

Attorney General Pamela Bondi Personally Signed Memo Approving Qatar's "Flying Palace" Gift To Trump Administration After Lobbying For Qatar And Telling Congress She Would "Own Any Recusal Decision" Concerning Conflicts

SUMMARY: In May 2025, the Trump Administration prepared to accept a \$400 million "<u>super luxury</u>" jumbo jet known as a "'<u>flying palace</u>'" from the royal family of Qatar for President Trump to use as the new Air Force One. On top of this, the jet would be transferred to the Trump Presidential Library Foundation after the end of Trump's term, where it would be available for his own <u>personal benefit</u>.

Attorney General Pamela Bondi, who previously worked as a <u>foreign lobbyist</u> for the nation of Qatar, "<u>personally signed</u>" a Justice Department legal memorandum approving the legality of Qatar gifting the jet to the Trump administration. Bondi's memo <u>concluded</u> that it would be legally permissible for the Trump administration and the library to accept the jet, and that it would not violate the U.S. Constitution's Emoluments Clause barring gifts from foreign royalty or governments.

Bondi's memo strangely determined that the jet did not constitute bribery because it was "<u>not conditioned on any official act</u>" and that it did not violate the Emoluments Clause because it was being gifted to the U.S. government and to the Trump library foundation, and not to Trump as an individual.

Attorney General Bondi's approval of Qatar's gift to the Trump administration comes after she told the U.S. Senate she might recuse from matters "even where others advise [her] it is not necessary" and that she would "own any recusal decision," while signing a limited ethics agreement that would only cover clients she or her former lobbying firm had in the previous year:

- When asked by the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee if she would recuse from matters that raise
 even "the appearance of a conflict of interest," Bondi suggested she would recuse from matters
 "even where others advise [her] it is not necessary," that she would "own any recusal decision."
 Bondi also stated, "the President is bound by the terms of his oath, the Constitution, and applicable
 law" when asked about his power over the Justice Department.
- In February 2025, newly confirmed Attorney General Pamela Bondi issued directives limiting the
 enforcement of foreign lobbying and foreign bribery laws. The <u>day after</u> she was confirmed, she
 narrowed enforcement of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act to matters involving "<u>criminal operations</u>
 <u>of cartels and transnational criminal organizations</u>." Soon after, she <u>narrowed</u> the Foreign Agents
 Registration Act enforcement of foreign lobbying and influence campaigns.
- In the ethics agreement she signed upon becoming Attorney General, Bondi stated she would not
 "participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties" that she or
 Ballard Partners had represented for one year after her resignation from the firm or for one year after
 she last represented a particular client.

Attorney General Pam Bondi Provided A Legal Memo Allowing The Trump Administration To Accept A \$400 Million Jumbo Jet Known As A "'Flying Palace" From The Royal Family Of Qatar—Bondi's Memo Said The Gifted Jet Did Not Violate The Constitution's Emoluments Clause Or Bribery.

May 2025: The Trump Administration Prepared To Accept A \$400 Million "Super Luxury" Jumbo Jet Known As "'A Flying Palace'" From The Royal Family Of Qatar For President Trump To Use As The New Air Force One.

May 2025: The Trump Administration Was Preparing To Accept A "Super Luxury" Jumbo Jet From The Royal Family Of Qatar For President Trump To Use As The New Air Force One—The Jet Would Then Be Transferred To The Trump Presidential Library Foundation After He Leaves Office. "In what may be the most valuable gift ever extended to the United States from a foreign government, the Trump administration is preparing to accept a super luxury Boeing 747-8 jumbo jet from the royal family of Qatar -- a gift that is to be available for use by President Donald Trump as the new Air Force One until shortly before he leaves office, at which time ownership of the plane will be transferred to the Trump presidential library foundation, sources familiar with the proposed arrangement told ABC News." [ABC News, 05/11/25]

The Plane Is Known As "'A Flying Palace.'" "Trump had previously toured the plane, which is so opulently configured it is known as 'a flying palace,' while it was parked at the West Palm Beach International Airport in February." [ABC News, 05/11/25]

The Plane Is Estimated To Cost About \$400 Million, Not Including The Cost Of Additional Communications And Security Equipment The U.S. Air Force Will Have To Install. "According to aviation industry experts, the estimated value of the aircraft Trump will inherit is about \$400 million, and that's without the additional communications security equipment the Air Force will need to add to properly secure and outfit the plane in order to safely transport the commander in chief." [ABC News, 05/11/25]

Attorney General Pam Bondi "Personally Signed" A Legal Memorandum
Approving The Legality Of The Gifted Jet, Concluding That It Did Not Violate The
Emoluments Clause Barring Gifts From Foreign Governments And Royalty And
That It Did Not Represent Bribery Becase It "Was Not Conditioned On Any
Official Act."

Attorney General Pam Bondi And Trump's White House Counsel David Warrington Determined That It Would Be "'Legally Permissible'" For The Trump Administration And Library To Accept The Jet, And That It Would Not Violate The Constitution's Emoluments Clause Barring Gifts From Foreign Royalty Or Governments. "Anticipating those questions, sources told ABC News that lawyers for the White House counsel's office and the Department of Justice drafted an analysis for Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth concluding that is legal for the Department of Defense to accept the aircraft as a gift and later turn it over to the Trump library, and that it does not violate laws against bribery or the Constitution's prohibition (the emoluments clause) of any U.S. government official accepting gifts 'from any King, Prince or foreign State.' Sources told ABC News that Attorney General Pam Bondi and Trump's top White House lawyer David Warrington concluded it would be 'legally permissible' for the donation of the aircraft to be conditioned on transferring its ownership to Trump's presidential library before the end of his term, according to sources familiar with their determination." [ABC News, 05/11/25]

Sources Said Pam Bondi Provided A Legal Memorandum On The Legality Of The Jet. "The sources said Bondi provided a legal memorandum addressed to the White House counsel's office last week after Warrington asked her for advice on the legality of the Pentagon accepting such a donation." [ABC News, 05/11/25]

A Source Said Bondi "Personally Signed" The Justice Department Memo Allowing The Gifted Jet. "A person familiar with the matter said that Ms. Bondi had personally signed a Justice Department memo blessing the plan as lawful, although the person added that it had been drafted and cleared by lawyers in the department's Office of Legal Counsel." [The New York Times, 05/12/25]

Bondi's Justice Department Reportedly Concluded That The Jet Did Not Constitute Bribery Because It Was "Not Conditioned On Any Official Act." "Both the White House and DOJ concluded that because the gift is not conditioned on any official act, it does not constitute bribery, the sources said." [ABC News, 05/11/25]

Bondi's Legal Analysis Determined That The Jet Does Not Violate The Emoluments Clause Because It Was "Not Being Given To An Individual, But Rather To The United States Air Force And, Eventually, To The Presidential Library Foundation." "Bondi's legal analysis also says it does not run afoul of the Constitution's prohibition on foreign gifts because the plane is not being given to an individual, but rather to the United States Air Force and, eventually, to the presidential library foundation, the sources said." [ABC News, 05/11/25]

Bondi, Who Previously Worked As A Foreign Lobbyist For The Nation Of Qatar As Recently As 2020, Stated She Would Not Participate In Any Matter Concerning Clients That She Or Ballard Partners Had Represented For One Year After Her Resignation From The Firm Or For One Year After She Last Represented A Particular Client.

While A Partner With Powerful Lobbying Firm Ballard Partners, Bondi Previously Worked As A Foreign Lobbyist For The Nation Of Qatar In 2019 And 2020.

Bondi Previously Worked As A Foreign Lobbyist For The Nation Of Qatar In 2019 And 2020. "Bondi worked as a foreign lobbyist for the nation of Qatar, earning \$115,000 a month in the role which she held in 2020 and in the run up to the World Cup in 2022. In this role, she lobbied Congress on behalf of Qatari interests. She also worked in a separate lobbying position for the Washington, D.C.-based firm Ballard Partners, where she also lobbied on behalf of Qatari interests and several conglomerates including Amazon." [Newsweek, 05/12/25]

- During Her Confirmation Process, Democratic Members Of The Senate Judiciary Committee "Accused Bondi Of Failing To Disclose Her Ties" To Qatar. "Her links to Qatar were previously raised by Democratic members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary in January, who accused Bondi of failing to disclose her ties to the nation." [Newsweek, 05/12/25]
- The Qatari Government Has Been "Accused Of Human Rights Abuses." "President-elect Donald Trump's new pick for Attorney General once earned \$115,000 a month as a registered foreign lobbyist for the Qatari government, which has often been accused of human rights abuses. She worked for Qatar in 2020 during the run-up to the 2022 soccer World Cup, when the state introduced new laws to end one of the most abusive elements of the country's labor system." [Newsweek, 11/22/24]
- Bondi Lobbied For The Qatari Government In 2019 And 2020. "According to your submitted materials and testimony, you lobbied on behalf of the Qatari Government in 2019 and 2020 ahead of the 2022 World Cup." [U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, 01/16/25]

Bondi Lobbied For Qatar While A Partner For Powerful Lobbying Firm Ballard Partners, Briefly Stepping Down From The Firm And From Representing Qatar From November 2019 To March 2020, When She Helped Represent Trump For His First Impeachment Trial. "A close ally of Trump, Bondi is a

partner at Ballard Partners, a lobbying and government affairs firm founded by Brian Ballard, who has been referred to as the 'most powerful lobbyist in Trump's Washington.' [...] However, after just over four months, Bondi severed ties with Ballard Partners, as well as the Qatari government, in November 2019, to take up a temporary position in the White House Counsel's office. At the time, Trump was facing his first impeachment trial for alleged abuse of power and obstruction of Congress after a House inquiry found that he sought foreign interference in the 2020 election to aid his reelection, obstructing the investigation by directing officials to ignore subpoenas. Trump pleaded not guilty to the charges and was acquitted by the Senate. Bondi later returned to Ballard Partners following the conclusion of the impeachment trial in March 2020, resuming her lobbying for the Qatari government, according to Justice Department documents." [Newsweek, 11/22/24]

In Her Senate Confirmation Questions, Bondi Suggested She Would Recuse
From Matters "Even Where Others Advise [Her] It Is Not Necessary," That She
Would "Own Any Recusal Decision," And That "The President Is Bound By The
Terms Of His Oath, The Constitution, And Applicable Law."

In Her Senate Confirmation Questions For The Record, Bondi Said "I Will Own Any Recusal Decision" When Asked If She Would Commit To Following The Counsel Of Justice Department Ethics And Professional Responsibility Staff:

c. You testified that, if confirmed, you would consult with career Ethics and Professional Responsibility staff in the Department of Justice when making recusal decisions. Will you commit to following the counsel and advice of such staff in making recusal decisions?

RESPONSE: As you note, I stated I will consult with the appropriate Department of Justice ethics officials. However, I will own any recusal decision.

[U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, 01/16/25]

When Asked If She Would Recuse Herself From Any Cases That "Raise The Appearance Of A Conflict Of Interest," Bondi Suggested She Could Recuse From Matters "Even Where Others Advise [Her] It Is Not Necessary," Adding That She Would "Own Any Recusal Decision":

d. If you are confirmed as Attorney General, would you recuse yourself from cases that raise the appearance of a conflict of interest, even if informed by ethics and professional responsibility advisors that recusal is not warranted?

[...]

RESPONSE: I will make all decisions with respect to potential recusal on a case-by-case basis. It may be that I decide recusal would be appropriate even where others advise me it is not necessary. As I state in response to Question 14 (c), I will own any recusal decision.

[U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, <u>01/16/25</u>]

When Asked If She Agrees With President Trump's Statement, "I Have The Absolute Right To Do What I Want To Do With The Justice Department," Bondi Said, "The President Is Bound By The Terms Of His Oath, The Constitution, And Applicable Law":

15. President Trump has said, "I have absolute right to do what I want to do with the Justice Department." Do you agree? If not absolute, how much power do you believe the President has over the Department?

RESPONSE: The President is bound by the terms of his oath, the Constitution, and applicable law.

[U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, 01/16/25]

In Her Attorney General Ethics Agreement, Bondi Stated That She Would Not "Participate Personally And Substantially In Any Particular Matter Involving Specific Parties" That She Or Ballard Partners Had Represented For One Year After Her Resignation From The Firm Or For One Year After She Last Represented A Particular Client.

In Her Ethics Agreement, Dated January 14, 2025, Bondi Stated, That For One Year Following Her Resignation From Ballard Partners, She Would "Not Participate Personally And Substantially In Any Particular Matter Involving Specific Parties In Which I Know Ballard Partners Is A Party Or Represents A Party, Unless I Am First Authorized To Participate":

SECTION 2 - EMPLOYMENT

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with Ballard Partners. Pursuant to the impartiality regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502, for a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know Ballard Partners is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d). In addition, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know a former client of mine is a party or represents a party for a period of one year after I last provided service to that client, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

[...]

Sincerely,

Pam Rondi

[U.S. Office of Government Ethics, 01/14/25]

Bondi Also Stated, "I Will Not Participate Personally And Substantially In Any Particular Matter Involving Specific Parties In Which I Know A Former Client Of Mine Is A Party Or Represents A Party For A Period Of One Year After I Last Provided Service To That Client, Unless I Am First Authorized To Participate":

SECTION 2 - EMPLOYMENT

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with Ballard Partners. Pursuant to the impartiality regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502, for a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know Ballard Partners is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d). In addition, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know a former client of mine is a party or represents a party for a period of one year after I last provided service to that client, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

[...]

Sincerely,

Pam Bondi

[U.S. Office of Government Ethics, 01/14/25]

<u>Curiously, The U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Database Does Not Show Bondi</u>
<u>Or Ballard Lobbying For Qatar, Although Other Firms Have Reported Lobbying</u>
<u>For Its Government And Embassy.</u>

Bondi Does Not Appear As A Lobbyist For Qatar In The U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Database:

O reports matching...

Client Name/ID: qatar

Lobbyist Name: bondi

[U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Database, accessed <u>05/13/25</u>]

Ballard Does Not Appear As A Lobbying Registrant For Qatar In The U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Database:

O reports matching...

Registrant Name/ID: ballard

Client Name/ID: qatar

[U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Database, accessed 05/13/25]

Other Lobbying Firms Have Disclosed Lobbying For The Government Of Qatar Or Its Embassy:

Registrant Name	♦ <u>Client Name</u>	Report Type	Amount Reported	Filing Vear	♦ <u>Posted</u>
BACHNER GROUP [2]	EMBASSY OF THE STATE OF QATAR	1st Quarter - Report	\$40,000.00	2025	04/17/2025 @ 10:13 AM
MERCURY PUBLIC AFFAIRS, LLC	GOVERNMENT OF QATAR C/O EMBASSY OF THE STATE OF QATAR	[] 1st Quarter - Report	\$120,000.00	2019	04/10/2019 @ 03:02 PM
		[]			
BGR GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS If	STATE OF QATAR	2nd Quarter - Termination (No Activity)		2015	07/21/2015 @ 02:42 PM

[U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Database, accessed 05/14/25]

Attorney General Pam Bondi, An Early And "Outspoken Defender Of Trump," Was Expected To Politicize The U.S. Department Of Justice (DOJ) And Quickly Issued A Directive Narrowing Enforcement Of Federal Foreign Lobbying And Bribery Laws After Her Confirmation.

<u>Trump's Attorney General Pam Bondi, An Early And "Outspoken Defender Of Trump," Was Expected To Carry Out Trump's "Retribution Against Perceived Adversaries" And Politicization Of The U.S. Department Of Justice (DOJ).</u>

November 22, 2024: President-Elect Trump Picked Former Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi To Be Attorney General, After Former Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL) Withdrew From Consideration Due Amid "Sex Trafficking Allegations." "President-elect Donald Trump said Thursday he will nominate former Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi to lead the Justice Department, turning to a longtime ally after his first choice, Matt Gaetz, withdrew his name from consideration amid scrutiny over sex trafficking allegations." [Associated Press, 11/22/24]

Bondi, Who Was Florida's Attorney General From 2011 To 2019, Is Currently Chair Of Corporate Regulatory Compliance With Ballard Partners, A Lobbying Firm. "Pam Bondi, elected twice to serve as Florida's Attorney General from 2011 – 2019, chairs the firm's Corporate Regulatory Compliance practice. This national practice area focuses on serving Fortune 500 companies to implement best practices that proactively address public policy challenges such as human trafficking, opioid abuse and personal data privacy. As chair of the Corporate Regulatory Compliance practice, Pam works with clients to design and implement publicly conscious initiatives that will elevate their corporate responsibility reputation as well as address their critical regulatory challenges." [Ballard Partners, accessed 11/25/24]

 Ballard Partners Is "A Lobbying Firm Offering Comprehensive Services For Clients." "Ballard Partners is a lobbying firm offering comprehensive services for clients, from legislative advocacy to relationship management. We combine our extensive experience in government and politics with our dedication to advocacy to meet clients' needs." [Ballard Partners, accessed 11/25/24]

Bondi's Actions As Attorney General Are Expected To Be Scrutinized, Due To Trump's "Threat To Pursue Retribution Against Perceived Adversaries And Concern Among Democrats That He Will Look To Bend The Justice Department To His Will." "If confirmed by the Republican-led Senate, Bondi would

instantly become one of the most closely watched members of Trump's Cabinet given the Republican's threat to pursue retribution against perceived adversaries and concern among Democrats that he will look to bend the Justice Department to his will." [Associated Press, 11/23/24]

Bondi, "An Outspoken Defender Of Trump," Represented Trump During His First Impeachment Trial Over Pressuring Ukraine To Investigate Then-Former Vice President Joe Biden. "Bondi has been an outspoken defender of Trump. She was one of his lawyers during his first impeachment trial, when he was accused — but not convicted — of abusing his power as he tried to condition U.S. military assistance to Ukraine on that country investigating then-former Vice President Joe Biden." [Associated Press, 11/22/24]

Bondi "Supported Mr. Trump's Fabricated Claims Of Election Fraud" In 2020, Even Claiming That Then-Vice President Biden Was Benefiting From "Fake Ballots." "She supported Trump's false election claims. After Mr. Biden won the 2020 presidential election, Ms. Bondi supported Mr. Trump's fabricated claims of election fraud. In November 2020, Ms. Bondi deflected when a Fox News host asked her to back up her assertion that "fake ballots" for Mr. Biden were pouring into tabulation centers." [The New York Times, 11/21/24]

Bondi Was "Among A Group Of Republicans Who Showed Up To Support Trump At His New York Hush Money Criminal Trial," Which Resulted In A Conviction On 34 Felony Counts. "And she was among a group of Republicans who showed up to support Trump at his New York hush money criminal trial that ended in May with a conviction on 34 felony counts." [Associated Press, 11/22/24]

Bondi Is A "Longtime And Early Ally" Of Trump's Endorsing Him As Early As March 2016, Over Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), Then A Republican Primary Candidate From Her Own State. "Bondi has been a longtime and early ally. In March 2016, on the eve of the Republican primary in Florida, Bondi endorsed Trump at a rally, picking him over the candidate from her own state, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio." [Associated Press, 11/23/24]

February 2025: Newly-Confirmed Attorney General Pam Bondi Issued A Directive Narrowing The Enforcement Of The Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), Which Requires Foreign Agents And Lobbyists To Disclose Their Activity And Which Was Used To Prosecute Trump Allies In Trump's First Term.

February 2025: Newly-Confirmed Attorney General Pam Bondi Issued Directives Limiting The Enforcement Of Foreign Lobbying And Bribery Laws. "The Trump administration could not have gotten off to a better start for people accused of violating foreign lobbying and bribery laws. In the days after President Trump and Attorney General Pam Bondi issued directives limiting the enforcement of those laws, lawyers for people accused of such violations — including Trump allies — have scrambled to capitalize on the moment." [The New York Times, 02/14/25]

Bondi Announced That The Justice Department Would Scale Back "Enforcement Of Laws Governing Foreign Lobbying Transparency And Bribes Of Foreign Officials," Reducing Enforcement To Foreign Bribery Related To "Criminal Operations Of Cartels And Transnational Criminal Organizations." "The Justice Department is scaling back enforcement of laws governing foreign lobbying transparency and bribes of foreign officials, Attorney General Pam Bondi announced. The Criminal Division's Foreign Corrupt Practices Act unit will prioritize investigations related to foreign bribery that facilitates the criminal operations of cartels and transnational criminal organizations, such as cases that involve bribery of foreign officials to 'facilitate human smuggling and the trafficking of narcotics and firearms,' Bondi said in a Wednesday memo obtained by Bloomberg Law. The FCPA prosecutors shall 'shift focus away from investigations and cases that do not have such a connection,' she added." [Bloomberg Law, 02/05/25]

Bondi Issued A Directive Narrowing The Enforcement Of The Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), Which Requires "Anyone Who Lobbies Or Does Public Relations In The United States For A Foreign

Government, Political Party Or State-Owned Enterprise To Register With The Justice Department And Disclose Their Activity." "Other cases could be undermined by a directive issued by Ms. Bondi last week narrowing the enforcement of the Foreign Agents Registration Act, or FARA. The act requires anyone who lobbies or does public relations in the United States for a foreign government, political party or state-owned enterprise to register with the Justice Department and disclose their activity." [The New York Times, 02/14/25]

During Trump's First Term, FARA Was Used By Special Counsel Robert Mueller, Who "Brought Criminal Charges Related To FARA Against An Array Of Mr. Trump's Allies, Including His Former Campaign Chairman Paul Manafort And His Former Fund-Raiser Elliott Broidy"—Trump Later Pardoned Manafort And Broidy. "During Mr. Trump's first term, the act was used by the special counsel appointed to investigate interference by Russia in the 2016 election and ties between the country and Mr. Trump's team. The special counsel, Robert S. Mueller III, and other prosecutors brought criminal charges related to FARA against an array of Mr. Trump's allies, including his former campaign chairman Paul Manafort and his former fund-raiser Elliott Broidy. Both men were pardoned by Mr. Trump during the final days of his first term." [The New York Times, 02/14/25]

Bondi Had "personal experience with FARA" During Her Time As A Lobbyist For Qatar. "Ms. Bondi has personal experience with FARA, having registered as a foreign agent for Qatar at various points from 2019 to 2021 while working as a lobbyist for the firm of top Trump fund-raiser Brian Ballard." [The New York Times, 02/14/25]

While Attorney General In 2013, Bondi Declined To File A Fraud Lawsuit Against Trump University After She "Personally Solicited" A \$25,000 Political Contribution From Trump—Trump Ultimately Paid \$25 Million To Settle Three Lawsuits Alleging His University "Defrauded Its Students."

While Florida Attorney General In 2013, Bondi "Personally Solicited" A Political Contribution From Trump While Office Was Weighing A Fraud Lawsuit Against Trump University—Bondi Then Backed Away From Suing Trump After He Gave Her A \$25,000 Contribution. "Bondi personally solicited a 2013 political contribution from Trump as her office was weighing whether to join New York in suing over fraud allegations involving Trump University. Trump cut a \$25,000 check to a political committee supporting Bondi from his family's charitable foundation, in violation of legal prohibitions against charities supporting partisan political activities. After the check came in, Bondi's office nixed suing Trump's company for fraud, citing insufficient grounds to proceed." [Associated Press, 11/23/24]

Trump And Bondi Denied Wrongdoing And A Prosecutor Assigned By Then-Gov. Rick Scott (R-FL) Claimed There Was "Insufficient Evidence To Support Bribery Charges Over The Donation." "Both Trump and Bondi denied wrongdoing, the state's ethics commission tossed the complaints and a prosecutor assigned by then-GOP Gov. Rick Scott determined there was insufficient evidence to support bribery charges over the donation." [Associated Press, 11/23/24]

Days Before Being Sworn In, Trump "Paid \$25 Million To Settle Three Lawsuits Alleging Trump University Defrauded Its Students." "Two days before being sworn in as president in January 2017, Trump paid \$25 million to settle three lawsuits alleging Trump University defrauded its students. Trump also paid a \$2,500 fine to the IRS over the illegal political donation to support Bondi from the Donald J. Trump Foundation, which he was forced to dissolve amid an investigation by the state of New York." [Associated Press, 11/23/24]