



Texans For Public Justice

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Tobacco Baron Ghosts Haunt Cancer Society's 'Cattle Baron' Host

Tobacco-Funded Perry Heads Cancer Fund-raiser

The host of a recent American Cancer Society fund-raiser took thousands of dollars from tobacco interests in recent years to finance his political campaigns, a consumer group pointed out today.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry, honorary co-chair of the Cancer Society's September 13 Cattle Barons' Ball, took at least \$9,412 from tobacco companies and their registered lobbyists from September 1994 through year-end 1996, according to Texas Ethics Commission records. The soiree occurred in Frisco, north of the Dallas Metroplex.

Tobacco Cultivates Perry

	<u>Perry Contrib</u>	<u>Contrib Period</u>	<u>Lobby Contract</u>	<u>Top Annual Tobacco \$</u>
Tobacco Co:				
Philip Morris	\$1,500	1994-96		
Tobacco Lobbyist:				
Dick Brown	\$2,500	1994-96	PM: 1993-95	\$100,000
Gordon Johnson	\$1,500	1996	RJR: 1993-97	\$100,000
Jack Roberts	\$1,500	1994-96	TI: 1995	\$100,000
Stan Schlueter	\$1,000	12/10/96	PM: 1993-97	\$100,000
Buck Wynne	\$662	1994	ST: 1995	\$ 10,000
Neal Jones	\$500	11/1/94	PM: 1995	\$100,000
Nolan Robnett	\$250	5/1/96	PM: 1997	\$ 25,000
Dick Ingram &	\$125	5/1/96	ST: 1995-97	\$ 10,000
Kraege Polan*	\$125	5/1/96	ST: 1993-97	\$ 10,000
Total:	\$9,662			\$555,000

Source: Texas Ethics Commission PM = Philip Morris; RJR = RJR Nabisco; TI = Tobacco Institute; ST = Smokeless Tobacco Council.* ST lobbyists Ingram & Polan made \$250 contribution as Polan Ingram Advocacy Group.

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“Rick Perry’s taking tobacco money with one hand and hosting a Cancer Society fund-raiser with the other is a grotesque reminder of how pervasive tobacco money is in Texas politics,” said Texans for Public Justice Director Craig McDonald. “Just as smoke fills a room, tobacco money has engulfed the political process.”

“Big tobacco’s investment in Perry and other politicians of both parties goes a long way in explaining tobacco’s free reign to target children for addiction. It’s time for all politicians to stop taking money from tobacco companies and their lobbyists—especially politicians who want their pictures taken at cancer-prevention events,” added McDonald. ●