

You Can't Spell "Corrupt" Without T-R-U-M-P

Letter to the Editor, [Brunswick Beacon](#), 11.24.22

When Hillary Clinton said Donald Trump paid no federal income tax, Trump [said](#): "That makes me smart." Trump has a history of being "smart" with other people's money.

When [Trump University students sued him for fraud and racketeering](#), Trump settled for \$25 million. When prosecutors [discovered](#) his supposed "charity" was "little more than a checkbook to serve Trump's business and political interests," Trump coughed up millions more and disbanded the Trump Foundation.

When Trump took [\\$250 million](#) from donors for a non-existent "election defense fund" he instead funneled the money to his businesses and political action committee. "The big lie was also a big rip-off," [said](#) Jan. 6 Committee member Zoe Lofgren.

In September, New York sued Trump for a [years-long financial fraud](#) that "falsely inflated his net worth by billions" on financial statements to get better loan and insurance deals and avoid taxes. Trump's business is on trial now for a different [15-year tax fraud scheme](#).

Last week we learned that [six foreign governments](#) spent more than \$3.75 million at Trump's hotel, including \$750,000 while conducting sensitive discussions with Trump. Two days after their 2018 stay, Trump approved [\\$1.3 billion in arms sales](#) to the Saudis. Afterwards, Saudi's Crown Prince [invested \\$2 Billion](#) with Trump's son-in-law's newly formed investment firm.

During this election, contributors gave Trump money believing they were helping elect MAGA-Republicans. Trump kept [\\$94 million](#) intended for candidates he picked who crashed and burned nationwide. Facing a December runoff, Herschel Walker [asked](#) Trump to stop keeping [90%](#) of the money he's raising under the pretense of helping Walker.

Ignoring [pleas](#) to wait, Trump just announced another presidential run. He [told associates](#) he needs the presidency to shut down the many [criminal investigations](#) against him. His long-time fixer [Michael Cohen](#) calls his campaign a "grift" because Trump treats contributions like a "slush fund."

Maybe "MAGA" means "Make America Grift Again."

Joanne Levitan
Leland

