

REPORT: Evidence Outlining Senator Lindsey Graham's Links to Russian Oil Money and a Campaign Finance Scandal

By

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The Democratic Coalition
DemocraticCoalition.org



Memorandum

To: All Interested Parties

By: Scott Dworkin

Re: Report Outlining Senator Lindsey Graham's Links to Russian Money and a Campaign Finance Scandal

Date: October 2, 2018

The Democratic Coalition's ongoing investigation just uncovered the following evidence linking Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) to Russian oil money and a campaign finance scandal.

Len Blavatnik is a Russian¹ oligarch with US and UK citizenship who donated to Sen. Graham's 2016 presidential campaign. Blavatnik made many of his billions off Russian oil. He is also long-term business partner of Kremlin-linked Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska at RuSal, the aluminum giant in which he is a major investor, as well as Viktor Vekselberg, who is entangled with Trump's personal lawyer Michael Cohen through his U.S. family office Columbus Nova. Sen. Graham's political action committee received a total of \$800,000 from Blavatnik via his company, Access Industries. He received \$500,000 in May 2015 just before Donald Trump declared and another \$300,000 in October 2015, long after it was publicly apparent Graham's campaign had no traction in the polls. The Blavatnik family, including Len, donated another \$57,000 to Graham's campaign directly, but the Senator's campaign later returned \$13,500.

Senator Graham abandoned his 2016 campaign for president on December 21, 2015. Blavatnik gave \$7.35 million to PACs working for high-ranking Republicans² including both the Speaker of the House and Senate Majority Leader during the 2015-16 federal campaign cycle. Special Counsel Robert Mueller is already probing donor Blavatnik for his ties to Donald Trump and specifically a million dollar inaugural donation.³

¹ <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/meet-the-russian-billionaires-that-took-on-bp-and-won/>

² <https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/commentary/2017/08/03/tangled-web-connects-russian-oligarch-money-gop-campaigns>

³ <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/investigators-follow-flow-money-trump-wealthy-donors-russian/story?id=50100024>

Forbes amply documented Blavatnik's source funds from the Kremlin in 2013 by exhibiting a copy of the wire transfer itself in a story⁴ entitled "The Four Horsemen of Russia's Economic Collapse." It described his sale of a private Russian oil company to state-controlled Rosneft.

This report also indicates that a Ukrainian food industry executive - who used to work for the sanctioned Russian bank, Sberbank - and his family, who are based in New Jersey, were also significant donors to Graham's presidential campaign, who had excessive donations returned.

Lastly, the report notes that Sen. Graham received illegal campaign donations from a Chinese-American virologist.

The person who arranged the illegal campaign donations scheme was a biotech company CEO named Dr. Jian-Yun Dong aka Dr. John Dong and his wife Dahner Wang. Eventually, Dong was convicted for arranging illegal foreign campaign contributions to Graham and was sentenced to 18 months in jail for that charge. He received an additional 70-month federal jail sentence in his second trial on federal corruption charges, for converting research funds into a lobbying slush fund and a source of funds for real estate improvements.

Sen. Graham helped Dr. Dong obtain earmarks totaling \$19.6 million in federal grants from NIH and the military. His wife Wang turned on him, cooperating with prosecutors and leading to the scientist's conviction and imprisonment.

Lindsey Graham was not charged in the criminal case against Dr. Dong, because prosecutors "found no evidence" he knew of multiple illegal schemes by his political donor.

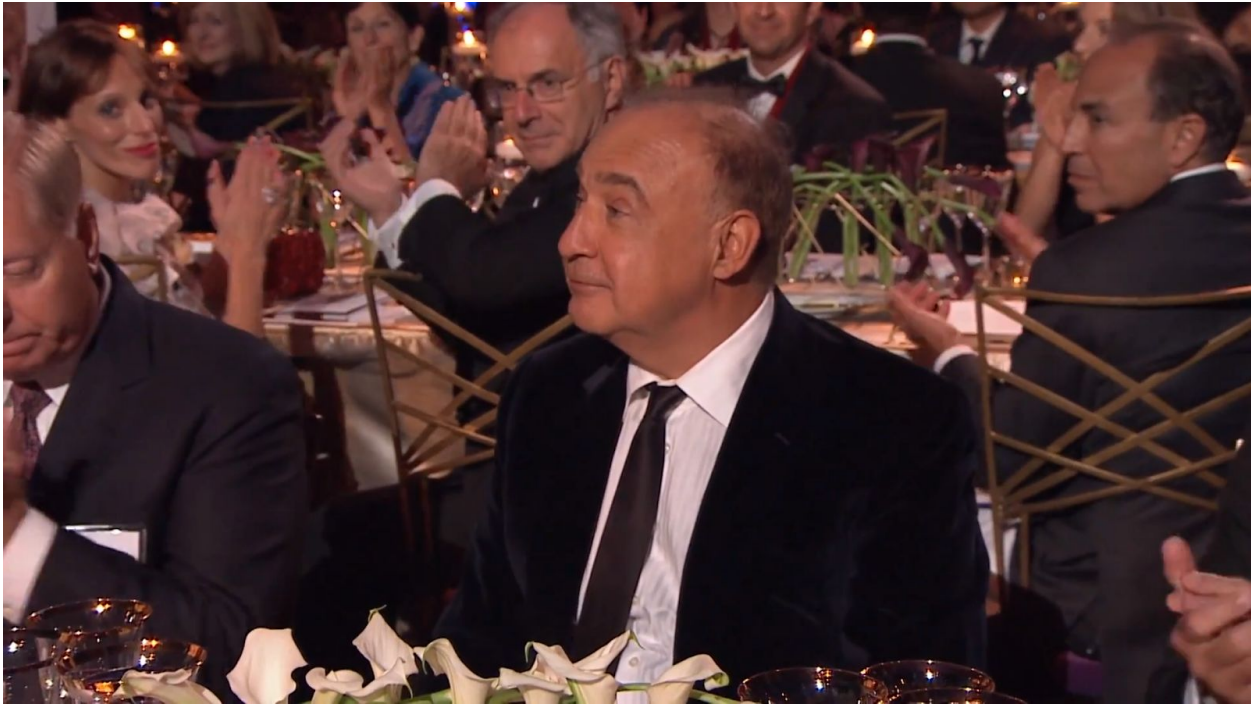
⁴ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/nathanvardi/2015/01/21/the-four-horsemen-of-russias-economic-apocalypse/>

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Exhibit 1

Video from the 2016 Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists:



Graham shown sitting next to Blavatnik at time mark 2:20

Source Link: <https://youtu.be/E80JTiuAbN8>

Exhibit 2

Photo from the 2016 Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists:



L to R: Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Len Blavatnik and attorney Alan Dershowitz.

Source Link: <http://bit.ly/bnwfys16>

Exhibit 3

Federal Election Commission Records: \$500,000 from Access Industries (Blavatnik) to Security Is Strength PAC (Graham) 5/13/15:

Image# 201510019002788643

SCHEDULE A (FEC Form 3X) ITEMIZED RECEIPTS

Use separate schedule(s) for each category of the Detailed Summary Page

FOR LINE NUMBER: (check only one)				PAGE 6 OF 39	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11a	<input type="checkbox"/>	11b	<input type="checkbox"/>	11c
	13		14		15
				<input type="checkbox"/>	12
					16
					17

Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee.

NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)
Security Is Strength PAC

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

A. Access Industries, Inc.

Mailing Address 730 Fifth Avenue

City	State	Zip Code
New York	NY	10019

FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee.

C

Name of Employer

Occupation

Receipt For:

Primary General
 Other (specify) ▼

Aggregate Year-to-Date ▼

500000.00

Date of Receipt

M = M / D = D / Y = Y Y Y Y
05 / 13 / 2015

Transaction ID : SA11Al.4200

Amount of Each Receipt this Period

500000.00

Contribution

Source Link: <http://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/fecimg/?201510019002788643>

Exhibit 4

Federal Election Commission Records: \$300,000 from Access Industries (Blavatnik) to Security Is Strength PAC (Graham) 10/7/15:

Image# 201610279036644996

SCHEDULE A (FEC Form 3X) ITEMIZED RECEIPTS

Use separate schedule(s) for each category of the Detailed Summary Page

FOR LINE NUMBER: (check only one)			PAGE 6 OF 125		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11a	<input type="checkbox"/>	11b	<input type="checkbox"/>	11c
<input type="checkbox"/>	13	<input type="checkbox"/>	14	<input type="checkbox"/>	15
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	12
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	16
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	17

Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee.

NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)
Security Is Strength PAC

Full Name of Individual (Last, First, Middle Initial) or Full Organization Name

A. Access Industries, Inc.

Mailing Address 730 Fifth Avenue

City
New York

State
NY

Zip Code
10019

FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee.

C

Name of Employer (for Individual)

Occupation (for Individual)

Receipt For:

Primary General
 Other (specify) ▼

Aggregate Year-to-Date ▼

800000.00

Date of Receipt

10 / 07 / 2015

Transaction ID : SA11AI.4700

Amount of Each Receipt this Period

300000.00

Memo Item

Contribution

Source Link: <http://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/fecimg/?201610279036644996>

Exhibit 5

Blavatnik family individual contributions for \$57,000 and returned contributions for \$13,500 to Lindsey Graham 2016:

The screenshot shows the Federal Election Commission's individual contributions page for Lindsey Graham 2016. The filters are set to contributor name 'Blavatnik' and transaction time period from 01/01/2015 to 12/31/2016. The table displays 20 rows of data, showing contributions of \$5,400.00 and returned contributions of \$2,700.00.

Contributor name	Recipient	State	Employer	Receipt date	Amount
BLAVATNIK, OLGA	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	FL	RETIRED	06/22/2015	\$5,400.00
BLAVATNIK, LARISA	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	CT	RETIRED	06/22/2015	\$5,400.00
BLAVATNIK, ALEX	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	ACCESS INDUSTRIES	06/22/2015	\$5,400.00
BLAVATNIK, OLGA	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	FL	RETIRED	08/22/2015	\$5,400.00
BLAVATNIK, LEONARD MR.	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	ACCESS INDUSTRIES	06/29/2015	\$5,400.00
BLAVATNIK, LARISA	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	CT	RETIRED	06/22/2015	\$5,400.00
BLAVATNIK, EMILY MRS.	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	HOMEMAKER	06/29/2015	\$5,400.00
BLAVATNIK, ALEX	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	ACCESS INDUSTRIES	06/22/2015	\$5,400.00
BLAVATNIK, OLGA	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	FL	RETIRED	08/21/2015	\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, LARISA	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	CT	RETIRED	08/21/2015	\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, ALEX	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	ACCESS INDUSTRIES	08/21/2015	\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, LEONARD MR.	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	ACCESS INDUSTRIES	06/29/2015	\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, EMILY MRS.	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	HOMEMAKER	06/29/2015	\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, OLGA	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	FL	RETIRED	08/21/2015	-\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, LARISA	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	CT	RETIRED	08/21/2015	-\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, ALEX	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	ACCESS INDUSTRIES	08/21/2015	-\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, LEONARD MR.	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	ACCESS INDUSTRIES	06/29/2015	-\$2,700.00
BLAVATNIK, EMILY MRS.	LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016	NY	HOMEMAKER	06/29/2015	-\$2,700.00

Source Link:

https://www.fec.gov/data/receipts/individual-contributions/?two_year_transaction_period=2016&committee_id=C00578757&contributor_name=blavatnik&min_date=01%2F01%2F2015&max_date=12%2F31%2F2016

Exhibit 6

Ihor Petrashko is a Ukrainian business executive who donated \$16,200 to Team Graham Inc. listing a foreign employer and NJ address. His apparent spouse donated \$5,400:

The image is a composite. The background shows a man in a dark suit from behind, looking through binoculars at a view of the White House and surrounding area. Overlaid on the bottom left is a screenshot of the FEC Individual Contributions database. The top screenshot shows results for 'Ihor Petrashko' with four entries for Team Graham Inc. The bottom screenshot shows results for 'Ihor Petrashko, Svetlana' with two entries for Parsons School of Design. On the right side, there is a screenshot of a Facebook post by Ihor Petrashko from September 7, showing 108 likes and several comments in Ukrainian.

Contributor name	Recipient	State	Employer	Receipt date	Amount
PETRASHKO, IHOR	TEAM GRAHAM INC	NJ	UIP	12/14/2016	\$6,400.00
PETRASHKO, IHOR	TEAM GRAHAM INC	NJ	UIP	12/14/2016	\$2,700.00
PETRASHKO, IHOR	TEAM GRAHAM INC	NJ	UIP	12/14/2016	\$4,700.00
PETRASHKO, IHOR	TEAM GRAHAM INC	NJ	UIP	12/14/2016	\$19,800.00

Contributor name	Recipient	State	Employer	Receipt date	Amount
PETRASHKO, SVETLANA	TEAM GRAHAM INC	NJ	PARSONS SCHOOL OF DESIGN	12/14/2016	\$2,700.00
PETRASHKO, SVETLANA	TEAM GRAHAM INC	NJ	PARSONS SCHOOL OF DESIGN	12/14/2016	\$2,700.00

Source Links:

https://www.fec.gov/data/receipts/individual-contributions/?two_year_transaction_period=2016&contributor_name=ihor+petrashko&min_date=01%2F01%2F2015&max_date=12%2F31%2F2016

https://www.fec.gov/data/receipts/individual-contributions/?two_year_transaction_period=2016&contributor_name=petrashko%2C+svetlana&min_date=01%2F01%2F2015&max_date=12%2F31%2F2016

Exhibit 7

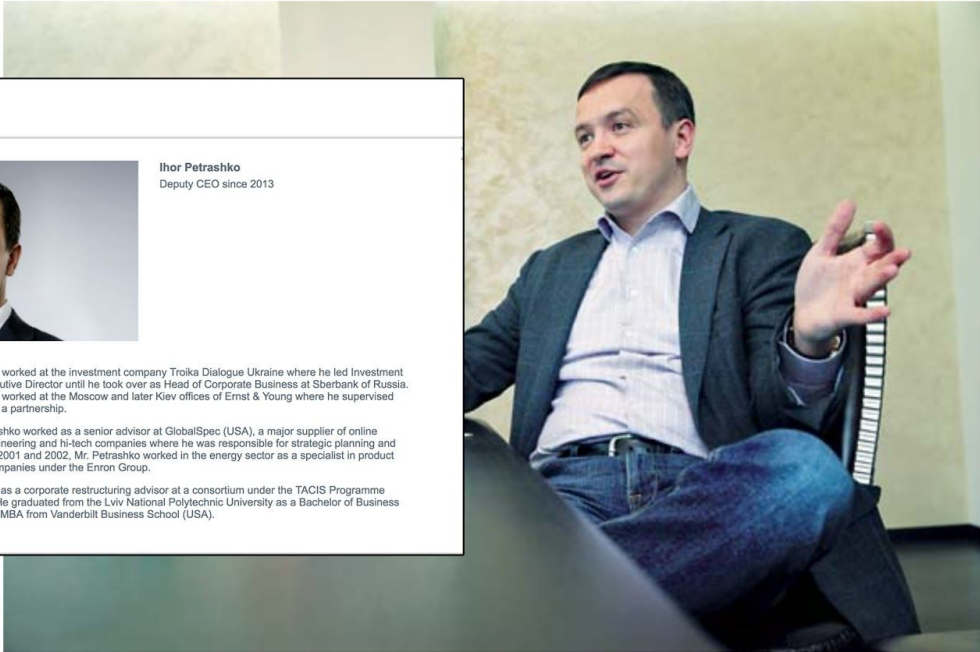
Graham donor Ihor Petrashko used to work as the Head of Corporate Business at Sberbank, a sanctioned Russian bank:

Kyiv Post TRENDING: < > Ukrainian singer Ruslana to serve as a global ambassador for renewable energy


Home Ukraine Business Technology Op-Ed Lifestyle Multimedia More ▾

Ukraine's biggest farmer bets on EU and China

By Mark Rachkevych. Published May 16, 2014 at 10:47 am



Management



Ihor Petrashko
Deputy CEO since 2013

Between 2007 and 2013, Mr. Petrashko worked at the investment company Troika Dialogue Ukraine where he led Investment Banking operations and served as Executive Director until he took over as Head of Corporate Business at Sberbank of Russia. Between 2004 and 2007, Mr. Petrashko worked at the Moscow and later Kiev offices of Ernst & Young where he supervised Transaction Advisory Services and held a partnership.

Between 2002 and 2004, Mr. Ihor Petrashko worked as a senior advisor at GlobalSpec (USA), a major supplier of online search and e-marketing services to engineering and hi-tech companies where he was responsible for strategic planning and corporate finance operations. Between 2001 and 2002, Mr. Petrashko worked in the energy sector as a specialist in product and asset transaction structuring for companies under the Enron Group.

Mr. Petrashko began his career in 1996 as a corporate restructuring advisor at a consortium under the TACIS Programme (Ukraine) where he worked until 1999. He graduated from the Lviv National Polytechnic University as a Bachelor of Business Administration. In 2001, he obtained an MBA from Vanderbilt Business School (USA).

UkrLandFarming deputy CEO Ihor Petrashko calls the timing of the company's European and American investor relation roadshows this month \u201cvery unusual timing, but a regular event that we do once or twice a year.\u201d

Photo by Pavlo Podufalov

Source Links:

<https://www.ulf.com.ua/en/company/governance/management/>

<https://www.kyivpost.com/article/content/business/ukraines-biggest-farmer-bets-on-eu-and-china-348071.html>

Exhibit 8

Dr. Jian-Yun Dong foreign donation indictments linked to Graham filed in 2011, along with charges of misuse of federal grant money:

The screenshot shows a news article from The Post and Courier. The article title is "GenPhar president charged with fraud" by Glenn Smith. A text box highlights the main content: "The charges are contained in federal indictments unsealed today that also accuse GenPhar president Jian-Yun Dong and his estranged wife of making at least \$31,000 in illegal campaign contributions to U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham and his political action committee." Below this, it says "use and committing wire fraud to scam the federal government, according to the indictment." The article is dated Saturday, December 24, 2011. The website header includes "The Post and Courier" logo and navigation links like "Charleston Savvy Shopper", "Cars", "Classifieds", etc. The page also features a weather widget for Charleston and a "Latest Galleries" section.

Source Link:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20111225032645/http://www.postandcourier.com:80/news/2011/sep/19/genphar-president-wife-charged-fraud/>

Exhibit 9

Charges included misuse of federal grant money for virology research diverted to pay for an office building and a fake 2nd company:

The screenshot shows the Science magazine website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Science' logo, 'Home', 'News', 'Journals', 'Topics', and 'Careers'. A search bar is on the right. Below the navigation, there are promotional banners for 'ONE APP... THOUSANDS OF JOBS' and 'Science Careers'. The main article title is 'South Carolina Virologist Charged With Illegal Campaign Contributions, Grant Fraud' by Eliot Marshall, dated Sep. 22, 2011. The article text is partially obscured by a large white box containing a summary of the charges. The summary states: 'The second indictment charges Dong and an unnamed "person A"—described in the indictment as the vice president for research and development at GenPhar—with conspiring to submit "false, fictitious, and fraudulent" statements to the U.S. government between 2004 and 2011 in connection with research grants. Person A has not been indicted. The exact amount of funding under scrutiny isn't made clear in the indictment, but the grants came from the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Naval Medical Research Center. Some of GenPhar's NIH grant money (\$1.3 million, according to news reports) came from projects earmarked by Congress and promoted by Senator Graham.'

Source Link:

<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2011/09/south-carolina-virologist-charged-illegal-campaign-contributions-grant-fraud>

Exhibit 10

Federal prosecutors did not find evidence of wrongdoing by Graham:

The screenshot shows a Washington Post article from September 20, 2011, by Dan Eggen. The article title is "Donor to Lindsey Graham accused of funneling money to senator's campaign". The article discusses federal grants received by GenPhar from 2004 to 2010, including a \$5 million earmark for a dengue fever vaccine program in 2010. Several text boxes highlight key information:

- Text Box 1:** "From 2004 to 2010, GenPhar received \$19.6 million in federal grants from NIH and the military secured with help from Graham, according to the senator's office. The money was focused on attempting to develop vaccines for use against the Ebola, Marburg and dengue viruses."
- Text Box 2:** "In one example, Graham requested a \$5 million earmark for GenPhar for a program to develop a vaccine against dengue fever. The company eventually received about \$1.3 million in 2010, according to LegiStorm, which tracks earmarks."
- Text Box 3:** "U.S. Attorney William N. Nettles said of Graham's office: 'As the indictment states, they have cooperated fully and there is no evidence that they had any information that anything illegal was happening.'"
- Text Box 4:** "In September 2007, Dong suggested in an e-mail to the foreign national that the contributions had helped the company win federal funding. The project is not identified in court records, but the National Institutes of Health awarded \$1.1 million to GenPhar on Sept. 7, 2007, for a 'preclinical evaluation' of a vaccine for the Marburg virus, records show. 'This is your money at work,' Dong allegedly wrote in the e-mail six days later."

Other visible text includes: "Prosecutors and Graham's office... Graham spokesman Kevin Bi... Treasury." and "Senator Graham believes those who receive t... to use the funding in an appropriate manner;... should be serious consequences."

Source Link:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/donor-to-lindsey-graham-accused-of-funneling-money-to-senators-campaign/2011/09/20/gIQAJebMjK_story.html?utm_term=.962cc4e500c7

Exhibit 11

Dr. Dong Sentenced to 18 months on FEC violations on 10/25/16:



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Former research scientist sentenced for federal election law violations

BY PRENTISS FINDLAY PFINDLAY@POSTANDCOURIER.COM
OCT 25, 2016

SUBSCRIBE FOR \$2.98 / WEEK

Former Ebola vaccine researcher Dr. Jian Yun Dong was sentenced to 18 months in federal prison on Tuesday for illegal campaign contributions to U.S. Sen Lindsey Graham.

"I'm appearing here with a heavy heart and request that you show leniency," Dong said to U.S. District Judge Weston Houck.

Dong said he took responsibility for his actions and apologized. He said that he made the campaign contributions to Graham, R-S.C., because he wanted to support a leader who supported the military.



Investor

Source Link:

https://www.postandcourier.com/news/former-research-scientist-sentenced-for-federal-election-law-violations/article_4280348a-9ab5-11e6-853b-0f77a0e1cfe1.html

Exhibit 12

Graham's donor Dr. Dong sentenced to 70 months prison and over \$15,000,000 restitution:

United States Department of Justice Offices of the United States Attorneys

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
DISTRICT of SOUTH CAROLINA

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U.S. Attorney's Office
District of South Carolina

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Dr. Jian Dong Sentenced to Seventy Months for Grant Fraud

Corporations founded by Dr. Dong fined over \$12 million in federal court hearing this morning

Contact Person: Eric Klumb (843) 727-4381

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Beth Drake stated today that Dr. Jian Yun Dong, aka John Dong, was sentenced to seventy months imprisonment for multiple fraud-based convictions and ordered to pay over three million dollars in restitution. GenPhar Inc. and Vaxima Inc, corporations Dong founded, were fined a total of \$12,846,399.32. Dr. Dong, GenPhar Inc., and Vaxima Inc. went to trial in

Testimony at trial established that federal grant money was obtained by GenPhar and Vaxima for purposes of biodefense research and vaccine development, but was used for other purposes, specifically to construct a commercial office building and pay lobbyists and others who were seeking to secure federal funding for the defendants. Testimony further established that a total of approximately \$6 million dollars was spent on the construction, which included approximately at least \$3 million dollars of improperly diverted grant money.

"Diverting funds meant for critical vaccine research is reprehensible and illegal," said Special Agent in Charge Derrick L. Jackson of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG) in Atlanta. "We will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to root out all forms of waste, fraud, and abuse in federal grant programs."

"Justice is finally served against Dr. John Dong and his companies with these sentences," stated Special Agent in Charge John F. Khin of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS), Southeast Field Office.

Request a Speaker

Civil Rights

Mother Emanuel AME Shooting
June 17, 2015

United States v. Mann Storm Roof

LEARN MORE

Source Link:

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-sc/pr/dr-jian-dong-sentenced-seventy-months-grant-fraud>