/04/06/defend-bannon-breitbart-has-opened-fire-presidents-son-law/215938>

⁷⁵ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/04/05/trumps-epa-moves-to-defund-programs-that-protect-children-from-lead/>

DAY 75

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

At the White House, Trump hosts a “CEO Town Hall,”⁷⁶ a gathering of senior administration officials with dozens of corporate executives from several industries, especially finance and real estate.⁷⁷

Profits Before People ✓

Today is the deadline for contractors bidding to construct Trump’s proposed Mexico border wall, and construction companies are nervous about conflicts with activists who oppose the wall.⁷⁸

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump nominates Heath Tarbert, a partner with the corporate law firm Allen & Overy LLP, to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Markets and Development.⁷⁹

According to Tarbert’s Allen & Overy biography, he regularly represents financial institutions against regulators including “the Federal Reserve Board, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), and other U.S. federal and state financial regulators.”⁸⁰

Corporate Takeover ✓

Reuters reveals that Jay Clayton, Trump’s nominee to chair the SEC, communicated with Peter Thiel, a Trump advisor and co-founder of a business that contracts with the SEC, before he was nominated.⁸¹

⁷⁶ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/04/remarks-president-trump-and-vice-president-pence-ceo-town-hall>

⁷⁷ <https://www.thestreet.com/story/14072102/1/trump-ceo-town-hall-today-includes-hedge-fund-chiefs-real-estate-moguls.html>

⁷⁸ <http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/Final-Bids-Submitted-for-Proposed-Border-Wall-418287223.html>

⁷⁹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/04/president-donald-j-trump-announces-intent-nominate-heath-p-tarbert>

⁸⁰ <http://www.allenoverly.com/people/en-gb/Pages/Heath-Tarbert.aspx>

⁸¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-sec-palantir-idUSKBN17604J>

DAY 74

Monday, April 3, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs legislation rescinding a worker protection rule from OSHA that authorized the agency to fine businesses for failing to keep adequate records going back five years of workplace-related illnesses, injuries and deaths.⁸²

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs legislation rolling back the FCC's internet privacy rules that prohibit broadband providers from selling users personal browsing activities.⁸³ The legislation is largely seen as a gift to the telecommunications industry.⁸⁴ Verizon, Comcast and AT&T collectively contributed more than \$2 million to Trump's inauguration.⁸⁵

Corporate Takeover ✓

Michael Cohen, Trump's personal attorney, is named deputy chairman of the Republican National Committee. On the same day, multinational corporate law and lobbying firm Squire Patton Boggs also announces a new partnership with Cohen.⁸⁶

⁸² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/04/trump-kills-second-of-two-obama-era-worker-safety-rules/>

⁸³ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/04/trump-kills-second-of-two-obama-era-worker-safety-rules/>

⁸⁴ <https://theintercept.com/2017/04/13/telecom-cash-isp/>

⁸⁵ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/19/us/politics/trump-inauguration-sheldon-adelson-fundraising.html>

⁸⁶ <https://www.yahoo.com/news/president-trumps-personal-attorney-is-now-working-with-the-republican-party-and-a-top-law-firm-201737760.html>

DAY 73

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Revelations from the ethics disclosures continue, revealing deep ties between members of the Trump administration and the Koch brothers' network of right-wing groups.⁸⁷

⁸⁷ <https://www.cnet.com/news/trump-signs-bill-repealing-us-internet-privacy-rules/>

DAY 72

Saturday, April 1, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Ethics disclosures reveal the vast wealth and corporate connections of Trump administration members.⁸⁸

⁸⁸ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/31/us/politics/white-house-releases-staff-financial-disclosures.html>

DAY 71

Friday, March 31, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump nominates Mira Radielovic Ricardel, a former Boeing executive, to serve as Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration.⁸⁹

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump holds a “listening session” with corporate CEO members of the National Association of Manufacturers, a leading business lobby group.⁹⁰

⁸⁹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/30/president-donald-j-trump-announces-key-administration-posts>

⁹⁰ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/31/remarks-president-trump-listening-session-national-association>

DAY 70

Thursday, March 30, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

The Trump administration is pushing Congress to cut from its budget nearly \$18 billion from domestic programs while asking for an increase in military spending and for approximately \$2 billion for the proposed Mexican border wall. The budget is due at the end of April.⁹¹

Profits Before People ✓

After Trump sharply criticized the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as a “disaster” on the campaign trail, the administration circulates a trade policy proposal that shows the administration pursuing only minor alterations whose potential benefit U.S. workers is doubtful.⁹²

⁹¹ <https://secure.politico.com/story/2017/03/donald-trump-cuts-to-domestic-programs-congress-236579>

⁹² <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/03/donald-trump-nafta-changes-reality-236712>

DAY 69

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

The Trump administration is pushing Congress to cut from its budget nearly \$18 billion from domestic programs while asking for an increase in military spending and for approximately \$2 billion for the proposed Mexican border wall. The budget is due at the end of April.⁹³

Profits Before People ✓

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt rejects the EPA's own findings that widely used insecticide is harmful to children and farm workers.⁹⁴ The chemical, chlorpyrifos, is produced commercially by Dow Chemical, which contributed \$1 million to Trump's inauguration and whose CEO leads a White House advisory committee.⁹⁵

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump's sons seek to develop a second Trump hotel in Washington, D.C.⁹⁶

⁹³ <https://secure.politico.com/story/2017/03/donald-trump-cuts-to-domestic-programs-congress-236579>

⁹⁴ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/29/us/politics/epa-insecticide-chlorpyrifos.html>

⁹⁵ <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/dow-chemical-pushing-trump-administration-scrap-risk-study-article-1.3078798>

⁹⁶ https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/president-trumps-company-pursues-second-washington-hotel/2017/03/29/dfd6ee8e-0f42-11e7-9d5a-a83e627dc120_story.html

DAY 68

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order rescinding environmental protections that affect coal production and ordering a review of the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan.⁹⁷

⁹⁷ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/28/presidential-executive-order-promoting-energy-independence-and-economi-1>

DAY 67

Monday, March 27, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs four bills that rescind Obama administration regulations.⁹⁸ Among the protections that Trump removed were the Labor Department's Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces rule (which restricts companies with workplace violations from receiving federal contracts) and the Bureau of Land Management's planning rule (which fossil fuel corporations opposed).

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump, Vice President Mike Pence and Small Business Administrator Linda McMahon preside over a meeting of women CEOs.⁹⁹

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump names Makan Delrahim to oversee the Justice Department's antitrust division.¹⁰⁰ A former corporate lobbyist, Delrahim's past clients include Blue Cross Blue Shield, Caesars Entertainment and Qualcomm.¹⁰¹

Enriching Private Business ✓

In response to a question about his movie recommendations, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, a former movie producer, says, I'm not allowed to promote anything that I'm involved in [...] But you should send all your kids to *LEGO Batman*," a movie Mnuchin produced.¹⁰²

⁹⁸ <http://rulesatrisk.org/resolutions/>

⁹⁹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/27/remarks-president-trump-and-vice-president-pence-roundtable-women-small>

¹⁰⁰ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/27/president-donald-j-trump-announces-intent-nominate-makan-delrahim>

¹⁰¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/27/business/makan-delrahim-justice-department-mergers.html>

¹⁰² <https://consumerist.com/2017/03/24/treasury-secretary-mnuchin-says-to-go-see-lego-batman-one-of-many-movies-he-produced/>

DAY 66

Sunday, March 26, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

For the second day in a row, Trump goes back to Trump National Golf Course.¹⁰³

According to a tally by *The Washington Post*, it is the 21st day Trump has spent at Mar-a-Lago or another Trump property out of the 66 days he has been in office.¹⁰⁴

Corporate Takeover ✓

The White House plans to announce a new “Office of American Innovation,” which will be overseen by Trump’s son-in-law Jared Kushner and potentially involve the privatization of government services.¹⁰⁵ According to the official announcement regarding the creation of the office, the initiative was crafted with the involvement of “more than 100 private-sector CEOs.”¹⁰⁶

¹⁰³ <https://thinkprogress.org/trump-visits-trump-branded-property-for-8th-consecutive-weekend-98f14337db34>

¹⁰⁴ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/politics/wp/2017/03/26/nearly-one-out-of-every-three-days-he-has-been-president-trump-has-visited-a-trump-property/>

¹⁰⁵ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/03/27/fact-check-trump-job-boast-charter-communications/99683484/>

¹⁰⁶ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/27/president-donald-j-trump-announces-white-house-office-american>

DAY 65

Saturday, March 25, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump plays a full 18 holes of golf at the Trump National in Virginia near Washington, D.C., and later dines at the Trump International Hotel, near the White House in Washington, D.C.¹⁰⁷

¹⁰⁷ <https://thinkprogress.org/trump-visits-trump-branded-property-for-8th-consecutive-weekend-98f14337db34>

DAY 64

Friday, March 24, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump announces that the Keystone XL pipeline, which environmental and public interest groups vigorously opposed and which the Obama administration halted, is granted a permit to begin construction.¹⁰⁸

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump meets with the CEO of Charter Communications and boasts about the cable company's planned \$25 billion investment "following [his] election victory," appearing to take credit. Charter's investment plans had been in the works for about two years.¹⁰⁹

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump's son Eric says he will update his father, the president, on the Trump Organization's expanding profits "probably quarterly."¹¹⁰ Meanwhile, the new Trump-branded hotel chain, Scion, is seeking investors, raising the prospects of numerous potential conflicts of interest.¹¹¹

¹⁰⁸ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/03/24/trump-administration-grants-approval-for-keystone-xl-pipeline/>

¹⁰⁹ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/03/27/fact-check-trump-job-boast-charter-communications/99683484/>

¹¹⁰ <https://secure.politico.com/story/2017/03/eric-trump-sharing-business-updates-father-236464>

¹¹¹ <http://bigstory.ap.org/1eae9c3419ee45e3849b8cdddecc0e9a>

DAY 63

Thursday, March 23, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump meets with CEOs from the trucking industry, a longtime foe of public and workplace protections, to discuss repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act.¹¹²

Corporate Takeover ✓

Corporate advocacy titans U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Koch-backed Americans for Prosperity go to war over the Trump-backed legislation to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. The Chamber is pushing for it's immediate passage as is, while Americans for Prosperity says the present Republican plan keeps too much of the Obama bill intact.¹¹³

¹¹² <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/23/remarks-president-meeting-truckers-and-ceos-healthcare>

¹¹³ <https://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2017/03/23/u-s-chamber-of-commerce-chief-urges-house-gop-to-pass-health-bill/>

DAY 62

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

In large part because of Trump's Mar-a-Lago travel and the Trump's wife and son continuing to live in Trump Tower in New York City, the Secret Service requests an additional \$60 million in funding.¹¹⁴

¹¹⁴ https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/secret-service-asked-for-60-million-extra-for-trump-era-travel-and-protection-documents-show/2017/03/22/0967e7b6-0a85-11e7-a15f-a58d4a988474_story.html

DAY 61

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

The U.S. bans laptop computers and other digital devices from the cabins of planes traveling to 10 airports in majority Muslim countries. While security is provided as the official reason for the ban, the move is also seen as retaliation against the Muslim country airlines, which are largely subsidized by their home countries -- a point of contention with U.S.-based airlines.¹¹⁵

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump administration appointees announced today include Boeing executive Benjamin Cassidy to be the Department of Homeland Security's liaison to Congress and Jonathan Rath Hoffman, recently an executive at Americans for Peace, Prosperity, and Security (an advocacy group affiliated with defense contractors and which urges politicians to take aggressive military policy positions¹¹⁶) for Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs at the Department of Homeland Security. Trump also nominated Ryan Dean Newman, formerly chief counsel for Sen. Ted Cruz and onetime lawyer at the corporate firm Jones Day, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Army.¹¹⁷

¹¹⁵ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/03/21/trump-wont-allow-you-to-use-ipads-or-laptops-on-certain-airlines-heres-the-underlying-story/>

¹¹⁶ <https://theintercept.com/2015/05/09/military-contractors-form-group-pressure-2016-candidates-adopt-hawkish-positions/>

¹¹⁷ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/21/president-donald-j-trump-announces-key-administration-posts>

DAY 60

Monday, March 20, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump meets with billionaire and former Microsoft CEO Bill Gates to discuss foreign aid.¹¹⁸

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump's daughter Ivanka, who, like her father, also still owns and profits from her company, gets an office of her own in the West Wing of the White House.¹¹⁹

¹¹⁸ <http://www.seattletimes.com/business/billionaire-gates-meets-with-trump-to-talk-foreign-aid/>

¹¹⁹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/03/20/ivanka-trump-moves-into-west-wing-office-acknowledges-no-modern-precedent-for-her-role/>

DAY 59

Sunday, March 19, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Mick Mulvaney, Trump's director of the White House Office of Management and Budget, goes on CBS's Face the Nation and defends the deep cuts to public programs that Trump's budget proposes while Trump's Mar-a-Lago trips cost taxpayers millions.¹²⁰

¹²⁰ <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/mar-a-lago-security-costs-mick-mulvaney-white-house-budget-cuts-already-started/>

DAY 58

Saturday, March 18, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

George T. Conway III, husband of White House advisor Kellyanne Conway, is appointed to lead the civil justice division of the Department of Justice.¹²¹ According to Conway's biography on the website for the corporate law firm where he is a partner, he "played a substantial role" in the tobacco industry's defamation case against ABC News.¹²² Among his writings is an op-ed he co-authored for *the Wall Street Journal* supporting Chevron's aggressive litigation tactics, including the hiring of approximately 2,000 lawyers, in its legal battle against allegations of environmental harms in Ecuador.¹²³

Enriching Private Business ✓

While the official White House readout of Trump's activities suggest back-to-back high level policy meetings, the president in fact spent much of the day at Trump International Golf Course, golfing with the CEO of Newsmax, a conservative news outlet.¹²⁴

Later, Trump dines at Mar-a-Lago with Marvel CEO Ike Perlmutter, who spent more than \$1 million supporting Trump's presidential campaign.¹²⁵

¹²¹ https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/white-house-advisers-spouse-headed-for-senior-justice-department-post/2017/03/17/adf27dec-0b4c-11e7-b77c-0047d15a24e0_story.html?utm_term=.478079a2aad3

¹²² <http://www.wlrk.com/gtconway/>

¹²³ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424127887324328204578572592476276824>

¹²⁴ <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2017/3/19/1645072/-White-House-claimed-Trump-had-a-day-full-of-meetings-but-the-truth-emerges-with-a-swamp-selfie>

¹²⁵ <https://consequenceofsound.net/2017/03/marvel-ceo-ike-perlmutter-and-donald-trump-are-enjoying-well-done-steaks-at-mar-a-lago-this-evening/>

DAY 57

Friday, March 17, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Along with Chancellor Angela Merkel, Trump meets with German CEOs.¹²⁶

Corporate Takeover ✓

Carl Icahn, billionaire corporate raider and unofficial Trump advisor, pushes Trump to change ethanol policies in ways that would enable Icahn to reap hundreds of millions.¹²⁷

¹²⁶ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/17/remarks-president-trump-roundtable-discussion-vocational-training-us-and>

¹²⁷ <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-03-17/icahn-bets-against-renewables-market-he-wants-trump-to-overhaul>

DAY 56

Thursday, March 16, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump unveils his first budget proposal, which increases military spending by \$54 billion and offsets the spending with severe cuts to public protections and social programs.¹²⁸

The cuts include a 31 percent reduction in funding to the EPA,¹²⁹ a 28 percent reduction in funding to the State Department,¹³⁰ and a 21 percent reduction in funding to the Departments of Labor and Agriculture.¹³¹

Regarding the cuts, the Obama administration's EPA enforcement efforts said:

[More cuts] won't just drastically reduce EPA enforcement, it will bring it to a halt [...] Not only will the staff be a shadow of its former self, the inspectors, lawyers and criminal agents who would be left would be unable to do their jobs, because these cuts would zero out the already small amount of funds used to do inspections, monitor pollution and file cases.¹³²

Corporate Takeover ✓

Among the Trump administration nominees announced on this day¹³³ is Boeing executive Patrick Shanahan for Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Corporate Takeover ✓

Coal lobbyist Andrew Wheeler is rumored to be Trump's pick for deputy administrator of the EPA.¹³⁴

¹²⁸ https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/trump-federal-budget-2018-massive-cuts-to-the-arts-science-and-the-poor/2017/03/15/0a0a0094-09a1-11e7-a15f-a58d4a988474_story.html

¹²⁹ https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/budget-reflects-trumps-vow-to-cut-epa-in-almost-every-form/2017/03/15/0611db20-09a5-11e7-a15f-a58d4a988474_story.html

¹³⁰ https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/state-departments-28-percent-cuts-hit-foreign-aid-un-and-climate-change/2017/03/15/294d7ab8-0996-11e7-a15f-a58d4a988474_story.html

¹³¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/politics/trump-presidential-budget-2018-proposal/>

¹³² https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/budget-reflects-trumps-vow-to-cut-epa-in-almost-every-form/2017/03/15/0611db20-09a5-11e7-a15f-a58d4a988474_story.html

¹³³ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/16/president-donald-j-trump-announces-intent-nominate-key-administration>

¹³⁴ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/03/andrew-wheeler-epa-deputy-sources-236151>

DAY 55

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

In apparent response to direct lobbying by the automobile industry,¹³⁵ Trump orders a review of the EPA's fuel efficiency standards.¹³⁶

¹³⁵ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-autos-idUSKBN16K1L5>

¹³⁶ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/innovations/wp/2017/03/15/trump-to-pull-back-epas-fuel-efficiency-determination-opening-the-door-for-reduced-standards/>

DAY 54

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump administration nominees announced on this day¹³⁷ include Goldman Sachs managing director James Donovan for Deputy Treasury Secretary,¹³⁸ Hess Corporation “advisor” Drew Maloney as the Treasury Department’s liaison to Congress,¹³⁹ and Adam Lerrick, a scholar with the corporate-backed American Enterprise Institute, as Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury for International Finance.

¹³⁷ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/14/president-donald-j-trump-announces-intent-nominate-key-administration>

¹³⁸ <https://www.opensecrets.org/news/2017/03/revolving-door-goldman-sachs/>

¹³⁹ <http://thehill.com/business-a-lobbying/324195-more-lobbyists-finding-spots-in-trump-administration>

DAY 53

Monday, March 13, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

Since Trump was elected, the campaign for Trump's re-election continues to rent office space in Trump Tower. On this date, those payments since Trump's election exceeded \$274,000.¹⁴⁰

Profits Before People ✓

The Congressional Budget Office releases a report showing the Trump-backed Republican plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act will increase the number of Americans without health insurance by 24 million.¹⁴¹

Corporate Takeover ✓

Billionaire-backed Breitbart News criticizes the Republicans' plan to repeal and replace the affordable care act and attacks Speaker Paul Ryan by releasing audio of Ryan disavowing Trump in October.¹⁴²

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs legislation repealing Department of Labor rules allowing states and local governments to set up retirement accounts for workers who are not offered accounts through their employers,¹⁴³ a victory for the private investments lobby,¹⁴⁴ which opposes such rules.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁰ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trump-tower-campaign-rent_us_59079137e4b0bb2d087052be

¹⁴¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/13/us/politics/affordable-care-act-health-congressional-budget-office.html>

¹⁴² <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/03/13/exclusive-audio-emerges-of-when-paul-ryan-abandoned-donald-trump-i-am-not-going-to-defend-donald-trump-not-now-not-in-the-future/>

¹⁴³ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/13/hj-res-67---disapproving-rule-submitted-department-labor-relating>

¹⁴⁴ <http://www.economist.com/blogs/freeexchange/2017/04/cash-strapped-pensioners?fsrc=scn/tw/te/bl/ed/>

¹⁴⁵ <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-state-401k-20160808-snap-story.html>

DAY 52

Sunday, March 12, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump retweets America First Policies, a dark money group started by the Trump's 2016 presidential campaign staff.¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁶ https://twitter.com/RobertMaguire_/status/842716516995006464

DAY 51

Saturday, March 11, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

After refusing to step down, Preet Bharara, prosecutor for the southern district of New York, is fired.¹⁴⁷

Bharara reportedly had at the time been overseeing investigations into Tom Price, formerly a Republican member of Congress from Georgia and now Trump's Secretary of Health and Human Services, whose stock trading activities have drawn suspicion,¹⁴⁸ and Fox News, whose executive chairman, Rupert Murdoch, is a Trump ally.¹⁴⁹

¹⁴⁷ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/mar/11/preet-bharara-us-attorney-refuses-resign-jeff-sessions>

¹⁴⁸ <https://www.propublica.org/article/preet-bharara-fired-investigating-tom-price-hhs-stock-trading>

¹⁴⁹ <http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2017/03/winner-in-trumps-decision-to-fire-bharara-might-be-murdoch.html>

DAY 50

Friday, March 10, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Forty-six U.S. attorneys abruptly receive an order from Attorney General Jeff Sessions to resign.¹⁵⁰ Among them is Preet Bharara, prosecutor for the southern district of New York, who Trump previously had asked to stay on in his powerful Wall Street jurisdiction.¹⁵¹ Bharara refuses to step down.

Profits Before People ✓

The nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation releases a report finding that the Republican plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act would amount to a collective \$165 billion tax cut for millionaires.¹⁵²

Profits Before People ✓

President Trump nominates Scott Gottlieb, who has spent most of his career promoting the financial interests of the pharmaceutical industry,¹⁵³ to be the FDA's commissioner of Food and Drugs.

¹⁵⁰ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/mar/11/preet-bharara-us-attorney-refuses-resign-jeff-sessions>

¹⁵¹ <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/nov/30/donald-trump-asks-preet-bharara-stay-us-attorney-n/>

¹⁵² <http://money.cnn.com/2017/03/11/news/economy/obamacare-repeal-wealthy/index.html>

¹⁵³ <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10205>

DAY 49

Thursday March 9, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump meets with the CEOs of regional banks.¹⁵⁴

Profits Before People ✓

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt takes his climate denialism to cable TV, saying:

I think that measuring with precision human activity on the climate is something very challenging to do and there's tremendous disagreement about the degree of impact, so no, I would not agree that it's a primary contributor to the global warming that we see ... But we don't know that yet. We need to continue the debate and continue the review and the analysis.¹⁵⁵

Profits Before People ✓

As the Trump administration seeks to eliminate the EPA's Office of Environmental Justice, the office's leader, after a 24-year career at the agency, resigns.¹⁵⁶

¹⁵⁴ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/09/remarks-president-trump-national-economic-council-listening-session-ceos>

¹⁵⁵ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/03/09/on-climate-change-scott-pruitt-contradicts-the-epas-own-website/>

¹⁵⁶ <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/09032017/epa-environmental-justice-mustafa-ali-flint-water-crisis-dakota-access-pipeline-trump-scott-pruitt>

DAY 48

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Corporate executives, including Elon Musk (CEO of SpaceX and Tesla) and property developers and real estate financiers gather at the White House to discuss infrastructure policy with Trump and cabinet members.¹⁵⁷

Profits Before People ✓

Preliminary budget documents show the White House is considering \$6 billion in cuts to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.¹⁵⁸

¹⁵⁷ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/08/press-briefing-press-secretary-sean-spicer>

¹⁵⁸ https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-administration-considers-6-billion-cut-to-hud-budget/2017/03/08/1757e8e8-03ab-11e7-b1e9-a05d3c21f7cf_story.html

DAY 47

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump nominates Noel Francisco, a partner in the corporate law firm Jones Day, for solicitor general.¹⁵⁹ Francisco's corporate clients have included R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, the International Coal Group and the Noel Canning Corporation.¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/07/president-donald-j-trump-announces-key-administration-posts>

¹⁶⁰ <http://www.fed-soc.org/experts/detail/noel-j-francisco>

DAY 46

Monday, March 6, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

With President Trump's support, House Republicans unveil legislation to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.¹⁶¹ The repeal is a priority for corporate-backed groups like the Heritage Foundation and Americans for Prosperity, who have pushed aggressively on the issue.¹⁶²

Corporate Takeover ✓

ExxonMobil announces a \$20 billion investment in the Gulf Coast, and the White House issues a press release that copies ExxonMobil's press release nearly word-for-word.¹⁶³ Former ExxonMobil CEO and current Secretary of State Rex Tillerson met with Trump before the White House issued its release.¹⁶⁴

Enriching Private Business ✓

China approves 38 Trump trademarks, raising conflict of interest concerns.¹⁶⁵

¹⁶¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/06/us/politics/affordable-care-act-obamacare-health.html>

¹⁶² <http://www.heritage.org/health-care-reform/report/preparing-smooth-transition-the-repeal-obamacare>; <https://americansforprosperity.org/best-chance-yet-repeal-obamacare/>

¹⁶³ <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2017/03/07/trump-white-house-copies-parts-exxon-press-release-nearly-verbatim>

¹⁶⁴ <http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2017/03/white-house-exxon-press-release-tillerson>

¹⁶⁵ https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/china-grants-trump-38-trademarks-reopening-debate-about-conflicts-of-interest/2017/03/08/3b2e8434-0414-11e7-a391-651727e77fc0_story.html

DAY 45

Sunday, March 5, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

The Associated Press reports on the Trump International Hotel in Washington, D.C., where the price for a room is \$500, up “hundreds of dollars” from when the hotel first opened in September and from which the president continues to profit.¹⁶⁶ Cabinet members who treat the hotel as their residence include Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, Economic Advisor Gary Cohn and Small Business Administration head Linda McMahon.¹⁶⁷

¹⁶⁶ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/19/us/politics/donald-trump-ukraine-russia.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share>

¹⁶⁷ <https://apnews.com/cc2e2c2b6b4d4417aff3aa5f768be10>

DAY 44

Saturday, March 4, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

At a charity ball being hosted at Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort, the president, along with cabinet members Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly and White House counsel Don McGahn, greet guests.¹⁶⁸

¹⁶⁸ <http://www.mypalmbeachpost.com/news/local/update-trump-mingles-with-mar-lago-guests-outside-charity-ball/xFRbgrtFYNamso8FXmO6PN/>

DAY 43

Friday, March 3, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump gives a speech in Palm Springs, Fla., to Republican Party mega-donors.¹⁶⁹

Profits Before People ✓

A leaked memo shows the Trump administration plans deep cuts to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, undermining agency's ability to perform climate science and analysis.¹⁷⁰

Profits Before People ✓

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is a no-show at the presentation of the State Department's annual human rights report.¹⁷¹

¹⁶⁹ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/03/trump-donors-2020-235632>

¹⁷⁰ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/03/03/white-house-proposes-steep-budget-cut-to-leading-climate-science-agency/>

¹⁷¹ https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/rex-tillerson-skips-state-departments-annual-announcement-on-human-rights-alarming-advocates/2017/03/03/7fbf8584-002d-11e7-8f41-ea6ed597e4ca_story.html

DAY 42

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Officials inside the White House are seriously debating whether the U.S. should withdraw from the Paris climate agreement.¹⁷²

Corporate Takeover ✓

Education Secretary Betsy DeVos meets with Republican mega-donors, including hedge fund billionaire Paul Singer.¹⁷³

¹⁷² <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/02/us/politics/climate-change-trump.html>

¹⁷³ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/03/trump-donors-2020-235632>

DAY 41

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Ryan Zinke, a Republican member of Congress from Montana, is confirmed as the Trump administration's Secretary of the Interior.¹⁷⁴

The fossil fuel industry, which has an interest in exploiting resources buried under public lands, is a key contributor to political campaigns supporting Zinke. Among the fossil fuel corporations that do business with the Interior Department that have supported Zinke's campaigns are Oasis Petroleum, Halliburton, ExxonMobil, Conoco Phillips and Koch Industries. Coal industry supporters of Zinke include Arch Coal Inc., Alpha Natural Resources Inc., Cloud Peak Energy Inc., Peabody Energy Corp. and BNSF Railway Co.¹⁷⁵

¹⁷⁴ <http://www.cnn.com/2017/03/01/politics/ryan-zinke-confirmation-vote-interior-secretary/>

¹⁷⁵ <https://www.eenews.net/stories/1060048348>

DAY 40

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

President Trump signs an executive order to undermine the EPA's Clean Water rule.¹⁷⁶ The rule has been a prime target of the group that lobbies on behalf of golf course owners; the president owns twelve golf courses in the U.S.¹⁷⁷

Profits Before People ✓

During Trump's address to a joint session of Congress,¹⁷⁸ the president refers to the FDA's approval process for medical products as "slow and burdensome," signaling a deep misunderstanding of the need for a thorough and rigorous process in order to avoid preventable injuries, illnesses and deaths.¹⁷⁹

¹⁷⁶ <http://time.com/4685522/donald-trump-epa-water-rule/>

¹⁷⁷ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/water-trump-golf-courses_us_58bcd4a4e4b05cf0f4015c99

¹⁷⁸ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/01/us/politics/takeaways-president-trump-speech-congress.html>

¹⁷⁹ <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10187>

DAY 39

Monday, February 27, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

The Trump administration announces budget priorities, which reportedly include a \$54 billion increase in military spending and a cut of the same amount to an array of federal programs and protections, especially the EPA and the State Department.¹⁸⁰

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump meets with the CEOs of health insurance corporations including Aetna, Anthem, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Cigna and UnitedHealth to discuss replacing the Affordable Care Act.¹⁸¹

¹⁸⁰ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/26/us/politics/trump-budget.html>

¹⁸¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/02/27/trump-urges-insurers-to-work-together-to-save-americans-from-obamacare/>

DAY 38

Sunday, February 26, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Philip Bilden, Trump's nominee to be secretary of the Navy, withdraws, largely due to "significant challenges he faced in separating himself from his business interests," according to a statement by Defense Secretary James Mattis.¹⁸²

¹⁸² <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/feb/27/trump-nomination-navy-secretary-withdraws-philip-biden>

DAY 37

Saturday, February 25, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

At the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt told right-wing activists they were “justified” in feeling the agency should be eliminated and pledged to get rid of climate rules and drinking water protections.¹⁸³

Enriching Private Business ✓

President Trump dines at the Trump International Hotel in Washington, D.C., with daughter Ivanka, son-in-law Jared Kushner, Florida Governor Rick Scott and British politician Nigel Farage.¹⁸⁴

¹⁸³ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/feb/25/scott-pruitt-epa-cpac-climate-change-pollution-regulation>

¹⁸⁴ <http://www.inquisitr.com/4013604/trump-ivanka-eat-dinner-at-trump-international-hotel-washington-d-c-photos/>

DAY 36

Friday, February 24, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order directing the heads of federal agencies to oversee deregulatory efforts within their own agencies.¹⁸⁵

Corporate Takeover ✓

The CEO of Breitbart News Network reveals that it is partially owned by the billionaire Mercer family, which spent more than \$3.4 million to help elect Trump and other Republicans in the 2016 election.¹⁸⁶

¹⁸⁵ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/02/24/presidential-executive-order-enforcing-regulatory-reform-agenda>

¹⁸⁶ https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/pro-trump-megadonor-is-part-owner-of-breitbart-news-empire-ceo-reveals/2017/02/24/9f16eea4-fad8-11e6-9845-576c69081518_story.html

DAY 35

Thursday, February 23, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Attorney General Jeff Sessions issues a memo rescinding the Obama Administration directive for the Department of Justice that forbade the use of private prisons for federal inmates.¹⁸⁷ For-profit prison operators contributed \$250,000 toward Trump's inauguration and at least \$475,000 to a pro-Trump super PAC.¹⁸⁸

Profits Before People ✓

At the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), Trump advisor and former Breitbart News CEO Steve Bannon expressed the administration's intention to pursue the "deconstruction of the administrative state."¹⁸⁹

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump meets with CEOs of manufacturing corporations, including Ford Motor Company, Lockheed Martin, Campbell Soup Company, U.S. Steel and Johnson & Johnson.¹⁹⁰

¹⁸⁷ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/02/23/remarks-president-trump-meeting-manufacturing-ceos>

¹⁸⁸ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/02/23/private-prisons-back-trump-and-could-see-big-payoffs-new-policies/98300394/>

¹⁸⁹ https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/top-wh-strategist-vows-a-daily-fight-for-deconstruction-of-the-administrative-state/2017/02/23/03f6b8da-f9ea-11e6-bf01-d47f8cf9b643_story.html

¹⁹⁰ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/02/23/remarks-president-trump-meeting-manufacturing-ceos>

DAY 34

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

Citing “political pressure,” the Kuwaiti Embassy cancels an event planned at the Four Seasons in Washington, D.C., to hold the event at the Trump International.¹⁹¹

¹⁹¹ <https://thinkprogress.org/under-political-pressure-kuwait-cancels-major-event-at-four-seasons-switches-to-trumps-d-c-1f204315d513>

DAY 33

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

Three additional Trump trademarks (bringing the total to 20) approved in Mexico.¹⁹²

¹⁹² <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/cef40d0189294ae3923ec301cfd662e/mexico-oks-trump-trademarks-hotels-and-tourism-industry>

DAY 32

Monday, February 20, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

The Trump administration is criticized for changing the methodology for economic forecasting in order to make its rosy predictions seem more plausible.¹⁹³

¹⁹³ https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-trump-team-is-already-cooking-the-books/2017/02/20/a793961e-f7b2-11e6-be05-1a3817ac21a5_story.html

DAY 31

Sunday, February 19, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

At Mar-a-Lago, Trump strategizes Affordable Care Act repeal with Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price and Office of Management and Budget director Mick Mulvaney.¹⁹⁴ The repeal is a priority for corporate-backed groups like the Heritage Foundation and Americans for Prosperity, which have pushed aggressively on the issue.¹⁹⁵

Enriching Private Business ✓

Ties between Trump's personal lawyer, an associate tasked by the Trump Organization with scouting for Russian business, and a Ukrainian politician are implicated in Trump's overtures to Russia.¹⁹⁶

¹⁹⁴ <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/business/article133695274.html>

¹⁹⁵ <http://www.heritage.org/health-care-reform/report/preparing-smooth-transition-the-repeal-obamacare>; <https://americansforprosperity.org/best-chance-yet-repeal-obamacare/>

¹⁹⁶ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/19/us/politics/donald-trump-ukraine-russia.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share>

DAY 30

Saturday, February 18, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump kicks off his 2020 campaign with a rally near his Mar-a-Lago resort.

The New York Times reports on Mar-a-Lago's wealthy members, who have an unprecedented degree of access and influence with the President of the United States.¹⁹⁷

Members include fossil fuel billionaire William Koch, the lesser-known brother of the more politically active Charles and David Koch, electronic trading billionaire Thomas Peterffy, and various corporate executives.

Enriching Private Business ✓

Eric and Don Jr. attend grand opening of new Trump golf resort in Dubai, United Arab Emirates with business partner and Dubai billionaire Hussain Sajwani.¹⁹⁸ Preparations for a ribbon cutting at a new Trump-branded hotel in Vancouver, British Columbia, are ongoing, with business partner and Malaysian multimillionaire¹⁹⁹ Tiah Thee Kian.

Enriching Private Business ✓

President Trump's Mar-a-Lago trips plus the Trump sons' international business trips are estimated cost taxpayers more than \$11.3 million after just one month, nearly as much as a year's of President Obama's travel expenses.²⁰⁰

¹⁹⁷ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/18/us/mar-a-lago-trump-ethics-winter-white-house.html>

¹⁹⁸ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/18/world/middleeast/trump-dubai-vancouver.html>

¹⁹⁹ http://www.forbes.com/lists/2011/84/malaysia-billionaires-11_Tiah-Thee-Kian_MSDT.html

²⁰⁰ <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/donald-trump-costs-trips-security-taxpayer-barack-obama-month-year-a7586261.html>

DAY 29

Friday, February 17, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Rep. Mick Mulvaney (R-S.C.) is sworn in as director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.²⁰¹

Mulvaney has a history as an anti-regulation extremist who has supported “ending Medicare as we know it,” called Social Security a “Ponzi scheme,” and referred to the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau as “a joke.”²⁰²

Profits Before People ✓

By a vote of 52-46, Scott Pruitt is confirmed to head the EPA.²⁰³

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump names Mike Dubke, an ally of the infamous right-wing billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch and corporate dark money kingpin Karl Rove, to be White House communications director.²⁰⁴

Enriching Private Business ✓

For the third week in a row, Trump returns to his Mar-a-Lago Club in Palm Beach, Fla., at vast expense to taxpayers.²⁰⁵

²⁰¹ <http://www.reuters.com/video/2017/02/17/mulvaney-sworn-in-as-trumps-budget-direct?videoid=371141732&videoChannel=1>

²⁰² <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10123>

²⁰³ <http://www.npr.org/2017/02/17/515802629/scott-pruitt-confirmed-to-lead-environmental-protection-agency>

²⁰⁴ <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10175>

²⁰⁵ https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/trump-familys-elaborate-lifestyle-a-logistical-nightmare--at-taxpayer-expense/2017/02/16/763cce8e-f2ce-11e6-a9b0-ecee7ce475fc_story.html?utm_term=.712b33990113

DAY 28

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs legislation repealing the Interior Department's Stream Protection Rule, which protected communities from toxic water pollution caused by coal mining operations.²⁰⁶

Profits Before People ✓

A letter from 773 former Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials urges the U.S. Senate to oppose Scott Pruitt, Trump's nominee to lead the agency,²⁰⁷ as current EPA staff lobby against his appointment.²⁰⁸

Pruitt, Oklahoma's attorney general when he received the nomination, has a history of climate denial,²⁰⁹ suing the EPA²¹⁰ and allowing the fossil fuel industry to draft lobby letters on the attorney general's letterhead.²¹¹

The Trump administration has signaled executive orders to reshape the EPA will be coming after Pruitt is confirmed.²¹²

²⁰⁶ <http://rulesatrisk.org/stream-protection-rule/>

²⁰⁷ <http://www.reuters.com/article/usa-epa-pruitt-idUSL1N1G11IF>

²⁰⁸ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/16/us/politics/scott-pruitt-environmental-protection-agency.html>

²⁰⁹ <http://www.nationalreview.com/article/435470/climate-change-attorneys-general>

²¹⁰ https://www.ok.gov/triton/modules/newsroom/newsroom_article.php?id=258&article_id=16092

²¹¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/07/us/politics/energy-firms-in-secretive-alliance-with-attorneys-general.html>

²¹² <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-epa-idUSKBN15U2MW>

DAY 27

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

The acting head of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), an enforcement agency with major responsibilities involving protecting investors and policing the financial sector, acted to limit the enforcement authority of 20 senior officials. The move limits officials' ability to subpoena corporations suspected of criminal wrongdoing; a former SEC commissioner says the new limits on subpoena power "could slow down" investigations.²¹³

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump holds a meeting with executives representing retail industry corporations, including Target, Best Buy and J.C. Penney.²¹⁴

Billionaire Republican megadonor and Las Vegas Sands CEO Sheldon Adelson²¹⁵ joined Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during a dinner meeting at the White House.²¹⁶

Profits Before People ✓

The Trump administration's proposed changes to the Affordable Care Act's implementation that analysts say may boost insurance company profits but raise prices for consumers.²¹⁷

Corporate Takeover ✓

Billionaire hedge fund manager Stephen Feinberg, a co-founder of Cerberus Capital Management, is reportedly in the running to conduct a review of intelligence agencies for the White House, sparking concern among the intelligence community. Cerberus owns DynCorp, a military contractor embroiled in a \$10 billion contract dispute with the Department of State.²¹⁸

²¹³ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/sec-chief-scales-back-powers-of-enforcement-staff-1487199642>

²¹⁴ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/02/15/remarks-president-trump-listening-session-retail-industry-leaders>

²¹⁵ <https://medium.com/public-citizen/the-people-shaping-trumps-inauguration-b7cc61eff2b0-.7oz0ad6kj>

²¹⁶ <http://www.cnn.com/2017/02/15/politics/donald-trump-white-house-dinners/index.html>

²¹⁷ <http://www.reuters.com/article/usa-obamacare-idUSL1N1G10WR>

²¹⁸ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/15/us/politics/trump-intelligence-agencies-stephen-feinberg.html>

DAY 26

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Linda McMahon, billionaire and former CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), is sworn in as head of the Small Business Administration.²¹⁹ McMahon is credited with deregulating wrestling, leading the families of some deceased wrestlers to hold her responsible for the wrestlers' early deaths.²²⁰

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs a bill to eliminate a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rule intended to root out foreign corruption in the fossil fuel industry. The rule was designed to prevent and expose bribery by requiring corporations in the oil, gas and mining sectors to disclose payments to foreign governments. ExxonMobil lobbied against the rule for years while under the leadership of then-CEO Rex Tillerson, who Trump appointed to head the U.S. State Department.²²¹

The bill is the first of a series that congressional Republicans plan to send to the president's desk through the rapid-repeal method allowed under the Gingrich-era Congressional Review Act, which also blocks agencies from creating similar rules after they are cut using this method.²²²

Collectively, corporate interests spent more than \$1 billion to influence Congress oppose the protections Republicans seek to eliminate.²²³

Corporate Takeover ✓

Taylor Hansen, a former lobbyist for a trade group representing for-profit colleges, joins the Trump administration's "beachhead team" for the Department of Education (date is approximate).²²⁴

²¹⁹ <http://www.newser.com/article/d53e0f0445044bb9be624c586f2e6825/the-latest-linda-mcmahon-sworn-in-to-lead-sba.html>

²²⁰ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/10/06/linda-mcmahon-lobbying-wwe-wrestling_n_1944341.html

²²¹ <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/02/rex-tillerson-tried-to-get-this-rule-killed-now-congress-is-about-to-do-it-for-him-214725>

²²² https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/trump-signs-law-rolling-back-disclosure-rule-for-energy-and-mining-companies/2017/02/14/ccd93e90-f2cd-11e6-b9c9-e83fce42fb61_story.html

²²³ <http://www.citizen.org/documents/deregulation-for-sale-cra-report.pdf>

²²⁴ <https://www.propublica.org/article/for-profit-colleges-gain-beachhead-in-trump-administration>

DAY 25

Monday, February 13, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Steven Mnuchin, Trump's Treasury Secretary, is sworn in.²²⁵

Mnuchin worked for 17 years at Goldman Sachs.²²⁶ He went on to oversee OneWest, a bank known for aggressively pursuing foreclosures against homeowners. Mnuchin lied to the Senate Finance Committee, falsely claiming that OneWest did not engage in "robo-signing" and other violations of foreclosure processes.²²⁷

Profits Before People ✓

Despite beginning with an awkward handshake,²²⁸ Trump's meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, which included a roundtable discussion with women CEOs,²²⁹ left "corporate Canada" with a sense of relief, according to The Canadian Press.²³⁰ The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, which represents key beneficiaries of TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline, and which Trump supports, praised the meeting.

²²⁵ <http://www.wsj.com/video/steven-mnuchin-sworn-in-as-treasury-secretary/80F6ADF8-5FF9-4DB4-B93C-5C4CBBACFAA9.html>

²²⁶

<http://www.bloomberg.com/research/stocks/private/person.asp?personId=1492034&privcapId=2522804>

²²⁷ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/01/steven-mnuchin-robosigning-banks-loans-234391>

²²⁸ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/02/13/justin-trudeau-becomes-latest-world-leader-brave-trumps-awkward/>

²²⁹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/02/13/remarks-president-trump-and-prime-minister-trudeau-canada-roundtable>

²³⁰ <http://www.insidehalton.com/news-story/7138170-corporate-canada-comforted-after-trump-comments/>

DAY 24

Sunday, February 12, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

The New York Times details the connections between President Trump and Rupert Murdoch, founder of the global corporate media empire that includes News Corporation, which is seen as offering the friendliest coverage of the Trump administration.²³¹

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump's sons Eric and Donald Jr. continue to expand the Trump Organization, attending a ribbon cutting in Dubai, restarting a stalled project in the Dominican Republic and planning to open a new hotel chain in up to 30 U.S. cities.²³²

²³¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/12/business/media/rupert-murdoch-donald-trump-news-corporation.html>

²³² <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/12/us/politics/eric-trump-donald-trump-jr.html>

DAY 23

Saturday, February 11, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

President Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Abe traveled from Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort to a Trump golf course in Jupiter, Fla., where they golfed with professional Ernie Els.²³³

Upon sighting the billionaire Chiquita heir Carl Lindner IV²³⁴ and his soon-to-be-spouse at Mar-a-Lago, Trump says that he "said to the Prime Minister of Japan, I said, 'C'mon Shinzo, let's go over and say hello.' " He later remarked of the couple, who held their wedding ceremony at Trump's club that night, "They've been members of this club for a long time [...] They've paid me a fortune."²³⁵ The groom's father, Carl Lindner III, contributed \$100,000 to a super PAC that supported Trump's presidency.²³⁶

Corporate Takeover ✓

Elsewhere in Palm Beach, Fla., Blackstone CEO and Trump advisor Steve Schwarzman celebrated his 70th birthday. Among the guests were Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner and Trump cabinet members Steve Mnuchin, Wilbur Ross and Elaine Chao.²³⁷

Corporate Takeover ✓

Bloomberg News reports there are so many Goldman Sachs alums entering the Trump administration that an incoming Goldman Sachs alum may have to accept a lower-than-expected administration post.²³⁸

²³³ <http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/national-politics/article132177999.html>

²³⁴ <https://www.thenation.com/article/donald-trump-is-selling-access-to-the-winter-white-house-for-200000/>

²³⁵ <http://www.cnn.com/2017/02/12/politics/trump-shinzo-abe-mar-a-lago-north-korea/index.html>

²³⁶ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trump-wedding-super-pac_us_58a1ff7be4b094a129edb356

²³⁷ <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-02-13/schwarzman-parties-at-70-with-camels-cake-and-trump-s-entourage>

²³⁸ <https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-02-11/trump-team-leery-of-having-too-many-goldman-guys-in-top-posts>

DAY 22

Friday, February 10, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Rep. Tom Price (R-Ga.), who wants to privatize Medicare, repeal the Affordable Care Act and defund Planned Parenthood,²³⁹ is sworn in as Secretary of Health and Human Services.²⁴⁰ His extensive trading in health industry stocks has raised serious questions about conflicts of interest and possible insider trading.²⁴¹

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump returns to Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla., to meet there with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. According to White House aides, Trump will pay for the lodging of the prime minister and his wife as a gift.²⁴² The owner of the New England Patriots joins Trump and Abe for dinner,²⁴³ and members of the president's club "mingled with Trump and Abe into the night," according to the Associated Press.²⁴⁴

Corporate Takeover ✓

Geoff Burr, recently a lobbyist for the Associated Builders and Contractors, a construction industry trade group, is now helping run the U.S. Department of Labor, thanks to Trump's executive order that weakened the executive branch lobbying restrictions.²⁴⁵

Enriching Private Business ✓

The language of the 166-page trust certification document supposedly separating Donald Trump from his businesses is quietly updated to include language allowing the president to withdraw funds from his businesses at any time.²⁴⁶

²³⁹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/30/opinion/tom-price-a-radical-choice-for-health-secretary.html>

²⁴⁰ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/10/us/politics/tom-price-health-secretary-senate.html>

²⁴¹ <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10110>

²⁴² <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/feb/9/trump-shinzo-abe-golf-trip-to-use-taxpayer-money/>

²⁴³ https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/the-latest-patriots-owner-joins-trump-abe-for-dinner/2017/02/10/c893d338-ffb-11e6-a100-fdaaf400369a_story.html?utm_term=.836d94124231

²⁴⁴ <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/6705b0904a374d84a9583d6e498235bf/trumps-florida-estate-stirs-protests-spurs-ethics-debate>

²⁴⁵ <https://www.propublica.org/article/trump-watered-down-ethics-rules-let-lobbyist-help-run-agency-he-lobbied>

²⁴⁶ <https://www.propublica.org/article/trump-pull-money-his-businesses-whenever-he-wants-without-telling-us>

DAY 21

Thursday, February 9, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

“Go buy Ivanka’s stuff,” Trump advisor Kellyanne Conway said from the West Wing of the White House while on the Fox News Channel. “I’m going to give a free commercial here. Go buy it today, everybody. You can find it online.”²⁴⁷

Conway’s comments came after Nordstrom dropped Ivanka Trump’s clothing line, citing insufficient sales, and President Trump subsequently criticized the retailer using @POTUS, the president’s official Twitter account.²⁴⁸

Profits Before People ✓

At a meeting with airline industry CEOs, Trump and executives share an interest in privatizing air traffic control.²⁴⁹

Profits Before People ✓

Senator Jeff Sessions is sworn in as Attorney General, head of the U.S. Department of Justice.²⁵⁰

At least a third of Sessions’ top political campaign donors are corporations with matters pending before the Justice Department.²⁵¹ This includes Southern Company, a coal-powered electric utility corporation, and Sessions’ top donor, which contributed more than \$500,000 to support Sessions’ reelection.²⁵² Sessions’ stint in the 1990s as Attorney General of Alabama is checkered by his failure to combat corporate crime and wrongdoing.²⁵³

Corporate Takeover ✓

Billionaire Republican megadonor and Las Vegas Sands CEO Sheldon Adelson²⁵⁴ joined Trump and administration officials for a dinner meeting at the White House.²⁵⁵

²⁴⁷ <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-ivanka-trump-conway-20170209-story.html>

²⁴⁸ <http://money.cnn.com/2017/02/08/news/companies/donald-trump-nordstrom-ivanka/index.html>

²⁴⁹ <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-trump-airline-executives-meeting-20170209-story.html>

²⁵⁰ <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/02/09/jeff-sessions-sworn-84th-attorney-general-executive-actions/97691732/>

²⁵¹ <http://www.pogo.org/our-work/reports/2017/at-least-one-third-of-attorney-general-nominees-top-donors-have-matters-involving-doj.html>

²⁵² <http://www.prwatch.org/news/2017/01/13209/coal-power-play-doj-poses-conflicts-sessions>

²⁵³ <http://www.citizen.org/documents/sessions-blunders-alabama-ag-report.pdf>

²⁵⁴ <https://medium.com/public-citizen/the-people-shaping-trumps-inauguration-b7cc61eff2b0-.7oz0ad6kj>

DAY 20

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer defends Trump's "one-in, two-out" deregulation executive order after Public Citizen, Natural Resources Defense Council and Communications Workers of America file a lawsuit, *Public Citizen v. Trump*,²⁵⁶ to block the order.²⁵⁷

Corporate Takeover ✓

For Secretary of Agriculture, Trump nominates former Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue, who has received nearly \$1 million in political contributions from the industry he will over see, including corporations such as Monsanto, John Deere and Tyson Foods.²⁵⁸

²⁵⁵ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2017/02/09/adelsons-to-meet-with-trump-for-dinner-source-says/>

²⁵⁶ <https://www.citizen.org/SSLPage.aspx?pid=6841>

²⁵⁷ <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10157>

²⁵⁸ <http://maplight.org/content/trump's-ag-nominee-has-taken-almost-1-million-from-industry-during-political-career>

DAY 19

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Betsy DeVos, Trump's nominee to lead the Department of Education, is sworn in following a historic 50-50 Senate confirmation vote, a tie that was broken by Vice President Mike Pence adding his vote.²⁵⁹

DeVos is the daughter of a Michigan manufacturing billionaire and the wife of Amway heir and billionaire Richard DeVos.²⁶⁰

DeVos is an advocate for privatizing public education, a Wall Street-backed²⁶¹ scheme that depends on profiting by undermining teacher compensation.²⁶²

Profits Before People ✓

Under Trump, the Army grants Energy Transfer Partners the final permit it needs to complete the Dakota Access Pipeline.²⁶³

Corporate Takeover ✓

At Trump's request, billionaire casino CEO Steve Wynn takes on the role of the Republican National Committee's finance chairman.²⁶⁴

²⁵⁹ https://www.buzzfeed.com/mollyhensleyclancy/betsy-devos-is-confirmed-as-education-secretary-thanks-to-an?utm_term=.jqz8Me1yo-.ffEPn89Lr

²⁶⁰ http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/09/amway_heir_dick_and_betsy_devo.html

²⁶¹ <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/10/nyregion/10charter.html?pagewanted=all>

²⁶² <http://www.yesmagazine.org/issues/education-uprising/why-corporations-want-our-public-schools>

²⁶³ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/02/07/trump-administration-to-approve-final-permit-for-dakota-access-pipeline/>

²⁶⁴ <https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-02-06/trump-s-former-rival-wynn-takes-over-as-his-new-gop-money-man>

DAY 18

Monday, February 6, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Republican opponents of financial regulation inside Trump's circle want to get rid of Richard Cordray, director of the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). Todd Zywicki, a right-wing libertarian associated with the Cato Institute and George Mason University's Koch-funded Mercatus Center, who has called the CFPB a "disastrous" and "unaccountable super-regulator,"²⁶⁵ has spoken with the Trump administration about being Cordray's replacement.²⁶⁶

Enriching Private Business ✓

First Lady Melania Trump intends to make multimillion-dollar "licensing, branding, and endorsement" deals in "apparel, accessories, shoes, jewelry, cosmetics, hair care, skin care, and fragrance," according to a lawsuit she files against British tabloid the Daily Mail. The lawsuit argues that, because the Daily Mail inaccurately alleged Melania Trump had worked as an escort, she will have a reduced ability to profit off her time in the White House.²⁶⁷ Melania's representatives later issued a statement claiming she has "no intention" of profiting from her role as first lady.²⁶⁸

Profits Before People ✓

A rule that would require corporations to disclose pay inequities between their CEO and the average employee is placed on hold by Acting Chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Michael Piwowar.²⁶⁹ Corporations and corporate groups like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce have lobbied aggressively against the rule, which was mandated in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform law.

²⁶⁵ http://www.banking.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/58bb96f4-8268-4ecd-95dd-5e35f8d26e4a/060C9C587736B1F08DD0A117FC3EE8B6.zywicki-testimony-4-5-16.pdf

²⁶⁶ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/02/trump-richard-cordray-consumer-financial-protection-bureau-234699>

²⁶⁷ <https://thinkprogress.org/melania-trump-reveals-plan-to-leverage-presidency-to-ink-multi-million-dollar-endorsement-deals-1999314fb8f1-.79cw6j8bv>

²⁶⁸ https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/white-house-melania-trump-has-no-intention-of-using-her-public-position-for-personal-gain/2017/02/07/7827ca5a-ed88-11e6-9973-c5efb7ccfb0d_story.html

²⁶⁹ <https://www.sec.gov/news/statement/reconsideration-of-pay-ratio-rule-implementation.html>

DAY 17

Sunday, February 5, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Jim O'Neill, who reportedly has said corporations should not be required to prove that a drug is effective before selling it to consumers, is, according to *The New York Times*, in the running to be Trump's nominee to head the FDA.²⁷⁰ Other candidates for the FDA post also oppose regulations that can slow the drug approval process.

Profits Before People ✓

Ajit Pai, a net neutrality opponent chosen by Trump to head the Federal Communications Commission, closed investigations into Verizon and AT&T data policies²⁷¹ and unraveled consumer protections.²⁷²

²⁷⁰ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/05/health/with-fda-vacancy-trump-sees-chance-to-speed-drugs-to-the-market.html>

²⁷¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/usa-fcc-chairman-idUSL1N1FW01T>

²⁷² <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/05/technology/trumps-fcc-quickly-targets-net-neutrality-rules.html>

DAY 16

Saturday, February 4, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

The New York Times reports on Trump's ongoing ties to the Trump Organization, which include Trump maintaining authority to revoke the corporate network's oversight by his son Donald Jr. and chief financial officer Allen Weisselberg and continuing to receive reports on the Trump Organization's profits or losses.²⁷³ President Trump remains the sole beneficiary of the Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust.²⁷⁴

Profits Before People ✓

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) removes information from its website about the mistreatment of animals at pet stores, laboratories, zoos and dog breeding operations. *The Washington Post* reports that eliminating the USDA database was a priority for the Calvary Group, an industry group that opposes oversight of businesses that rely on animals.²⁷⁵

²⁷³ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/03/us/politics/donald-trump-business.html>

²⁷⁴ https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/documents-confirm-trump-still-benefiting-from-his-business/2017/02/04/848fdd5a-eae0-11e6-bf6f-301b6b443624_story.html

²⁷⁵ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/animalia/wp/2017/02/03/the-usda-abruptly-removes-animal-welfare-information-from-its-website/>

DAY 15

Friday, February 3, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump holds the first meeting of his Strategic and Policy Forum, a team of 18 corporate CEOs chaired by Stephen Schwarzman, CEO and co-founder of Blackstone, and including CEOs of General Motors, JPMorgan Chase, Walt Disney, Wal-Mart, Boeing, Tesla, PepsiCo, IBM and General Electric.²⁷⁶

Profits Before People ✓

After the meeting, Trump signs an executive order aimed at unraveling the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform law.²⁷⁷

In an interview with *The Wall Street Journal* about the deregulating Wall Street, White House National Economic Council Director and former Goldman Sachs executive Gary Cohn said, “we’re not going to burden the banks with literally hundreds of billions of dollars of regulatory costs every year.” Cohn insisted his involvement with the deregulation push “has nothing to do with Goldman Sachs.”²⁷⁸

Profits Before People ✓

Trump also signs an executive order to block implementation of an Obama administration Labor Department rule requiring financial advisors to give advice based on their customers’ best interests.²⁷⁹

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump left the White House for a weekend trip to his Mar-a-Lago resort, a trip which is estimated to cost taxpayers more than \$3 million.²⁸⁰ Meanwhile, *The Washington Post* reports that a business trip by Trump’s son Eric cost taxpayers nearly \$100,000.²⁸¹

²⁷⁶ <https://greatagain.gov/president-elect-trump-announces-additional-members-of-presidents-strategic-and-policy-forum-8aa8822eced9-.ducj38aac> ; while the original team included 19 CEOs, Uber CEO Travis Kalanick withdrew from the forum over criticism of the company’s participation. See <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/02/trump-uber-ceo-travis-kalanick-234559>

²⁷⁷ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/03/business/dealbook/trump-congress-financial-regulations.html>

²⁷⁸ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/trump-moves-to-undo-dodd-frank-law-1486101602>

²⁷⁹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/03/business/dealbook/trump-congress-financial-regulations.html>

²⁸⁰ <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/02/trump-mar-lago-taxpayers-234562>

²⁸¹ https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/eric-trumps-trip-to-uruguay-cost-taxpayers-97830-in-hotel-bills/2017/02/03/ababd64e-e95c-11e6-bf6f-301b6b443624_story.html

DAY 14

Thursday, February 2, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

In a speech, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's newly appointed acting chair, "regulation critic"²⁸² Maureen Ohlhausen, announces a scaling back of the agency's aggressiveness in investigating corporate crime and wrongdoing.²⁸³

Ohlhausen says requests for information from companies "impose large compliance costs on legitimate companies" and notes disagreement with some of her predecessor's actions under the Obama administration, such as the \$20 million settlement reached with Uber over its allegedly misleading claims about potential driver earnings, which, she criticized as too costly for the corporation.²⁸⁴

Profits Before People ✓

On the same day, Trump at the National Prayer Breakfast vowed to "totally destroy" the Johnson Amendment, a 1950s era law prohibiting electioneering activity by nonprofit organization and which, if completely repealed, could unleash a torrent of secret corporate money in politics.²⁸⁵

²⁸² <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-trump-maureen-ohlhausen-federal-trade-commission-20170125-story.html>

²⁸³ <http://www.reuters.com/article/ftc-ohlhausen-idUSL1N1FN1HB>

²⁸⁴ <http://www.reuters.com/article/ftc-ohlhausen-idUSL1N1FN1HB>

²⁸⁵ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/02/us/politics/trump-johnson-amendment-political-activity-churches.html>

DAY 13

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Rex Tillerson is sworn in as Secretary of State.²⁸⁶

Before his nomination, Tillerson spent ten years as chairman and CEO of ExxonMobil, the world's largest oil corporation, where Tillerson had been employed for his entire professional life.²⁸⁷

Tillerson is a former chairman of American Petroleum Institute (API), the fossil fuel industry trade group, which lobbies on behalf of the industry. ExxonMobil and API are among the groups behind misinformation campaigns designed to confuse the public about the reality of human-caused climate change.²⁸⁸

Tillerson also is a member of the Business Roundtable, an executive-led corporate lobbying group. In the 1990s, Tillerson directed Exxon's Russian subsidiary, Exxon Neftegas, which was incorporated in the Bahamas, an offshore tax haven.²⁸⁹

²⁸⁶ <http://www.cnn.com/2017/02/01/politics/tillerson-confirmation-vote-senate/index.html>

²⁸⁷

<http://web.archive.org/web/20170101182439/http://corporate.exxonmobil.com/en/company/about-us/management/rex-w-tillerson>

²⁸⁸ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/feb/27/what-happened-to-lobbyists-who-tried-reshape-us-view-climate-change>; <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/exxon-knew-about-climate-change-almost-40-years-ago/>

²⁸⁹ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/dec/18/leak-rex-tillerson-director-bahamas-based-us-russian-oil-company>

DAY 12

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump meets with pharmaceutical industry CEOs. Despite previous tough talk against the industry – he said they were “getting away with murder”²⁹⁰ and called for lowering prices – the primary takeaway from Trump’s meeting with pharma executives, including from Amgen, Celgene, Eli Lilly, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Novartis and the industry group PhRMA, is the president’s pledge to cut taxes and eliminate public protections in order to speed up approvals.²⁹¹

He told the CEOs he would eliminate 75 to 80 percent of Food and Drug Administration regulations,²⁹² a promise that, if fulfilled, would make the agency too weak to fulfill its mission of protecting patients and consumers and ultimately result the deaths and injuries to innumerable Americans.²⁹³

Profits Before People ✓

Trump nominates Neil Gorsuch to fill the vacant seat on the U.S. Supreme Court;²⁹⁴ Reuters characterizes Gorsuch as a “friend to business” when he was a private lawyer.²⁹⁵

²⁹⁰ <http://www.businessinsider.com/trump-meeting-with-pharma-executives-2017-1>

²⁹¹ <http://extra.thehill.com/healthcare/policy/317185-trump-proposes-regulatory-tax-cuts-for-drugmakers>

²⁹² <http://www.raps.org/regulatoryDetail.aspx?id=26745>

²⁹³ <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10142>

²⁹⁴ <https://www.theguardian.com/law/2017/jan/31/neil-gorsuch-supreme-court-nomination>

²⁹⁵ <http://www.reuters.com/article/usa-court-gorsuch-business-idUSL1N1FM261>

DAY 11

Monday, January 30, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs a disastrous and likely unconstitutional²⁹⁶ executive order that would force federal agencies to eliminate two federal regulations for every one they wish to implement.²⁹⁷

The executive order relies on misleading, industry-preferred claims that dramatically overestimate regulations' future costs and gives the director of the Office of Management and Budget authority to exempt specific rules, including, potentially, those that benefit specific businesses, including the Trump Organization.²⁹⁸

Corporate Takeover ✓

Elaine Chao is sworn in as secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.²⁹⁹

Chao is the daughter of James Chao, millionaire chairman of the Chinese shipping corporation Foremost Group, notable because the Transportation Department oversees the U.S. Maritime Administration.³⁰⁰ Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is her husband. From 2011 to 2015, Chao received \$1.2 million in compensation for serving on the board of directors of Wells Fargo.³⁰¹ This period overlaps with the Wells Fargo "cross-selling" scandal, during which the company created more than 2 million unauthorized accounts. Chao also has served on the boards of directors for News Corporation, Dole and Protective Life Corporation, a financial services holding corporation.³⁰²

²⁹⁸ [http://www.citizen.org/documents/Notes on Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs Executive Order.pdf](http://www.citizen.org/documents/Notes%20on%20Reducing%20Regulation%20and%20Controlling%20Regulatory%20Costs%20Executive%20Order.pdf)

²⁹⁹ <http://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/politics/2017/01/31/elaine-chao-sworn-transportation-secretary/97310944/>

³⁰⁰ <http://www.alternet.org/news-amp-politics/another-conflict-interest-new-transportation-secretarys-family-runs-shipping>

³⁰¹ <http://money.cnn.com/2016/12/07/investing/elaine-chao-trump-wells-fargo-transportation/>

³⁰² <https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/18169/000119312513152971/d519416ddef14a.htm>

DAY 10

Sunday, January 29, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Profits Before People ✓

Over the weekend, some CEOs wring their hands about how to voice opposition to Trump's executive order banning Muslim immigrants. *The New York Times* reports that most executives, if they spoke out at all, worded criticism so that it was "purposely dripping with politeness." An anonymous CEO expressed preference for restraining any opposition the company might express for the sake of appeasing employees and consumers while avoiding damaging relations with President Trump.³⁰³

Out of the 19 CEO members of Trump's Strategic and Economic Forum, only two spoke out against the ban.³⁰⁴

³⁰³ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/30/business/dealbook/ceo-response-trump-ban.html>

³⁰⁴ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/ceo-trump-muslims_us_588d5f26e4b08a14f7e66d10

DAY 9

Saturday, January 28, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump signs an executive order on lobbying that loosens Obama administration restrictions on lobbyists.³⁰⁵

According to the order, lobbyists will be permitted to become employees of federal agencies they have lobbied (though they will not be permitted to work on specific issues on which they lobbied) and the “cooling off” period restricting communications between appointees who leave and their agency will be reduced from two to one year.

The executive order also fails to place a five-year prohibition on members of Congress becoming lobbyists, which Trump pledged to do during the presidential campaign.

While administration officials are forbidden from becoming lobbyists, the executive order would still allow them to cash in on their service by becoming strategic advisors, consultants or taking similar roles that do not involve direct lobbying.

³⁰⁵ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2017/01/28/trumps-lobbying-ban-is-both-tougher-and-weaker-than-obamas-rules/>

DAY 8

Friday, January 27, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump announces a “manufacturing jobs initiative” that will be led by Dow Chemical CEO Andrew Liveris and include executives from corporations including Dell Technologies, Nucor Corporation, Whirlpool Corporation, Ford Motor Company, Merck, Johnson & Johnson, Lockheed Martin, General Electric, U.S. Steel, Campbell Soup, Tesla, Caterpillar, 3M and Corning. The group of 28 includes a total of 25 representatives from corporations, one representative from corporate lobbying group Alliance for American Manufacturing and two labor union representatives from the AFL-CIO, including the union’s president, Richard Trumka (whose name is misspelled “Tumka” on the official White House announcement).³⁰⁶

Enriching Private Business ✓

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs executive order banning citizens of seven countries with predominantly Muslim populations from entering the U.S., igniting a firestorm of controversy. The list of seven countries does not include countries with predominantly Muslim population with which the Trump Organization has done business.³⁰⁷

Profits Before People ✓

Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) calls out the Trump administration's Labor Department for taking down a website it created for Wells Fargo employees to report retaliation against whistleblowers.³⁰⁸

Corporate Takeover ✓

JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon reportedly met at the White House with Gary Cohn, a former Goldman Sachs executive who Trump appointed director of the National Economic Council.³⁰⁹

³⁰⁶ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/27/president-trump-announces-manufacturing-jobs-initiative>

³⁰⁷ <https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2017-trump-immigration-ban-conflict-of-interest/>

³⁰⁸ <http://www.reuters.com/article/uk-usa-labor-wellsfargo-idUSKBN15B14Q>

³⁰⁹ <https://lasvegassun.com/news/2017/jan/28/trump-to-skip-dinner-with-washington-elite/>

DAY 7

Thursday, January 26, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order placing a moratorium on international treaties, placing in doubt the future of the Paris climate agreement and other environmental treaties.³¹⁰

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump nominates Philip Bilden, a recently retired head of an international private equity firm, as Secretary of the Navy.³¹¹

³¹⁰ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/25/us/politics/united-nations-trump-administration.html>

³¹¹ http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/01/26/Trump-nominates-businessman-Philip-Bilden-as-Navy-Secretary/7341485432930/

DAY 6

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

Enriching Private Business ✓

The CEO of Trump Hotels expressed interest in undertaking an aggressive expansion into major U.S. metropolitan areas.³¹²

Enriching Private Business ✓

Trump chose Bobby Burchfield, chair of the Karl Rove dark money group Crossroads GPS and proponent of expanding big money's role in politics, to be the ethics advisor for his business.³¹³

Enriching Private Business ✓

And Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach, Fla., has doubled its initiation fee to \$200,000.³¹⁴

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order to strengthen border security, signaling an increase in federal resources for detention centers.³¹⁵ For-profit prison operators contributed \$250,000 toward Trump's inauguration and at least \$475,000 to a pro-Trump super PAC.³¹⁶

³¹² <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-01-25/trump-hotels-to-triple-locations-in-u-s-expansion-ceo-says>

³¹³ <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10133>

³¹⁴ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/25/us/politics/mar-a-lago-membership-donald-trump.html>

³¹⁵ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/25/executive-order-border-security-and-immigration-enforcement-improvements>

³¹⁶ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/02/23/private-prisons-back-trump-and-could-see-big-payoffs-new-policies/98300394/>

DAY 5

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs executive orders to move forward with TransCanada's Keystone XL and Energy Transfer Partners' Dakota Access oil pipelines.³¹⁷

Environmental and public interest groups sharply oppose the pipelines. The Obama administration had rejected the Keystone XL pipeline and delayed construction of the Dakota Access pipeline in response to concerns from environmental activists and Native Americans.³¹⁸

The American Petroleum Institute, the oil and gas industry's primary lobbying group, praised the executive orders.³¹⁹

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order directing the Commerce Department to rush the permitting process for the construction of factories and reducing public protections around these projects.³²⁰

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order to rush environmental reviews of infrastructure projects.³²¹

Profits Before People ✓

At a meeting with the CEOs of General Motors, Fiat Chrysler and Ford Motor Company, Trump says environmental protections are "out of control" and entices the companies with promises to reduce taxes and "unnecessary" regulations.³²²

³¹⁷ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/01/23/president-trump-signs-order-to-withdraw-from-transpacific-partnership/>

³¹⁸ <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2016/12/04/standing-rock-tribe-says-army-halt-dakota-access-pipeline/94966882/>

³¹⁹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/01/24/trump-gives-green-light-to-dakota-access-keystone-xl-oil-pipelines/>

³²⁰ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/24/presidential-memorandum-streamlining-permitting-and-reducing-regulatory>

³²¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/24/executive-order-expediting-environmental-reviews-and-approvals-high>

³²² <https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-01-23/trump-to-meet-with-ford-chrysler-and-gm-chiefs-on-tuesday>

DAY 4

Monday, January 23, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

Trump started his first full weekday in office with a breakfast meeting with CEOs of a dozen corporations including Arconic, Corning, Dell, Dow Chemical Company, Ford Motor Company, International Paper, Johnson & Johnson, Lockheed Martin, SpaceX, Under Armour and U.S. Steel.³²³

Profits Before People ✓

At the meeting, Trump said he would slash regulations “75 percent,” a promise there is no way to keep without eliminating bedrock public protections that restrain Wall Street recklessness, prevent drinking water from being contaminated, ensure the safety of our food and medicines, protect the environment, and so on, and which echoes the lie that regulatory protections impose greater costs than benefits on the U.S. economy.³²⁴

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order instituting an immediate hiring freeze for all federal agency positions except “military personnel” and positions “deemed necessary for “national security” or “public safety,”³²⁵ a decision which, in effect, undermines agencies’ ability to monitor and take enforcement actions against reckless corporations.

Corporate Takeover ✓

Jeffrey H. Wood, a lobbyist for Southern Company, a coal-powered electric utility corporation, is appointed as acting assistant attorney general of the U.S. Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division – the division DOJ responsible for prosecuting environmental crimes.³²⁶

Profits Before People ✓

Internal communications at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), meanwhile, revealed that the agency had been directed to suspend all contract and grant awards, an action that one EPA employee described as “extraordinary.”³²⁷ (Following public outcry, the freeze was ended.³²⁸)

³²³ <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/01/23/trump-pledges-major-border-tax-ceo-meeting-white-house/96949832/>

³²⁴ <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/pressroomredirect.cfm?ID=10129>

³²⁵ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/23/presidential-memorandum-regarding-hiring-freeze>

³²⁶ <https://theintercept.com/2017/01/27/coal-doj-trump/>

³²⁷ <https://www.propublica.org/article/trump-administration-imposes-freeze-on-epa-grants-and-contracts>

³²⁸ https://www.buzzfeed.com/azeenghorayshi/trump-freezes-epa-funds?utm_term=.ktZWra2NA-.wyZadkvQR

DAY 3

Sunday, January 22, 2017

Corporate Takeover ✓

At the Davos World Economic Forum, corporate executives from around the globe had gathered to play make-believe about the refugee crisis³²⁹ and expressed optimistic views about the impending Trump administration.³³⁰

Among them was Jamie Dimon, CEO of JPMorgan Chase, the largest bank in the U.S. with more than \$2.4 trillion in assets. JPMorgan contributed to the Trump Inauguration and has spent millions lobbying to weaken the 2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform act, which Trump's transition website pledged to "dismantle."³³¹

Dimon said:

Donald Trump has put some professional people around himself. Experienced. Successful. I know a lot of people seem to think that success and experience are reasons you shouldn't serve in public office. But they are knowledgeable and smart and they've been around the world. And hopefully when we go from one-liners — forget the one-liners and tweets — to serious policy, maybe we'll do the things that help America grow better and help the average American.³³²

³²⁹ <http://www.vanityfair.com/news/2017/01/davos-elites-simulate-the-refugee-experience-by-pretending-to-flee-advancing-armies>

³³⁰ <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-01-21/trump-was-taken-seriously-by-ceos-at-davos-but-not-literally>

³³¹ <http://thehill.com/business-a-lobbying/305441-trump-transition-vows-to-dismantle-dodd-frank>

³³² <http://www.businessinsider.com/jame-dimon-trump-davos-2017-1>

DAY 2

Saturday, January 21, 2017

President Trump delivers a speech at CIA headquarters.

Profits Before People ✓

Corporate Takeover ✓

During the speech, Trump speculates that the United States should have “taken the oil” from Iraq after the 2003-2011 Iraq war:

“[I]f we kept the oil, you probably wouldn’t have ISIS because that’s where they made their money in the first place, so we should have kept the oil. But, OK, maybe we’ll have another chance.”³³³

The idea that the US should have “taken” Iraq’s oil, which many critics note would contravene international law, was a campaign theme for Trump. Erik Prince, former CEO of Blackwater, a now-defunct corporate mercenary outfit, has defended the idea.³³⁴ (Prince is the brother of Betsy DeVos, Trump’s Education Secretary nominee, and both are children of a Michigan billionaire.³³⁵)

³³³ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trump-cia-iraq-oil_us_5883ccf5e4b096b4a23243b2

³³⁴ <http://www.breitbart.com/radio/2016/09/08/erik-prince-trumps-idea-of-tolling-iraqi-oil-to-repay-american-taxpayers-would-work/>

³³⁵ <http://time.com/4606096/betsy-devos-schoolyard-rebel/>

DAY 1

Friday, January 20, 2017

Donald J. Trump is sworn in as the 45th President of the United States.

Corporate Takeover ✓

Among the top funders of the Inauguration and surrounding festivities are corporations that have pending business before the president: AT&T, Bank of America, Boeing, Chevron, Deloitte, JPMorgan Chase and United Parcel Service.³³⁶

Trump's Inaugural Committee, which was responsible for raising private money to pay for the Inaugural festivities, includes corporate executives, right-wing billionaires, Goldman Sachs alums, corporate lobbyists and lawyers, and at least one convicted felon, a financier who pleaded guilty to corruption charges.³³⁷

Profits Before People ✓

Trump signs an executive order to weaken the Affordable Care Act³³⁸ and an executive order to "freeze" regulations.³³⁹

Corporate Takeover ✓

General James Mattis, a former board member of multibillion-dollar military contractor General Dynamics,³⁴⁰ is sworn in as Secretary of Defense; General John Kelly, an advisor for DynCorp,³⁴¹ a privately held military contractor, is sworn in as Secretary of Homeland Security.

Corporate Takeover ✓

"Beachhead teams," tasked with serving as the Trump administration's "eyes and ears" within the federal agencies, begin their work.³⁴² The teams include many former lobbyists for regulated industries such as the pharmaceutical industry, the defense industry, and the financial sector, who are now going to work within the regulatory agencies.³⁴³

³³⁶ <https://medium.com/public-citizen/corporate-contributors-to-trump-inauguration-seek-to-curry-favor-1ad97364f157#.q9m2p6iw1>

³³⁷ <https://medium.com/public-citizen/the-people-shaping-trumps-inauguration-b7cc61eff2b0-.7chxyen7a>

³³⁸ <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/article127946124.html>

³³⁹ <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/article127946124.html>

³⁴⁰ <http://www.ibtimes.com/political-capital/donald-trump-pentagon-pick-mattis-made-nearly-1000000-board-defense-contractor>

³⁴¹ <https://theintercept.com/liveblogs/hearings/homeland-security-nominee-gen-john-kelly-has-been-quietly-working-for-a-major-defense-contractor/>

³⁴² <https://www.propublica.org/article/meet-hundreds-of-officials-trump-has-quietly-installed-across-government>

³⁴³ <https://projects.propublica.org/graphics/beachhead>