



TWENTY FOURTEEN

ANNUAL report

POGO

**PROJECT ON
GOVERNMENT
OVERSIGHT**

POGO was recently listed as one of six national organizations on GreatNonprofits' 2014 Top-Rated Nonprofits list.

Thanks for your support!

GREATNONPROFITS 2014 TOP-RATED AWARDS



National Nonprofits

Cancer: Lung Cancer Alliance works to save lives through advocacy, education, and support. "When I was diagnosed with stage 2 non-small cell lung cancer in 2004, I was happy to find an advocacy organization that supported lung cancer survivors and their families."

Civil Rights: Appiseed Foundation is dedicated to building a society in which opportunities are genuine, access to the law is universal and equal, and government advances the public interest. "Appiseed's creative approach to tackling big issues is effective! The organization does its homework and devises strategies that work."

Environment: National Parks Conservation Association works to protect and enhance America's National Park System for current and future generations. "I am grateful that these 'treasures' will be there for my grandchildren and their grandchildren. How lucky we are to live in this wonderful country where organizations like the National Parks Conservation Association are preserving these phenomenally beautiful parks."

Government Oversight: Project on Government Oversight is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that champions good government reforms. "Clear and accurate information is hard to come by. POGO exceeds my expectations. I am so grateful for this resource."

honoring our immigrant history and shaping how Americans think about and act toward immigration now and in the future. "The Council does great work—from the Legal Action Center to the Immigration Policy Center. It fights for the rights of immigrants and gets accurate information out to the public. I've enjoyed collaborating

one
of
six

NATIONAL
2014
TOP-RATED
NONPROFITS

2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

POGO WATCHDOGS OUR GOVERNMENT EFFECTIVELY.
WE NEED MORE OF THIS! CITIZENS CAN PARTICIPATE
IN GOVERNMENT MORE SUCCESSFULLY WITH
INFORMATION FROM POGO.

dsulock

letter from the executive director

~~DEAR FRIENDS~~

As many of you know, POGO is not only the acronym for the Project On Government Oversight, but is also the name of a famous comic strip possum created in the 1940s by the cartoonist Walt Kelly. It was Pogo the possum who famously said, “we have met the enemy and he is us.” That phrase is often the best way to describe what POGO, the organization, faces.

In this case, I am thinking of POGO’s efforts to investigate the unfolding evidence of failures at the VA. As you will read in the pages of this annual report, the VA Inspector General turned on POGO in a (futile) attempt to get us to divulge the identities of the nearly 800 whistleblowers and veterans who contacted us with their stories of mismanagement, misconduct, and neglect at VA facilities. Furthermore, the Department remains crippled by a culture of retaliation against those who are trying to fix the system from the inside. This is one project for which we have not yet been able to declare success, but it is our duty to keep trying.

In another case of “we have met the enemy and he is us,” Congress has become a mess of gridlocked partisanship—it’s gotten to the point that proving the “other” party wrong seems to be more important than fixing real problems. So in 2014, POGO committed to significantly expanding our work training Congress how to conduct meaningful oversight. You will read about our plans for the creation of new resources, trainings, and partnerships through our new Congressional Oversight Initiative.

Not everyone is bent on being their own enemy, however. We marveled as POGO’s army of good government advocates expanded across the country and took action by contacting their elected representatives and other policymakers to let them know they are being held accountable.

And POGO continues to conduct award-winning investigations into corruption and other misconduct in Pentagon spending, Wall Street regulation, FDA approvals, nuclear weapons complex construction, State Department



“WE MARVELED AS POGO’S ARMY OF GOOD GOVERNMENT ADVOCATES EXPANDED ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND TOOK ACTION BY CONTACTING THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES AND OTHER POLICYMAKERS TO LET THEM KNOW THEY ARE BEING HELD ACCOUNTABLE.”

- DANIELLE BRIAN

contracting, and more. POGO also continues to advocate for good government reforms that will prevent systemic failures in the future.

I am proud to give you a snapshot in this annual report of our efforts in 2014 to challenge our country’s tendency to be its own enemy.

Sincerely,

DANIELLE BRIAN
Executive Director

statement of activities

REVENUE

GRANTS	\$ 1,980,775
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 455,187
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 98,733
PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER INCOME	\$ 52,564
CONTRIBUTED GOODS AND SERVICES	\$ 33,218
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,620,477

PROGRAM SERVICES

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY	\$ 536,691
CONTRACT OVERSIGHT	\$ 265,865
STRAUS MILITARY REFORM PROJECT	\$ 238,404
CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT TRAINING	\$ 229,099
NUCLEAR WEAPONS SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS	\$ 172,546
WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS	\$ 168,758
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS	\$ 153,235
DEFENSE AND NATIONAL SECURITY	\$ 112,458
FINANCIAL SECTOR OVERSIGHT	\$ 79,911
PUBLIC HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS	\$ 74,006
DIRECT AND GRASSROOTS LOBBYING	\$ 50,131
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 2,081,104

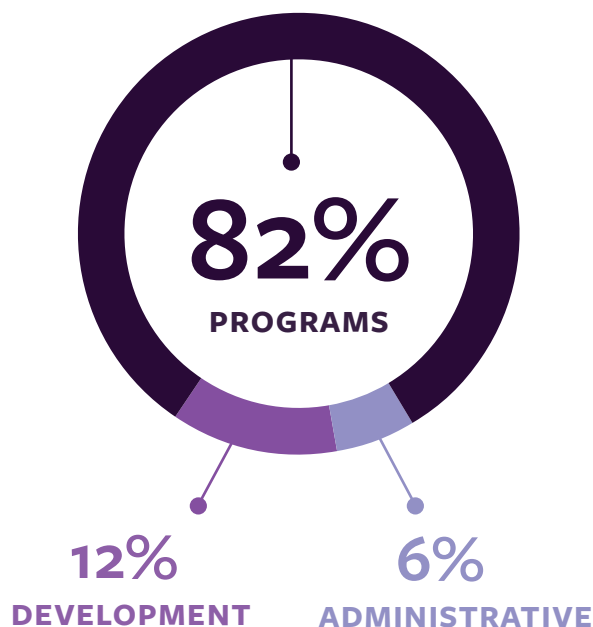
SUPPORTING SERVICES

DEVELOPMENT	\$ 308,466
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 151,271
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	\$ 459,737
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,540,841

OVERVIEW

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 79,636
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 2,321,188
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 2,400,824

*This statement of activities from January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2014, has been audited.



2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

POGO TAKES ON ISSUES OTHERS AVOID, ISSUES OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO OUR NATION. WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE BEEN LONG TERM SUPPORTERS. IN A TIME OF TOO-OFTEN FRUITLESS CONTENTION, POGO IS TRYING TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT.

andy and molly barnes

POGO board & staff working to make a difference

2014 POGO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Hunter, *Chair*
Lisa Baumgartner Bonds, Ph.D.,
Vice-Chair
Dina Rasor, *Treasurer and Founder*
Ryan Alexander
Henry Banta
David Burnham
Michael Cavallo
Andrew Cockburn
Mickey Edwards
Janine Jaquet
Morton Mintz
Nithi Vivatrat
Anne Zill
Charles Hamel, *Board Emeritus*

2014 POGO STAFF

Danielle Brian, *Executive Director*
Scott Amey, *General Counsel*
Lydia Dennett, *Investigator*
Danni Downing, *Editor and Congressional Training Program Director*
Abby Evans, *Donor Relations Manager*
Ned Feder, M.D., *Staff Scientist*
Andre Francisco, *Online Producer*
Neil Gordon, *Investigator*
Elizabeth Hempowicz, *Public Policy Associate*
David Hilzenrath, *Editor-in-Chief*
Lynn Mandell, *Finance Manager*
Johanna Mingos, *Data Specialist*
Joe Newman, *Director of Communications*
Chris Pabon, *Director of Development*
Justin Rood, *Director of Congressional Oversight Initiative*
Keith Rutter, *Chief Operations Officer and Chief Financial Officer*
Pam Rutter, *Web Manager*
Michael Smallberg, *Investigator*
Mandy Smithberger, *Director of CDI's Straus Military Reform Project*
Mia Steinle, *Investigator*
Peter Stockton, *Senior Investigator*
Winslow Wheeler, *Director of CDI's Straus Military Reform Project*
Adam Zagorin, *Journalist-in-Residence*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO POGO!

Angela Canterbury, *Director of Public Policy*
Paul Chassy, *Investigator*
John Crewdson, *Senior Investigator*
Ethan Rosenkranz, *National Security Policy Analyst*
Avery Kleinman, *Beth Daley Impact Fellow*
Christine Anderson, *Public Policy Fellow*
Tamer Azar, *Legal Fellow*
Emily Binkow and Joshua Christensen, *Legal Interns*
Max Johnson, Michelle Li, Anaika Miller, Jessica Murphy, Gabriela Urias, and Cristian Williams, *Interns*

2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

THERE IS A REASON WHY WHISTLEBLOWERS AND NEWS REPORTERS FLOCK TO POGO. IT IS BECAUSE OF ITS LONG TRACK RECORD OF UNCOVERING FRAUD AND ABUSE THROUGHOUT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT (INCLUDING ABROAD). ALTHOUGH PHYSICALLY LOCATED INSIDE THE BELTWAY, POGO HAS NEVER COME DOWN (AND NEVER WILL) WITH THE BELTWAY DISEASE OF COMPROMISING IN ORDER TO GET COVETED ACCESS TO THE HIGHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. POGO KEEPS ITS INTEGRITY. PERHAPS MY GREATEST COMPLIMENT IS TO OBSERVE THAT I HAVE SEEN WITH MY OWN EYES HOW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND CONTRACTORS FEAR POGO.

Jay_23



POGO Staff and Interns, Summer 2014.

VA oversight: shining a light

2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

CLEAR AND ACCURATE INFORMATION
IS HARD TO COME BY. POGO
EXCEEDS MY EXPECTATIONS. I AM SO
GRATEFUL FOR THIS RESOURCE.

525 nunes

POGO takes you through our investigation into the Department of Veterans Affairs and our efforts to explore solutions for America's veterans and the people who serve them.

Late one Friday afternoon in May 2014, a stranger rang the bell to our small suite of offices. He carried a manila envelope and asked to see our general counsel. At the Project On Government Oversight, we are accustomed to receiving sensitive tips from anxious, conscience-driven whistleblowers, but this visitor was different.

The envelope he delivered contained a federal subpoena. It demanded that we turn over information we had gathered from hundreds of employees and patients of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including the names of our confidential sources. In effect, it ordered us to betray the trust of people who had taken personal risks to speak up for America's veterans.

"YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO APPEAR . . . and you are hereby required to bring with you and produce at said time and place the following information," the subpoena began.

It took POGO less than a heartbeat to decide how to respond to this threatening act of governmental overreach. We refused to comply with the subpoena, and we never considered doing otherwise. In a public statement last June, POGO Executive Director Danielle Brian left no room for misunderstanding: "We will not violate the trust whistleblowers have placed in us by revealing their identities to anyone."

We felt a moral obligation to protect our sources and to tell stories that needed to be told in order to help fix the broken VA. We also did not want the government to conclude that it could trample the First Amendment rights of small nonprofits like us. We had a responsibility to take a stand against another in a series of federal intrusions on the relationship between reporter and source, and we were determined to show that whistleblowers need not be intimidated into silence.

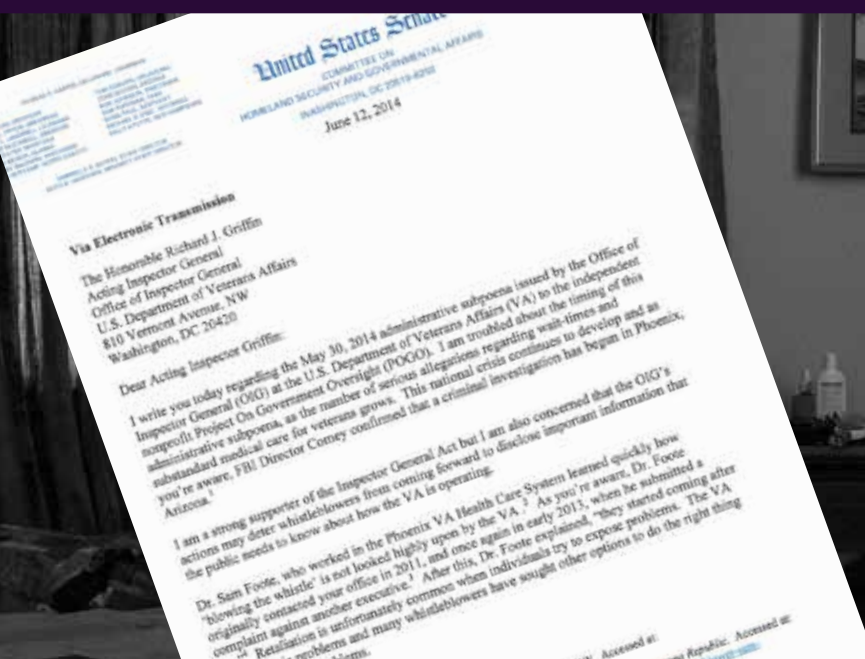
POGO chooses its projects carefully, and last year, with the aim of informing constructive change, we decided to help illuminate problems in the Veterans Affairs healthcare system. In cooperation with Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), a veterans group well equipped to spread the word, we created the site www.VAOversight.org as a portal for veterans and VA employees to send us information confidentially. The plan was that IAVA would assist individual veterans with problems specific to their personal health care while POGO would pursue investigative leads and report on our findings.

We cautioned potential whistleblowers about the risks they would be taking by answering our call. "Unless you believe you have already been identified by your employer as a whistleblower, we usually do not recommend coming forward publicly and exposing yourself to the many risks associated with doing so," the website said.

Despite our warnings, the tips poured in. Soon after the site was launched, Danielle Brian was quoted in a news report as saying that about 500 people had contacted us. Soon after that article ran, the VA contacted us. But not because the agency was interested in our recommendations for reform. The Office of Inspector General at the VA asked us to turn over the names of all the people who had submitted information. POGO declined to disclose the identity of our sources and whistleblowers but offered to provide the IG the general data, stripped of identifying information, we were uncovering. Then, we received the subpoena.



Danielle Brian at POGO & IAVA press conference, May 2014.



Army veteran Steven P. Massong, post-treatment from a VA hospital in California.

From that point on, when speaking with potential whistleblowers, we cautioned them that we were operating in defiance of a federal subpoena.

After a month, we had received and screened approximately 800 tips. We ended up spending more time than we had planned on submissions from VA patients because transferring those to IAVA would have created another target for subpoena. VA employees were not the only ones who had cause to feel vulnerable; patients were dependent on the system for their care.

“WE WILL NOT VIOLATE THE TRUST WHISTLEBLOWERS HAVE PLACED IN US BY REVEALING THEIR IDENTITIES TO ANYONE.”

- DANIELLE BRIAN

Many of the people who came to us felt the VA had ignored their concerns or had punished them for raising those concerns. Some did not trust the VA's Office of Inspector General. Indeed, at the time it issued its subpoena to us, the Office of Inspector General was under pressure to defend its own record as in-house watchdog while problems festered.

As part of our efforts to shine a light on—and come up with solutions to—the problems in the VA, POGO published a series of articles. One documented the culture of fear and retaliation at the agency, showing how employees who tried to expose failings experienced repercussions—and how a VA administrator accused of perpetrating such retaliation had just been given an important new job at the Department. Members of Congress called on the VA to investigate.

Another extensive article detailed one patient's journey through the troubled system. His saga began as a medical nightmare and became a years-long bureaucratic ordeal, providing chilling evidence of areas in desperate need of reform. The veteran at the center of the horror story gave us more than 1,600 pages of his medical and administrative records. So that the VA could respond fully to his complaints and tell its side of the story unhindered by patient confidentiality, he also signed a release authorizing the VA to produce any records we requested and answer whatever questions we posed about his case. In the end, in his own way, the patient expressed gratitude to POGO after we had published.

“I thank you again it seems like my life makes some sort of sense to me and that's all I've ever wanted,” he wrote. “I did not have to be left alone and forgotten the way I was it hurt so deeply and was my biggest fear but you and a few others have made me somewhat whole again.”

While some of our sources were grateful that we made sure they weren't forgotten, others were grateful for the anonymity we were able to provide. A former VA nurse in Appalachia, for instance, thanked us not only for conscientious reporting but also for protecting her identity.

POGO never heard back from the VA after repeated attempts on our part to meet with them and talk about solutions for the ongoing VA crises and the Department's culture of whistleblower intimidation and retaliation.

And the threat to POGO remains. Though the government has not enforced the subpoena, it has not revoked it, either.

Our work on the VA is far from done. In April 2015, POGO's Lydia Dennett provided written testimony for a House Committee on Veterans Affairs hearing. The testimony highlighted the reforms we believe are necessary to getting the VA on track, and we will continue to pressure the agency and Members of Congress to fix the system that is supposed to help our veterans.

how POGO is helping make government work

POGO LAUNCHES CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT INITIATIVE

The Project On Government Oversight, long committed to ensuring the success of the legislative branch, has begun a new program to further that effort. Our goal is to help Congress once again engage in effective, bipartisan oversight, something that has—with the rare exception—waned over the past couple of decades. The polarization of the institution has made it increasingly unable to hold executive branch agencies and officials to account. Making things worse has been the departure over the years of several senior lawmakers who made oversight and investigations a hallmark of their service. Now, congressional oversight seems more focused on partisan point-scoring and reflexive defense rather than on identifying problems and finding effective solutions. As a result, Congress has effectively transferred its power to the executive branch and seemingly abdicated its role in our democracy.

We know many people are cynical about the ability of Congress to function again, but in interviews with congressional staff we learned that staffers want to do their work well. There just aren't mechanisms in place that can facilitate cooperation. POGO has been a resource for Congress—providing nonpartisan research and recommendations—for over 33 years and we want to see Congress re-establish its institutional role. We are in the fortunate position of being seen by staffers from both sides of the aisle as an organization that can help in this endeavor.

The Congressional Oversight Initiative expands on POGO's current oversight support efforts. In addition to still offering our monthly seminars for individual staff, the Initiative will offer separate trainings for congressional offices and committees. We will bring in well-respected experts from both sides of the aisle to train staff from both parties, with an emphasis on bipartisan cooperation, and assist in creating a work culture that advances effective oversight. We have also revised our handbook, have created a new website providing access to hundreds of educational resources on the topic, and are producing a biweekly e-alert to keep congressional investigators up to date on the latest news, documents, and events of interest.

Getting Congress working again is going to be a long-term effort—and we are under no illusion that our efforts alone will suffice—but the stakes are too high not to try.



POGO Fellows and Interns, 2014.

HOW POGO works

1

IDENTIFIES systemic corruption, undue influence, or other misconduct impacting the federal government



2

Launches independent **INVESTIGATIONS** into cases that meet POGO guidelines



3

CONDUCTS RESEARCH and works with whistleblowers and other insiders to investigate tips and document findings



POGO data: adding tools to assist the government

POGO MAINTAINS DATABASES TO AID GOVERNMENT IN ITS WORK

Federal Contractor Misconduct Database

The government often awards contracts to companies with histories of misconduct, such as fraud or environmental and labor violations. Although the government has a contractor and grantee responsibility database, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS), it is user-unfriendly and limited in scope. POGO provides a free database listing instances of misconduct by many of the federal government's largest contractors to fill the gaps left by FAPIIS. By providing such data, POGO helps government procurement officials make better decisions about spending nearly \$500 billion on goods and services each year, which protects taxpayers from fraudulent or otherwise risky contractors.

Where Are All the Watchdogs? Database

Offices of Inspectors General (OIG) serve as independent watchdogs within federal agencies and are essential to a well-functioning federal government. They conduct audits and investigations that identify wasteful government practices, fraud by individuals and government contractors, and other sorts of government misconduct, even including torture. Congress and the public rely on OIG reports to hold agencies and individuals accountable for wrongdoing, identify a need for legislation, and evaluate the effectiveness of government programs and policies. Unfortunately, many OIGs across the government do not have

2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

I'VE BEEN READING POGO'S REPORTS FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS, AND I FIND THAT I GET CLEAR AND ACCURATE INFORMATION. POGO HELPS ME TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS.
A GOOD NON-PROFIT.

martha mothra



Policy Fellow Christine Anderson, Summer 2014.

permanent leadership. POGO's "Where Are All the Watchdogs?" page tracks how long Inspector General positions across the government have been vacant.

Foreign Influence Database

The Foreign Agents Registration Act requires advocates lobbying the federal government on behalf of foreign entities to register with the Department of Justice and to file within 48 hours any informational materials disseminated to two or more individuals. None of that material is readily available to the public, or even to policymakers, so POGO created the database to make years of this information electronically available. It allows users to see how lobbyists, in their own words, attempt to wield influence on behalf of their foreign clients, and is comprised of informational materials filed between 2009 and 2012.



4 Recommends **COMMON-SENSE SOLUTIONS** for positive change



5 **EDUCATES MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC** of findings and empowers public to act



6 Works with government officials to **IMPLEMENT SYSTEMIC POLICY IMPROVEMENTS**



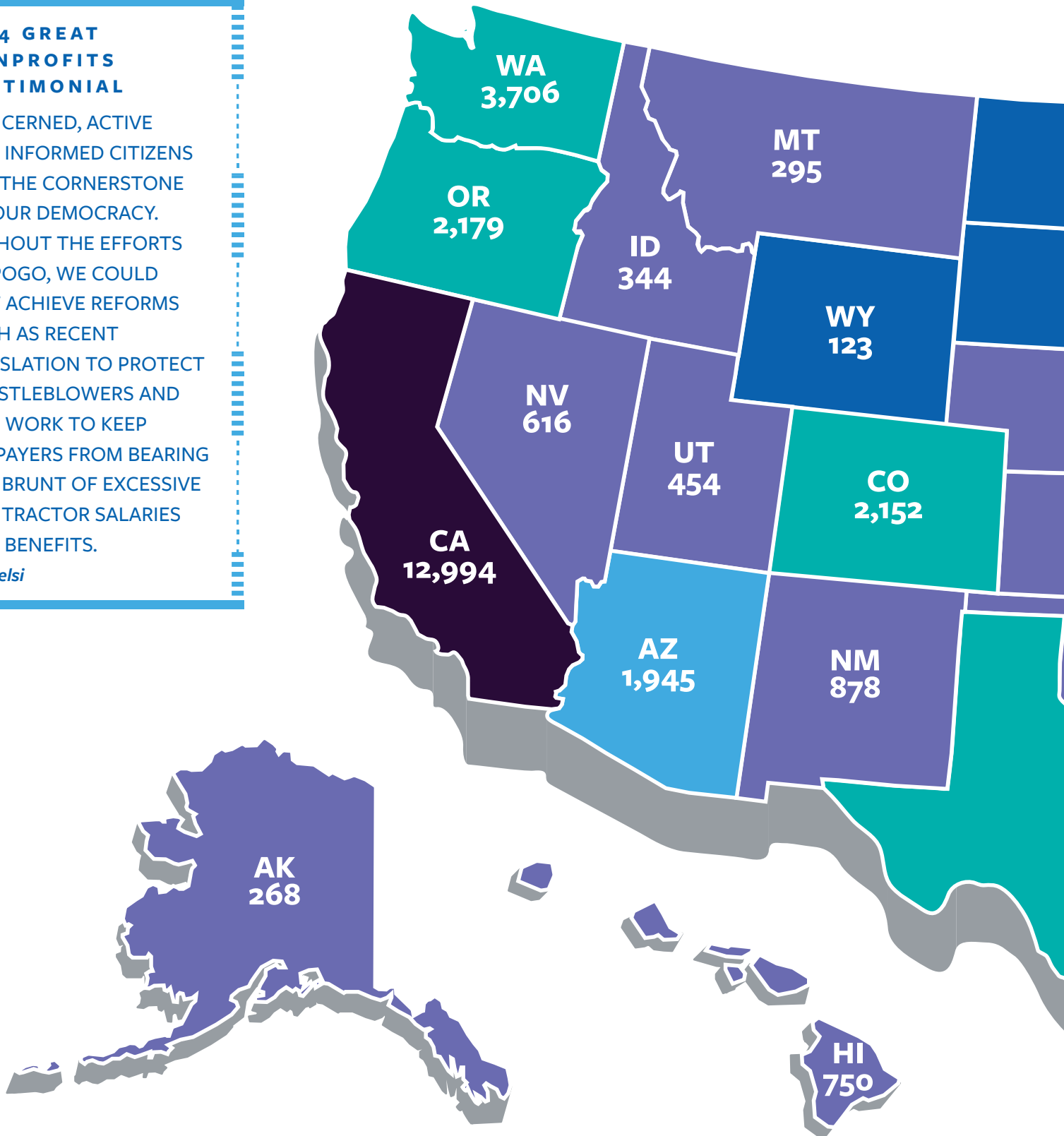
7 Strives for a more **EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE, OPEN, AND ETHICAL** federal government

POGO's nationwide army of

2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

CONCERNED, ACTIVE AND INFORMED CITIZENS ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR DEMOCRACY. WITHOUT THE EFFORTS OF POGO, WE COULD NOT ACHIEVE REFORMS SUCH AS RECENT LEGISLATION TO PROTECT WHISTLEBLOWERS AND OUR WORK TO KEEP TAXPAYERS FROM BEARING THE BRUNT OF EXCESSIVE CONTRACTOR SALARIES AND BENEFITS.

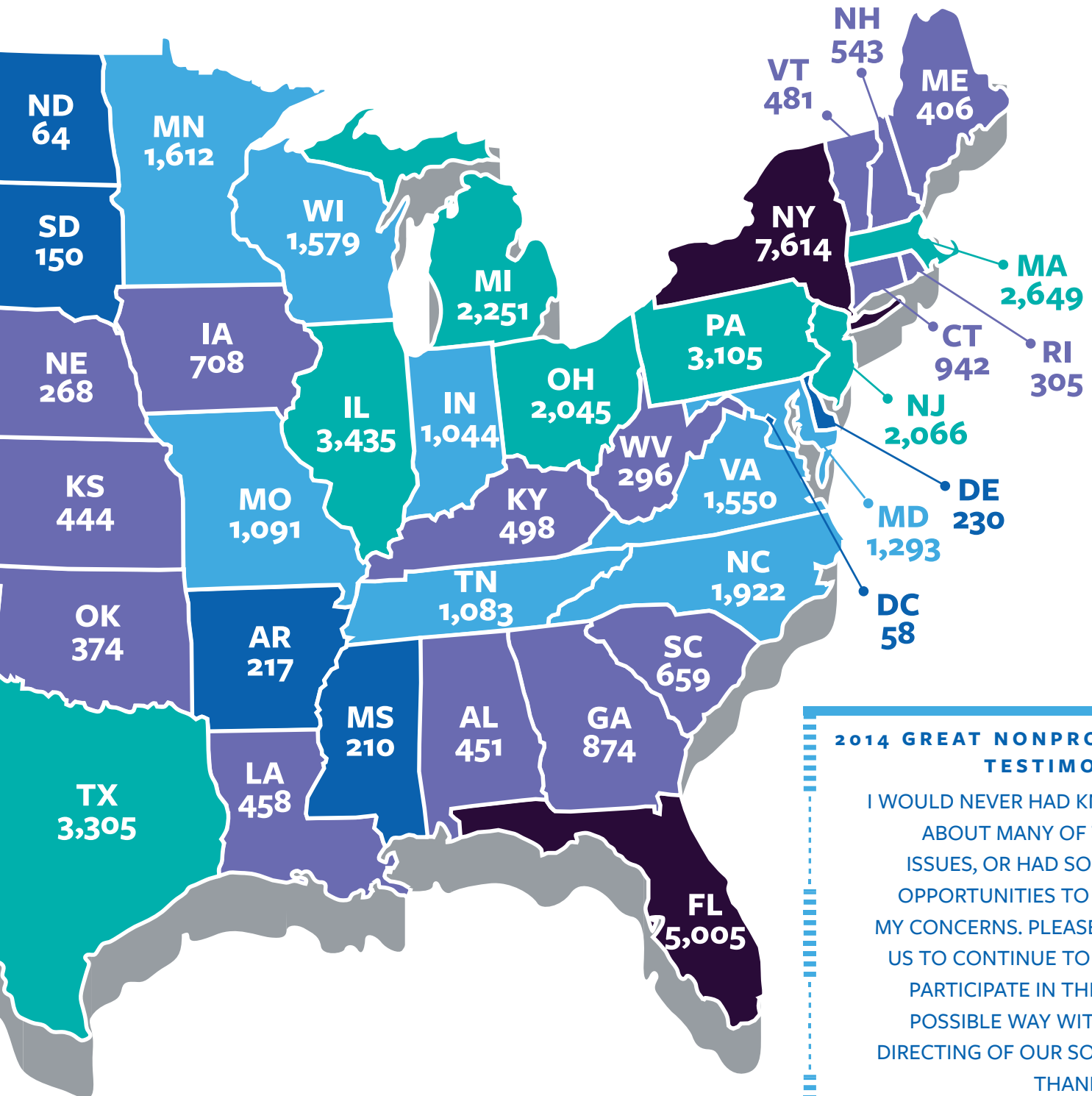
helloelsi



good government advocates

ACTIONS TAKEN

5,000 ↑	2,000 - 4,999	1,000 - 1,999	250 - 999	249 ↓
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2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

I WOULD NEVER HAD KNOWN ABOUT MANY OF THESE ISSUES, OR HAD SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO VOICE MY CONCERNS. PLEASE HELP US TO CONTINUE TO FULLY PARTICIPATE IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY WITH THE DIRECTING OF OUR SOCIETY. THANK YOU.

Kermito7

CDI's Straus Military Reform Project at POGO

WINSLOW WHEELER RETIRES; MANDY SMITHBERGER NEW STRAUS DIRECTOR

After thirteen years as Director of the Straus Military Reform Project, Winslow Wheeler retired this past winter.

Wheeler made it his mission throughout his career to fight wasteful defense spending and the idiocy that seems to run rampant at the Pentagon. From 1971 to 2002, he worked on national security issues for members of the United States Senate and for the Government Accountability Office (GAO). An anonymous essay in 2002 entitled, "Mr. Smith Is Dead: No One Stands in the Way as Congress Lards Post-September 11 Defense Bills with Pork" led to Wheeler's resignation from the Senate Budget Committee when he was revealed as the author. He joined CDI soon after, where he remained a forceful and effective advocate for Pentagon oversight and reform.

While at CDI, Wheeler was a leading opponent of the F-35, attacking the program for bloated costs, poor design, and failures to stay on schedule. His ability to translate technical language into clear prose made him an invaluable asset to those seeking to understand and rein in the Pentagon's "supersonic albatross." He also edited *The Pentagon Labyrinth: 10 Short Essays to Help You Through It*, a collection of essays on Pentagon oversight, and in 2013 published *The Wastrels of Defense: How Congress Sabotages U.S. Security*.

While Wheeler's presence will be sorely missed, his work will continue. He is succeeded by Mandy Smithberger, a former POGO intern and national security investigator who most recently served as an advisor to Representative Jackie Speier (D-CA). While in that position, Smithberger worked on passing key provisions of the Military Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act into law, and on an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that required closer scrutiny of the Littoral Combat Ship program's deficiencies.

We welcome Mandy into her new role, and wish Winslow the best in his retirement.



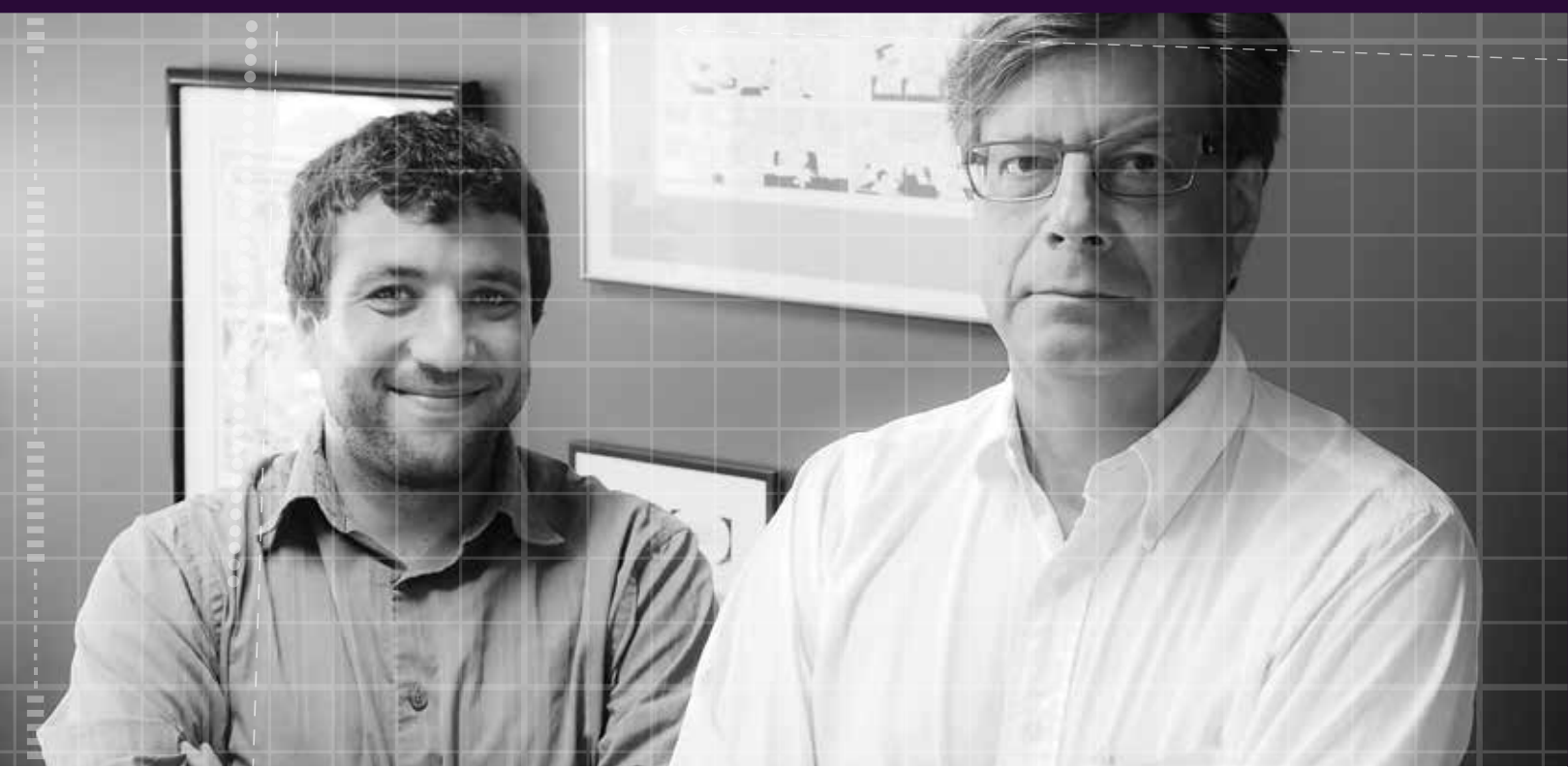
Winslow Wheeler (top) and Mandy Smithberger.

CDI ADDS JACK SHANAHAN FELLOWSHIP

POGO's Center for Defense Information has added a new fellowship—the Jack Shanahan Fellowship, a position reserved for a combat veteran focused on military reform. The position is named for Vice Admiral Jack Shanahan, who became the Director of the Center for Defense Information after retiring as Commander of the U.S. Navy's Second Fleet and Commander of NATO's Striking Fleet, Atlantic. His work at CDI focused on the scale of spending by the Pentagon and the unwarranted diversion of taxpayer dollars from domestic needs, especially infrastructure, the environment, and education.



Vice Admiral John "Jack" Shanahan, Jr.



Investigators Michael Smallberg and Adam Zagorin.

proud moments

POGO EARNS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS AWARDS

We are happy to announce that POGO has earned two awards for its investigations from the Society of Professional Journalists D.C. chapter.

Michael Smallberg won a business news prize for a report titled *Dangerous Liaisons*, which explored the revolving door between Wall Street and its regulator, the Securities and Exchange Commission. “Eye-opening report on an agency supposed to protect us from the next financial meltdown,” the judges wrote.

In *Dangerous Liaisons*, POGO reported that former employees of the SEC routinely help corporations try to influence SEC rulemaking, thwart the agency’s investigations into suspected wrongdoing, soften the blow of SEC enforcement actions, block shareholder proposals, and win exemptions from federal law. The report was based in part on thousands of records, many of them obtained by POGO through the Freedom of Information Act.

Since the report was published, the SEC and the U.S. Office of Government Ethics have addressed one of the issues POGO spotlighted by eliminating an exemption from ethics rules for certain SEC employees.

For the same work, Smallberg was previously named a finalist for a “Best in Business” award from the Society of American Business Editors and Writers.

POGO’s Adam Zagorin and David Hilzenrath won an investigative reporting award for “Embassy (In) security,” a package of articles about persistent vulnerabilities at the U.S. embassy in Afghanistan and problems related to outsourcing diplomatic security to private contractors. “Top-rate reporting” and an “important story,” the judges said.

The first of the Embassy (In)security stories, “A ‘Mutiny’ in Kabul: Guards Allege Security Problems Have Put Embassy at Risk,” was published jointly with ForeignPolicy.com.


POGO is pleased to be recognized by the Society for Professional Journalists for our investigations, and even prouder of the progress we’ve made toward a more effective, accountable, open, and ethical federal government.

2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

I RECEIVE AN EMAIL EVERY WEEK WITH PROJECTS THAT POGO IS INVESTIGATING, STORIES OF INTEREST OF WRONG DOING BY US GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. IT’S THE WATCHDOG GROUP WE DESPERATELY NEED TO KEEP PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON IN GOVERNMENT JOBS DEDICATED TO DOING THE RIGHT THING.

david starr

foundation supporters

THE ARCA FOUNDATION	FORD FOUNDATION	OPEN SOCIETY POLICY CENTER
THE BAUMAN FOUNDATION	THE FRANKEL FOUNDATION	PARK FOUNDATION, INC.
FRANCIS BEIDLER FOUNDATION	THE FUND FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT	PLOUGHSHARES FUND
THE RAYMOND & ELIZABETH BLOCH EDUCATIONAL & CHARITABLE FOUNDATION	THE MICHAEL R. HANSEN FUND FOR A BETTER WORLD	REVENUE WATCH INSTITUTE
THE LYNDE AND HARRY BRADLEY FOUNDATION, INC.	THE WILLIAM AND FLORA HEWLETT FOUNDATION	ROCKEFELLER BROTHERS FUND
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CROSSCURRENTS FOUNDATION	THE FREDERICK AND JULIA NONNEMAN FOUNDATION	ANONYMOUS (2)
CS FUND	OMIDYAR NETWORK FUND, INC	 POGO DEEPLY APPRECIATES THEIR TRUST IN OUR WORK.
THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OF AMERICA	OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS	

2014 GREAT NONPROFITS TESTIMONIAL

I SUPPORT POGO REGULARLY BECAUSE I BELIEVE THE FOCUS, ETHICS AND DEDICATION OF THE GROUP ALIGNS WITH MY VALUES OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, EFFICIENCY. AS A SMALL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING BUSINESS I AM ALSO AWARE OF THE WASTE OF MANY CONTRACTING SERVICES AND BELIEVE POGO HAS TARGETED SEVERAL WASTEFUL PROGRAMS. THE WEBSITE IS ALSO A HELPFUL CLEARINGHOUSE OF POLICY AND INVESTIGATIVE INFO.

g paulson 101

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

→ DINAH BODKIN

Dinah Bodkin has been a generous supporter of POGO for over a decade. In 2014, she became an integral part of POGO's Giving Tuesday event by being the first donor to pledge to match donations up to a certain total amount. Giving Tuesday is a national one-day event, like the retail frenzies Black Friday and Cyber Monday, but geared toward charitable giving. Dinah's commitment incentivized other donors



to also pledge to match funds and, as a result, POGO was able to raise over \$20,000 in just 24 hours from 135 people.

SAVE THE DATE
GIVING TUESDAY
DECEMBER 1, 2015

RECENTLY, POGO SAT DOWN WITH DINAH TO FIND OUT WHY SHE LOVES POGO:

1 POGO: WHEN DID YOU FIRST HEAR OF POGO?

DINAH: *I was the whistleblower in a scientific misconduct case involving Harvard University and the Department of Veterans Affairs. When I went to talk to my Congressman, Barney Frank, about it, he suggested I get in touch with POGO.*

2 POGO: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT POGO'S MISSION?

DINAH: *Accountability, accountability, accountability.*

3 POGO: WHY DO YOU GIVE TO POGO?

DINAH: *It is all part of the same picture: Gratitude for your having taken on my case and the desire to help with this enormously important mission.*

individual supporters



CONTRIBUTION ACCEPTANCE POLICY



In order to preserve our independence, POGO does not knowingly accept contributions from anyone who stands to benefit financially from our work. POGO does not accept contributions from any government, labor unions, or for-profit corporations exceeding \$100, and limits contributions from law firms to less than 1% of POGO's operating budget. POGO accepts citizen-, customer-, and employee-directed contributions and donor-matching funds from corporations.

\$25,000 +

Rose Stein
Philip A. Straus

James M. Wagstaffe

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Doris Z. Bato
Harold and Stephanie
Bronson
George Miller and Janet
McKinley

Fred and Alice Stanback
Lynn Straus

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Stephen D. and
Georganna Daley
Ralph Eichhorn
Philip D. Harvey

Debra Katz
Victor Smallberg
Nithi and Jing Vivatrat
Anonymous (1)

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Andy and Molly Barnes
Dr. Gary D. Bass and
Suzanne L. Feurt
Dr. Dinah K. Bodkin and J.
Alexander Bodkin
Allan and Marilyn Brown
Linda M. Butler
Michael Cavallo
Kathleen Cheevers
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