



M U L T I S T A T E

[Amid COVID, Lobbyist Spending Drops in Oklahoma](#) (Oklahoma)

Lobbyists are spending less money wining and dining Oklahoma lawmakers as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to change how the public, including paid lobbyists, interacts with their representatives.

Recently released Ethics Commission reports show spending by lobbyists is at the lowest levels since at least 2015.

Lobbyists spent almost \$187,000 the first four months of 2021, according to the latest disclosures. Nearly \$400,000 was spent at this point in 2019.

The drop comes as lawmakers added [COVID-19 protocols](#) that included social-distancing requirements, fewer seats in committee rooms and a mask requirement for visitors to the public – a rule many [lawmakers have ignored](#).

Lobbyist spending was also down last year after COVID-19 caused lawmakers to suspend that session as cases began climbing in April. But this year's total is still running below 2020.

Reports show that lobbyists haven't slowed down too much in buying food, drinks or gifts to individual lawmakers. Many have pulled back, however, on their spending on bigger events.

Only \$26,600 has been spent so far this year on events that all lawmakers are invited to attend, such as receptions or come-and-go lunches. In typical years, more than \$100,000 is spent on these events.

An Oklahoma Watch review shows the average lawmaker has taken in an average of \$727 worth of food, drinks or gifts as of May 1.

Among the other findings:

- Republicans took in more (\$788 per lawmaker) than their Democratic counterparts (\$465 per lawmaker).
- Of the 15 lawmakers who received the most, all were Republicans.
- State Sen. Casey Murdock, R-Felt, took in far more than any other lawmaker, according to Ethics Commission reports. He received more than \$3,640 in meals or gifts — an average of nearly \$76 for every day the Senate had been in session.
- Other lawmakers who reported high amounts include Sen. Cody Rogers, R-Tulsa; Sen. Roger Thompson, R-Okemah; Sen. John Michael Montgomery, R-Lawson; Sen. Chuck Hall, R-Perry; and Sen. Bill Coleman, R-Ponca City. They all received at least \$2,000 worth of gifts for meals.
- Only two lawmakers — Reps. Rick West, R-Heavener, and Tom Gann, R-Inola — did not receive gifts or meals from lobbyists.

Receiving food or gifts from lobbyists isn't the only way that lawmakers can benefit during the session.

Unlike [some other states](#), Oklahoma does [not have a broad ban on campaign fundraising](#) during the session.

[State law](#) bans lobbyists and the companies or groups employing them from making or promising to make campaign contributions during the session.

Nothing stops individuals in their personal capacity or from political action committees, as long as the PAC doesn't employ registered lobbyists.

An Oklahoma Watch review of the latest campaign filings, which includes donations through March 31, shows 60 lawmakers have taken in more than a million dollars combined in campaign contribution since the session started at the beginning of February.

Fundraising in the second half of the session will be disclosed when campaign finance reports are filed by the end of July.

The biggest earners were: House Budget and Appropriations Committee Chairman Kevin Wallace, R-Wellston, who collected \$11,700; Sen. John Haste, R-Broken Arrow, who collected \$11,400; and Rep. Eric Roberts, R-Oklahoma City.

[Longtime Republican political consultant, lobbyist indicted on felony tax charge](#)
(Missouri)

David Barklage, an influential campaign consultant and lobbyist who has been a fixture in Missouri Republican politics for decades, has been indicted for allegedly failing to pay more than \$150,000 in taxes over the course of a three-year period.

The indictment was handed down in U.S. District Court in St. Louis on April 28, but it was sealed until Thursday.

Prosecuting the case is Assistant U.S. Attorney Hal Goldsmith, who [specializes in public corruption cases](#) and was the lead prosecutor in the indictment of former [St. Louis County Executive Steve Stenger](#).

Barklage is scheduled to plead not guilty Friday morning. His attorney released a statement Thursday afternoon that Barklage “maintains his innocence throughout this process. We look forward to reviewing the federal government’s evidence regarding Mr. Barklage’s personal taxes.”

In the 1990s, Barklage led campaign committees in both the Missouri House and Senate that eventually helped engineer the Republican takeover of the legislature for the first time in 50 years. He’s also long been a part of Gov. Mike Parson’s political team, most recently as a consultant for Uniting Missouri, a political action committee formed to help Parson win a full four-year term.

So far this year, Barklage’s consulting firm has been paid nearly \$70,000 by Uniting Missouri.

Barklage’s former business partner is Robert Knodell, who is Parson’s deputy chief of staff and was recently named [acting director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services](#).

The indictment focuses on failure to report income from 2012 to 2014, a time when Barklage was in business with Knodell. During that time, the indictment says he failed to report \$443,633 in income and failed to pay \$151,843 in taxes.

Most of that income — \$209,499 — came from a Missouri political campaign, the indictment says. Another \$30,000 came from lobbying fees and \$122,580 came from “an independent media producer” that is not named.

Barklage deposited all of these funds into his personal bank account, the indictment says, instead of his business bank accounts. These funds and earnings “were not included on Barklage’s tax returns for the years 2012, 2013, and 2014,” the indictment says.

[Kemp signs bill giving big-money donors more impact on key races](#) (Georgia)

Without any public notification from his office, Gov. Brian Kemp last week quietly gave his approval to a new law allowing state leaders to set up committees that could raise money during General Assembly sessions while lobbyists are trying to get legislation passed.

[Senate Bill 221](#) — which was pushed by the Republican majority and opposed by Democrats — also allows new committees backing Kemp’s reelection and those of legislative leaders to raise and spend unlimited contributions from donors, essentially circumventing current limits on how much individuals, special interests and businesses can give to candidates.

“There is not going to be any limits on spending. There would not be a contribution limit,” said Rick Thompson, a member of the state ethic commission whose company has set up dozens of campaign committees and political nonprofits for candidates and organizations over the years.

Monday is the final day for Kemp to sign or veto legislation passed during the 2021 session. The governor will sign [a \\$27.2 billion state budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1](#). He also will sign a repeal of the 1863 [citizen’s arrest statute](#) initially cited by South Georgia prosecutors as justification for the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man shot in a Glynn County neighborhood in February 2020.

He has signed dozens of bills into law in recent weeks.

SB 221 is aimed at preparing Republicans for the 2022 elections, when Kemp will likely face a rematch with former Georgia House Minority Leader Stacey Abrams, who set fundraising records when they ran against each other in 2018.

The measure lets a governor, lieutenant governor, a party’s nominee for those positions, and Republican and Democratic leaders in the House and Senate [create so-called “leadership committees,” which would raise money either for their own races or to try to affect other contests.](#)

Statewide candidates are currently allowed to raise about \$18,000 per election cycle if they make a runoff — \$7,100 in legislative races — from individual donors.

Limits on how much donors could give to the committees do not apply. So contributors — typically lobbyists, industry associations or businesses interested in legislation or state funding — can give as much as they like.

“The limits protect, a little bit, the average person who can’t give, and now you’re throwing that away and the Georgia Powers of the world can give millions of dollars,” said William Perry, a longtime good government advocate who runs Georgia Ethics Watchdogs.

In addition, there will be no limit on when the committees can raise money.

State lawmakers for decades have faced bans on taking campaign contributions from lobbyists and special interests during a legislative session. Long ago, the General Assembly said it looked bad for a lawmaker to take a check at the same time he or she is considering legislation or funding that the donor may be trying to get approved or killed.

But caucus funds that raise money to support GOP candidates, such as the House Republican Trust and its Senate counterpart, are allowed to take money during sessions. [Senate Majority Leader Mike Dugan, R-Carrollton](#), told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution earlier this year that his chamber’s rules don’t allow session fundraising anymore by Senate leadership PACs.

Old-timers at the Capitol remember when lobbyists seeking to pass legislation could go onto the legislative chamber floors or into ante rooms and buttonhole lawmakers. The atmosphere was more freewheeling than today, although lobbyists still wine and dine lawmakers off-campus during sessions.

Back in the day, lawmakers regularly held fundraisers during the session.

In the early 1990s lawmakers made it illegal for lobbyists and others to give campaign contributions to legislators during the session because, besides the possibility for corruption, it just didn’t look good.

[A review of campaign contribution reports earlier this year by the AJC](#) showed the House and Senate GOP caucus funds — which are controlled by leadership in those chambers — reported receiving more than \$300,000 in the past five years during legislative sessions.

Donors included:

- The film industry while film tax credit legislation was being considered.
- Medical marijuana producers as rules were being written to regulate the state’s new market.
- Airbnb as lawmakers were considering a bill to collect taxes on stays.

- The cable industry as the General Assembly was looking at taxing competitors in the streaming business.
- The trial lawyers lobby, which fights seemingly annual battles against limits on jury awards.
- San Francisco-based e-cigarette-maker Juul when taxes on “alternative nicotine products” were being considered.

[Senate Rules Chairman Jeff Mullis, R-Chickamauga](#), who sponsored SB 221, noted that the new leadership committees will have to disclose who gives them money and how it’s spent. That, he said, would limit the influence of “dark money,” contributions funneled through nonprofits and other entities that don’t have to disclose donors.

However, the leadership committees will be able to take contributions from nonprofits that don’t disclose donors, just like the group [that ran a last-minute smear campaign against then-state Sen. David Shafer](#) in the Republican runoff for lieutenant governor, which he lost by 1,600 votes out of 559,000 cast.

While Kemp and Republican leaders will have a head start on fundraising — they will be able to create committees this year — the Democratic gubernatorial nominee won’t be known until next year’s primary. If the nominee is Abrams, Republican say, money won’t be a problem for the Democrat.

Abrams [has a national fundraising network](#) and took in a record amount — [more than \\$27 million](#) — for her 2018 campaign. The political action committee for the voting rights group she founded after that election — Fair Fight — [raised about \\$120 million over the next two years](#), and she and the group received credit for helping Democrats win the presidential race and two U.S. Senate seats in Georgia during the 2020 election cycle.

If she runs and becomes the nominee, under SB 221, she would be able to create a committee to raise unlimited donations for her campaign and to help other candidates.

Perry characterized SB 221 as “the Wild West” of politics, a “slap in the face and an end around” some of the most important tenets of campaign finance laws in Georgia.

“It is throwing all the protections of our campaign finance system out the window,” he said.

[Lobbyists fill void after corporations cut off GOP cash](#) (Federal)

Lobbyists keep donating to members of Congress even after companies employing them cut off cash to protest the Capitol insurrection and 2020 election challenge, data show.

Why it matters: While the companies have gotten a PR boost for their good-governance statements, the policy advocates they employ have maintained relationships on their behalf and can still advance their goals on the Hill with the very members those companies disavowed.

The big picture: Data provided by the Center for Responsive Politics shows that 124 lobbyists for companies that cut off objector donations after Jan. 6 made nearly 300 contributions — totaling nearly \$300,000 — to those same 147 members.

- Those lobbyists represented more than 100 companies that either swore off donations to election objectors after the attempted insurrection or paused corporate PAC contributions altogether.
- They range from prominent D.C. influence brokers who work with dozens of clients to in-house lobbyists employed by the companies themselves.
- Some first-quarter lobbying and fundraising data are still being processed, and the numbers likely understate total contributions substantially.
- Top recipients included Reps. Tom Rice and Jeff Duncan of South Carolina, Chris Stewart of Utah and Jodey Arrington and Ronny Jackson of Texas.

Of note: There's no indication the companies had any say in — or even knowledge of — these donations. Many employ dozens of lobbyists who give to members of Congress of both parties.

- Companies that cut off election objectors this year nonetheless benefitted from the political relationships of the people they employed to advance their legislative agendas, including scores of the members the companies had publicly disavowed.
- The trend was most pronounced for large companies with significant footprints on K Street: At least 21 Verizon lobbyists donated to one or more election objectors since Jan. 6, followed by 16 for Comcast, 13 for AT&T and 11 for Raytheon.

Go deeper: Joseph Gibson of the Gibson Group lobbies for Microsoft, AT&T and eBay. Each of them cut off donations to objectors after Jan. 6.

- Gibson has donated to [11 federal political candidates](#) this year, according to Federal Election Commission records. Eight of them — including California Rep. Darrell Issa and Arizona Rep. Andy Biggs — voted against certifying state vote counts in January.
- Mike Chappell and Kirsten Chadwick of Fierce Government Relations represent 10 companies that cut off objectors or paused political donations entirely. Together, they

donated to [17 election objectors](#) — including PACs for GOP leaders Kevin McCarthy and Steve Scalise — in March.

- Warren Payne of the firm Mayer Brown lobbies for 11 clients. One of them, Verizon, officially cut off objectors on Jan. 11. Less than two weeks later, Payne donated the per-election maximum to one of them, Arrington. By February, he'd [donated to six more](#).

In-house lobbyists for companies including Google, Altria, Amgen, Visa and Microsoft also donated to objectors after those companies either paused political donations entirely or said they would stop giving to any of the 147.

- “This was a contribution made by an employee in their personal capacity,” a Microsoft spokesperson told Axios.

The bottom line: Large segments of corporate America drew a line in the sand after the Jan. 6 siege on the Capitol. The continued support from their lobbying partners shows there's more than one way to curry political favor in Washington.

[Indicted Missouri lobbyist and political consultant still working for Missouri governor's PAC](#) (Missouri)

A longtime Missouri political consultant and lobbyist is still working for GOP Gov. Mike Parson's political action committee after being indicted on a felony tax charge late last month, a spokesman for the PAC said Monday.

David Barklage, 60, of St. Louis, [is accused of failing to report](#) \$443,633 in income between 2012 and 2014 and not paying \$151,843 in taxes. He pleaded not guilty Friday in U.S. District Court in St. Louis.

John Hancock, spokesman for Parson's Uniting Missouri PAC, said Monday Barklage was still on retainer for the PAC.

“He's done a really good job for the PAC and, you know, we're very pleased with the work that he's done,” Hancock said.

The PAC paid The Barklage Company \$50,000 on Jan. 15 for “fundraising & management.” The company was paid another \$7,500 between February and March, the last month for which campaign spending records were available.

Barklage [led ad-making efforts for Uniting Missouri](#) during the 2020 campaign, when the PAC blanketed the state with advertisements ahead of Parson's resounding victory over Democratic Auditor Nicole Galloway in the governor's race.

Parson spokeswoman Kelli Jones said in response to a question about whether the governor was cutting ties with Barklage that "there's no direct relationship with Barklage. It's only the PAC."

During the period covered in the indictment, Barklage was the sole owner of The Barklage Company and owned half of Barklage & Knodell, the indictment says.

A co-founder of Barklage & Knodell, Robert Knodell serves as Parson's deputy chief of staff and [recently was named interim director of the Department of Health and Senior Services](#).

Joe Passanise, attorney for Barklage, did not respond to a question about whether Barklage intended to continue working while he defends himself against the tax charge.

Rep. Mary Elizabeth Coleman, R-Arnold, who is running for the northern Jefferson County state Senate seat held by term-limited Sen. Paul Wieland, did not respond to a question about whether her campaign would continue paying Barklage.

Records filed with the Missouri Ethics Commission show her campaign in January paid Barklage's company more than \$6,500 for "general consulting and strategy" and "inoculation research."

Eric Scroggins, CEO and founder of the Opportunity Trust, a nonprofit funder of charter schools, said the organization would review its lobbying contracts at the end of this year's legislative session, which ends Friday.

Barklage is one of 10 lobbyists working for the group.

"All our contracts related to policy lobbyists are for one legislative cycle and are reviewed after the end of the legislative session," Scroggins said in an email.

[Gov. Whitmer: Flight to visit father was not 'a gift'](#) (Michigan)

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said Wednesday her flight to visit her father was not paid for by taxpayer dollars and was not "a gift," but she declined to provide additional information about how the trip was funded.

The Democratic governor's comments came at a press conference about two months after [she traveled out of state to visit her father](#). Richard Whitmer, who lives in Florida and her office says is battling a chronic illness. The Michigan Republican Party held its own Wednesday event, calling on Whitmer to answer more questions about the flight as controversy and mystery surrounding the outing continues for a fourth week.

"This flight was not a gift," Whitmer said at her press conference. "This flight was not paid for at taxpayer expense. And I don't know if there's anything more to add.

"When a family member of mine needs a little help, though, I'm going to show up. Just like when we have a crisis here, we're going to work 24/7 to keep the people of this state safe."

Whitmer's assertion that her flight was not a "gift" could refer to Michigan's lobby law, which specifically defines gifts and bans lobbyists, companies that employ them or anyone acting on behalf of either from giving them to officeholders.

For the trip, Whitmer took a private a plane that's usually shared by three of Michigan's most prominent political donors, [The Detroit News reported last week](#). The Nicholson family of PVS Chemicals, the Moroun family of the trucking company Central Transport and the Cotton family, which formerly ran Meridian Health, are among those who use the Gulfstream G280 flown by Air Eagle LLC, according to a source with knowledge of the arrangement.

The Moroun family has denied any involvement in arranging the flight carrying the governor. Air Eagle has refused to release information about its passengers or flights.

A twin-engine jet Gulfstream G280 owned by Air Eagle flew from Lansing to Palm Beach on Friday, March 12, and returned to Lansing on Monday, March 15. Whitmer's father, the retired CEO of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, owns a home in West Palm Beach.

Whitmer acknowledged Wednesday that her trip lasted from a Friday to a Monday. At the same time, her office has continually described the trip as being "two full days" since it was first reported on April 19.

"When you leave on a Friday morning and come back on Monday night, that's not two full days," Michigan Republican Party spokesman Ted Goodman contended Wednesday. "That's in effect four full days."

Goodman spoke in a parking lot behind the Michigan GOP headquarters, pledging that the party would get more "answers" about the flight.

"The governor refuses to tell us how she paid for the trip," Goodman said. "The focus shouldn't be on whose plane this was. If I had my own private plane, the governor of my state calls, she wants that plane, I am going to give her access if I can."

He questioned moments later, "Did she strong arm somebody to get access to that plane?"

The Morouns, the Cottons and the Nicholsons were all among the top 12 political donors in Michigan during the 2018 election, the last gubernatorial election when Whitmer defeated Republican Bill Schuette by 9 percentage points, according to tracking by the nonprofit Michigan Campaign Finance Network. They normally donate to Republican candidates.

Asked if the individuals connected to the plane should be more open about what happened with the flight, Goodman responded, "It's not about that."

"It's not incumbent upon them," Goodman said. "They're not the sitting governor."

A family member or Whitmer herself could have funded the flight, but the governor's office has not indicated that so far. Also, a campaign account or nonprofit entity tied to the governor could have paid for the flight, but the travel would have to have included some type of official business or campaign-related activity.

During her Wednesday press conference, Whitmer noted she campaigned on stories regarding the challenge of taking care of her mom at the end of her life while rearing her daughter and serving as state representative.

"This is a part of my story," she said. "For anyone to be surprised that I have a family member who's been having a lot of health issues that I showed up to check in ... they're obviously not paying attention to who I am or what I do."

"...I showed up when I was needed. I did a lot of cooking, a lot of cleaning. I also did my day job, meaning I was on regular calls and conferences with my team."

Rodericka Applewhaite, spokeswoman for the Michigan Democratic Party, called Wednesday's Michigan GOP press conference "another cheap attempt to manufacture a partisan distraction out of thin air."

Two prominent members of the Whitmer administration traveled out of state in April, drawing criticism from Republicans. Elizabeth Hertel, director of the Department of Health Human Services, [went to Alabama](#) with her family. Chief Operating Officer Tricia Foster posted photos of herself [traveling with her family to Florida](#), where they vacationed in Siesta Key south of Tampa. The trips came as the Whitmer administration issued public warnings about out-of-state travel.

An April 2 press release from the Department of Health and Human Services linked to a page of "travel tips" that encouraged people to "delay travel and stay home to protect yourself and others from COVID-19."

[Former Adams' staffer left to lobby, raising specter of conflict of interest](#) (Brooklyn, NY)

A former employee of Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams was working as a lobbyist for at least one company that had business before the BP's office, almost immediately after he left his job with Adams — creating the potential for a conflict of interest.

Joel Eisdorfer, who began working for Adams during his days in the state Senate and who continued working for him in Borough Hall, acted as a lobbyist for New York Capital Group LLC, where he's worked from 2016 to 2021. In all those years except 2017, Eisdorfer was the sole lobbyist at the firm, according to records kept by the city Clerk's Office.

Adams is a front-running candidate for mayor and has picked up endorsements from several of the city's most politically powerful labor unions, including the Hotel Trades Council, DC 37 and SEIU 32BJ.

In 2016, Eisdorfer's firm represented Riverside Developers USA Inc., which at the time had a South Williamsburg rezoning under review by Adams' office as part of the city's land-use review process. In January 2017, Adams signed off on the rezoning, which would pave the way for two new buildings with 296 apartments, with the caveat that some modifications be made to it.

According to records from the Clerk's Office, Eisdorfer was the principal and only employee at the firm in 2016 to handle the Riverside account, but in the following year, he and two associates, Jacob Guttman and Rachel Kornfeld, appeared to also be doing work for the developer.

In 2016, Eisdorfer also worked as an Adams' staffer for a relatively small sum of cash — \$41,327 annually, according to city payroll data. Records provided by the Borough President's office show that Eisdorfer was issued his last check from the city for his work on July 1, 2016. Records

also show that he resigned on May 11, though Adam's Chief of Staff Ryan Lynch noted his last day as an employee was March 26. Lynch attributed the lag between his last day and his official resignation date to leftover vacation days he hadn't taken and was being compensated for.

Lobbying proved much more lucrative for Eisdorfer. Records from the Clerk's Office reveal that in 2016, Eisdorfer earned \$97,500. In total, he has earned more than \$600,000 as a lobbyist.

Eisdorfer was registered as a lobbyist for Riverside on June 15, 2016 — about a month after his official resignation date and weeks before he received his last check from the city, records show. His work for another client, Plaza Auto Mall, was officially registered with the clerk's office on May 16 — four days before he was issued a May 20 check for his vacation time from the city, records show.

The timeline raises the question of whether his contracts with Riverside and Plaza may have been negotiated during his time employed under Adams.

Eisdorfer's lawyer David Grandeau would not say when those deals were hammered out, but denied they were negotiated during his time at Borough Hall.

"No negotiations took place while he was working at the Brooklyn Borough President's Office," Grandeau said. "All the negotiations that did take place took place after he left."

Plaza Auto Mall is controlled by reputed mobster John Rosatti, an alleged soldier for the Colombo family.

Aside from doling out contributions to politicians like Brooklyn DA Eric Gonzalez and Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte, Plaza also has been helpful to Adams. It co-sponsored his 2017 Thanksgiving food drive and donated between \$5,000 and \$20,000 to his One Brooklyn non-profit, according to city Conflicts of Interest Board records.

One Brooklyn came under investigation at least twice by the city's Department of Investigation, which both times found that it had broken city rules.

Adams has also been supportive of the Rosatti's, [nominating John Rosatti's son Adam Rosatti to become a member of a Brooklyn Community Board](#) in 2020.

Grandeau, who also works as Rosatti's spokesman, said that Rosatti has stated publicly that he is "not now, nor has he ever been a member of the Colombo crime family."

The city's Conflicts of Interest Board declined to comment on the matter, citing confidentiality.

The web of relationships between Eisdorfer, his firm, his clients and the borough president offers a peek into how Adams, who's now at the top of the field in his run for mayor, managed his affairs at Borough Hall.

Adams is by no means alone in being scrutinized for his connections to a lobbyist. Andrew Yang, another top-tier mayoral candidate, has also taken heat [for his close ties to Bradley Tusk](#), the lobbyist who ran former Mayor Michael Bloomberg's last campaign for City Hall.

John Kaehny of the good government group Reinvent Albany said Eisdorfer's work as a lobbyist immediately after his time at Borough Hall raises red flags.

"It's basically like having a political operative on your payroll," said Kaehny. "It's an obvious conflict of interest."

But Team Adams maintains everything was above board.

"Borough President Adams and his staff were never lobbied by Mr. Eisdorfer, nor did they discuss land-use proposals or other related issues with Mr. Eisdorfer once he became a lobbyist," said Adams' campaign spokesman Evan Thies.

Lobbying records compiled by the city Clerk's Office list Eisdorfer as the "principal" for New York Capital Group. In one filing, the company notes that the subject of its influence effort is "zoning 360 Flushing Ave" and the target was Councilman Stephen Levin.

Other filings, don't provide as much detail. Grandeau, who also works as an ethics consultant and is the former head of the New York State Lobbying Commission, said those filings show Eisdorfer was simply reporting his retainer fees for those times, which he described as standard practice.

Over the years, Eisdorfer and his family have also proven to be generous political supporters of Adams.

He is Adams' biggest bundler of campaign contributions to date, according to city Campaign Finance Board records, which show he helped raise \$24,650 for his former boss's 2017 borough

president run. Those contributions were all bundled in 2015, a year in which Eisdorfer earned just shy of \$48,000 working as community coordinator for the BP, records show.

Eisdorfer's family members also appear to have contributed to Adams. Five people sharing his last name each gave \$3,000 or more to his 2013 BP run over a one-month period, campaign finance records show. That year, Eisdorfer earned \$15,577 while working as a constituent liaison for Adams, who then served in the state Senate.

"It makes you wonder what exactly the guy's job was," Kaehny said. "He was on the taxpayer payroll doing what? I would like to know."

