



**NEWS FROM:
THE JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS**

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**Note revisions as of Nov. 21, 2014*

**JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS RELEASES
MID-YEAR LOBBYING DATA**

Top spenders for first half of 2014 include teachers' unions, an anti-casino group, and campaign finance reform advocates

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Total spent on lobbying from January through June was \$109.8 million, including \$96.4 million in compensation paid to lobbyists and \$13.4 million in lobbying expenses

ALBANY (October 28, 2014) – The Joint Commission on Public Ethics today released lobbying data for the first half of 2014 showing that approximately \$109.8 million was reportedly spent to influence government decision making during the period and that the top spenders on lobbying worked on issues including charter schools, casino development in Monroe County and campaign finance reform.

According to data filed with the Joint Commission, top spenders on lobbying activity for the first six months of 2014 included teachers unions, an anti-casino coalition funded by gambling interests, a statewide health care association and advocates for both campaign finance reform and charter schools. A top public employees' union, the recording industry and trial lawyers rounded out the top 10 spenders on lobbying activities for the period.

From January through June, a total of \$109.8 million was spent on lobbying, including \$96.4 million in compensation to in-house and retained lobbyists, and \$13.4 million in lobbying-related expenses. The total spending this year reflects a 4 percent increase as compared to the \$105.6 million reported spending total in the 2013 mid-year lobbying data released on Oct. 13, 2013. All figures are subject to change pending any amendments or subsequent filings.

Notably, reported spending patterns across the most expensive lobbying efforts differed dramatically. Some, such as the Recording Industry Association's campaign for tax credits and anti-piracy issues, and the Greater NY Hospital Association on its myriad interests, used the vast majority of their lobbying spending to compensate professional lobbyists. Other top-spenders,

United Teachers of New York State, No More Casinos Coalition, Inc., and the Public Campaign Action Fund, reported most of their spending on lobbying-related expenses such as advertisements and events.

The most recent figures come from data submitted to the Joint Commission by lobbyists, their clients and public corporations covering lobbying activities from January 1 through June 30. Registered lobbyists and public corporations are required to file bi-monthly reports of their lobbying activities, including compensation and reimbursed expenses received during each period. Clients are required to file twice each year detailing their lobbying expenditures, including the amount spent on advertising, which totaled nearly \$6 million for the first half of 2014.

As of June 30, 2014, there were 6,851 individual lobbyists reported on lobbyist registrations representing 4,353 clients.

The Joint Commission also updated its publicly-available sets of the complete data filed by lobbyists and their clients to include reported information from the first half of 2014. The data is available in spreadsheet and CSV file formats and is available by clicking [here](#).

Tables highlighting data for the period are available below.

Top 10 Clients (Total Expenditures) for January through June 2014

(Based on figures reported in 2014 Client Semi-Annual Reports as of October 14, 2014)

CLIENT NAME	COMPENSATION		
	PAID TO LOBBYISTS	EXPENSES	TOTAL
UNITED TEACHERS (NYS)	\$328,935	\$2,310,722	\$2,639,657
NO MORE CASINOS COALITION, INC.	\$24,000	\$1,452,212	\$1,476,212
PUBLIC CAMPAIGN ACTION FUND	\$28,484	\$1,334,279	\$1,362,763
GREATER NY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION	\$1,089,223	\$92,549	\$1,181,772
COALITION FOR OPPORTUNITY IN EDUCATION (THE) (FKA SCHOOL CHOICE COALITION)	\$340,000	\$642,243	\$982,243
UNITED FEDERATION OF TEACHERS	\$300,259	\$418,047	\$718,306
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FEDERATION	\$422,740	\$293,040	\$715,780
AARP	\$235,108	\$435,754	\$670,862
RECORDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.	\$662,500	\$0	\$662,500
TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (NYS)	\$530,673	\$85,726	\$616,399

***Revision: Subsequent to this release it has come to the Joint Commission's attention that client filer Recording Industry Association of America, Inc. submitted a client semi-annual report overstating the compensation paid to its**

lobbyists and would not have been included in the chart above based on filings as amended.

The chart above reflects only expenditures reported in client semi-annual filings. Therefore, any entity that reported expenditures in a separate lobbyist bi-monthly report, but not in their client semi-annual report, may not be included.

Top 10 Lobbyists (Total Compensation and Expenses) January through June 2014

(Based on figures reported in 2014 Lobbyist Bi-Monthly Reports as of October 14, 2014)

LOBBYIST NAME	TOTALS
WILSON ELSEER MOSKOWITZ EDELMAN & DICKER, LLP	\$5,664,282
PARK STRATEGIES, LLC	\$3,991,049
KASIRER CONSULTING	\$3,750,568
BOLTON ST. JOHNS, LLC	\$3,427,564
BROWN & WEINRAUB, PLLC	\$3,288,197
MANATT, PHELPS & PHILLIPS, LLP	\$2,709,625
CAPALINO, JAMES F. & ASSOCIATES, INC.	\$2,504,767
GREENBERG TRAUIG, LLP	\$2,466,265
HINMAN STRAUB ADVISORS LLC	\$2,351,364
UNGAR, ROBERT A. ASSOCIATES, INC.	\$2,247,098

****Revision: Subsequent to this release it has come to the Joint Commission's attention that lobbyist filer Robert A. Ungar Associates, Inc. submitted a bi-monthly report overstating the compensation received from a client and would not have been included in the above chart based on filings as amended.***