At Least 75 Conservative Organizations—Several Of Which Have Opposed Pandemic Aid And Government Spending For Others—Took Nearly \$20 Million In Funds Meant For Small Businesses.

DOUBLE-DIPPING: At Least 14 Of These Organizations Also Took Money Under The Enhanced Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program.

SUMMARY: An **Accountable.US** analysis of <u>new data</u> from Trump's Small Business Administration shows at least 75 conservative organizations—including several that have vocally advocated against pandemic aid— took nearly \$20 million in pandemic aid meant for struggling small businesses. Most egregiously, at least 14 of these 75 conservative organizations also took money under a second government aid fund, the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program. **Of the 75 organizations Accountable.US identified, roughly half took PPP funds valued at less than \$150,000, meaning their identities were only recently revealed following a <u>lawsuit</u>. Among these organizations are:**

- Center for Urban Renewal and Education, Council for National Policy, and Leadership
 Institute Inc, each "double-dipped" receiving both PPP and EIDL assistance and were part
 of a group of eight conservative organizations that took aid totaling \$2,281,075 despite signing
 a May 2020 letter led by the Conservative Action Project in opposition to federal aid to state and local
 governments amid the COVID-19 crisis.
- American Majority and its action arm took \$130,400 combined despite organizing the "largest single-day conservative grassroots training initiative in history" in September 2011. American Majority hosted training sessions across the country to "educate and mobilize fiscally conservative activists and future candidates to fight for limited government and free market principles."
- The Remembrance Project took \$75,000 under EIDL and \$15,600 under PPP. The nonprofit, which highlights victims of crimes committed by undocumented people, has close ties to President Trump. According to the New York Times, "It caught the Trump wave early, bringing several families to the Beverly Hills meeting and other campaign events and hosting a fund-raiser for Mr. Trump in Houston."

Among those loans above \$150,000 that were previously disclosed but lacked specific amounts are:

- American Family Association took \$1.39 million despite <u>declaring</u> that the Bible says God "has made us the stewards of the resources He has provided." An "economic system must allow for individuals to have rights to use those resources without excessive impediment of government."
- American Center for Law and Justice, Inc took \$1.23 million despite <u>vast financial ties</u> to Trump and the GOP. According to the Associated Press, a half-dozen ACLJ lawyers were named as part of Trump's defense team. The Republican National Committee also "paid more than \$250,000" to the group's founder's for-profit CLA Group since 2017, "when he was first named to Trump's legal team as special counsel Robert Mueller was leading the Russia investigation."
- Liberty Counsel took \$428,100 under PPP and \$10,000 under EIDL despite decrying the very legislation it would eventually take money under. In March 2020, Liberty Counsel wrote of the CARES Act, "Even today, the \$2 trillion-dollar spending bill is still being written as members of Congress are being pressured to pass it."

Seventy-Five Conservative Organizations—Several Of Whom Were Vocally Anti-Bailout And Advocated For Smaller Government—Took Nearly \$20 Million In COVID Relief Funds Meant For Small Businesses.

December 2020: New SBA Data Revealed At Least 75 Conservative Organizations Took Nearly \$20 Million Under The Paycheck Protection Program. More details can be found in the table below. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed 12/7/20]

COMPANY	EIDL AMOUNT	PPP AMOUNT	TOTAL AMOUNT
American Family Association, Inc.	-	\$1,390,000	\$1,390,000
Media Research Center	\$150,000	\$1,160,000	\$1,310,000
American Center for Law & Justice, Inc	-	\$1,230,000	\$1,230,000
R Street Institute	-	\$1,150,000	\$1,150,000
First Liberty Institute	-	\$858,600	\$858,600
The Ayn Rand Institute	-	\$713,100	\$713,100
Federation for American Immigration			
Reform	\$10,000	\$683,680	\$693,680
Project Veritas	-	\$558,900	\$558,900
Barry Goldwater Institute for Public			
Policy Research	-	\$447,177	\$447,177
Liberty Counsel	\$10,000	\$428,100	\$438,100
Daily Caller	-	\$407,525	\$407,525
Claremont Institute for the Study of		****	*
Statesmanship & Politics	-	\$398,265	\$398,265
Center for Immigration Studies Inc	-	\$364,900	\$364,900
Middle East Forum	-	\$357,800	\$357,800
Intercollegiate Studies Institute	-	\$333,577	\$333,577
Center for the National Interest	-	\$330,097	\$330,097
Daily Caller News Foundation	-	\$306,757	\$306,757
Center for Urban Renewal and	4.50.000	0.4.7	*
Education	\$150,000	\$147,862	\$297,862
Leadership Institute Inc	\$150,000	\$141,100	\$291,100
Americans for Tax Reform Foundation	-	\$290,800	\$290,800
Center for Security Policy Inc	-	\$288,200	\$288,200
Citizens Against Government Waste	-	\$279,800	\$279,800
David Horowitz Freedom Center	-	\$265,700	\$265,700
Concerned Women for America	-	\$262,300	\$262,300
Faith and Freedom Coalition Inc.	-	\$260,100	\$260,100
Immigration Reform Law Institute Inc	\$8,000	\$234,582	\$242,582
Catholic League for Religious and Civil		# 000 400	Ф000 400
Rights	-	\$203,100	\$203,100
Citizens United	-	\$199,033	\$199,033
Cardinal Newman Society for the			
Preservation of Catholic Higher Education		\$104.142	¢104 149
	-	\$194,142	\$194,142 \$103,000
Center for Arizona Policy Inc Freedom Watch Inc	\$150,000	\$193,000	\$193,000 \$101,667
	\$150,000	\$41,667	\$191,667
Washington Legal Foundation	-	\$191,000	\$191,000
American Ideas Institute, Inc.	-	\$190,202	\$190,202 \$173,800
Taxpayers for Common Sense	-	\$173,800	\$173,800 \$162,060
The Family Leader Foundation, Inc. Pacific Justice Institute	-	\$162,060	\$162,060 \$150,000
	<u>-</u>	\$159,000	\$159,000 \$152,257
Council for National Policy	\$8,000	\$144,257 \$151,612	\$152,257 \$154,642
Bradley Family Foundation	-	\$151,612	\$151,612 \$137,000
Thomas More Law Center	-	\$137,000	\$137,000

\$14,200 \$12,500 \$9,194 \$7,500	\$14,200 \$12,500 \$10,194 \$7,500 \$2,000 \$18,277,890
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\$20,070	\$20,070
\$20,070	\$20.070
\$21,800	\$21,800
\$36,213	\$36,213
\$34,900	\$38,900
\$39,282	\$39,282
\$39,409	\$39,409
\$35,171	\$40,171
	\$44,105
	\$48,275
	\$49,600
	\$51,354
	\$52,280
	\$55,200
	\$56,391
· ,	\$58,600
	\$60,200
· ,	\$60,300
	\$67,000
\$67,500	\$67,500
	\$71,677
\$85,090	\$89,090
\$90,590	\$90,590
\$15,600	\$90,600
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	\$128,000
	\$133,850 \$130,560
	\$90,590 \$85,090 \$71,677

[Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed 12/7/20]

- The Paycheck Protection Program Was Meant To Help Struggling Small Businesses Keep Employees On Payroll Throughout The COVID-19 Crisis. "An SBA loan that helps businesses keep their workforce employed during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis." [U.S. Small Business Administration, Paycheck Protection Program, Accessed 12/8/20]
- The Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program Received Expanded Funding To Accommodate
 Pandemic Applications. "In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, small business
 owners, including agricultural businesses, and nonprofit organizations in all U.S. states, Washington
 D.C., and territories can apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan. The EIDL program is designed to
 provide economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing a temporary loss of revenue due

<u>Eight Organizations That Signed A Letter Opposing Pandemic Aid For State And</u> Local Governments Took Pandemic Aid Totaling Nearly \$2.5 Million.

May 8, 2020: Conservative Action Project Sent A Letter Signed By Various Groups Opposing Stimulus For State And Local Governments. [Conservative Action Project, <u>5/8/20</u>]

• Of These Organizations, Eight Took Pandemic Aid Totaling \$2,281,075. More details can be found in the table below. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed 12/8/20]

COMPANY	EIDL AMOUNT	PPP AMOUNT	TOTAL AMOUNT
First Liberty Institute	-	\$858,600	\$858,600
Intercollegiate Studies Institute	-	\$333,577	\$333,577
Center for Urban Renewal and Education	\$150,000	\$147,862	\$297,862
Leadership Institute Inc	\$150,000	\$141,100	\$291,100
Center for Security Policy Inc	-	\$288,200	\$288,200
Council for National Policy	\$8,000	\$144,257	\$152,257
American Constitutional Rights Union	-	\$39,409	\$39,409
Tradition, Family, Property-Louisiana, Inc.	-	\$20,070	\$20,070
TOTAL	\$308,000	\$1,973,075	\$2,281,075

[Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed 12/8/20]

American Majority And Its Action Arm Took Nearly \$150,000 Despite Hosting What They Called The Largest Training Of Tea Party Activists In History.

American Majority, Inc. Took \$108,600 Under The Paycheck Protection Program. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed <u>12/8/20</u>]

American Majority Action, Inc. Took \$21,800 Under The Paycheck Protection Program. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed 12/8/20]

September 17, 2011: American Majority Hosted A "Training Bomb" That Was The "Largest Single-Day Conservative Grassroots Training Imitative In History." [American Majority, Press Release, 9/16/11]

- "With Personal And Economic Freedom In Peril Like Never Before, American Majority Has Brought Together Tea Party Members And Liberty-Minded Activists In More Than A Dozen Cities To Train To Defend American Values On Constitution Day, September 17th." [American Majority, Press Release, 9/16/11]
- "For The First Time, Simultaneous Sessions Across America Will Be Held To Educate And Mobilize Fiscally Conservative Activists And Future Candidates To Fight For Limited Government And Free Market Principles." [American Majority, Press Release, 9/16/11]

The Remembrance Project Corp. Double-Dipped For Nearly \$100,000 In Pandemic Aid Despite Close Ties To The Trump Campaign.

The Remembrance Project Corp. Took \$75,000 Under The Economic Disaster Injury Loan Program And \$15,600 Under The Paycheck Protection Program. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed 12/8/20]

New York Times, June 2017: "Mr. Trump's Team Had Help From The Remembrance Project, A Nonprofit Founded In 2009 To Draw Attention To The Victims Of Crimes Committed By Unauthorized Immigrants." [New York Times, 6/25/17]

 "It Caught The Trump Wave Early, Bringing Several Families To The Beverly Hills Meeting And Other Campaign Events And Hosting A Fund-Raiser For Mr. Trump In Houston Last Fall." [New York Times, 6/25/17]

American Family Association Took \$1.39 Million Despite Advocating For An Economic System Free From "Excessive Impediment Of Government."

American Family Association Took \$1.39 Million Under The Paycheck Protection Program. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed 12/8/20]

American Family Association: "White Everything Belongs To God, He Has Made Us The Stewards Of The Resources He Has Provided. An Economic System Must Allow For Individuals To Have Rights To Use Those Resources Without Excessive Impediment Of Government." [American Family Association, Voter Guide – Economy, Accessed 12/8/20]

American Center For Law And Justice Inc, Which Provided Attorneys For Trump's Impeachment Defense And Had Vast Financial Ties To The GOP.

American Center For Law & Justice, Inc Took \$1.23 Million Under The Paycheck Protection Program. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, Accessed <u>12/8/20</u>]

ACLJ Was Headed By Jay Sekulow, "One Of President Donald. Trump's Lead Attorneys During The Impeachment Trial." "Jay Sekulow, one of President Donald Trump's lead attorneys during the impeachment trial, is being paid for his legal work through a rented \$80-a-month mailbox a block away from the White House. The Pennsylvania Avenue box appears to be the sole physical location of the Constitutional Litigation and Advocacy Group, a for-profit corporation co-owned by Sekulow. The firm has no website and is not listed in national legal directories. The District of Columbia Bar has no record of it, and no attorneys list it as their employer. But Sekulow, 63, is registered as chief counsel at the American Center for Law and Justice, a non-profit Christian legal advocacy group based in an expansive Capitol Hill row house a short walk from the Senate chamber." [Chicago Tribune, 1/31/20]

- Senate Briefs Identified "A Half Dozen Lawyers Employed By ... ACLJ ... As Members Of Trump's Defense Team." "A half dozen lawyers employed by the non-profit ACLJ are named in recent Senate legal briefs as members of Trump's defense team including one of Sekulow's sons. The ACLJ, as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, is barred under IRS rules from engaging in partisan political activities." [Chicago Tribune, 1/31/20]
- "The Republican National Committees Has Paid More Than \$250,000 To Sekulow's For-Profit CLA Group Since 2017, When He Was First Named To Trump's Legal Team As Special Counsel Robert Mueller Was Leading The Russia Investigation." [Chicago Tribune, 1/31/20]
- Chicago Tribune HEADLINE: "Charities Steered \$65 Million To Trump Lawyer Jay Sekulow And Family" [Chicago Tribune, 1/31/20]

<u>Liberty Counsel Double-Dipped In Nearly \$450,000 In Pandemic Aid Despite Decrying The CARES Act As Unnecessary Spending.</u>

April 27, 2020: Liberty Counsel, Inc. Took \$428,100 Under The Paycheck Protection Program. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, 4/27/20]

May 1, 2020: Liberty Counsel, Inc. Took \$10,000 Under The Paycheck Protection Program. [Accountable.US, COVIDBailoutTracker.com, 5/1/20]

March 25, 2020, Liberty Counsel: "Even Today, The \$2 Trillion-Dollar Spending Bill Is Still Being Written As Members Of Congress Are Being Pressured To Pass It. [Democrats] Have Inserted Funding Totally Unrelated To The Virus." "Even today, the \$2 trillion-dollar spending bill is still being written as members of Congress are being pressured to pass it. Democrat House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Minority Whip Church Schumer have inserted funding totally unrelated to the virus, including funding for Planned Parenthood and for research on aborted babies, requiring that any company that receives funds have a "diverse" board of directors which includes an LGBT member, as well as funding for the failed "Green New Deal." [Liberty Counsel, Press Release, 3/25/20]