# Cigna, Which Pledged To Pause Donations To Officials Who "Hindered The Peaceful Transfer Of Power," Has Given \$30,000 To The Sedition Caucus

**SUMMARY:** So far in 2021, Cigna has given \$30,000 to the Sedition Caucus even after claiming it paused contributions to lawmakers who "<u>'hindered the peaceful transition of power</u>'" or "'<u>encouraged or supported</u> <u>violence</u>.'"

Just weeks after the insurrection, Cigna was <u>called out</u> for resuming contributions to election objector Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL) and the National Republican Senatorial Committee—and it appears Cigna's spokesperson <u>changed the terms</u> of Cigna's pledge to only include lawmakers who promoted violence.

Although Cigna claims it works toward "<u>bringing positive changes to society</u>," the company has not fully adhered to its stated positions on democracy—particularly concerning the wave of voter suppression efforts that swept the country after Trump's 2020 loss and were justified by the "<u>same pretext</u>" of voter fraud that drove the insurrection:

- Cigna has given <u>\$2,500</u> to Texas Gov. Greg Abbott—who helped advance and signed into law the state's "<u>sweeping</u>" voter restrictions.
- Cigna has given <u>\$10,750</u> to Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton—who called the restrictions "<u>great</u>" and who has targeted <u>72%</u> of his voter fraud cases against people of color.

Additionally, Cigna claims <u>participation</u> in the United Nations Global Compact, which guides companies on respecting <u>the rule of law</u>—and even highlights a case example of a company helping to prevent "<u>violence</u>" and "<u>promote stability during elections</u>."

Cigna Has Given \$30,000 To The Sedition Caucus In 2021 After It Claimed It Would Pause Contributions To Any Public Official Who "'Encouraged Or Supported Violence, Or Otherwise Hindered The Peaceful Transition Of Power.'"

# So Far In 2021, Cigna Has Given \$30,000 To The Sedition Caucus.

Cigna Has Given \$30,000 To The Sedition Caucus, As Of November 10, 2021.

PAC	Member	Amount	Date
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Vicky Hartzler (MO- 4)	\$5,000	5/21/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Steve Scalise (LA-1)	\$5,000	4/27/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Daniel Meuser (PA- 9)	\$2,500	4/27/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Guy Reschenthaler (PA-14)	\$2,500	3/26/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	John Joyce (PA-13)	\$2,500	3/26/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Bill Johnson (OH-6)	\$2,500	3/05/21

	Total:	\$30,000	
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Devin Nunes (CA- 22)	\$1,000	5/21/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Byron Donalds (FL- 19)	\$1,000	3/15/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Lloyd Smucker (PA- 11)	\$1,000	5/21/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Neal Dunn (FL-2)	\$1,000	4/27/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	David Schweikert (AZ-6)	\$1,000	5/21/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Billy Long (MO-7)	\$1,000	3/15/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Pat Fallon (TX-4)	\$1,000	5/21/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Jodey Arrington (TX- 19)	\$1,500	3/05/21
Cigna Corporation Employee Political Action Committee	Tom Rice (SC-7)	\$1,500	3/05/21

[Accountable.US, Corporate Donations Tracker, accessed 12/22/21]

**Cigna Is A Global Health Insurance Company With 74,000 Employees Worldwide.** "At Cigna, we're more than a health insurance company. We are your partner in total health and wellness. And we're here for you 24/7 – caring for your body and mind. As a global health service company, Cigna's mission is to improve the health, well-being, and peace of mind of those we serve by making health care simple, affordable, and predictable. [...] Our values are the core of our culture. Our values guide how all 74,000 of us around the world work together, serve our customers, patients, clients, communities, and deliver on our mission." [Cigna, Accessed <u>11/12/21</u>]

## <u>Cigna Pledged To Pause All Federal Contributions To Elected Officials Who</u> <u>"Encouraged Or Supported Violence, Or Otherwise Hindered The Peaceful</u> <u>Transition Of Power'" Following The Insurrection, Stating That Some Issues</u> <u>"Transcend All Other Matters Of Public Policy."</u>

**Cigna Pledged To Stop Giving Money To Elected Officials Who "Encouraged Or Supported Violence" During The January 6 Insurrection At The Capitol.** "Health insurer Cigna will stop giving money to elected officials who 'encouraged or supported violence' during last week's siege of the U.S. Capitol by followers of President Donald Trump. The insurer sent an e-mail to employees Tuesday explaining the company's new position in light of the events of last week. Like many corporations, Bloomfield, Connecticut-based Cigna has a political action committee that directs employee donations to lawmakers who support the company's agendas." [CNBC, 1/12/21]

**Cigna's Chief Human Resources Officer John Murabito Condemned Violence And Destruction At The Capitol, Saying "Some Issues Are So Foundational To Our Core Fiber That They Transcend All Other Matters Of Public Policy."** "Some issues are so foundational to our core fiber that they transcend all other matters of public policy," John Murabito, chief human resources officer, said in the memo. 'There is never any justification for violence or destruction of the kind we saw at the U.S. Capitol – the building that such a powerful symbol of the very democracy that makes our nation strong.'" [CNBC, <u>1/12/21</u>]

The Memo From Cigna's Chief Human Resources Officer, John Murabito, Said CignaPAC Would "Discontinue Support Of Any Elected Official Who Encouraged Or Supported Violence, Or Otherwise Hindered The Peaceful Transition Of Power." "There is never any justification for violence or destruction of the kind we saw at the U.S. Capitol – the building that such a powerful symbol of the very democracy that makes our nation strong.' He added: 'Accordingly, CignaPAC will discontinue support of any elected official

# Despite Its Pledge, Cigna Continued Donating To The National Republican Senatorial Committee And Its Chair, Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL), Who Objected To The Election—Cigna Denied Having Resumed Contributions To Anyone Who "Encouraged Or Supported Violence On January 6th."

After Cigna Was Called Out For Continuing Donations To Both The National Republican Senatorial Committee And Its Chair, Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL), A Cigna Spokesperson Claimed The Corporation's PAC "Discontinued Support Of Any Elected Official That Encouraged Or Supported Violence On January 6th, And That Remains True." "Cigna, which had said it would 'discontinue support of any elected official who encouraged or supported violence, or otherwise hindered a peaceful transition of power,' indirectly continued that support just 22 days later by giving \$15,000 to the National Republican Senatorial Committee, Legum reported. The NRSC is chaired by GOP Sen. Rick Scott of Florida, another election objector. 'In January, our PAC discontinued support of any elected official that encouraged or supported violence on January 6th, and that remains true,' a Cigna spokesperson told Insider in a statement." [Business Insider, 3/20/21]

Cigna Has Given \$2,500 To Texas Gov. Greg Abbott—Who Helped Advance And Signed Into Law The State's "Sweeping" Voter Restrictions—And \$10,750 To Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton—Who Called The Restrictions "'Great'" And Who Has Targeted 72% Of His Voter Fraud Cases Against People Of Color.

<u>Cigna Has Given \$2,500 To Texas Governor Greg Abbott, Who Helped Advance</u> <u>And Ultimately Signed Into Law The State's "Sweeping" Voter Restrictions—The</u> <u>Biden Administration Later Sued The State, Arguing The Law Would</u> <u>Disenfranchise Already-Vulnerable Voters.</u>

Cigna Has Given \$2,500 To Texas Governor Greg Abbott. [FollowTheMoney.org, accessed 11/19/21]

September 2021: Texas Governor Greg Abbott Signed Into Law "Sweeping" Voter Restrictions That Raised "New Barriers For Marginalized Voters." "Though delayed by Democratic quorum breaks, Texas has officially joined the slate of Republican states that have enacted new voting restrictions following the 2020 election. Gov. Greg Abbott on Tuesday signed into law Senate Bill 1, sweeping legislation that further tightens state election laws and constrains local control of elections by limiting counties' ability to expand voting options. The governor's signature ends months of legislative clashes and standoffs during which Democrats — propelled by concerns that the legislation raises new barriers for marginalized voters — forced Republicans into two extra legislative sessions." [The Texas Tribune, <u>09/07/21</u>]

Abbott Earlier Helped To Advance The Restrictions By Calling A Special Legislative Session With An Agenda That Included "'Election Integrity,'" Despite There Being "No Evidence Of Widespread Voter Fraud." "Texas Republicans began the 2021 legislative session staging a sweeping legislative campaign to pass new voting restrictions and election rules, proposing significant changes to nearly the entire voting process and taking particular aim at local efforts to make voting easier. It was formally touched off by Abbott early this year when he named 'election integrity' one of his emergency items for the legislative session despite no evidence of widespread voter fraud. Republican lawmakers framed their push for SB 1 as an effort to safeguard elections from fraud and to standardize election practices." [The Texas Tribune, <u>09/07/21</u>]

November 2021: The Biden Administration Sued Texas Over Its New Voter Restriction Law, Arguing They "Will Disenfranchise Eligible Texas Citizens Who Seek To Exercise Their Right To Vote." "The

Biden administration is suing Texas over the state's restrictive voting law that was signed into law in September and is set to got into effect Dec. 2. The U.S. Department of Justice filed a lawsuit in a federal court Thursday claiming that the Republican-led law contains several provisions that 'will disenfranchise eligible Texas citizens who seek to exercise their right to vote.'" [NPR, <u>11/04/21</u>]

Biden Justice Department Officials Argued The Voter Restriction Law Would Erect Barriers For 'Voters With Limited English Proficiency, Voters With Disabilities, Elderly Voters, [And] Members Of The Military." "Justice officials say those people include 'voters with limited English proficiency, voters with disabilities, elderly voters, members of the military' who are deployed and American citizens who are out of the country. 'These vulnerable voters already confront barriers to the ballot box,' the DOJ says, 'and SB 1 will exacerbate the challenges they face in exercising their fundamental right to vote." [NPR, <u>11/04/21</u>]

#### <u>Cigna Has Given \$10,750 To Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, Who Called</u> <u>Texas' New Voter Restriction Law "'A Great And A Much-Needed Bill'" And Who</u> <u>Has Unfairly Filed 72% Of His Voter Fraud Cases Against People Of Color Since</u> 2015.

**Cigna Has Given \$10,750 To Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton.** [FollowTheMoney.org, accessed <u>11/19/21</u>]

November 2021: After The Biden Administration Sued Texas Over Its New Voter Restriction Law, Ken Paxton Called The Law "'A Great And A Much-Needed Bill,'" Despite No Evidence Of Widespread Voter Fraud. "State Attorney General Ken Paxton wrote on Twitter: '[President] Biden is coming after Texas for SB1, our recently enacted election integrity law. It's a great and a much-needed bill. Ensuring Texas has safe, secure, and transparent elections is a top priority of mine. I will see you in court, Biden!" [NPR, <u>11/04/21]</u>

- November 2021: The Biden Administration Sued Texas Over Its New Voter Restriction Law, Arguing They "Will Disenfranchise Eligible Texas Citizens Who Seek To Exercise Their Right To Vote.'" "The Biden administration is suing Texas over the state's restrictive voting law that was signed into law in September and is set to got into effect Dec. 2. The U.S. Department of Justice filed a lawsuit in a federal court Thursday claiming that the Republican-led law contains several provisions that 'will disenfranchise eligible Texas citizens who seek to exercise their right to vote.'" [NPR, <u>11/04/21</u>]
- Texas Republicans Advanced Voter Restrictions Although There Was "No Evidence Of Widespread Voter Fraud." "Texas Republicans began the 2021 legislative session staging a sweeping legislative campaign to pass new voting restrictions and election rules, proposing significant changes to nearly the entire voting process and taking particular aim at local efforts to make voting easier. It was formally touched off by Abbott early this year when he named 'election integrity' one of his emergency items for the legislative session despite no evidence of widespread voter fraud. Republican lawmakers framed their push for SB 1 as an effort to safeguard elections from fraud and to standardize election practices." [The Texas Tribune, <u>09/07/21</u>]

March 2021: An American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Study Showed That At Least 72% Of Voter Fraud Cases Prosecuted By Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton Were Against Voters Of Color, "Primarily Women Of Color," Since 2015 "Since Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton took office in 2015, the vast majority of individuals his office has prosecuted for voter fraud are people of color — and primarily women of color, a new analysis by the American Civil Liberties Union shows. The analysis, based on public records, court filings, media reports and assumptions based on common Hispanic surnames, found at least 72 percent of all the election fraud cases have been brought against Black and Latino defendants. At least 45 percent were against Black and Latino women." [Houston Chronicle, <u>03/24/21</u>] Cigna Claims Participation In The United Nations Global Compact, Which Guides Companies On Respecting The Rule Of Law—And Even Highlights A Case Example Of A Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During Elections."

<u>Cigna Claims Its "Commitment To Human Rights" Is Guided By The United</u> <u>Nations Guiding Principles On Business And Human Rights, Which States That</u> <u>Companies "Should Address Adverse Human Rights Impacts."</u>

**Cigna Claims Its "Commitment To Human Rights" Is Guided By The United Nations Guiding Principles On Human Rights.** "Cigna supports fundamental human rights for all. While national governments bear the primary responsibility for upholding human rights, we strive to protect human rights through our practices and policies and by complying with the laws of the countries in which we do business. Our commitment to human rights is guided by the laws of the United States governing human rights as well as the following international documents: [...] United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights [PDF] [...] International Labor Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work [PDF]" [Cigna, accessed 11/19/21]

The United Nations' Guiding Principles On Business And Human Rights States Companies Should "Should Address Adverse Human Rights Impacts With Which They Are Involved." "II. THE CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS A. FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES 11. Business enterprises should respect human rights. This means that they should avoid infringing on the human rights of others and should address adverse human rights impacts with which they are involved." [United Nations, accessed <u>11/09/21</u>]

<u>Cigna Participates In The United Nations Global Compact, Which Outlines A</u> <u>"Business For Rule Of Law Framework" On How Companies Can "Respect And Support The Rule Of Law"—The Framework Highlights A Case Example Of A</u> <u>Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During</u> <u>Elections."</u>

**Cigna Is A Participant In The United Nations Global Compact And Claims To Support Its Ten Principles.** "Cigna is also a participant of the <u>UN Global Compact</u> and supports the <u>ten principles</u> set out in this framework." [Cigna, accessed <u>11/19/21</u>]

The United Nations Global Compact Outlines A "Business For Rule Of Law Framework" To Guide Companies On How To "Respect And Support The Rule Of Law." "Companies are invited to use the Business for Rule of Law Framework to take action in respecting and supporting the rule of law, serving as a complement to government action. The Framework provides guidance on how business can respect and support the rule of law in a way that business can relate to." [United Nations Global Compact, accessed 11/09/21]

The United Nations Global Compact's Business For Rule Of Law Framework Highlights A Case Example Of A Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During Elections." "Companies can support the rule of law through core business, strategic social investment, public policy engagement, and collective action. The UN Global Compact has collected over 100 case examples of business action in support of the rule of law, including: [...] A mobile network operator, with the support of the government, developing guidelines to prevent bulk electronic messages inciting violence and sending messages of peace to promote stability during elections." [United Nations Global Compact, accessed <u>11/09/21</u>] Cigna Claims That It Works Toward "Bringing Positive Changes To Society" And Its CEO Has Declared The Company "'Firmly And Unequivocally Denounce[s] Racism And Discrimination In All Forms'" And Commits To Confronting The Issue With "'Intensity'" And "'Accountability.'"

## <u>Cigna Claims That It Works "Toward The Goal Of Bringing Positive Changes To</u> Society."

**Cigna's "Responsible Business" Page Claims That It Works "Toward The Goal Of Bringing Positive Changes To Society."** "Responsible Business [...] Cigna's relationships with stakeholders are built on trust. We earn, build, and keep this trust through responsible business practices and good corporate governance. These trusting relationships help us to better understand what's most important to stakeholders and how to work together toward the goal of bringing positive changes to society and achieving inclusive, responsible global growth." [Cigna, accessed <u>11/19/21</u>]

# <u>Cigna's CEO Claimed The Company "'Firmly And Unequivocally Denounce[s]</u> <u>Racism And Discrimination In All Forms'" And Commits To Confronting The</u> <u>Issue With "'Intensity'" And "'Accountability.'"</u>

**Cigna Press Release: Cigna Takes Action To Combat Systemic Racism And Improve Equity And Equality** [Cigna, accessed <u>11/19/21</u>]

**Cigna President And CEO David Cordani Said The Company "'Firmly And Unequivocally Denounce[s] Racism And Discrimination In All Forms And Are Committed To Confronting These Issues With Intensity, Empathy And Accountability."** "'Racism and discrimination are destructive forces in any society,' said David Cordani, Cigna President and Chief Executive Officer. 'We, as a global health service company, firmly and unequivocally denounce racism and discrimination in all forms and are committed to confronting these issues with intensity, empathy and accountability.'" [Cigna, accessed <u>11/19/21</u>]

# <u>Cigna Touts A Five-Year Initiative To "Expand And Accelerate" Efforts To</u> <u>Support Communities Of Color And Has Partnered In An Effort To "Address</u> <u>Systemic Racism" And "Social Injustice."</u>

**Cigna Touts A Five-Year Initiative To "Expand And Accelerate Efforts To Support Diversity, Inclusion, Equality, And Equity For Communities Of Color."** "Building Equity and Equality Our five-year initiative was created to expand and accelerate efforts to support diversity, inclusion, equality, and equity for communities of color." [Cigna, accessed <u>11/19/21</u>]

In 2020, Cigna Partnered With CEO Action And Its Racial Equity Fellowship, Which Enabled The Company To "Work Collaboratively With Other CEO Action Signatories To Address Systemic Racism, Social Injustice, And Societal Well-Being." "To further our commitment, in 2020, Cigna partnered with CEO Action on their <u>Racial Equity Fellowship</u>, which provided an opportunity for the company to work collaboratively with other CEO Action signatories to address systemic racism, social injustice, and societal well-being through public policy and corporate strategies." [Cigna, accessed <u>11/19/21</u>]

The Insurrection—Seen As "The Culmination" Of White Supremacism Under Trump—Was Motivated By The "Same Pretext" Of Voter Fraud That Was Used To Justify State Voter Restrictions That Disproportionately Threatened Black Americans Throughout 2021.

<u>The Brookings Institution Found That The Insurrection Was Motivated By The</u> <u>"Same Pretext" Of Voter Fraud—Which Is "Very Rare"—That Republican State</u> <u>Officials Relied On To Advance State Voter Restrictions After The 2020 Election.</u>

 Brookings Institution: Republican State Officials Used The "Same Pretext" Of Voter Fraud That Motivated The Insurrection To Advance Voter Restrictions Following The 2020 Election, Including In Georgia, Where The Law Added "Many Obstacles To Voting." "Just three short months ago, a violent mob overran our nation's Capitol Building to revolt against certifying Joe Biden as the winner of the 2020 presidential election. Many of the rioters carried signs proclaiming 'Stop the Steal'—reflecting the lies that President Donald Trump and his team stoked about voter fraud. Today, many elected officials are using that same pretext to dismantle the voting rights won during the civil rights movement. [...] In Georgia, Governor Brian Kemp just signed into law a bill that adds many obstacles to voting, including reducing the number of ballot boxes, shrinking the window for early voting, adding additional photo ID requirements, and allowing state officials to circumvent the work of county election officials if they don't like the outcomes they are seeing." [Brookings Institution, 04/19/21]

"Extensive Research" Has Shown That Voter Fraud "Is Very Rare, Voter Impersonation Is Virtually Nonexistent, And Many Instances Of Alleged Fraud Are, In Fact, Mistakes By Voters Or Administrators." "Politicians at all levels of government have repeatedly, and falsely, claimed the 2016, 2018, and 2020 elections were marred by large numbers of people voting illegally. However, extensive research reveals that fraud is very rare, voter impersonation is virtually nonexistent, and many instances of alleged fraud are, in fact, mistakes by voters or administrators." [Brennan Center for Justice, accessed 11/10/21]

#### <u>The Associated Press Found That The Insurrection Was "The Culmination" Of</u> <u>Several White Supremacist Displays During The Trump Administration, Including</u> <u>The Deadly "'Unite The Right'" Rally In Charlottesville.</u>

Associated Press: Years of white supremacy threats culminated in Capitol riots [Associated Press, <u>11/15/21</u>]

The Associated Press Found That The Insurrection Was "The Culmination" Of Several White Supremacist Displays During The Trump Administration, Including The Deadly "'Unite The Right Rally.'" "Amid the American flags and Trump 2020 posters at the U.S. Capitol during last week's insurrection were far more sinister symbols: A man walking the halls of Congress carrying a Confederate flag. Banners proclaiming white supremacy and anti-government extremism. A makeshift noose and gallows ominously erected outside. In many ways this hate-filled display was the culmination of many others over the past few years, including the deadly 2017 'Unite the Right' rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, that gathered extremist factions from across the country under a single banner." [Associated Press, <u>11/15/21</u>]

• "Extremist Groups" Had A Presence In The Insurrection, "Including The Pro-Trump, Far-Right, Anti-Government Oath Keepers And The Three Percenters." "Extremist groups, including the pro-Trump, far-right, anti-government Oath Keepers and the Three Percenters, a loose anti-government network that's part of the militia movement, were among those descending on the halls of power on Jan. 6." [Associated Press, <u>11/15/21</u>]