

# LIST OF PUBLIC CORRUPTION CASES

by Larry Becraft

This list could be the source for many articles. In a brief, you can make the statement that Congressmen are crooked, and then footnote a variety of cases to support that proposition. Or, you can say that IRS agents are criminals, and cite the ones noted herein. You can cite the Nunan case as an example of a former IRS Commissioner who was convicted of tax evasion.

Please, put this list to use. (See "Official Oppression," 83 ALR 2d 1007).

## 1. Congressmen

(a) *United States v. Mitchell*, 141 F. 666 (D. Or. 1905): Senator Mitchell caught in land fraud scheme; although he died before trial, Rep. John Williamson was convicted, but I found no appeal. See related case, *United States v. Booth*, 148 F. 112 (D. Or. 1906).

(b) *Burton v. United States*, 202 U.S. 344, 26 S.Ct. 688 (1905): Postmaster was causing trouble for a company who paid Sen. Burton for help.

(c) *May v. United States*, 175 F.2d 994 (D.C. Cir. 1949): Congressman convicted for taking bribes.

(d) *Bramblett v. United States*, 231 F.2d 489 (D.C. Cir. 1956): Congressman convicted of false claims in employee kickback scheme.

(e) *Curley v. United States*, 160 F.2d 229 (D.C. Cir. 1947): Congressman involved in WW II fraud scheme.

(f) *United States v. Johnson*, 383 U.S. 169, 86 S.Ct. 749 (1966): Congressman convicted of conspiracy to defraud US; Congressman Frank Boykin also convicted; see *United States v. Johnson*, 215 F.Supp. 300 (D.Md. 1963).

(g) *United States v. Brewster*, 408 U.S. 501, 92 S.Ct. 2531 (1972): Sen. indicted and ultimately convicted of taking bribes; see related case, *United States v. Anderson*, 509 F.2d 312 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

(h) *United States v. Dowdy*, 479 F.2d 213 (4th Cir. 1973): Rep. convicted for taking bribes.

(i) *United States v. Garmatz*, 445 F.Supp. 54 (D. Md. 1977): Rep.

indicted for bribes. Today, the Federal Building in downtown Baltimore is named after Garmatz.

(j) United States v. Helstoski, 576 F.2d 511 (3rd Cir. 1978); see also United States v. Helstoski, 442 U.S. 477, 99 S.Ct. 2432 (1979): taking bribes.

(k) United States v. Passman, 460 F.Supp. 912 (W.D. La. 1978); same case at 465 F. Supp. 736 (W.D. La., 1979): bribes.

(l) United States v. Diggs, 613 F.2d 988 (D.C. Cir. 1979): Rep. convicted of fraud and false statements.

(m) United States v. Murphy, 642 F.2d 699 (2nd Cir. 1980): Abscam.

(n) United States v. Myers, 635 F.2d 932 (2nd Cir. 1980): Abscam.

(o) United States v. Myers, 692 F.2d 823 (2nd Cir. 1982): Abscam.

(p) United States v. Williams, 705 F.2d 603 (2nd Cir. 1983): Abscam.

(q) United States v. Kelly, 707 F.2d 1460 (D.C. Cir. 1983): Abscam. Also 748 F.2d 691 (D.C. Cir. 1984).

(r) United States v. Jenrette, 744 F.2d 817 (D.C. Cir. 1984): Abscam. Former husband of now famous TV star.

(s) related cases, United States v. Kim, 595 F.2d 755 (D.C. Cir. 1979): Hush money intended as bribes for Congressman. United States v. Carson, 464 F.2d 424 (2nd Cir. 1972): Senator's aid convicted.

(t) United States v. Biaggi, 853 F.2d 89 (2nd Cir. 1988): Congressman and bribes.

(u) United States v. Johnson, 337 F.2d 180 (4th Cir. 1964).

(v) United States v. Hansen, 772 F.2d 940 (D.C.Cir. 1985).

(w) United States v. Swindall, 971 F.2d 1531 (11th Cir. 1992): representative convicted of false statements to grand jury.

## 2. High federal officials

(a) Fall v. United States, 49 F.2d 506 (D.C. Cir. 1931): Teapot Dome scandal. See also Pan-American Petroleum & Transport Co.v. United States, 273 U.S. 456, 47 S.Ct 416 (1927), and Mammoth Oil Co. v. United States, 275 U.S. 13, 48 S.Ct. 1 (1927): leases

secured through scandal were held to be void.

(b) *United States v. Hiss*, 185 F.2d 822 (2nd Cir. 1950): Alger Hiss the Commie.

(c) *Baker v. United States*, 401 F.2d 958 (D.C. Cir. 1968), and 430 F.2d 499 (D.C. Cir. 1970): Remember Bobbie Baker?

(d) *United States v. Liddy*, 542 F.2d 76 (D.C. Cir. 1976): Watergate burglar Gordon Liddy, lately has appeared on Saturday Night Live and currently a radio talk show host: "Radio Free D.C."

(e) *United States v. Ehrlichman*, 546 F.2d 910 (D.C. Cir. 1976): Watergate.

(f) *United States v. Barker*, 546 F.2d 940 (D.C. Cir. 1976): Watergate.

(g) *United States v. Mardian*, 546 F.2d 973 (D.C. Cir. 1976): Watergate.

(h) *United States v. Mitchell*, 551 F.2d 1252 (D.C. Cir. 1976): Watergate.

(i) *United States v. Ehrlichman*, 559 F.2d 31 (D.C. Cir. 1976): Watergate. See also *In re Krogh*, 85 Wash.2d 462, 536 P.2d 578 (1975).

(j) *Connelly v. United States*, 249 F.2d 576 (8th Cir. 1957): DoJ official.

(k) *In re Olson*, 818 F.2d 34 (D.C. Cir. 1987).

(l) *United States v. Aaron Burr*, 25 F. Cas. 49 (No. 14,692g) (C.C.Va., 1807).

(m) *United States v. Nofziger*, 878 F.2d 442 (D.C. Cir. 1989): Presidential aide.

(n) *United States v. Secord*, 726 F.Supp. 845 (D.D.C. 1989).

(o) *United States v. North*, 920 F.2d 940 (D.C.Cir. 1990).

(p) *United States v. Poindexter*, 951 F.2d 369 (D.C.Cir. 1991).

### 3. High state officials

(a) *United States v. Addonizio*, 451 F.2d 49 (3rd Cir. 1971):

Extortion by Newark, NJ, mayor.

(b) United States v. Hyde, 448 F.2d 815 (5th Cir. 1971): Alabama Attorney General Richmond Flowers involved in bribery. See also 230 So.2d 519; 220 F.Supp. 293 (1963).

(c) United States v. Kenny, 462 F.2d 1205 (3rd Cir. 1972): Extortion scheme involving NJ city and county officials.

(d) United States v. Isaacs, 493 F.2d 1124 (7th Cir. 1974): Illinois Governor Otto Kerner and Revenue Dept. Director Isaacs involved in racehorse bribery.

(e) United States v. Braasch, 505 F.2d 139 (7th Cir. 1974): Chicago cops engaged in extortion on grand scale.

(f) United States v. Bush, 522 F.2d 641 (7th Cir. 1975): Mayor Daly's Press Secretary had company that got city contracts; convicted of mail fraud.

(g) United States v. Mandel, 550 F.2d 1001 (4th Cir. 1977) and 591 F.2d 1347 (4th Cir. 1979): Maryland Governor's RICO conviction.

(h) United States v. Caldwell, 544 F.2d 691 (4th Cir. 1976): West Virginia's State Treasurer was bribed to get state funds deposited in banks.

(i) United States v. Scott, 587 F.2d 889 (7th Cir. 1978); also 472 F.Supp 1073 (N.D.Ill., 1979), aff'd at 618 F.2d 109 (7th Cir. 1980); also 660 F.2d 1145 (7th Cir. 1981): Illinois Attorney General convicted of tax crimes.

(j) United States v. Cerilli, 603 F.2d 415 (3rd Cir. 1979): Penn. DoT officials extorted money from private equipment vendors for political contributions.

(k) United States v. Jannoti, 673 F.2d 578 (3rd Cir. 1982): Pres. of Philly City Council and another convicted of racketeering.

(l) United States v. Blanton, 700 F.2d 298 (6th Cir. 1983), vacated at 703 F.2d 981 (6th Cir. 1983), aff'd at 719 F.2d 816 (6th Cir. 1983): Tenn. Governor.

(m) State ex rel Leech v. Wright, 622 S.W.2d 807 (Tenn. 1981).

(n) United States v. Burgin, 621 F.2d 1352 (5th Cir. 1980): Mississippi state senators.

- (o) United States v. Barry, 938 F.2d 1327 (D.C. Cir. 1991): DC Mayor Barry's conviction for drug offenses.
- (p) United States v. Hall, 536 F.2d 313 (10th Cir. 1976): Governor of Oklahoma and bribes.
- (q) United States v. Silvano, 812 F.2d 754 (1st Cir. 1987): City budget director.
- (r) United States v. Barber, 668 F.2d 778 (4th Cir. 1982): State A.B.C. Commissioner.
- (s) United States v. Margiotta, 688 F.2d 108 (2nd Cir. 1982): party leader.
- (t) United States v. Brown, 540 F.2d 364 (8th Cir. 1976): City building commissioner.
- (u) United States v. Keane, 522 F.2d 534 (7th Cir. 1975): City alderman.
- (v) United States v. Staszczuk, 502 F.2d 875 (7th Cir. 1974): City alderman.
- (w) United States v. Classic, 35 F.Supp. 457 (E.D. La. 1940): Election Commissioner.
- (x) United States v. Odom, 736 F.2d 104 (4th Cir. 1984): Sheriff.
- (y) McNally v. United States, 483 U.S. 350, 107 S.Ct. 2875 (1987): State insurance folks; dissent has cites to other corruption cases.
- (z) Evans v. United States, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 112 S.Ct. 1881 (1992): County Comm. in GA.
- (aa) United States v. Davis, 967 F.2d 516 (11th Cir. 1992): Ala. legislators convicted of taking bribes.
- (bb) Shushan v. United States, 117 F.2d 110 (5th Cir. 1941): La. parish levee board member.
- (cc) United States v. Keane, 522 F.2d 534 (7th Cir. 1975): Chicago alderman.
- (dd) United States v. Frumento, 563 F.2d 1083 (3rd Cir. 1977): racketeering by state revenue dept. (smuggling cigarettes).
- (ee) United States v. Angelilli, 660 F.2d 23 (2nd Cir. 1981): Big

Apple corruption.

(ff) Hunt v. Alabama, Dec. 93:

#### 4. Judges

(a) Slade v. United States, 85 F.2d 786 (10th Cir. 1936): Judge bribed juror to acquit a defendant; judge convicted of bribery.

(b) United States v. Manton, 107 F.2d 834 (2nd Cir. 1939): Court of Appeals judge involved in bribes to influence decisions.

(c) McDonald v. Alabama, 57 Ala. App. 529, 329 So.2d 583 (1975): sex for leniency.

(d) United States v. Campbell, 684 F.2d 141 (D.C. Cir. 1982): traffic tickets, judge and gratuity.

(e) United States v. Murphy, 768 F.2d 1518 (7th Cir. 1985): Greylord.

(f) United States v. Hollaway, 778 F.2d 653 (11th Cir. 1985): Two Mobile state court judges.

(g) United States v. LeFevour, 798 F.2d 977 (7th Cir. 1986): Greylord.

(h) United States v. Claiborne, 765 F.2d 784 (9th Cir. 1985); see Harry's vindication, State Bar of Nevada v. Claiborne, 756 P.2d 464 (Nev. 1988).

(i) United States v. Nixon, 816 F.2d 1022 (5th Cir. 1987); habe at 881 F.2d 1305 (5th Cir. 1989): U.S. District Judge convicted of bribery.

(j) United States v. Conn, 769 F.2d 420 (7th Cir. 1985): Greylord.

(k) United States v. Devine, 787 F.2d 1086 (7th Cir. 1986): Greylord.

(l) United States v. Holzer, 816 F.2d 304 (7th Cir. 1987): Greylord.

(m) United States v. Reynolds, 821 F.2d 427 (7th Cir. 1987): Greylord.

(n) United States v. Glecier, 923 F.2d 496 (7th Cir. 1991): Greylord.

(o) *United States v. Hastings*, 681 F.2d 706 (11th Cir. 1982): This was pre-trial appeal, and later Alcee won criminal case. Is now a member of Congress.

(p) *United States v. Kahaner*, 317 F.2d 459 (2nd Cir. 1963): State judge and former AUSAs.

#### 5. I.R.S. and Other Federal Agents

(a) *Smiler v. United States*, 24 F.2d 22 (5th Cir. 1928): Bribe.

(b) *Delaney v. United States*, 199 F.2d 107 (1st Cir. 1952): Bribe.

(c) *United States v. Nunan*, 236 F.2d 576 (2nd Cir. 1956): Former IRS Commissioner convicted of tax evasion.

(d) *United States v. Umans*, 368 F.2d 725 (2nd Cir. 1966): Bribe.

(e) *United States v. Barash*, 412 F.2d 26 (2nd Cir. 1969): Bribe.

(f) *United States v. Polansky*, 418 F.2d 444 (2nd Cir. 1969): Bribe.

(g) *United States v. Greenberg*, 445 F.2d 1158 (2nd Cir. 1971): IRS agent and bribes.

(h) *United States v. Weiser*, 428 F.2d 932 (2nd Cir. 1969): IRS agent and bribes.

(i) *United States v. Lipton*, 467 F.2d 1161 (2nd Cir. 1972): IRS agent and bribes.

(j) *United States v. Lanci*, 669 F.2d 391 (6th Cir. 1982): FBI agent and bribes.

(k) *United States v. Miller*, 874 F.2d 1255 (9th Cir. 1989): FBI agent giving documents to Soviets.

(l) *United States v. Gorman*, 807 F.2d 1299 (6th Cir. 1986): AUSA convicted of taking gratuities.

(m) *Glasser v. United States*, 315 U.S. 60, 62 S.Ct. 457 (1942): AUSA and bribes.

(n) *Attalallah v. United States*, 955 F.2d 776 (1st Cir. 1992): customs agents killed for \$700,000.

(o) United States v. Mangan, 575 F.2d 32 (2nd Cir. 1978): crooked IRS agent.

(p) United States v. Johnson, 398 F.2d 29 (7th Cir. 1968): IRS agent guilty of defrauding by filing false returns.

(q) United States v. Morales, 11 F.3d 915 (9th Cir. 1993): IRS agent and bribe.

## 6. Prosecutorial misconduct.

(a) United States v. OMNI International Corp., 634 F.Supp. 1414 (D.MD. 1986): Prosecutor Elizabeth Trimble and Special Agents fabricated evidence and a case was dismissed.

(b) United States v. Burnside, 824 F.Supp. 1215 (N.D. Ill. 1993), United States v. Andrews, 824 F.Supp. 1273 (N.D.Ill. 1993): El Rukn cases. US v. Boyd, ... Noah Robinson, 9-20-93: same.

(c) United States v. Demjanjuk, 518 F.Supp. 1362 (N.D. Ohio 1981), aff'd, 680 F.2d 32 (6th Cir. 1982). Demjanjuk v. Petrovsky, 776 F.2d 571 (6th Cir. 1985). Demjanjuk v. Meese, 784 F.2d 1114 (D.C.Cir. 1986). Demjanjuk v. Petrovsky, 10 F.3d 338 (6th Cir. 1993): OSI misconduct.

(d) The Inslaw affair: Cases dealing with DoJ theft of Promis software.

1. In re Inslaw, Inc., 76 B.R. 224 (Bkrtcy., D.D.C. 1987).
2. In re Inslaw, Inc., 88 B.R. 484 (Bkrtcy., D.D.C. 1987).
3. United States v. Inslaw, Inc., 113 B.R. 802 (D.D.C. 1989).
4. Inslaw, Inc. v. Thornburgh, 753 F.Supp. 1 (D.D.C. 1990), rev., United States v. Inslaw, Inc., 932 F.2d 1467 (D.C.Cir. 1991).
5. In re Inslaw, Inc., 885 F.2d 880 (D.C.Cir. 1989).

(e) LaRouche: In re Caucus Distributors, Inc., 106 B.R. 890.

## 7. Other interesting cases.

(a) United States v. Bakker, 925 F.2d 728 (4th Cir. 1991): Jim, the evangelist, husband of Tammy Faye.