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Internal Revenue Service

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

OMB No 1545-0047 Open to Public Inspection

<u> </u>	or the	e 2008 calendar year, or tax year beginning and	ending							
Ba	heck if pplicable	Please use IRS	D Employer identific	cation number						
	Addres	ss label or DDC DIDI TOR TAIC								
	Name	type David Business As		14-2007220						
	Initial return	See Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address)	E Telephone number							
	Termin	Chanifa	Room/suite 23 FL	•	512-0240					
\vdash	Ameno Teturn	ded trons Church town state or country and ZID + A		G Gross receipts \$	8,572,220.					
F	Applic			H(a) Is this a group re						
	pendir	F Name and address of principal officer:		for affiliates?	Yes X No					
		*		H(b) Are all affiliates inc						
Tax-exempt status: X 501(c) (3) ◀ (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527 If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)										
		te: NWW.PROPUBLICA.ORG		H(c) Group exemption	· ·					
		organization: X Corporation Trust Association Other	L Year		State of legal domicile: NY					
	rt I	Summary								
		Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: Pro	Public	a is a new.	indepen-					
Governance		dent, non-profit investigative journalis								
'n		Check this box if the organization discontinued its operations or dispose								
Ver				اما	6					
Ĝ	l .	Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)			5					
Activities &	1 -	Total number of employees (Part V, line 2a)		5	46					
ij	6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)		6	0					
ķ	7a	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary) Total gross unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, line 12, column (SCE) Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, ine 34		7a	0.					
Ă	/a b	Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T. Inc. 34	VER		0.					
	<u> </u>	THE UNIVERSE DUSINESS (EXABLE INCOME HOUR) ONLY SHOPE		Prior Year	Current Year					
_	8	Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h) Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	. 10	1,450,000.	8,544,759.					
Jue		Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	(<u>iz</u> i) <i>(200</i>	/	<u> </u>					
Revenue	4	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 70)	··• ·/ [2/	89.	26,926.					
æ	1	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 70) Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)		<u> </u>	535.					
			<i>!!</i>	1,450,089.	8,572,220.					
		Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)		<u> </u>	0,0,0,000					
	į	Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1·3)	· · ·							
		Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	: · ·		4,005,731.					
Expenses	15	Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)		- 						
ĕ	16a	Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	····							
찣	_ b	Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25)		84,566.	2,130,656.					
_	1/	Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24f)	·· · ·	84,566.	6,136,387.					
		Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	·	1,365,523.	2,435,833.					
		Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12								
Net Assets or Fund Balances		Total access (Dark V. For 40)	-	Beginning of Year 1,747,979.	End of Year 4,117,171.					
Sse	20	Total assets (Part X, line 16)		382,456.	315,815.					
	21	Total liabilities (Part X, fine 26)		1,365,523.	3,801,356.					
	22 art li	Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	<u> </u>	1,303,343.	3,001,330.					
	ar (II	Signature Block	and statements	and to the best of my knowled	ge and belief, it is true, correct.					
Under penalties or perjury, I declare that I (av) examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge										
Sig	n	Num - M		18119	1 7					
Here		Paul E. Steiger President	-	Date						
		Type or print name and title	101	pool if	arla identifica a comba-					
Paid Preparer's Check if Self- constructions Preparer's identifying number Self- constructions Preparer's identifications										
_	arer's	Signature	2/OF en	nployed 🕨 💹						
	Only	Aonta it O. CONNOR DAVIES MONNS & DORRING	S, LLP	EIN ►						
-	Jilly	self-employed), address and 60 EAST 42ND STREET			4					
		ZIP+4 NEW YORK, NY 10165		Phone no. ► 2	12-286-2600					
Ma	y the II	RS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions)		<u> </u>	. Yes No					
8320	101 12-1	18.08 LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the	separate ins	tructions.	Form 990 <u>(</u> 2008)					

See Schedule O for Organization Mission Statement Continuation

		LICA, INC.	14-2007220 Page 2
Pa	rt III Statement of Program Ser	vice Accomplishments (see instructions)	
1	Briefly describe the organization's mission	n: See Schedule O for Conti	nuation
•		independent, non-profit n	
	investigative jeurne	liam in the mublic interest	Our comb format
		lism in the public interest	
		important stories, stories	with moral force.
	(SEE SCHEDULE O)		
2	Did the organization undertake any significant	cant program services during the year which were no	ot listed on
		· -	Yes X No
	If "Yes", describe these new services on		
_			
3	_	r make significant changes in how it conducts, any pi	rogram services? Yes X No
	If "Yes", describe these changes on Sche	edule O.	
4	Describe the exempt purpose achieveme	nts for each of the organization's three largest progra	ım services by expenses.
	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organization	ons and section 4947(a)(1) trusts are required to repo	ort the amount of grants and
	allocations to others, the total expenses.	and revenue, if any, for each program service reporte	ed.
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
40	(Code:) (Expenses \$	5, 234, 123. including grants of \$) (Revenue \$
4a		5,254,125. Including grants of \$) (Havenue \$
	SEE ATTACHMENT A		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
			<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>
			······································
			
		,	
			
4b	(Code:) (Expenses \$	including grants of \$) (Revenue \$
4c	(Code:) (Expenses \$	including grants of \$) (Revenue \$
	,		,
			····
4d	Other program services. (Describe in Sch	edule O.)	
		uding grants of \$) (Revenue \$)	١
4-		5,234,123. (Must equal Part IX, Line	
<u>4e</u>	Total program service expenses ▶ \$	フ, ムンセ, エムン。 (Must equal Part IX, Line	5 29, CUIUITIII (D)./

			Yes	No
1	Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	1	Х	
2	Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors?	2	X	
3	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I	3		x
4	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	4		X
5	Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), and 501(c)(6) organizations. Is the organization subject to the section 6033(e) notice and			
	reporting requirement and proxy tax? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	5		
6	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any accounts where donors have the right to provide advice			
	on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I	6		X
7	Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space,			
	the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II	_ 7		X
8	Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III	8		X
9	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide			
	credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV	9		Х
10	Did the organization hold assets in term, permanent, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V	10		X
11	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, lines 10, 12, 13, 15, or 25?			
	If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable	11	X	
12	Did the organization receive an audited financial statement for the year for which it is completing this return that was			
	prepared in accordance with GAAP? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII	12	X	
13	Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	13		X
14a	Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the U.S.?	14a		X
b	Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business,			İ
	and program service activities outside the U.S.? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part I	14b	ļ	X
15	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity			
	located outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part II	15		X
16	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals			
	located outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part III	16	<u> </u>	X
17	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I	17	<u> </u>	X
18	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II	18	<u> </u>	X
19	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III	19		X
20	Did the organization operate one or more hospitals? If "Yes," complete Schedule H	20		X
21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 17 If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II	21		X
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 2? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III	22	 _	X
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, questions 3, 4, or 5? If "Yes," complete Schedule J	23	X	_
24a	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the			
	last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? If "Yes," answer questions 24b-24d and complete Schedule K.			
_	If "No", go to question 25	24a		X
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b	<u> </u>	
С	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease		l	ì
	any tax-exempt bonds?	24c	├	
	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d		
25a		05-	1	v
L	disqualified person during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	25a	 	X
D	Did the organization become aware that it had engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person from a	054		v
00	prior year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	25b	 	X
26	Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highly compensated employee, or disqualified	ne		x
27	person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II	26	 	_
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, or substantial contributor, or to a person related to such an individual? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III	27		x
	Contributor, or to a person related to such an individual till Tes, Complete Schedule L, Fart III	_ ~ /	Щ	<u> </u>

14-2007220

Form 990 (2008) PRO PUBLICA, INC.
Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

			Yes	No
28	During the tax year, did any person who is a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee:			
а	Have a direct business relationship with the organization (other than as an officer, director, trustee, or employee), or an			
	indirect business relationship through ownership of more than 35% in another entity (individually or collectively with other			
	person(s) listed in Part VII, Section A)? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	28a		Х
b	Have a family member who had a direct or indirect business relationship with the organization?			
	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	28b		X
С	Serve as an officer, director, trustee, key employee, partner, or member of an entity (or a shareholder of a professional			
	corporation) doing business with the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	28c		X
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M	29	X	
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation			
	contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M	30		X
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations?			
	If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I	31		X
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? If "Yes," complete			
	Schedule N, Part II	32		X
33	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations			
	sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I	33		X
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity?			
	If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1	34		X
35	Is any related organization a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?			
	If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2	35	<u></u>	X
36	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?			1
	If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2	36		X
37	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization			
	and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? If "Yes, " complete Schedule R, Part VI	37		X

L			Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096, Amual Summary and Transmittal of			
	U.S. Information Returns. Enter -0- if not applicable			
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable 1b 0			
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming			
Ū	(gambling) winnings to prize winners?	1c	х	
22	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements,			
	filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return 2a 46			
h	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns?	2b	x	
	Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file this return. (see instructions)			
32	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year covered by this return?	За		X
	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	3b		
	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a	- 30		
48	financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?	4a		x
	· ·	- 7 a		
D	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ► See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and			
				1
_	Financial Accounts.		l	х
	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?	5a		X
	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?	5b	 	
С	If "Yes," to question 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T, Disclosure by Tax-Exempt Entity Regarding Prohibited			
	Tax Shelter Transaction?	5c	-	х
	Did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible?	6a		
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts	۱.,		
	were not tax deductible?	6b	<u> </u>	
7	Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).	l _		3.7
а	Did the organization provide goods or services in exchange for any quid pro quo contribution of more than \$75?	7a_	<u> </u>	X
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?	_7b	<u> </u>	
C	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required			
	to file Form 8282?	7c	ļ—	X
	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year			
е	Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal			
	benefit contract?	7 <u>e</u>	_	X
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	7f	ļ	X
g	For all contributions of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?	7g	<u> </u>	X
h	For contributions of cars, boats, airplanes, and other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C as required?	7h	<u> </u>	X
8	Section 501(c)(3) and other sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3)			
	supporting organizations. Did the supporting organization, or a fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have			
	excess business holdings at any time during the year?	8		
9	Section 501(c)(3) and other sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.			
а	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?	9a		↓
b	Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?	9b	ļ	ļ
10	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter: N/A			
а	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12			
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities			
11	Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter: N/A		1	
	Gross income from members or shareholders]		
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against			
_	amounts due or received from them.)			
12a	Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?	12a		
	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year			

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure (Sections A, B, and C request information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Sec	tion A. Governing Body and Management			
			Yes	No
	For each "Yes" response to lines 2-7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8 or 9b below, describe the circumstances,			
	processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.			
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body		- 1	
ь	Enter the number of voting members that are independent		- 1	
2	Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other			
	officer, director, trustee, or key employee?	2		<u>X</u>
3	Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision			
	of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?	3		<u>X</u>
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its organizational documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4		<u>X</u>
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a material diversion of the organization's assets?	5		<u>X</u>
6	Does the organization have members or stockholders?	6		<u> </u>
7a	Does the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who may elect one or more members of the			
	governing body?	7a		<u>X</u>
b	Are any decisions of the governing body subject to approval by members, stockholders, or other persons?	7b		<u> </u>
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year			
	by the following:			
а	The governing body?	8a	Х	
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b	Х	
9a	Does the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?	9a		<u> </u>
b	If "Yes," does the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates,			
	and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with those of the organization?	9b		
10	Was a copy of the Form 990 provided to the organization's governing body before it was filed? All organizations must			
	describe in Schedule O the process, if any, the organization uses to review the Form 990	10	X	
11	Is there any officer, director or trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the			
	organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O	11		<u> </u>
Sec	tion B. Policies			
			Yes	<u>No</u>
12a	Does the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13	12a	X	
b	Are officers, directors or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give use			
	to conflicts?	12b	X	
С	Does the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe			
	in Schedule O how this is done	12c	X	
13	Does the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13	X	
14	Does the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14	_X_	
15	Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent			
	persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision:			
а	The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official?	15a	<u>X</u>	
b	Other officers or key employees of the organization?	15b	X	<u> </u>
	Describe the process in Schedule O. (see instructions)			
16a	Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a			
	taxable entity during the year?	16a		<u> </u>
b	If "Yes," has the organization adopted a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation	'		
	ın joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and taken steps to safeguard the organization's			
	exempt status with respect to such arrangements?	16b		
<u>Sec</u>	tion C. Disclosure			
17	List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed ▶NY, DC, IL, NJ, CA			
18	Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available	for		
	public inspection. Indicate how you make these available. Check all that apply.			
	X Own website X Another's website X Upon request			
19	Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how), the organization makes its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, as	nd fina	ncial	
	statements available to the public.			
20	State the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization	ion: 🕨	-	
	The Organization - 917-512-0240			
	ONE EXCHANGE PLAZA, 55 BROADWAY, No. 23 FL, NEW YORK, NY 10006			

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Use Schedule J-2 if additional space is needed.

- List all of the organization's current officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation, and current key employees. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List the organization's five current highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's former officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's former directors or trustees that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

Check this box if the organization did not co (A)	(B)	(C)					(D)	(E)	(F)	
Name and Title	Average	١,	Position (check all that apply)		Reportable	Reportable	Estimated			
	hours per	H	neci	(au	tnat			compensation from	compensation from related	amount of other
	week	Jirecto						the	organizations	compensation
		te or c	stee			n safe		organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(W-2/1099-MISC)	from the organization
		al trus	nad tr		oloyee	E 2		(44-2/1099-141130)		and related
		individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	ormer			organizations
HERBERT M. SANDLER		<u> </u>	-	۳		- 4	_			
CHAIRMAN	2.00	x						o.	0.	0.
HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.	2.00	1				 				<u> </u>
DIRECTOR	1.00	x						0.	0.	0.
ALBERTO IBARGUEN			1							
DIRECTOR	1.00	X				L		0.	0.	0.
JAMES A. LEACH										
DIRECTOR	1.00	X		<u> </u>				0.	0.	0.
REBECCA RIMEL									_	_
DIRECTOR	1.00	X	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	_		0.	0.	0.
PAUL E. STEIGER										44.040
PRESIDENT & EDITOR IN CH	40.00		 	X	┞	┝		570,000.	0.	14,242.
RICHARD TOFEL	40.00							206 270	•	24 075
TREASURER, SECRETARY & G	40.00	-	\vdash	X	╀╌	 		296,370.	0.	24,975.
STEPHEN ENGELBERG	40.00			1	x			451,972.	0.	26,642.
MANAGING EDITOR DAFNA LINZER	40.00	-	╁┈	 	┢	┢╌		431,312.		20,042.
SENIOR REPORTER	40.00					x		166,976.	0.	12,132.
JEFFREY GERTH	40.00	 	-	 -				20073.00		
SENIOR REPORTER	40.00					x		150,000.	0.	9,533.
BARBARA ZINKANT										
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & OP	40.00					X		111,416.	0.	10,207.
ROBIN FIELDS										
SENIOR REPORTER	40.00	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			X	<u></u>	101,373.	0.	3,881.
THOMAS DETZEL										
EDITOR	40.00	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	1	X	_	97,802.	0.	2,414.
		\vdash	+	\vdash	\vdash	+	-			<u> </u>
		L	\perp		L					
		\vdash	+-					<u> </u>		
	L	<u>l</u>			<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			Form 990 (2009)

2 Total number of independent contractors (including those in 1) who received more than \$100,000 in compensation from the organization ▶ 0

Form 990 (2008)

orm 99			CA, INC.		Ţ··· -	14-200	7220 Pag
Part \				(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded fro tax under sections 512 513, or 514
and other similar amounts	b c d e f	Membership dues Fundraising events Related organizations Government grants (contributions) All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$	190,734.	0 544 750			
" 	<u>_h</u>	Total. Add lines 1a-1f	Business Code	8,544,759.			
ر ا	2 a						
			II.				
Ž	C		· 1				
e e	d						
Revenue	е						
-	f	All other program service revenue					
		Total. Add lines 2a-2f	<u>,</u>		-		
3		Investment income (including dividend					
		other similar amounts)		26,926.			26,92
4		Income from investment of tax-exempt	•				
5	5	Royalties (i) R		35.			3
	b c d	Gross Rents Less: rental expenses Rental income or (loss) Net rental income or (loss) Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	urities (ii) Other				
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses Gain or (loss)					
		Net gain or (loss)					
Orner nevenue		Gross income from fundraising events including \$o	f		- '		
본		contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18					
<u> </u>		Less: direct expenses	•				
2		Net income or (loss) from fundraising e					
9	Э а	Gross income from gaming activities. S Part IV, line 19	See				
		Less: direct expenses					•
		Net income or (loss) from gaming activ	ties _				ļ
10		Gross sales of inventory, less returns					
-		and allowances					
		Less: cost of goods sold					1
\vdash	С	Net income or (loss) from sales of inver					
		Miscellaneous Revenue Miscellaneous Reven	Business Code ue 900099	500.			50
וו	ı a b			500.	-		1 30
ĺ	C						
	_	All other revenue				-	
		Total. Add lines 11a-11d		500.		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
1		Total Revenue. Add lines 1h, 2g, 3, 4, 5, 6d, 7d,		8,572,220.		0	. 27,46

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns.

	All other organizations must comple	ete column (A) but are		te columns (B), (C), and	
	not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1	Grants and other assistance to governments and		,		
	organizations in the U.S. See Part IV, line 21				
2	Grants and other assistance to individuals in				
	the U.S. See Part IV, line 22				
3	Grants and other assistance to governments,			,	•
	organizations, and individuals outside the U.S.				
	See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4	Benefits paid to or for members				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors,				
	trustees, and key employees	2,052,935.	1,714,497.	338,438.	
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified				
	persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and				
	persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7	Other salanes and wages	1,489,847.	1,442,335.	47,512.	
8	Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k)				
	and section 403(b) employer contributions)	102,575.	79,553.	23,022.	
9	Other employee benefits	162,160.	108,152.	54,008.	
10	Payroll taxes	198,214.	178,110.	20,104.	
11	Fees for services (non-employees):				
а	Management				
b	Legal	11,482.		11,482.	
С	Accounting	25,500.	20,400.	5,100.	
d	Lobbying				
е	Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f	Investment management fees				
g	Other				
12	Advertising and promotion				
13	Office expenses	67,328.	40,433.	26,895.	
14	Information technology	88,475.	74,416.	14,059.	
15	Royalties				
16	Occupancy	609,417.	385,863.	223,554.	
17	Travel	195,362.	194,950.	412.	
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses			1	
	for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings	12,185.	2,567.	9,618.	
20	Interest	1,212.		1,212.	
21	Payments to affiliates				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	141,677.	91,926.	49,751.	
23	Insurance	167,753.	150,065.	17,688.	
24	Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (Expenses grouped together and labeled miscellaneous may not exceed 5% of total expenses shown on line 25 below.)				
а	Recruitment	265,838.	264,088.	1,750.	
b	Freelance and Consultin	239,841.	237,227.	2,614.	
c	Public Records copies &	131,287.	125,708.	5,579.	
d		79,108.	61,460.	17,648.	
e	Repairs & Maintenance	52,887.	26,261.	26,626.	
f		41,304.	36,112.	5,192.	
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24f	6,136,387.	5,234,123.	902,264.	0.
26	Joint Costs. Check here ▶ ☐ If following			\top	
	SOP 98-2. Complete this line only if the organization				
	reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined				
	educational campaign and fundraising solicitation				
		•			Form 990 (2008)

			(A) Beginning of year		(B End of		
		Cook non-interest heaving	Boginning or your			your	
	1	Cash - non-interest-bearing	1,031,917.	1	3,32	2 0	10
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments	1,031,317.	2	3,34	4,3	10.
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net	36,704.	3 4		1,0	20
	4	Accounts receivable, net	30,704.	4		<u> </u>	33.
	5	*		_			
		employees, or other related parties. Complete Part II of Schedule L		_5			
	6	Receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section		ŀ			
		4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B). Complete Part II of Schedule L		ا ء			
	_			<u>6</u> 7			
Assets	7	Notes and loans receivable, net		8			
Ass	8	Inventories for sale or use	213,274.	9	21	4,2	9.5
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges Land, buildings, and equipment: cost basis		-		4 ,2	05.
		Less: accumulated depreciation. Complete		i			
	В	Part VI of Schedule D	461,084.	100	57	3,9	37
	11	Investments - publicly traded securities	401,004.	11	<u> </u>	<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>	<u>,, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,</u>
	12	Investments - other securities. See Part IV, line 11		12			
	13	Investments - program-related. See Part IV, line 11		13			
	14	Intangible assets		14			
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11	5,000.	15		5,0	00.
	16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	1,747,979.	16	4,11		
	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	331,366.	17		0,1	_
	18	Grants payable	002,000	18		· / -	
	19	Deferred revenue		19	-		
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	-		
w	21	Escrow account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21			
Liabilities	22	Payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees,					
ğ		highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II					
ڐ		of Schedule L		22			
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties		23			
	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable		24			
	25	Other liabilities. Complete Part X of Schedule D	51,090.	25	21	5,6	96.
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	382,456.	26		5,8	
		Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here X and complete					
es		lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.					
ဦ	27	Unrestricted net assets	661,173.	27	89	3,4	57
ala	28	Temporarily restricted net assets	704,350.	28	2,90	7,8	99.
Net Assets or Fund Balanc	29	Permanently restricted net assets		29			
5		Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here					
ĕ	•	complete lines 30 through 34.					
əts	30	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		30			
SS (31	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund					
et/	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds	32				
Ž	33	Total net assets or fund balances	1,365,523.	33	3,80	1,3	56
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	1,747,979.	34	4,11	7,1	<u>.71</u>
Pa	rt XI	Financial Statements and Reporting					
			_			Yes	No
1	Acco	ounting method used to prepare the Form 990: Cash X Accrual	Other		1		
2a		the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent			2a	↓	X
b		the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?			<u>2b</u>	_X_	1
C		es" to lines 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes respo			i i		
		w, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent acco				X	
3a	As a	result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or au				1	
		and OMB Circular A-133?			i i	₩	<u> </u>
h	If "V	se * did the organization undergo the required audit or audite?			l 3h	1	1

SCHEDULE A

Department of the Treasury

Internal Revenue Service

(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

To be completed by all section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts.

➤ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ➤ See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

Open to Public Inspection

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2008

Employer identification number Name of the organization 14-2007220 PRO PUBLICA INC. Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) (see instructions) The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (Please check only one organization.) A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(i). 1 2 A school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii), (Attach Schedule E.) 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). (Attach Schedule H.) A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv). (Complete Part II.) A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(v). An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), (Complete Part II.) A community trust described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi). (Complete Part II.) X An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions - subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See section 509(a)(2). (Complete the Part III.) An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See section 509(a)(4), (see instructions) 10 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). See section 509(a)(3). Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h. d ___ Type III - Other b ____ Type II c ____ Type III - Functionally integrated By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons? A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, Yes No the governing body of the supported organization? 11g(i) (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above? ... 11g(ii) 11g(iii) Provide the following information about the organizations the organization supports. h (iii) Type of (vi) Is the organization in col. (iv) Is the organization (v) Did you notify the (i) Name of supported (vii) Amount of (ii) EIN organization organization in col. in col. (i) listed in your support organization (i) organized in the U.S.? (described on lines 1-9 (i) of your support? governing document? above or IRC section Yes No Yes No (see instructions)) Yes No Total

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

	edule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2008 art II Support Schedule for	Organizations	Described in	Sections 170	(b)(1)(A)(iv) an	d 170(b)(1)(A)(\	Page 2	
L	(Complete only if you checked	-					•	
Se	ction A. Public Support	 	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
Cal	endar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total	
	Gifts, grants, contributions, and							
	membership fees received. (Do not							
	include any "unusual grants.")			<u> </u>				
2	Tax revenues levied for the organ-							
	ization's benefit and either paid to							
	or expended on its behalf							
3	The value of services or facilities							
	furnished by a governmental unit to							
	the organization without charge							
4	Total. Add lines 1 - 3							
5								
	by each person (other than a							
	governmental unit or publicly							
	supported organization) included				-	-		
	on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the		i					
	amount shown on line 11,							
	column (f)							
6	Public Support. Subtract line 5 from line 4				<u> </u>			
<u>Se</u>	ction B. Total Support		,		, 			
Cal	endar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total	
7	Amounts from line 4							
8	Gross income from interest,			İ				
	dividends, payments received on							
	securities loans, rents, royalties							
	and income from similar sources							
9	Net income from unrelated business							
	activities, whether or not the							
	business is regularly carned on		ļ					
10	Other income. Do not include gain							
	or loss from the sale of capital							
	assets (Explain in Part IV.)		ļ .	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	ļ	<u> </u>	
	Total support. Add lines 7 through 10		<u></u>	<u> </u>	J	 	<u> </u>	
	Gross receipts from related activities,							
13	First five years. If the Form 990 is for	-					. —	
	organization, check this box and stor	here		<u></u>	<u> </u>			
	ction C. Computation of Publ							
14	Public support percentage for 2008 (ine 6, column (f) o	divided by line 11,	column (f))		14	<u>%</u>	
15	Public support percentage from 2007	Schedule A, Par	t IV-A, line 26f			15	<u>%</u>	
16	a 33 1/3% support test - 2008. If the o							
	stop here. The organization qualifies							
ı	o 33 1/3% support test - 2007. If the o						►	
	and stop here. The organization qual							
17:	7a 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more,							
	and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization							
	meets the "facts-and-circumstances"							
ı	o 10% -facts-and-circumstances tes							
	more, and if the organization meets the						. —	
	organization meets the "facts-and-circ		_					
<u> 18</u>	Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions							

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2008

20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions

Schedule D

(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

► Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.

2008
Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

DRO DIBLICA INC.

Employer identification number 1.4 - 2.0.07220

Par	t I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised	Funds or Other Similar Fund	s or Accounts. Complete if the
	organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6		
	Organization and to to to to to to to to to to to to to	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
4	Total number at end of year		
2	Aggregate contributions to (during year)		
3	Aggregate grants from (during year)		***************************************
4	Aggregate value at end of year		
•	Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in wri	ting that the assets held in donor advi	sed funds
5	are the organization's property, subject to the organization's ex		
_	Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor adv		
6	for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or c		
Pai			
	Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization		
1	Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or plea		storically important land area
	Protection of natural habitat		fied historic structure
	=	reservation of certification	nea Historic Stracture
•	Preservation of open space Complete lines 2a-2d if the organization held a qualified consen	vertices contribution in the form of a cor	rearyation easement on the last day
2	•	varion contribution in the form of a co-	iservation easement on the last day
	of the tax year.		Held at the End of the Year
_	Total number of concentation occoments		
a	Total number of conservation easements		AL.
b	•	ture included in (a)	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
C	Number of conservation easements on a certified historic struc		"'''
a	Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired aft Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, relea		
3		ised, extinguished, or terminated by tr	ie organization during the taxable
	year ►	ment is located	
4	Does the organization have a written policy regarding the period		and
5			
^	enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? Staff or volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, and		—
6	Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, and en		
7	Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above		
8			
^	and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?	a consequents in its revenue and expens	
9	include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization		
		n's imancial statements that describes	s the organizations accounting to
Pai	conservation easements. rt III Organizations Maintaining Collections of A	Art. Historical Treasures, or C	Other Similar Assets.
_ i a	Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 99		
	Complete in the organization with the 1700 to 10 more		
10	If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, not t	o report in its revenue statement and	halance sheet works of art, historical
ıa	treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, edu		
	the footnote to its financial statements that describes these ite		abile solvies, provide, in a court, and term of
	If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, to re		ince sheet works of art, historical treasures.
D	or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or i		
	these items:	esearch at furtherance of public service	provide the following amounts relating to
	(i) Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1		> \$

0	If the organization received or held works of art, historical treas		
2	the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116		iai gain, provido
_	5 1 1 1 5 1 000 D-43/III For 4		▶ \$
a	Assets included in Form 990, Part X		> \$
D	masers included in Form 330, Fart A		🔻 🔻

Sched	dule D (Form 990) 2008 PRO PUB	LICA, INC.	_			14-20	0722	0 Pa	ge 2
Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)									
3	3 Using the organization's accession and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all								
	that apply):								
а	Public exhibition	•	d ∐ Loan or	exchange progra	ams				
b	Scholarly research		Other_						
C	Preservation for future generations								
4	Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIV.								
5	During the year, did the organization solicit of	r receive donations	of art, historical	treasures, or oth	er similar :	assets			
	to be sold to raise funds rather than to be m	aintained as part of	the organization	's collection?			Yes		No_
Par	t IV Trust, Escrow and Custodia	Arrangements	Complete if or	ganization answe	ered "Yes"	" to Form 990, Pa	rt IV, line	9, or	
	reported an amount on Form 990, Pa								
1a	Is the organization an agent, trustee, custod	an or other interme	diary for contribu	utions or other as	sets not i	ncluded	_		,
	on Form 990, Part X?					L	_ Yes		No
b	If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV	and complete the fo	oliowing table:						
							Amoun	ıt	
С	Beginning balance					1c			
	Additions during the year					1d			
	Distributions during the year					1e			
	f Ending balance								
	b If "Yes." explain the arrangement in Part XIV.								
	Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.								
		(a) Current year	(b) Prior yea	1		d) Three years back	(e) Fou	r years	back
1a	Beginning of year balance	(0)	1-7	1,3					-
	On which without						1		
	Investment earnings or losses						 		
	=						 		
	Grants or scholarships				+				
	Other expenditures for facilities								
	and programs								
	Administrative expenses						 		
_									
	Board designated or quasi-endowment		%						
_	Permanent endowment >	%							
_	c Term endowment ▶%								
3a									
	by:							Yes	No_
	(i) unrelated organizations						3a(i)		
	(ii) related organizations						3a(ii)		
b	If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organization						<u>3b</u>		<u> </u>
4	Describe in Part XIV the intended uses of the						<u> </u>		
Par	t VI Investments - Land, Building			990, Part X, line	10.				
	Description of investment	(a) Cost or basis (invest	, , ,	Cost or other asis (other)	(c) De	epreciation	(d) Boo	ok valu	е
1a	Land								
b	Buildings								
	Leasehold improvements								
_	Equipment			715,614.	1	41,677.	57	3,9	37.
	Other								
	. Add lines 1a-1e. (Column (d) should equal F	orm 990, Part X, col	umn (B), line 10((c).)		>	57	3,9	37.

under FIN 48.

Schedule D (Form 990) 2008

PRO PUBLICA, INC.

	dule D (Form 990) 2008 PRO PUBLICA, INC.			<u> 2007220</u>	Page 4
Pa	rt XI Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets from Form 990 to Financial State	ement	S	···	
1	Total revenue (Form 990, Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1		8,572	,220.
2	Total expenses (Form 990, Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2		6,136	,387.
3	Excess or (deficit) for the year. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3		2,435	,833.
4	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	4			
5	Donated services and use of facilities	5			
6	Investment expenses	6			
7	Prior penod adjustments	7			
8	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	8	•		
9	Total adjustments (net). Add lines 4-8	9			0.
10	Excess or (deficit) for the year per financial statements. Combine lines 3 and 9	10		2,435	
	t XII Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue		r Return		.033.
				8,572	220
1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements		·	0,512	. 440.
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:				
а	Net unrealized gains on investments				
b	Donated services and use of facilities				
C	Recoveries of prior year grants		_		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIV) 2d				_
0	Add lines 2a through 2d		1 1		0.
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	8,572	<u>,220.</u>
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1:				
а	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b 4a				
b	Other (Describe in Part XIV)				
C	Add lines 4a and 4b		. 4c		0.
5	Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This should equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)			8,572	<u>,220.</u>
Pa	rt XIII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expe	nses	oer Retu	rn	
1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements		1	6,136	,387.
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25:				
а	Donated services and use of facilities 2a				
b	Prior year adjustments 2b				
c	Losses reported on Form 990, Part IX, line 25	·			
d	Other (Describe in Part XIV)				
	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e		0.
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1			6,136	.387.
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:			<u> </u>	,
•	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b				
	Other (Department) - Department				
	Add loop 4e and 4h		—		0.
_	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	6,136	
5	Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This should equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)		5	0,130	, 30 / .
Com	plete this part to provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part XI, line 8; Part XII, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XIII, lines 2d and 4b.	art IV, lind	es 1b and	2b; Part V, line	4; Part

SCHEDULE J (Form 990)

Department of the Treasury

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

► Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 23.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Employer identification number

Name of the organization

14-2007220 PRO PUBLICA, **Questions Regarding Compensation** Yes No ta Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed in Form 990. Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items. First-class or charter travel X Housing allowance or residence for personal use Travel for companions Payments for business use of personal residence X Tax indemnification and gross-up payments Health or social club dues or initiation fees Discretionary spending account Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef) b If line 1a is checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain X Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all officers, directors, X trustees, and the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a? Indicate which, if any, of the following the organization uses to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Written employment contract Compensation committee Compensation survey or study Independent compensation consultant Form 990 of other organizations X Approval by the board or compensation committee During the year, did any person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a: a Receive a severance payment or change of control payment? X b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan? X c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement? 4c If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III. Only 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete lines 5-8. 5 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of: X a The organization? X b Any related organization? If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III. For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of: a The organization? Any related organization? 6b If "Yes" to line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III. 7 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III X 7

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

initial contract exception described in Regs. section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III

Were any amounts reported in Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the

Schedule J (Form 990) 2008

Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use Schedule J-1 if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported in Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII.

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i) (iii) must equal the applicable column (D) or column (E) amounts on Form 990, Part VII, line 1a.

		(B) Breakdown of V	(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation	C compensation	0	(Q)	(E)	(E)	
(A) Name		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other compensation	Deferred compensation	Nontaxable benefits	(B)(0-(D)	Compensation reported in prior Form 990 or Form 990-EZ	
	ε	570,000.	0	0.	0.	0.	570,000.	0	
PAUL E. STEIGER	Ξ	0	0.	0	0.	0	0.	0	
	8	296,370.	0.	0.	0	0	296,370.	0.	
RICHARD TOFEL	€	0.	0	0.	0.	0	- 1	0.	
	(0)	297,000.	0.	154,972.	0	0	451,972.	0.	
STEPHEN ENGELBERG	(E)	0.	0	0.	0.	0	0	0	
	Ξ	166,976.	.0	0.	0	0	166,976.	0	
DAFNA LINZER	(E)	0	0.	0.	0.	0	0	0	
	ε	150,000.	0.	0	0.	0	150,000.	0.	
JEFFREY GERTH		0	.0	0.	0	0	0.	0	
	(i)								
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	(i)								
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	(ii)								
							Schedul	Schedule J (Form 990) 2008	

SCHEDULE M (Form 990).

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

NonCash Contributions

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.

Attach to Form 990.

OMB No 1545-0047

Inspection

Employer identification number

Name of the organization

14-2007220 PRO PUBLICA INC. Types of Property (b) (a) (c) Method of determining Check if Number of Revenues reported on applicable contributions Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g revenues Art - Works of art . . Art - Historical treasures 2 Art - Fractional interests 3 Books and publications Clothing and household goods 5 Cars and other vehicles 6 Boats and planes . . . 7 Intellectual property 8 190,734.Market value of shares X 9 Securities · Publicly traded Securities - Closely held stock 10 Securities · Partnership, LLC, or trust interests 12 13 Qualified conservation contribution (historic structures) Qualified conservation contribution (other) 14 Real estate - Residential 15 Real estate - Commercial 16 Real estate - Other 17 18 Collectibles Food inventory 19 20 21 Taxidermy 22 Historical artifacts Scientific specimens 23 24 Archeological artifacts Other > 25 26 Other 27 Other Other 28 Number of Forms 8283 received by the organization during the tax year for contributions 29 for which the organization completed Form 8283, Part IV, Donee Acknowledgment 29 Yes_ No 30a During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1.28 that it must hold for at least three years from the date of the initial contribution, and which is not required to be used for exempt purposes for 30a X the entire holding period? b If "Yes," describe the arrangement in Part II. X Does the organization have a gift acceptance policy that requires the review of any non-standard contributions? 31 32a Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell noncash 32a Х contributions? b If "Yes," describe in Part II. If the organization did not report revenues in column (c) for a type of property for which column (a) is checked, describe in Part II. Schedule M (Form 990) 2008 For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

SCHEDULE O (Form 990)

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990

► Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations to provide additional information for responses to specific questions for the Form 990 or to provide any additional information.

OMB No 1545-0047 Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

DPO DIIRITON

Employer identification number 2007220

PRO PUBLICA, INC.
Form 990, Part I, Line 1, Description of Organization Mission:
Our work focuses exclusively on truly important stories, stories with
moral force. That is, we produce journalism that shines a light on
exploitation of the weak by the strong and on the failures of those
with power to vindicate the trust placed in them. In the best
traditions of American journalism in the public service, we aim to
stimulate positive change, uncovering unsavory practices and abuses of
power in order to prod reform. We do this in an entirely non-partisan
and non-ideological manner, adhering to the strictest standards of
journalistic impartiality.
Form 990, Part III, Line 1, Description of Organization Mission:
That is, we produce journalism that shines a light on exploitation of
the weak by the strong and on the failures of those with power to
vindicate the trust placed in them. In the best traditions of American
journalism in the public service, we aim to stimulate positive change,
uncovering unsavory practices and abuses of power in order to prod
reform. We do this in an entirely non-partisan and non-ideological
manner, adhering to the strictest standards of journalistic
impartiality.
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 10: Pro Publica has its Form 990
prepared by an outside accounting firm and has established the following
review process to ensure that the information reported is complete and
accurate. When the Form 990 has been prepared, reviewed by management and

is ready to be filed with the Internal Revenue Service, it's submitted

SCHEDULE O

(Form 990) .

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990

➤ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations to provide additional information for responses to specific questions for the Form 990 or to provide any additional information.

2008
Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

PRO PUBLICA, INC.

Employer identification number 14-2007220

electronically to members of Pro Publica's governing body for any comments prior to its submission. The governing body is provided with at least one week to review the prepared Form 990 and provide their comments. Any comments are then grouped, summarized and provided to the audit committee for their review. Each issue is documented and addressed until the return is finalized and approved for filing.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 12c: Pro Publica had a conflict of interest policy in place as of October 1, 2007, a code of ethics for journalists in place as of January 1, 2008 and a whistleblower spolicy and a document retention policy in place as of February 6, 2008. The codes of ethics and whistleblowers policies are given to each new hire, who certify that they have read and understood the policies. Going forward the code of ethics will be given to all staff at the beginning of each calendar year to read and similarly certify. Our board members and officers also go through the same process with respect to the conflict of interest policy. The document retention policies are part of the accounting manual which was written and approved as of February 6, 2008.

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 15: Pro Publica is an employer "at will". Employees do not have contracts. Salaries for the CEO, officers and key employees are set by the Board. The board uses the services of a law firm (Caplin & Drysdale, who specialize in not for profit issues) for guidance on all matters of compensation.

The same benefits were provided for all employees in 2008 that included

medical insurance coverage at 90% of premiums paid for single employees and

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Schedule O (Form 990) 2008

832211 12-18-08

SCHEDULE O (Form 990)

Supplemental Information to Form 990

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

▶ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations to provide additional information for responses to specific questions for the Form 990 or to provide any additional information.

OMB No 1545-0047 Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

PRO PUBLICA, INC.

Employer identification number 14-2007220

75% for families. Pro Publica paid 100% coverage for enhanced short term						
and long term disability and long term care coverage and unemployment						
insurance. Pro Publica also offers a 403B pension plan to all employees						
and pays a 5% match up to legally permissible limits.						
Form 990, Part VI, Section C, Line 19: Pro Publica makes all of its						
governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements						
available to the public on the Pro Publica web site.						
Form 990, Part XI, Line 2c:						
Pro Publica has an audit committee that assumes responsibility for the						
oversight of the audit of its financial statements and selection of an						
independent accountant.						

_Form **8868**

(Rev. April 2009) ' Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Application for Extension of Time To File an Exempt Organization Return

File a separate application for each return.

OMB No. 1545-1709

• If y	ou are filing for an Automatic 3-Month Extension, complete only Part I and check this box	form).				
Par	Automatic 3-Month Extension of Time. Only submit original (no copies needed).					
A cor Part I	ooration required to file Form 990-T and requesting an automatic 6-month extension - check this box and cor only	nplete	▶□			
	ner corporations (including 1120-C filers), partnerships, REMICs, and trusts must use Form 7004 to request al income tax returns.	n exten	sion of time			
noted (not a you m	ronic Filing (e-file). Generally, you can electronically file Form 8868 if you want a 3-month automatic extensic below (6 months for a corporation required to file Form 990-T). However, you cannot file Form 8868 electron utomatic) 3-month extension or (2) you file Forms 990-BL, 6069, or 8870, group returns, or a composite or constant the fully completed and signed page 2 (Part II) of Form 8868. For more details on the electronic files gov/efile and click on e-file for Charities & Nonprofits.	ically if	(1) you want the additional ated Form 990-T. Instead,			
Туре	or Name of Exempt Organization	Emp	loyer identification number			
print	PRO PUBLICA, INC.	_1	4-2007220			
Number, street, and room or suite no. If a P.O. box, see instructions. ONE EXCHANGE PLAZA, 55 BROADWAY, No. 23 FL						
return See instructions City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. For a foreign address, see instructions. NEW YORK, NY 10006						
	Form 990 Form 990-T (corporation) Form 990-BL Form 990-T (sec. 401(a) or 408(a) trust) Form 990-EZ Form 990-T (trust other than above) Form 990-PF The Organization - ONE EXCHANGE PLAZA,	227 069 870 55				
Tei • If t	e books are in the care of ▶ 23 FL - NEW YORK, NY 10006 lephone No. ▶ 917-512-0240 he organization does not have an office or place of business in the United States, check this box his is for a Group Return, enter the organization's four digit Group Exemption Number (GEN) If the light is for part of the group, check this box ▶ and attach a list with the names and EINs of all	is is fo	r the whole group, check this			
1	I request an automatic 3-month (6-months for a corporation required to file Form 990-T) extension of time un August 15, 2009 , to file the exempt organization return for the organization named a is for the organization's return for: X calendar year 2008 or tax year beginning , and ending		The extension			
2	If this tax year is for less than 12 months, check reason: Initial return Final return		Change in accounting period			
За	If this application is for Form 990-BL, 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter the tentative tax, less any nonrefundable credits. See instructions.	3a	\$			
b	If this application is for Form 990-PF or 990-T, enter any refundable credits and estimated					
	tax payments made. Include any prior year overpayment allowed as a credit.	3b	\$			
	Balance Due. Subtract line 3b from line 3a. Include your payment with this form, or, if required, deposit with FTD coupon or, if required, by using EFTPS (Electronic Federal Tax Payment System). See instructions.	3c	\$N/A_			
	on. If you are going to make an electronic fund withdrawal with this Form 8868, see Form 8453-EO and Form	8879				

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see Instructions. Form 8868 (Rev. 4-2009)

ATTACHMENT A

From 990, Page 2, Part III, Line 4a

ProPublica formally commenced operations on January 1, 2008. Our first months were largely devoted to recruiting. After having received more than 1400 unsolicited resumes, by mid-year 2008 we had established a newsroom that included 28 working journalists, all of them dedicated to investigative reporting on stories with significant potential for major impact—the largest investigative news operation in the nation. They came to ProPublica from newspapers, magazines, television news, web sites, non-profits and freelance work.

ProPublica reporters and editors develop story ideas collaboratively, actively soliciting ideas from readers as well. One in four members of our news staff is a past winner of the Pulitzer Prize. (At the same time, five of our 17 reporters as of year-end 2008 were under 30 years of age.) In all, members of our staff have previously won virtually every major journalism award, including seven Pulitzers and six George Polk Awards; our editors have supervised reporting that has won a Pulitzer on more than 20 separate occasions. Already, one of our investigations has been named a finalist for the 2009 Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting awarded each year by the Shorenstein Center at Harvard's Kennedy School.

We began publishing in June 2008. Between then and the end of 2008, we published 37 long-form stories with 22 different publishing partners. Those partners included:

- 60 Minutes;
- The New York Times;
- The Los Angeles Times;
- USA Today:
- The Atlanta Journal-Constitution;
- The Albany Times-Union;
- The Denver Post:
- The Newark Star-Ledger;
- The San Diego Union-Tribune;
- BusinessWeek;
- The Huffington Post;
- Politico;
- Newsweek.com;
- MSN;
- Slate:
- Salon:
- The Nation magazine;
- Reader's Digest; and
- WNYC Radio.

From a donor's perspective, one advantage of ProPublica's model is that these publishing partnerships provide an objective assurance of story quality. Partners are under no obligation to publish ProPublica articles; that they do so demonstrates market acceptance of the strength of ProPublica's work. ProPublica's need to appeal to its partners also offers an assurance of continuing editorial discipline.

Each story we publish is distributed in a manner designed to maximize its impact. To date, that means that many of our major "deep dive" stories—often weeks and sometimes months in the making—have been offered exclusively to a traditional news organization, free of charge, for initial publication or broadcast. Each story is also published on our own web site, sometimes after an appropriate period of exclusivity for our publishing partner. Shorter, less ambitious stories and daily posts originate on our site. The site also features outstanding investigative reporting produced by others, sometimes with our highlighting, annotation or follow-up, thus making our site both more of a destination and a tool to promote more good work in this field. We distribute our web content directly, and also through RSS feeds and a daily e-mail. Subscriptions to our RSS feed and the e-mail continued to grow every day following launch, tripling from late June to mid-December 2008. We maintain an active presence in social media, including Twitter and Facebook.

We support each major story we publish with an active and aggressive communication effort of our own, including regularly contacting reporters, editors and bloggers, encouraging them to follow-up on our reporting, and to link to our site and our work.

ProPublica Investigations and Their Impact

A number of ProPublica's first major, continuing investigations have already had significant impact. Here are the stories behind those stories:

Threats from unregulated natural gas drilling to our nation's drinking water
Publishing partners: BusinessWeek, Politico, Albany Times-Union, Denver Post, San
Diego Union-Tribune, WNYC radio, New York Sun
Number of ProPublica follow-up stories in 2008: 16
Reporter: Abrahm Lustgarten

In 2005, at the urging of the Bush Administration and Vice President Dick Cheney's energy task force, Congress exempted energy companies' deep-drilling activities (called "hydraulic fracturing" or "hydrofracking") both from the federal law that protects the nation's drinking water and from monitoring by the Environmental Protection Agency. State regulators, pressed into the breach, tended to use a light hand. They were swayed in part by company assurances, supported by a 2004 EPA study that the drilling process was safe. They allowed the industry to keep from the public the most basic aspects of its operations, including the identity of the chemicals it was blasting two miles into the ground.

But ProPublica reporter Abrahm Lustgarten's reporting showed that the 2004 study was deeply flawed. On July 22, 2008, Lustgarten broke a major story in the Albany Times Union and on WNYC, New York City's public radio station. New York Gov. David Paterson, he noted, was preparing to allow extensive drilling for natural gas on millions of acres of land surrounding New York City's reservoirs. But, as Lustgarten revealed, New York officials had failed to ask some of the most basic questions about the process, which forces a mixture of sand, water and chemicals into rock that contains tiny bubbles of gas.

State environmental officials assured legislators there had never been "one instance of drinking water contamination" from the type of drilling planned for New York. In fact, as Lustgarten reported, New Mexico and Colorado officials had already identified hundreds of incidents in which they suspected toxic chemicals from waste pits near oil and gas wells had leached into the ground water. New York officials could not say how the state and the industry planned to handle millions of gallons of hazardous fluids produced by the drilling.

Even before the story appeared, and just four days after speaking to Lustgarten and a reporter from WNYC, state officials sent a letter to the companies asking what chemicals would be used in the drilling, the first time such a request had ever been made by New York. Then, on the day the story was published, Gov. Paterson acted, saying that the drilling would go forward only when the state was satisfied it was safe. He ordered officials to hold hearings across the state and re-examine the 16-year-old environmental impact statement. Soon after, New York announced that it would not grant permits for well drilling unless the companies disclosed the identities of the chemicals they used. The companies said that they would delay the New York project, one of the nation's biggest, because of a change in the "regulatory environment."

ProPublica did not stop there. Lustgarten dug into the issue, visiting wells in other states where the drilling process was well advanced. Some companies, he learned, took careful steps to prevent spills and leaks. But others were less rigorous, storing toxic material in hastily constructed pits that leaked into the groundwater. He traveled extensively in Wyoming and Colorado, assembling a picture of patchwork regulations that varied widely from place to place.

In November Lustgarten wrote an in-depth article, a version of which appeared in a four-page spread in BusinessWeek, detailing contamination cases across seven states. He showed through reviews of state records and interviews with residents that cancer-causing substances were appearing in people's drinking water wells. In some cases people were getting sick in areas with drilling and the gas companies were settling with them for millions of dollars. He wrote about a hospital nurse who almost died after treating a drill rig worker who was splashed with the secret fluids, and spent several days with EPA scientists who were alarmed over the situation but lamented they were almost powerless to do anything about it.

Then in December Lustgarten teamed up with The San Diego Union Tribune for a story that took a close look at the Colorado River, the source of water for cities like Los

Angeles and San Diego. Officials in those California cities, Lustgarten learned, were alarmed by plans for extensive gas drilling along the river. Each gas well needs millions of gallons of water, much of which has to be treated to remove contaminants. Lustgarten reported that no one in state, federal or regional circles was looking at the cumulative effect of drilling on a river that winds through seven states and is the source of drinking water for one in 12 Americans.

Six months after the first story was published, the landscape dramatically shifted. Newspapers and wire services across the country began to examine the effects of gas drilling on the environment. Members of Congress from Colorado and New York jointly proposed legislation that would end the exemption from the Safe Drinking Water Act. An editorial calling for disclosure of the drilling chemicals appeared in the Denver Post, shortly after it ran one of ProPublica's stories on page one. Other editorials appeared in the Rocky Mountain News, Grand Junction Sentinel and Durango Herald.

ProPublica's hydrofracking stories were among six finalists for the 2009 Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting awarded each year by the Shorenstein Center at Harvard's Kennedy School.

Nurses and other medical professionals practicing in California despite criminal records

Publishing partner: Los Angeles Times

Number of ProPublica follow-up stories in 2008: 5

Reporters: Charles Ornstein and Tracy Weber

One nurse bilked Medicare out of \$3 million and had been sitting in federal prison for more than year. Another had sex with a child. Yet when reporters Charles Ornstein and Tracy Weber found them, the nurses had spotless records with the California Board of Registered Nursing—free to work in any hospital, clinic or nursing home in the state.

Dozens of other nurses with criminal records had been able to practice for years before regulators took action against them. Nurse Janet Lee Jones racked up 14 convictions dating back to 1996, the year after she was licensed, before the board caught up with her in 2007. It turns out that California's nursing board—which oversees more nurses than any other state—had never checked whether more than 40% of the 344,000 nurses it licensed had committed crimes.

Weber and Ornstein analyzed all of the accusations filed and disciplinary actions taken by the board since 2002—more than 2,000 files. They found that more than 115 nurses had three or more criminal convictions before the board acted against them. Twenty-four nurses had at least five. Among the convicted were an attempted murderer, as well as petty thieves, drug dealers, bail jumpers and embezzlers.

The state's slow action on these crimes often left patients in danger. After racking up several convictions, one nurse secured three more jobs, showing up for work at each drunk or otherwise impaired. It took several more years before her license was revoked.

The reporters dug further and found scores of convicted nurses the board had never disciplined—or didn't even know about. They pored through stacks of court records, newspaper clippings and personnel records. They compared the names and addresses in the nursing board's database with those on California's Megan's Law sex offender Web site, uncovering at least three nurses with clean records who were convicted of serious sex crimes.

From there, the reporters delved into the nursing board's sister agency, the Bureau of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians. They found 27 nurses who were disciplined in 2007 alone who had toted up three or more convictions before regulators acted. One vocational nurse disclosed to the bureau repeatedly that he had been convicted of a sex crime with a minor. But it was years before the board acted.

The investigation began appearing in October 2008 in the Los Angeles Times on the ProPublica's web site. Ornstein and Weber, formerly of the Times, began working at ProPublica in August 2008. Their investigation continues, and further stories are planned.

But the reporting to date has already triggered sweeping changes. The registered nursing board immediately sought—and received permission—to collect fingerprints from 146,000 nurses so that it could perform background checks on them for the first time. These fingerprints also will allow authorities to alert the board to future arrests.

In justifying the new requirement, nursing board officials wrote that the Times-ProPublica "articles packaged information in a different way and in a different light than the board had done in the past. Moreover, these articles raised the issue with respect to specific licensees with notable criminal histories that the board had never disciplined."

The board also immediately changed its license renewal form to ask all nurses whether they had been convicted of crimes. The vocational nursing board plans to gather fingerprints from more than 75,000 of its licensees who have never undergone background checks—a direct result of the investigative reports. The two nursing agencies quickly began acting against nurses mentioned in the stories, including a woman who stole drugs from the county jail where she worked and peddled them to an undercover deputy.

The California Department of Consumer Affairs, which oversees the state's professional licensing agencies, ordered a broader review and found that criminal background checks had not been done on nearly 300,000 health professionals. These include thousands of therapists and psychiatric technicians who care for patients in the most intimate settings.

Lax standards in hiring and retention of federal air marshals

Publishing partner: USA Today

Number of ProPublica follow-up stories in 2008: 5

Reporter: Michael Grabell

Each day, millions of air passengers fly with the belief that, should a terrorist slip aboard their plane, a U.S. Air Marshal could be there to protect them. The marshals, some 3-4,000 strong since the 9/11 attacks, portray themselves as an elite force, with superior judgment and precision shooting skills needed to defuse an attack at 30,000 feet.

But who, really, are these air marshals? ProPublica reporter Michael Grabell asked that question after spotting a few back-page news briefs about air marshals who had been charged with crimes or drunken driving. Months later, after battling the secretive Transportation Security Administration for documents, interviewing scores of air marshals and scouring thousands of pages of court and employment records, Grabell had an answer. It was not reassuring.

Dozens of air marshals had been charged with crimes, including 18 felonies. Hundreds had been accused of misconduct. Cases included smuggling drugs past airport security, aiding a human trafficking ring, child sex abuse, bribery, domestic violence and solicitation to commit murder.

Who was responsible? The offending air marshals, to be sure, but Grabell also found that the TSA itself shared blame for slipshod background checks, eroded hiring qualifications and complaisant disciplinary practices. His ProPublica story was published as the front-page feature story in USA Today on November 13, 2008. After first dismissing the problems as "a few bad apples", but then facing ridicule even in the comments section of his own intra-agency blog, Robert Bray, the air marshals director, sent an all-staff email saying he was "personally and professionally embarrassed" by the reports of misconduct and called on the service to improve, pledging publicly to "root out and report... misconduct or criminal behavior". Rep. Ted Poe, R-Texas, a member of the House aviation subcommittee, said air marshals convicted of drunken driving should be fired and promised to follow up in the 111th Congress. Editorial writers in Las Vegas and Orlando opined for better background checks, training and pre-employment psychological tests.

Sarah Palin and the "Bridge to Nowhere" Number of ProPublica stories in 2008: 4 Reporter: Paul Kiel

Nor is such significant impact limited to stories published through leading partners. Impact is also possible—and has already been achieved—with stories published directly on ProPublica's web site.

When Gov. Sarah Palin was introduced to the world as the Republican vice presidential nominee in late August 2008, she arrived a virtual unknown on the national stage. She claimed she was an outsider and a reformer, and to prove that point, she stressed that she was a champion of earmark reform since her state had become synonymous with earmark abuses. "I told Congress, 'Thanks, but no thanks,' on that Bridge to Nowhere," she said – and repeated dozens of times on the campaign trail over

the following months. However, that wasn't quite right, as media reports soon noted: Palin had actually supported the \$398 million project to link Ketchikan (pop. 7,400) with its airport on Gravina Island (pop. 50) during her 2006 run for governor.

But the true tale of Palin's role in the "Bridge to Nowhere" project went curiously unexamined. In a series of pieces published on ProPublica.org, reporter Paul Kiel showed how hollow Palin's boast was. To begin, he reported, the project of connecting Gravina Island and Ketchikan was ongoing and would be mainly supported by federal dollars. But beyond that, her half-hearted intervention had wasted millions in taxpayer dollars. Kiel reported that millions had actually been spent on the project — more than \$26 million, to be precise, in order to construct a gravel road that led through wilderness to a bridge that would never be built. Kiel's reporting was cited dozens of times, including on the CBS Evening News, on which he was interviewed.

Working off the original appropriation language and interviews with Alaska state transportation officials and federal officials, ProPublica's Kiel revealed that the logic behind completing the project was classic Washington. Reformers, harnessing public outrage in 2005 over hundreds of millions of dollars going to a remote bridge in Alaska while New Orleans' bridges remained damaged, had succeeded in stripping most of the earmarks for the project. But as Kiel reported, they hadn't gotten them all. One earmark had remained unmarred. It said that the money had to be used for "earthwork and roadway construction." Rather than return money for a cancelled project, Alaska's transportation department, overseen by Palin, built a road leading from the airport to an empty beach on nearly deserted Gravina Island. That story was followed up by CNN, which showed the terminus of the "access road" from the air: a neat, vacant cul-de-sac. A spokeswoman for the governor claimed on camera Palin had had no choice in the matter, an assertion belied by Kiel's reporting, which quoted federal and state officials saying Palin could have cancelled the project at any time. Polls showing a precipitous drop in Palin's credibility were a reflection of the significant impact of this sort of reporting.