TIMELINE IN THE LIFE OF JEB BUSH –

PRESIDENTIAL OR DYNASTY MATERIAL?

The reason the Bushes are relevant today, even with George W.’s exit from the national stage, is that this family and its colleagues and associates represent an elite faction that has long succeeded in subverting our democratic institutions to their own ends. And they will continue to do so unless their agenda and methods are laid bare to public scrutiny. Russ Baker

The story of the Bushes rise --- and fall ---is a story we ignore at our peril. Like father, like son comes to mind! And now we have a 3rd generation moving in politics.

I have been gathering information on the Bush Dynasty, especially Jeb Bush for some time. The very thought that another Bush would sit in our precious White House is enough to make anyone sick. He was not the governor of Florida that he would like you to believe and in retrospect, I believe he has more dirt in his pockets than his father and brother combined – although they tried – and I voted for all 3 of them.

Jeb is a has-been whose last campaign was 14 years ago. During that time he has not done anything productive or constructive--except try to get rich and create bankruptcies. What he considers his biggest legacy, education, has turned out to be a failure and liability. He also faces a changed country: it's a lot browner, and his potential supporters have gotten a lot more racist and crazier.

The Kennedy fame fades in comparison to the Bush family which is one of the most notorious and nefarious American families ever to rise to power in the USA. After finding some confirmed research of which others had also, I wondered about the wives. How could these nice ladies look the other way and stand by these men? Makes me think of the wives of the mafia goon’s. No excuses – they knew!

I am not going to re-hash all the **Bush** family dirt, but focus instead on **Jeb** who wants that D.C. seat. Apart from the collective automatic flinching at the mention of the **Bush** name, it is not all directed at **Jeb** with his brother **Neil** -master of the S & L crisis and a grandfather, **Prescott** who raised FDR's hackles for his banking deals with the Nazis. All and all it’s quite a family hall of notoriety. Even his father was not what would call a major success, come to think of it.

One thing you will notice through this whole report is that many of Jeb Bush’s business partners have gone to jail, fled the country, gone bankrupt or flat out committed fraud. Jeb always came out smelling like a skunk but never had to serve one day in jail and only had to pay his share of the Broward County S & L scandal.



February 11, 1953: **John Ellis Bush**, born in Midland, Florida, the son of **George H.W. Bush** and **Barbara Bush**

1971 - Exchange student in Leon, Guanajato, Mexico to teach English where he met his future wife **Columba**. He attended the University of Texas where he earned a degree in Latin American affairs. After graduating from Texas University, **Jeb Bush** served a short apprenticeship at the Venezuelan branch of Texas Commerce Bank in Caracas before settling in 1980.

1974 – Married his wife **Columba** and they have 3 children: **George, Noelle** and **John Ellis, Jr**., also known as **Jeb**.

Given **Jeb Bush’s** selection in friend’s and business connections for the following 35+ years, it should surprise most people for him to even run for president in 2016, but ego’s sometimes take over common sense. One thing is for sure, this timeline will show you **Jeb Bush** has a terrible sense in choosing friends and business associates or he is just a crook at heart.

1980 – Moved to Florida to work as a real estate developer and broker. He was to work on his father's unsuccessful primary bid against **Ronald Reagan**. Campaigning for Dad was hardly a paying job. But Jeb was about to learn that being one of **George Bush's** sons means never having to circulate a résumé.

It was in 1980 when Jeb was working on Daddy’s campaign he met [Armando Codina](http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-florida-ties-behind-jeb-bushs-rise-1434508202), a Cuban-American real-estate developer who was George H.W. Bush’s co-chairman for South Florida. “His father’s relationship with Armando gave him the perfect entry to Florida”, stated former banker Raul Masvidal.

1983 - Shortly after arriving in Miami, **Jeb** was hired by Cuban-American developer **Armando Codina** to work at his Miami development company as an agent leasing office space with a salary of $42,408..

1983 – **Bush** told a reporter for the Miami News in 1983, "On the personal side, my mother-in-law and sister-in-law were already living here." On the professional side, he said, he wanted to make money. "I want to be very wealthy," he told the News, "and I'll be glad to tell you when I've accomplished that goal." **Bush** seemed especially impressed with the commercial possibilities of Miami.

1983 – Before **Bush’s** relationship with **Miguel Recarey**, the unraveling had begun when a low-level HHS official, **Leon Weinstein**, began warning his superior that IMC had been conducting illegal business since 1977 and the warnings were consistently ignored. It wasn’t until **Weinstein** alerted Congressmen **Barney Frank and Pete Stark** that the proper attention was given. A investigative hearing was initiated into the scandal. See 1985 & 1989

1984 – **Jeb** had been made chairman of the Dade County Republican party, and it was as Republican party chief that he nuzzled up to con man **Camilo Padreda**. **Padreda** was serving as Dade County GOP finance chairman and had raised money for the party from Miami's Cuban community. (He had also been a counterintelligence officer for deposed Cuban dictator **Fulgencio Batista**). **Padreda** made his living as a developer who specialized in crooked deals with the corrupt Department of Housing and Urban Development.

By 1984 - like so many of those who would attach themselves to the Bush sons over the years, **Padreda** brought some hefty luggage with him. (In 1982, four years before teaming up with Jeb, **Padreda**, along with another right-wing Cuban exile, **Hernandez Cartaya**, was indicted and accused of looting Jefferson Savings and Loan Association in McAllen, Texas. The federal indictment charged that the pair had embezzled over $500,000 from Jefferson. **Cartaya** was also charged with drug smuggling, money laundering, and gun running. But the Jefferson Savings case would never go to trial.

There’s no way that Bush could not have known what **Padreda** was all about. After all, just months before they began working together, **Padreda** was charged with improper influence of the Dade County manager, in an incident that involved phony land rezoning, profiteering, and laundering of drug money.

Soon after the indictment, FBI officials got a call from someone at the CIA warning the agents that **Cartaya** was one of their own -- a veteran of the failed Bay of Pigs invasion -- according to a prosecutor who worked on the case. In short order, the charges against **Padreda** were dropped and the charges against **Cartaya** were reduced to a single count of tax evasion. (Assistant U.S. Attorney **Jerome Sanford** was furious and filed a demand with the CIA, under the Freedom of Information Act, for all documents relating to the agency's interference in his case. The CIA, citing national-security reasons, denied Sanford's request.)

1985 - **Jeb** and **Armando** **Codina** became business partners, and in 1985 they purchased an office building in a deal partly financed by a savings and loan that later failed. The partnership gave **Bush** 40 percent of the business without any investment of money, and named the company **Codina Bush** Group.

The $4.56 million loan, from Broward Federal Savings in Sunrise, Florida, was granted in such a way that neither **Codina's** nor **Bush's** name appeared on the loan papers as the borrowers. A third man, **J. Edward Houston**, borrowed the $4.56 million from Broward and then re-lent it to the **Bush** partnership.

1985 - **Jeb** phoned top Health and Human Services officials in Washington in 1985 to lobby for a special exemption from HHS rules for IMC. This highly unusual waiver was critical to **Recarey's** scam. Without it, the company would have been limited to a Medicare patient load of 50 percent. The balance of IMC's patients would have had to be private -- that is, paying -- customers. **Recarey** preferred the steady flow of federal Medicare money to the thought of actually running a real HMO. Former HHS chief of staff **McClain Haddow** (who later became a paid consultant to IMC) testified in 1987 **Jeb** that directly phoned then-HHS secretary **Margaret Heckler** and that it was that call that swung the decision to approve IMCs waiver.

1985 - **Jeb Bush** acted as a conduit on behalf of supporters of the Nicaraguan contras with his father, then the vice-president, and helped arrange for IMC to provide free medical treatment for the Contras. Corroborating evidence can be found in the notes of one of the key players, **Oliver North**, who directed operations with Cubans **Jose Basulto and Felix Rodriguez**.

(throughout the early-to-mid 1980’s, a man named Barry Seal had been running a weapons/cocaine smuggling operation out of a small, rural airport in western Arkansas, which was located near the town of Mena, Arkansas. Seal—a government informant—would fly weapons from the U. S. (i.e., Mena, Arkansas) down to Nicaragua, in order to supply the (anti-communist) Contra rebels there who were, at the time, fighting against the (communist) Sandinistas; Seal would then fly on to Colombia in order to pick up a load of cocaine for his return flight back to the U. S.

The CIA was involved in using Seal to run weapons to the Contras and cocaine back to the U. S. and, in time, they set Seal up to be discovered—as a DEA informant—by Pablo Escobar and his men. On February 19, 1986 Barry Seal was gunned down in Baton Rouge, Louisiana—by Escobar’s men—and the CIA took over his weapons/cocaine running operation.)

1986 – February: **Al Martin’s** (whistleblower/IranContra) conversation with **Jeb Bush** just days after the Feb, 1986 murder of **Barry Seal** in Baton Rouge: My conversations with **Jeb** at this meeting were overheard by the two Secret Service agents who were always assigned to **Jeb** when he was in his office at 1390 Brickell Avenue in Miami. (Barry Seal was gunned down in cold blood in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 1986 supposedly for ratting out the head of the Medellin Cartel, Pablo Escobar.) The truth: <https://youtu.be/CMj3V1Xi7Gk> <https://youtu.be/Tjgv7iExBVs>

(The real “Drug Super-Kingpin” during Barry Seal’s Mena Airport career, as well as being Seal’s controller, was Vice President, at the time, and former CIA Director George Herbert Walker Bush. It was he who was ultimately responsible for all four drug-related assassinations that took place the same night that he had Barry Seal snuffed.)

**Al Martin**: "In this discussion, I had mentioned the recent assassination, only a few days before, of **Barry Seal** [Feb, 1986, outside his halfway house in New Orleans].

I said to **Jeb,** "Isn't it convenient that **Barry Seal** was assassinated when he was? And now suddenly all the information and documents he had are gone missing?"

**Jeb** had a rather broad smile on his face, and he concurred that it was convenient. He added a little snicker - as he often had a tendency of doing. Also little beads of sweat formed on his forehead, as when he gets nervous. It's something you can notice when he's on television. He still has a tendency to have little beads of sweat around his forehead, when he is either lying about something, or he's nervous about what someone is saying."

**Martin** intimated that if certain parties in Washington were not prepared to come to my aid pursuant to my grand jury testimony, that it would be entirely possible that certain details of a certain meeting occurring in September of the year [Sept., 1985] before might be leaked out to the press. Jeb asked me what I was talking about.

**Martin** specifically mentioned a September meeting of the Dade County Latin America Chamber of Commerce, which Jeb chaired, and which, of course, was not used as a Chamber of Commerce meeting at all. It was essentially used as a political meeting for covert operational planning pursuant to Iran-Contra.

When **Martin** was through speaking, Jeb became quiet and his demeanor became serious and changed. He became flushed, as he often does when he's frightened. **Jeb** responded by telling me that it would be most unfortunate if I were to do that, since I might wind up like **George Morales** or **Johnny Molina**. **Al Martin**, "*The Conspirators: Secrets of an Iran-Contra Insider*," p. 194-195 [More](http://barrysealmurder1986jebbusholivernorth.blogspot.com/2013/04/jeb-bush-and-murder-of-cia-drug.html)

In 1986, **Padreda** hired Jeb as the leasing agent for a vacant commercial-office building, which **Padreda** had built with $1.4 million in federal loans – loan’s approved by HUD officials, oddly enough, even though they knew there was already a glut of vacant office space in Miami.

1986 – February: Did Jeb, [his father, brother George and Oliver North murder Barry Seal](http://barrysealmurder1986jebbusholivernorth.blogspot.com/2013/04/jeb-bush-and-murder-of-cia-drug.html)? As Chairman of the Dade County Republican party Jeb was up to his eyeballs in the Iran-Contra scandal. To get a taste of that read Al Martin’s book “*The Conspirators: Secrets of an Iran-Contra Insider”* (2001) and read about Jeb Bush’s dealings with operatives such as **Al Martin, Oliver North, Richard Secord, Dewey Clarridge, Sam Watson, Fred Ikley and, of course, his father George Herbert Walker Bush.** Basically Jeb Bush was in the center of a wasp’s nest of dirty dealing CIA/military operatives engaged in rampant criminality – all in the name of “national security.”

<http://barrysealmurder1986jebbusholivernorth.blogspot.com/2013/04/creampuff-miami-herald-joel-achenbach.html>

The very same day **Seal** was murdered, his mistress was also in Miami along with two other men also affiliated with the Medellin drug cartel, **Pablo Carrera** (Medellin’s #2 man) and **Pablo Ochill**, Colombia.

This is **grisly** stuff – and you can see why this material has been suppressed in the MSM because it is so discrediting to the political elites of the Republican & Democratic parties, the **Bushes & the Clintons**. Now you know why **Bill Clinton and GHW Bush** are so chummy: they are tied at the hip by some epic liability in Iran-Contra. There is no statute of limitations for murder.

**Perot** knew what was happening in Arkansas and contended the drug smuggling was part of a cover-up of the support of the war in Laos. He should have told the American people. **Perot** was incensed about the CIA Iran-Contra drug trade and particularly **GHW Bush’s** involvement in it. The reason **Bush** feared **Perot** so much was because he was a billionaire who could self-fund his campaign. If elected Perot could have done what **Bill Clinton** did the first thing he got in office – fire every US attorney in the country, put people in those slots who could have prosecuted, convicted & thrown **GHW Bush** in jail. It is no exaggeration to say that **GHW Bush** was terrified of **Ross Perot**.

1986 - By late 1986, with the whole Iran-Contra Affair dominating the headlines and hammering the White House just as **George Sr**. got ready for his long-awaited run for the presidency, **Jeb** was splitting hairs as to how much, exactly, he had known about the shipments from Florida to Honduras, and thence onward into Nicaragua. "What I have done is a far cry from being part of an arms supply link to the contras," he said, but acknowledging that he had helped with "nonlethal" assistance.

1987 – During the ongoing investigation of IMC and **Recarey** he was also being investigated for bribing union officials in order to get a larger membership of non-Medicare patients.

1987 – Finally IMC was put out of business by the courts after the incredible medical fraud was discovered- the largest Medicare fraud in history. This person who Jeb Bush referred as a “solid citizen” **Recarey** fled the country for a safe haven somewhere when the courts filed three indictments for labor racketeering, illegal wiretapping, and Medicare fraud. Putting the frosting on the cake, in August 1987, the Internal Revenue Service expedited **Recarey's** corporate income-tax refund of $2.2 million. Sources state **Recarey’s** HMO left $222 million in unpaid bills, and was suspected of up to $100 million in Medicare fraud.

"That the US would allow **Recarey** to live in Venezuela with his millions without putting any pressure on him to face the charges makes a mockery of the crimminal justice system, "said **Joseph DeMaria, the former Justice Department prosecutor** who brought the first indictment against the IMC president.

During his tenure at IMC, **Recarey** contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to top politician, including the campaigns of **President Bush**, former **presidents Reagan and Carter**, the late **US Rep. Claude Pepper** and others. **William Teich**, head of the US Office of Labor Racketeering in Miami, called IMC, “the classic case of embezzlement of government funds” and declared it was nothing more than a “bust-out operation” where money was “drained out the back door” and disappeared down “a black hole.”

1988 – The Broward S & L collapsed and when federal regulators closed Broward Savings, they found the loan, which had been secured by the **Bush** partnership, in default. As Jeb's father was finishing his second term as vice-president and running for the presidency, federal regulators had two options: to get **Jeb Bush** and his partner to repay the loan, or to foreclose on their office building. But regulators came up with a third solution. After reappraising the building, regulators decided it wasn't worth as much as was owed for it. The regulators reduced the amount owed by Bush and his partner from $4.56 million to just $500,000. The pair paid that amount and were allowed to keep their office building. Taxpayers picked up the tab for the unpaid $4 million. After the Broward Savings deal was revealed, **Jeb** described himself and his partner as "victims of circumstances."

1989 – Bank’s were defaulting all over the country. [MCORP](https://www.fdic.gov/bank/historical/managing/history2-07.pdf) became the 2nd largest bank failure in the U.S. **Al Martin** stated: “We knew the banks were going to fail because it was "we" who were using them to fail. We would then use the bank's money which we illegally borrowed from them to short their own stock and then in turn not pay back the loan, or pay back the loan at thirty or forty cents on the dollar when it got in the hands of the Federal Saving and Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC). “ The FSLIC after receiving $15 billion in 1986, $10.75 billion in 1987 was insolvent by 1989 and became part of the FDIC. It was a fraud, compounded on a fraud, compounded on a fraud. (This was the same thing that happened the year before at the Broward S & L).

**Al Martin** recorded a conversation that he had with **Jeb Bush** about how to make large cash profits using fraud. “Hey All you gotta short the stock of MCorp. It's going down the tubes. We are taking it down the tubes." At the time MCorp common stock was trading at about three dollars a share. You couldn't short any of it. It was all out, nothing to short. But the preferred stock, was trading at about eight dollars and you could still short it. **Jeb** then borrowed a million dollars from MCorp just as it's going down the tubes. He used that million dollars to short MCorp preferred stock because when the company fails, he doesn't have to pay back. The profits of this type of transactions were enormous and common place during Iran Contra. This same technique was used with Allied Bancshares, Texas American, Great American Bank and Trust, and Silverado. It was done with preferred stock. [MORE](http://www.wbpnet.org/blog/jeb-bush-can-he-walk-on.html)

1989 - *Houston Post* reporter Pete Brewton wrote about Jefferson Savings and **Cartaya** in a series of stories alleging that CIA operatives and contractors had systematically **misused at least twenty-six savings and loans during the 1980s as part of a secret program to fund illegal "off-the-shelf" covert operations, particularly those aiding the Nicaraguan contras.** (CIA officials denied the charge, but admitted to the House intelligence Committee in 1990 that former CIA operatives had been working at four of the S&Ls named in Brewton's article. A CIA spokesman claimed that agency operatives had done nothing illegal.)

The Jefferson Savings affair occurred **four years before Jeb Bush met Padreda**, and it is possible he missed earlier reports. But he could hardly have passed over the next batch of stories involving **Padreda's** questionable practices, because they were spread across the front pages of Miami's papers in 1985, just months before the two teamed up. These stories, in Jeb's hometown paper, alleged that **Padreda** had improperly influenced a local politician -- the Dade County manager, to be precise, who'd been made a secret partner when **Padreda** ran into trouble getting a parcel of land rezoned. The property was promptly rezoned, and the county official made a quick $127,000 profit when **Padreda**, in turn, "sold" it to an offshore **Padreda partnership**. That partnership was controlled from Panama by a fugitive Miami attorney, who had already been indicted for laundering drug money. (The official resigned, but **Padreda was not charged in the case**.)

1989 – When finding out about the 1985 scandal it did not seem to lessen Jeb's enthusiasm for **Camilo Padreda**. Jeb enthusiastically accepted the task of finding tenants for **Padreda's** empty HUD-financed office building. **Padreda,** the government officials involved, and Jeb all refused to answer questions about the scandal. But the allegations that **Padreda** engaged in illegal behavior, there remains no doubt.

1989 – **Padreda** pleaded guilty to charges that he defrauded HUD of millions of dollars during the 1980s.

1989 - With Miami awash in empty office space in 1986, it was no small event when bagged **International Medical Centers** (IMC) as a key tenant for **Padreda's** HUD-financed building. IMC, which leased nearly all the space in **Padreda's** vacant building, was at the time one of the nation's fastest-growing health-maintenance organizations (HMO) and had become the largest recipient of federal Medicare funds.

IMC was run by Cuban-American **Miguel Recarey**, a character with a host of idiosyncrasies. He carried a 9-mm Heckler & Koch semiautomatic pistol under his suit coat and kept a small arsenal of AR-15 and Uzi assault rifles at his Miami estate, where his bedroom was protected by bullet-proof windows and a steel door. It apparently wasn't his enemies **Recarey** feared so much as his friends. He had a long-standing relationship with Miami Mafia godfather **Santo Trafficante, Jr**., and had participated in the ill-fated, CIA-inspired mob assassination plot against **Fidel Castro** in the early 1960s. (Associates of **Recarey** add that **Trafficante** was the money behind **Recarey's** business ventures.)

**Recarey's** brother, **Jorge**, also had ties to the CIA. So it was no surprise that IMC crawled with former spooks. Employee résumés were studded with references to the CIA, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Cuban Intelligence agency; there was even a fellow who claimed to have been a KGB agent, An agent with the U.S. Office of Labor Racketeering in Miami would later describe IMC as a company in which "a criminal enterprise interfaced with intelligence operations."

**Recarey** also surrounded himself with those who could influence the political system. He hired **Jeb Bush** as IMC's "real-estate consultant." Though Jeb would never close a single real-estate deal, his contract called for him to earn up to $250,000 (he actually received $75,000). Jeb's real value to **Recarey** was not in real estate but in his help in facilitating the largest HMO Medicare fraud in U.S. history.

**Jeb** admits lobbying HHS for the waiver, but denies talking to **Secretary Heckler** -- and denies as well the charge that his call won the HHS exemption. "I just asked that IMC get a fair hearing," said later. After the IMC scandal broke in 1987, Heckler left the country, having been appointed U.S. ambassador to Ireland, a post she held until 1989. (Heckler is now a private citizen living in Virginia. We left a detailed message with her secretary, outlining our questions, but she declined to respond.)

In any case, the highly unusual waiver by federal officials allowed IMCs Medicare patient load to swell -- to 80 percent -- and the money poured in. At its height in 1986, IMC was collecting over $30 million a month in Medicare payments; in all, the company would collect $1 billion from Medicare. (**Jeb** would not discuss the IMC affair with Mother Jones. But in an opinion piece he wrote for the Miami Herald last May, he insisted that he had worked hard for IMC, looking for real-estate deals, and had earned his $75,000 in commissions. While acknowledging making a telephone call to one of Heckler's assistants on IMC Is behalf, he claimed the waiver was not granted on his account. The allegation of a connection, Jeb wrote, "is unfair and untrue.")

**Jeb Bush**, perhaps in an effort to keep the lid on his father’s illegal associations, was pulling strings and doing favors for Recarey. <https://youtu.be/x04FuFj6wm8>

1990 - Jeb sold his interest in Codina for about $346,000. Codina twice welcomed **Bush** back into the business after **Bush** quit, first to serve as Florida's Secretary of Commerce and then to run unsuccessfully for governor in 1994. When he left to run for governor he got a payment from the company for nearly $800,000, and the company became the Codina Group. Pretty good money for no investment.

1994 - Before the 1994 election, Bush supported a state constitutional amendment, also backed by big corporations, to compensate landowners hurt by conservation efforts. He held out the prospect of cutting funds for a major program to purchase environmentally fragile lands and declared that "excessive regulation does not mean we are going to improve the quality of water, air or land-use planning."

1994 – First run for Governor of Florida losing to Lawton Chiles.

1998 – Became Governor of Florida.

1999 - Bush met with conservation experts and toured important environmental sites across Florida. After his election, "his heart changed," an adviser said. Bush insists that he will not contort himself to satisfy ideologues, but his views have already changed--in presentation, in tone, in language and, at times, in substance.

1999 – Columba Bush bought $19,000 worth of jewelry on a trip to France and failed to report it when passing through customs. Stated she didn’t claim it because “she didn’t want her husband to know how much she had spent on the trip.” She paid a $4100 fine. Her jewelry buying practices [documented.](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/columba-bush-jewelry-purchases/2015/02/22/24f7678a-bae7-11e4-b274-e5209a3bc9a9_graphic.html) [In Addition](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/documents-show-the-expensive-tastes-of-jeb-bushs-low-key-wife/2015/02/22/5bb480da-b9f4-11e4-9423-f3d0a1ec335c_story.html?hpid=z4) -

2000 - As governor, Bush signed the legislation authorized by the constitutional 1998 Preservation 2000 amendment and publicly supported the program over the course of his administration, cooperated with the cabinet to expend over $1 billion in bond money on purchases of land of environmental importance to the state, and routinely used his support of this program in promoting his environmental legacy. Nevertheless, only a year after the passage of Florida Forever, the governor undercut the program, and raised questions about his commitment to environmental conservation, by raiding its funds in the amount of $75 million in order to cover budgetary shortfalls that he was unwilling to raise taxes to cover.

2000 - Governor Jeb Bush signs the Everglades Investment Act, committing the state to 50% of Everglades restoration costs with the Federal government, it being referred to environmentally as the “crown jewel” in Florida’s environmental legacy.

This was just the kind of big-government spending plan that Bush claimed he deplored throughout his campaigns for office and subsequently as governor. Nevertheless, when President Clinton signed the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, Bush attended the ceremony in Washington and said, "the restoration of America's Everglades has been one of my administration's top priorities" and said later that it was THE highest environmental priority.

2000– February: Gov. Jeb Bush appoints five members to the new Florida Greenways and Trails Council. The council would administer $1.6 million a year in greenway acquisition grants and receives $4.5 million a year from Florida Forever, a state land preservation program.

2000 – As governor in the middle of election controversy over the Florida ballots for his brother George W. election.

2001 – July: The Board of Regents hindered efforts by **Governor Jeb Bush** and the Republican-controlled legislature to end affirmative action in Florida's public universities, and it was consequently abolished by an act of the state legislature which was signed into law by **Governor Bush** on July 1, 2001. The powers held by the Board of Regents were then divided between the Florida Board of Education (which was given some authority over all levels of public education in the state), and appointed Boards of Trustees, which operated independently for each separate institution.

**Bob Graham**, a United States Senator from Florida, objected to the abolition of the statewide body, and responded by leading a ballot initiative to restore it through an amendment to the Florida Constitution. This initiative succeeded in creating what is now called the Florida Board of Governors. As it is ensconced in the Florida Constitution, this new body cannot be abolished by the legislature without another constitutional amendment.

2001 – September, 7: Only four days before the "9/11" then Florida Governor Jeb Bush issued EO #01-261. Among the reasons cited in the document for the action was prophetically "potential massive damage to life and property that may result from an act of terrorism"

However, what is most startling about is immediately following the fall of the WTC. Florida was the first STATE to declare a "State of Emergency" and did so before New York State or the Federal Washington City leaders did, yet there were no "terroristic" incidents that had taken place.

2002 – January: Establishment of the failing and Federal tax dollar subsidized **Amtrak** service along the Florida East Coast route (FEC) took a jump forward as Gov. Jeb Bush (R) told on-line mayors that he had asked the Florida DOT to fund the plans fully. He said, “The September attacks on our country showed us that we must fully develop alternative modes of transportation in and out of Florida. This re- stored passenger rail service is just the ticket.” A total needed for this project is $82.5 million with adding 8 stations to St. Augustine, Daytona Beach, Titusville, Cocoa, Melbourne, Vero Beach, Fort Pierce, and Stuart.

2002 – 2006 – [Raquel (Rocky) A. Rodriguez](http://www.mcdonaldhopkins.com/attorney/raquel-a-rodriguez) of Miami during this time was general counsel to former Florida Governor **Jeb Bush**. In that capacity, **Rocky** worked on some of the most complex and urgent issues facing the state which included conceiving and co-drafting the legislation for and negotiating the largest economic development project in state history, a $310 million economic incentive grant to The Scripps Research Institute. She counseled **Governor Bush** with respect to over 200 judicial appointments at all levels of the Florida judiciary. She also on behalf of the Florida Governor’s Office, negotiated the contract terms for innovation incentive program grants to The Burnham Research Institute, Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies, and Stanford Research Institute. FEI Number: 46-2801992

2002 – February, daughter Noelle arrested drug rehab.

2002 – July, daughter Noelle arrested for possession of prescription drugs in violation of her court ordered treatment plan.

2002 – September, drug possession and entered drug treatment. P0lice visited the drug treatment center and found Bush in possession of cocaine. She was sentenced 17 October 2002 to ten days in jail for violating the terms of her court-ordered drug treatment program

2002 – January 9, **President George Bush** and **Florida Governor Jeb Bush** signed an agreement providing for Everglades restoration at a cost of $7.8 billion. The cost will be shared by the federal and state government.

2003 – Bush sworn in for his 2nd term of Governor of FL.

Governor "Jeb" then signed Florida EO 01-262 which states, in part: revoking Executive Order #01-17 which is nearly identical to EO #01-261 except for the language addressing "potential massive damage to life and property that may result from an act of terrorism." Issued on January 19, 2001, EO #01-17 wasn't to expire until June 30, 2003. This raises the question as to what events occurred on or prior to September 7, 2001 that compelled the president's brother to replace an existing executive order with another executive order which effectively inserted a reference to "acts of terrorism."

2003 – March 17 - **Jeb Bush** has always tried to distance himself from his brother’s policies and the Iraq War, but he will not be able to do that. On this date, he received an e-mail from Jan Fowler, Tampa – she stated to **Bush**, “For the benefit of Florida citizens who depend on your leadership and US citizens who are governed by your brother, I am appealing to you to stop this war, if it is in your power to do.” Fowler concluded that the war “will make **George W** go down as the worst president in history and you will suffer for that too. Please respond**.” Bush** did.

“I respectfully disagree with you," he wrote. "I think our President is right on track. His speech tonight made our position clear and I am gratified that 60% of the American public agrees. I truly respect your point of view but don’t believe that we are on the wrong track.”

2003 – November: Governor **Jeb Bush** signed into law a historic piece of legislation that laid the framework for the Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) to expand its world-renowned scientific research and endeavors into Florida. The bill, passed by the Florida Legislature during special session, provided a one-time investment of $310 million, from federal stimulus monies, that was to cover the start-up operations of the Scripps Florida campus during the first ten years. Scripps Florida was to create unprecedented economic and educational opportunities in Florida and propel the state to the forefront of biomedical research and discovery.

Bush's vision when he lured Scripps to Florida was to leverage it into a biotech hub with multiple spinoffs and tens of thousands of high-paying jobs. The state of Florida and Palm Beach County together have invested more than half a billion dollars in that vision.

Scripps Florida was to create 6,500 new jobs during the following 15 years and position the state as a leader in biomedical research. An analysis conducted by two of Florida’s top economists predicted the Scripps facility would generate about $1.6 billion in additional income to Floridians and boost the state’s Gross Domestic Product by $3.2 billion in the following 15 years. The project was very slow – see January 2009.

**SCRIPPS FLORIDA FUNDING CORPORATION**: To oversee the investment and spending of the State’s investment in Scripps Florida, the Governor and the Florida Legislature created the Scripps Florida Funding Corporation, (SFFC), a nonprofit entity comprised of a nine-member Board. The role of SFFC was enunciated by Governor **Bush**: “My vision for this board is that it manages the financial portion of our partnership, but let’s Scripps do what it does best-conduct biomedical research.”

The role of SFFC was enunciated by **Governor Bush**: “My vision for this board is that it manages the financial portion of our partnership, but let’s Scripps do what it does best-conduct biomedical research.”

In addition, the Enabling Statute charged SFFC with the obligation to assure the compliance by The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) with the Enabling Statute and the agreement between SFFC and TSRI (the Operating and Funding Agreement). The Enabling Statute provides that SFFC shall prepare or obtain certain reports, audits, and evaluations of TSRI’s compliance with the performance expectations and disbursement conditions contained in the Enabling Statute.

SFFC 9 member Board of Directors are appointed by: three Directors are appointed by each of the Governor, House Speaker and the Senate President.

**\*\* Now another rabbit hole:** Palm Beach County, FL in anticipation of Scripps coming to their area used taxpayers $$ and bought and sold the 1,900-acre Mecca Farms property Feb 4, 2015, ending nearly a decade of relentless spending on a vacant citrus grove once touted as the site of a biotech research park.

The closing Tuesday afternoon came after the Palm Beach County Comm. voted unanimously in the morning to clear the final hurdle and allow the sale to the South Florida Water Management District to move forward.

Pay close attention - The county originally paid $60 million for the site in 2004 and $40 million to clear it in hopes of luring The Scripps Research Institute to build a biotech park on the former orange grove. Scripps chose rather to settle at the Florida Atlantic University and the Mecca Farms site remained idle but continued costing taxpayers millions of dollars in debt service and upkeep.

On February 3, 2015, the South Florida Water Management District purchased the land for $26 million — $5 million above its appraised value. As part of the deal, the district will give 150 acre to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to build a shooting range that will meet Olympic competition standards. The state will build, operate and maintain the range at its expense.

Since I graduated prior to 1965, my math tells me the residents of Palm Beach County LOST $69 million plus the cost of service and upkeep. The county has gone from being financially underwater to literally water logged.

And you guys have not removed them from office for malfeasance? 3 of the 7 County Commissioners (Mary McCarthy, Warren Newell and Tony Masilotti) who voted in favor of Scripps Biotech have gone to federal prison for development-related charges!

Back to the timeline – I couldn’t help myself!

2004 – November: The alleged role that **Jeb Bush** played in the suspicious Florida vote count in 2004 is, of course, something that most people think of when it comes to **Jeb Bush’s** main drawback. Some have- and not without reason- accused him of aiding and abetting his brother in the theft of the presidential election. It’s all pretty familiar territory.

2005– June 5 – **Jeb** sends a letter of support to **CAIR**. **Governor Bush’s** letter stated, “It is a great pleasure to extend greetings and best wishes to all attending the Florida Chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-FL) annual banquet.” The letter goes on to say, “I commend your contributions to the protection of civil rights and freedom of religion.” And it concludes with, “Once again, congratulations on your accomplishments and my warmest greetings and best wishes on your continuing success.”

2005 – **Jeb Jr**., arrested for public intoxication and resisting arrest.

2005 – September – With the full support of then **Governor Jeb Bush**, Florida engaged in their first Memorandum of Agreement with the UN/UNESCO-IHE in conjunction with Florida Earth Foundation and the South Florida Water Management System. Agenda 21 was in full swing in Florida!

2006 – April: Less than two weeks before the company that declared bankruptcy and owned the DC9 which was recently busted in Mexico with 5.5 tons of cocaine onboard, **Florida Governor Jeb Bush’s** Department of Transportation issued a press release touting the firm’s bright future in Homeland Security and announcing it had been selected to be the state’s primary provider of airport security applications.

Court documents from the Federal bankruptcy proceedings showed the company which owned the seized "**Cocaine One**" DC9, **SkyWay Aircraft** of St. Petersburg FL, leased a 70,000 square foot “repair” facility at DFW Airport in Dallas for more than $21,000 a month in a building owned by a man called “**George W. Bush’s** biggest supporter and “the power behind the throne during Bush’s first Presidential campaign.

**SkyWay,** a company with no products and thus nothing needing "repair," nonetheless announced in July 2003 their newly established **Part 145** repair station in a building owned by **LIT Industrial Texas Limited Partnership**, a venture of Texas real estate giant **Trammel Crow**, the flagship corporation in the far-flung empire of billionaire speculator **Richard Rainwater**.

Ranked among the 100 wealthiest Americans, **Rainwater** backed **George W. Bush** in four separate business ventures, including the **Texas Rangers** baseball team from which **Bush,** who had been drilling “dry holes” until then, profited handsomely. In a heated 1994 Governor’s race, Texas Democratic **Governor Ann Richards** charged **Rainwater** “owned" her Republican opponent **Bush**.

**SkyWay** shared the facility with another firm, **Airbase Services Inc.** A month after the DC9 was seized in Mexico, **Airbase** filed for bankruptcy.

What was the nature of **SkyWay‘s** connection to Richard Rainwater, and to George W. Bush? After Iran-Contra;

This is not the first time **Jeb Bush** has been involved endorsing a drug trafficking aviation company. Nor is it the first time SkyWay Aircraft has been the recipient of unexplained government favoritism.

The Federal Aviation Administration, for example, has been doing **SkyWay** a major solid favor. Two months and eleven days after the firm’s American-registered DC9 was caught carrying 5.5 tons of cocaine in **Campeche, Mexico** destined for distribution in the **U.S.,** the FAA was still stonewalling requests for the release of what are—by statue— public records of the registration and ownership of the plane. Read More

In a twisted perversion of the U.S. Government’s so-called War on Drugs, the FAA is “Just Saying No” to the American people, who are not allowed to know if an American Drug Lord may have been responsible for the last doomed flight of “Cocaine One.”

The story of the orphan 5.5 tons of coke began after learning that Cocaine One’s registered owner, “Royal Sons LLC,” had once been housed in a hanger owned by terror flight school Huffman Aviation at the Venice, Florida Airport.

That’s a real unlucky little airport, we thought to ourselves. Maybe they should shut it down before something really bad happens.

Compounding the seriousness of FAA malfeasance is that the DC9 airliner had been apprehended while painted to resemble an aircraft from the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security. That makes the FAA’s refusal to release the plane’s records a matter of urgent national security.

The current unpleasantness combines a witch’s brew of elements from the **Iran Contra scandal**—CIA-led cocaine trafficking in “support” of, well, let’s see: **Oliver North**, **Adnan Khashoggi** (Bush family friend Adnan Khashoggi, who was identified as conduit in the Iran-Contra conspiracy) —mixed with the massive corruption and insider-led looting of the **Savings & Loan Scandal** which eventually cost American taxpayers over a half trillion dollars.

(In 1986 **Khashoggi** was arrested and charged with fraud but failed to be convicted. In one of his last acts as president **Bush** pardoned **Khashoggi's** alleged co-conspirators, who were key members of **Bush's** own cabinet. As a result, no case could be made against **Khashoggi** – or against **Bush** himself.

The burgeoning industry which has rapidly grown up under the rubric of “Homeland Security” is not only running roughshod over American concepts of equal justice under law while simultaneously looting the American Treasury for billions and billions of dollars, which we will all ultimately pay for with crippling inflation, just like the double-digit inflation at the end of the Vietnam War.

It is also bankrupting—to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars—public companies whose bankruptcies have heretofore been viewed merely as isolated events.

Experienced and respected aviation executives cited in “Welcome to TERRORLAND” stated they had witnessed the FAA protecting—both before and after the 9/11 attack—corrupt aviation companies in Florida which played host to **Mohamed Atta** and the other terrorist hijackers. So the current FAA stonewall should not be viewed as an isolated instance, but part of a pattern of deliberate acts.

There have been sixteen separate seizures of precisely 5.5 tons of cocaine from 1986 to 2006.

2007 – **Bush** leaves office and states he will use his foundations and time on education, protecting the environment and help to improve Florida’s economy. Contrary to what **Jeb** wants the country to believe, he was NOT the best governor this state has ever had, he is not loved and respected by all Republicans and everyone needs to do their research on him.

**Jeb** recently infuriated conservatives when he said illegal immigrants came to the U.S. in “an act of love.”

Conservatives in New Hampshire later booed at the mention of his name. Some Senators warned The Hill of “**Bush fatigue**.” But those pushing **Bush** would risk that rather than having Kentucky **Sen. Rand Paul** head their party’s ticket.

Still, there is that **Bush** name, which isn’t the elephant in the room, but IS the room. Satirist **Andy Borowitz** wrote a New Yorker piece headlined “Poll: Majority of Americans would support **Jeb Bush** painting.” Its key paragraph: “According to the poll, which has a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points, seventy-four per cent of those surveyed ‘strongly agreed’ with the statement: ‘**Jeb Bush** painting would be a really good thing for the United States and also for the rest of the world.’”

Subtext: not another **Bush**!

Foundation for Excellence in Education Donor List includes Common Core supporters: GE Foundation, the Helmsley Charitable Trust, News Corp, the Walton Family Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Carnegie Corporation, the Schwab Foundation, Microsoft, Exxon Mobil, Paul Singer Foundation, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Intel, K12, Pearson, Scholastic, and Target. Their Board of Directors includes: **Joel Klein**, former New York City schools chancellor who was removed in disgrace, and former Secretary of State **Condoleezza Rice** who believes the CFR should oversee our education system. Klein is now the CEO of Amplify, a subsidiary of **Rupert Murdoch’s** News Corp.

2006 - March: Venezuelan-born entrepreneur **Claudio Osorio** forms **InnoVida**, a company marketing proprietary fiber composite panels that can be used to build strong temporary structures without cement, steel or wood.

2007 - Former governor **Jeb Bush** recalls first meeting with **Osorio** at a charity event held at **Osorio'**s mansion on Miami Beach's Star Island, according to an aide.

2007 - Nov. 16: Jeb Bush signs contract to serve as **consultant** to InnoVida for $15,000 a month, plus reasonable expenses, according to documents filed with the federal bankruptcy court in Florida.

2007-2014: Bush served on the board of Tenet Healthcare Corporation, a publicly-traded hospital and healthcare services company, raising questions about conflicts of interest with the Republican platform. Tenet strongly supported the passage of Obamacare and has profited enormously from it.

2008 - Beginning in 2008, **Jeb Bush** and his array of partners had registered a lengthy array of **secretive companies** with the state of Florida. **Bush** has registered Altara Investments LLC (November 2011), Columbus Equity Holdings LLC (May 2013), De Soto Partners LLC (May 2012, with his son **Jeb Bush Jr**.), and Granada Investment Holdings, LLC (January 2012) with the state of Florida. Aside from the names of officers, registered agents, and the Coral Gables address, virtually no information is available online or in state and federal records about these entities. ThinkProgress searched through state registration sites in Florida and Delaware, the EDGAR database of all SEC filings, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office’s databases, Nexis, federal court records, and multiple Internet search engines for each.

Each office is based out of the same Coral Gables office suite at the historic Biltmore Hotel, 1200 Anastasia Ave., Coral Gables, FL 33134 as is **Jeb Bush & Associates** consulting firm — they appear to be the only ones registered to **Jeb Bush** at that address.

* Bush has registered [**Altara Investments LLC**](http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/SearchResultDetail?inquirytype=EntityName&directionType=Initial&searchNameOrder=ALTARAINVESTMENTS%20L110001289910&aggregateId=flal-l11000128991-ac134a31-0782-4598-9e8b-504433fa8113&searchTerm=Altara%20Investments%20LLC&listNameOrder=ALTARAINVESTMENTS%20L110001289910) (November 2011): Registered Agent is [Maximillian N. Amster](http://www.zoominfo.com/p/Maximillian-Amster/1618367330) with the only information found was on his Linkedin page showing he was employed by Avesta Communities as their Managing Dir., in Tampa. However, he does list ‘**Jeb Bush and Assoc**.,” under following. Avesta’s website shows they have offices all over Florida and one in Austin, TX. [LLC filing](http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/ConvertTiffToPDF?storagePath=COR%5C2011%5C1114%5C10225701.tif&documentNumber=L11000128991) – [Change of Registered Agent](http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/ConvertTiffToPDF?storagePath=COR%5C2012%5C0203%5C00023586.Tif&documentNumber=L11000128991) – (This new registered agent (Corporate Creations Network, LLC.) is headed up by Charles P. Garcia who in 2001 was appointed by then Governor Jeb Bush to two terms on the seven member Florida State Board of Education, responsible for all public education in Florida and an annual budget of $15 billion.) All Annual Reports list only **John B. Bush**. NO FEIN
* **Columbus Equity Holdings LLC** (May 2013): Registered Agent is **Raquel (Rocky) A. Rodriguez** of Miami with Title Manager **John E. Bush**. If you remember **Ms. Rodriguez** is an attorney and took care of the Scripps dealings among other things for then **Gov. Bush**.
* **De Soto Partners LLC** (May 2012, with his son Jeb Bush Jr.) (No website so there is no info as to what this company is supposed to do): Registered Agent is **Corporate Creation Network, Inc.**, 11380 Property Farms Rd., 221E, Palm Bch Gardens, FL 33410. [Authorized persons](http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/SearchResultDetail?inquirytype=EntityName&directionType=Initial&searchNameOrder=DESOTOPARTNERS%20L120000629410&aggregateId=flal-l12000062941-9843ad3c-b40f-4527-aa80-517bb0b8f20e&searchTerm=De%20Soto%20Partners%20LLC%20&listNameOrder=DESOTOPARTNERS%20A150380) are listed as **John B. Bush** and **John B. Bush, Jr.** Formed in ’93, Corporate Creation Network, Inc. is a provider of incorporation services. This is the same agent used for **Altara Investments LLC.** The LLC form only shows **John B. Bush, Jr**. 2013 LLC Annual Report shows only Bush, Jr., while the 2014 report shows both father and son.
* **Granada Investment Holdings, LLC** (January 2012): Registered Agent was originally **Raquel A. Rodriguez** of Miami. As I read it this is a foreign company by the name of **Granada Investments, LLC or Granada Investment Holdings, LLC** and they tried to register it in Florida in December 2011 and at the same time were registering and did register in the state of Delaware by the name of **Granada Investment Holdings, LLC**. . They then received notice the name **Granada Investment, LLC** was not available so they went with the original name of [**Granada Investment Holdings, LLC**](http://www.bizapedia.com/fl/GRANADA-INVESTMENT-HOLDINGS-LLC.html)n January, 2012 with the application signed by **John Ellis Bush**. They stated the business was investment holding.

Then the end of January, 2012 they submitted a “change of registered agent” request to once again [**Corporate Creation Network, Inc.,**](http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/ConvertTiffToPDF?storagePath=COR%5C2012%5C0202%5C00023605.Tif&documentNumber=M12000000209) with the state of Florida. Both the 2013 and 2014 Annual Reports to the State of Florida, John E. Bush is listed. This company is registered as a **Florida Foreign Limited-Liability Company**. FEI Number: 80-0770330

Aside from the names of officers, registered agents, and the Coral Gables address, virtually no information is available online or in state and federal records about these entities. ThinkProgress searched through state registration sites in Florida and Delaware, the EDGAR database of all SEC filings, the U.S. Patent and Trademark .

Back to the Timeline ->

2008 - **Bush** co-founded Britton Hill Partners LLC and registered the company in the state of Delaware. The company website consists of its name and an “info@” email address. It registered its offices to Florida in 2012.

Several related entities have been registered in Florida since: Britton Hill Holdings, LLC; Britton Hill Holdings GP, LLC; Britton Hill Holdings I, LP; Britton Hill Holdings I GP, LP; Britton Hill Partners HK, LLC; BH Logistics, LP; BH Logisitcs GP, LP; BH Aviation Holdings, LP; BH Aviation Holdings GP, LLC, and BH Aviation Holdings GP, LP.

According to the Securities Exchange Commission’s records, three of those entities (Britton Hill Holdings I, LP, BH Logistics LP, and BH Aviation Holdings, LP) reported that they had sold securities for their funds, but all that is really known about them is that they have invested in a company that makes gas carrier ships and one involved with fracking.

2008 - **Jeb** was paid big bucks by Lehman Brothers on a scheme to save them. Lehman Bros, as you recall, was the shady firm engaging in toxic mortgages that was the catalyst for the 2007 financial collapse. They hired Bush in a desperate bid to save themselves on a plan code-named "Project Verde". Essentially, Bush was to go to Mexico and convince (trick) a telecom mogul into making a large investment. It failed spectacularly. "Project Verde was unsuccessful", **Bush** wrote back. This is one of many instances where his quest for money overtook his judgment.

2008 - August: **Bush** receives 250,000 stock options as a “key manager,” according to evidence submitted in federal court as part of a criminal prosecution of InnoVida executives. InnoVida was a Miami-based start-up company

Latter part of 2008: **Bush** joins the board of InnoVida to recruit investors. In 2011, its founder eventually went to jail and investors lost nearly all of their money.

2009 – January: Scripps Florida began operation in its 345,000 square foot state-of-the-art permanent facility in Jupiter, Florida. Built in partnership with Palm Beach County, the three buildings reside on 30 acres near the Florida Atlantic University campus in northern Palm Beach County. It is estimated that by 2014, there will be at least 545 scientific and administrative staff working out of the facilities.

2009 - March 1: **Bush** signs four agreements with Cayman Island-based InnoVida Factories to help find prospective partners to build factories in or refer customers to those factories in Nigeria, Mexico, South Africa and Florida, according to federal court filings. Under the agreement, he is guaranteed 8 percent of the total investment made by a partner in a factory or a 3 percent commission for customer referrals.

2009 - April 2: **Bush** attends the first regular InnoVida board meeting.

2009 - April: InnoVida’s head of U.S. operations, **Herb Margolis** resigns. He tells board member **Ryan Freedman** “to take control of this thing, because there’s a real product here; it’s just being mismanaged,” Freedman recalls in court testimony.

2009 - Sept. 9: **Bush** attends second board meeting.

2009 - Sept. 12: **Bush** e-mails Chief Financial Officer **Craig Toll** and asks for cash flow statements and a copy of the company’s board of directors insurance.

2009 - Sept. 21: **Toll** sends him a “proforma unaudited cash flow statement” and says he will get back to him about the insurance.

2009 - Oct. 30: Board member **Bernie Carballo** loans **InnoVida** $1 million after **Osorio** tells him they need a “cash infusion,” according to court testimony. During visit to **Carballo’s** home, **Osorio** says that he had expanded too rapidly around the world and working capital was at minimum levels, **Carballo** testifies. **Carballo** says **Osorio** talks to several other board members, who put up loans as well, according to **Carballo**.

2009 - December**: Osorio** tells board member **Christopher Korge** that Middle Eastern sovereign wealth fund is in negotiations to purchase 20 percent of company for $500 million, according to civil court filings. **Korge** asks for audited financial statements; **Osorio** says that books will be audited at year end, according to a complaint **Korge** filed in bankruptcy court.

2010 - Joined the board of Bloomberg Philanthropies, the charitable network founded by former New York City Mayor **Michael Bloomberg.** **Bush** stepped down in 2014.

Miami Herald describes several initiatives funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies during **Bush’s** tenure that “seem out of step with a likely GOP presidential contender,” including a $50 million award in 2011 to the **Sierra Club’s “Beyond Coal”** campaign, another $50 million program developed in partnership with **Planned Parenthood** to offer “**reproductive health services” in Third World countries**, a **scholarship grant program for young undocumented immigrants to attend college in the United States,** and a **$6 million grant to the Environmental Defense Fund** to **“minimize the environmental impacts of natural gas operations through hydraulic fracturing.”**

2010 - FEE was awarded $501,485 “to launch” the Digital Learning Council in an effort to bring digital learning to every school, every classroom, and every child.”

2010 - Jan. 25: **Toll** e-mails **Carballo** and asks for extension on paying back $1 million loan, according to Carballo's court testimony.

2010 - March 9: OPIC signs a $10 million loan agreement with InnoVida to ship panels to Haiti and build a factory there to meet the urgent demand after the earthquake.

2010 - March: **Korge** urges **Osorio** to hold regular board meetings, raising concerns about corporate governance, according to court filings.

2010 - March: **Bush** made his one and only public opposition to Obamacare calling it a “massive tax increase” all the while still serving on the BOD of Tenet Healthcare earning over $2M for his time on the BOD. This was the day **AFTER** the bill was passed.

2010 - June-July : **Korge** gets nervous when the Middle Eastern deal fails to materialize, according to court filings. He is alarmed when Toll gives him unaudited financials after **Osorio** had promised books would be audited, according to his complaint in bankruptcy court.

2010 - July: **Toll** hires Ernst & Young to conduct audit, as required by OPIC.

2010 - July 9: **Toll** e-mails board to say that because of the postponement of the last board meeting, the company’s financials had not been distributed. He sends along unaudited statements.

2010 - August: **Osorio** e-mails **Korge** claiming to be in China closing a deal, but he is spotted that day at Prime One Twelve steakhouse on South Beach, according to civil court documents. **Korge** alerts **Bush** and other board members of his concerns, and the former governor decides to sever his ties with the company, according to an aide.

2010 - Sept.6: **Korge** and other board members prepare to confront Osorio at scheduled board meeting. Before they can, **Osorio** calls a shareholder meeting and claims he has removed outside directors from the board. **Korge** is barred from final board meeting by **Osorio**, but **Bush** attends, seeking to get answers from **Osorio**, an aide said.

2010 - Sept. 19: **Bush** resigns from InnoVida and returns his $15,000 consulting fee from the previous month.

2010 - Sept. 23: **Korge** sues **Osorio**.

2011 - Foundation for Excellence in Education (FEE) received a $1 million grant from Bill Gates, “for general operating support” of the Common Core Standards.

2011 - March 11: Judge places InnoVida in receivership after company fails to turn over financial records.

2010 - March 17: **Osorio** files for bankruptcy.

2011 – InnoVida is found bankrupt and its founder eventually went to jail and investors lost nearly all of their money. **Jeb Bush** (see 2008)

2012 - **Bush** Foundation for Excellence in Education (FEE) received $151,068 from **Gates**, essentially for PR funding “to complete a statewide communications campaign in Florida delivering the message on why there is a drop in school grades, why it is temporary, and how raising the bar on education standards leads to greater student success.”

2012 – June 8: In an interview with Charlie Rose, **Jeb Bush** slammed the Republican Party for their refusal to raise taxes.

2012 - Dec. 6: **Osorio** and **Toll (InnoVida)** are indicted by federal prosecutors on nearly two dozen counts of fraud and money laundering.

2013 – February 15: Saint Leo University, San Antonio, FL, **Jeb Bush** tells the world if elected president he would **strive to be like Lyndon Johnson most famous for expanding the U.S. welfare state**. He stated, “To me, and I’m here at this great Catholic institution and this is what my church teaches me — it is completely un-American to require people living in the shadows”.

2013 – **Bush’s** FEE received $3,500,000 from the Gates Foundation. Two million dollars of that was awarded to FEE “to support Common Core implementation,” and $1.5M was “for general operating support.”

2013 - Feb. 28: **Osorio** pleads guilty to two counts of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering.

2013 - March: **Bush** agrees to return $270,000 out of $469,000 paid for consultancy services, according to documents filed in connection with the bankruptcy case **INNOVIDA**.

2013 – May: Britton Hill Holdings was set up but **Bush’s** role as chairman and part owner wasn’t publicly available information until June, 2014 when the firm registered as an exempt adviser with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Firms only have to do this once they manage more than $100 million. The threshold for limited SEC registration can be lower if the adviser is exempt from state oversight.

As a private citizen, **Bush’s** holdings and investments need not be disclosed. But, when he makes his final declaration to run for president in 2016, he would not only need to complete a personal financial disclosure, but also would likely face the same sort of scrutiny **Mitt Romney** faced over his holdings and Bain Capital record.

2013 - July: **Toll** is convicted of 10 counts after a jury trial. (InnoVida)

2013 - September: **Osorio** is sentenced to 12 ½ years and ordered to pay back $24 million. **Toll** is later sentenced again for other charges and sentenced to four years and ordered to pay back $3.3 million.

2014 - March: Washington Examiner reported that **Bush’s** “lucrative seat” on Tenet’s board had earned him more than $2 million from 2007 to 2014, when he resigned to explore a presidential run. **Tenet strongly supported the passage of Obamacare** and **has profited enormously from it**.

2014 – April: **Bush’**s firm Britton Hill Holdings LLC used backing from a Chinese conglomerate to acquire a stake in a Stamford, Connecticut, shipping startup seeking to capitalize on surging Asian demand for U.S. shale oil and gas. Filings describe Britton Hill as a closely held advisory and investment firm that focuses on the energy, infrastructure, logistics and environmental services sectors. Its first investments have been tied to the exploitation of shale oil and gas in the U.S., a booming area for private equity including some of the largest companies such as Apollo Global Management LLC, Carlyle Group LP and KKR & Co. They’re tapping into advances in hydraulic fracturing that’s unlocking vast new sources of energy.

This might be a good time to report that any time anyone asks questions regarding Bush’s holdings to include Bloomberg you end up with Bush’s spokesperson Kristy Campbell. She hasn’t updated her Linkedin page recently but she does have that she was the Deputy Communications Dir. for both of Romney’s presidential runs; Communications Dir. for McCollum for governor, Foundation for Florida’s Future 08-10; and press secretary for Bush as governor 06-07.

2014 – July: **Jeb Bush** is out raising private-equity funds for oil and gas ventures and he has teamed up with former **Credit Suisse Group AG and Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc.** bankers to create an investment firm based in Coral Gables, Florida, according to regulatory filings disclosed last month with the intention of raising private-equity funds form oil and gas ventures.

2014 – September: Residents have been shocked to learn Scripps projects a $21 million deficit for the fiscal year ending in September, 2014. Scripps itself is so concerned about survival that it considered a takeover by the Univ. of S. California.

Scripps Florida has met its modest targets for hiring — fewer than 700 employees — but has not spawned the biotech hub. The now-cancelled merger idea upset top scientists, triggering resignation threats.

The drying up of federal funding for science is a major reason for Scripps' woes they claim but with Obama’s push for STEM – something doesn’t fit. Scripps research was to have focused on advanced stem-cell research and climate studies validating global warming warnings.

An AP story this month also noted that Bush’s Three B Partners are involved with Maghicle Driverless LLC, a self-driving car company.

2014 – December: **Jeb Bush** doubled down on his support for the Common Core standards, scolding conservative critics of the controversial education reform by stating that he had “[**lost patience**](http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2014/12/06/jeb-bush-s-education-reform-empire/)” with them and telling them they were not needed by moderate Republicans to win the White House.

2014 – December 29: **Jeb Bush** resigns from the board of the timber company Rayonier Inc. **Bush** has been a director of Rayonier since 2008. The company, set up as a real estate investment trust, owns, leases or manages about 2.6 million acres of forests in the U.S. and New Zealand

2015 – January: **Jeb** had met with **Felix Rodriguez**, the former CIA operative who at the time was serving as **Oliver North's** chief supply officer in the arms flow. Despite this, **Jeb** claimed, just as his father did, that he had no idea anything illegal was going on. **Jeb** responded to a question about whether he was his Florida point man in the scheme: "I believe the freedom fighters should be supported to the maximum and that their cause is noble and just. But I know the difference between proper and improper behavior." (Note: I would question this given his previous associates and friends and their dealing. **Bush** just always comes out smelling like a rose),

2015 – January 1: Bush resigns from board positions - board of directors at Rayonier Inc., Tenet Healthcare Corporation, and British bank Barclays.

2015 – January 22: **Jeb Bush** meets with Romney in Salt Lake City and surprisingly right after this meeting **Romney** drops out. **Bush** has been critical of the way **Romney** ran his 2012 campaign, and **Romney** has raised questions in private about whether **Bush**, who has worked in the finance industry in recent years, would be vulnerable to the attacks that so damaged his own campaign against **Obama**.

2015 – February: Crooks and Liars - **Bush** unveiled the names of supporters and foreign policy advisors and 19 out of the 21 worked for his Daddy’s or brother’s administration: **Paul Wolfowitz** – As an advocate and chief architect of the Iraq War, **George W. Bush’s** deputy secretary of defense; **John Hannah**—As deputy national security adviser to then-Vice President **Dick Cheney**, Hannah passed false information about Iraq’s alleged weapons & played a key role in writing a speech that then-Secretary of State **Colin Powell** delivered in making a case for war to the United Nations; **Porter Goss** – The former CIA director; **Stephen Hadley** – **George W. Bush’s** deputy national security adviser disregarded memos from the CIA and a direct call from its then-director George Tenet urging the administration to not assert that Iraq tried to buy nuclear weapons materials in Africa; **Michael Hayden** – As **George W. Bush’s** National Security Agency director, he played a key role in overseeing an illegal, warrantless eavesdropping program in the U.S. after the 9/11; **George Shultz** and **James Baker**, both former secretaries of state. Missing from the list Condoleezza Rice who is currently baby-sitting the leadership of his foundation (FEE) (VP possibility as well as Hillary)

2015 – February 18: **Jeb** joins the Chicago Council on Global Affairs stating “he is his own man” telling Americans he is nothing like his father or brother and he isn’t – he is actually a bigger crook. The man expected to become the third **Bush** to make a bid for the White House has been ‘‘fortunate’’ to have family members ‘‘who both have shaped America’s foreign policy from the Oval Office,’’ he said in a speech before the nonpartisan Chicago Council on Global Affairs.

‘‘I recognize that as a result, my views will often be held up in comparison to theirs,’’ **Jeb Bush** added. ‘‘But I am my own man.’’ He added that his approach to the world would be shaped by ‘‘my own thinking and my own experiences.’’

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/news/politics/2015/02/19/jeb-bush-campaign-unveils-foreign-policy-advisers/6cDPeQgGhvrWqB1tLpN8aO/story.html>

<http://www.msnbc.com/msnbc/the-five-iraq-war-architects-jeb-bush-cant-live-without>

2015 – March: You thought Chief’s for Change was gone just because **Bush** removed it from his Foundation page? Think again! Louisiana Superintendent **John White** has just been made chair of **Jeb Bush’s** privatizing-reform superintendent’s club, Chiefs for Change. Too bad he has lost so many players – down to 4 from 13 in the last year.

One of the remaining 4, **Hannah Skandera** has a long Bush history: president of Chief’s for Change 2013-15; Zero teaching experience, but placed in a position of education leadership as deputy commissioner of education for Florida by Bush from 2005-07.

2015 – June: Bush names **Danny Diaz** a 39-year-old Washington, D.C., native, to serve as campaign manager and files his paperwork for the 2016 campaign forming Jeb 2016, Inc.

Bush saw fit to travel to Berlin to attend the Economic Council of the Christian Democratic Union and doubled down on his commitment to the military, calling for a more aggressive stance on Russia and an end to defense spending cuts. "Russia must respect the sovereignty of all of its neighbors," Bush said. "And who can doubt that Russia will do what it pleases if its aggression goes unanswered?" During his speech he also called Putin a bully – “you enable bad behavior when you're nuanced with a guy like that." “Bush also discussed the international economy and took audience questions at the summit and then moved on to Tallinn, Estonia to discuss cyber defense.

2015 – August: **Increased Surveillance of Americans** – On a speech given in South Carolina, Jeb argued that the government requires broader surveillance powers in an effort to deal with “evildoers.” He also stated that he hopes Congress will revisit the changes recently made to the Patriot Act that killed NSA bulk phone data collection. He

also criticized private technology firms for using encryption to make it harder for their customers to be surveilled. “It makes it harder for the American government to do its job while protecting civil liberties to make sure evildoers aren’t in our midst,” he said.

2015 - August 14: Jeb Bush, the non-educator of America who has pushed Charter/Choice/Vouchers down our throats and is considered the Kingpin of Common Core, made this statement in Iowa: “Common Core? I support higher standards,” Bush said. “The term Common Core is so darn poisonous, I don’t even know what it means. So here’s what I’m for. I’m for higher standards – state-created, locally implemented, where the federal government has no role in the standards, content or curriculum.” I guess this supports Gov. Huckabee telling the CCSSO at a luncheon to keep Common Core and just re-brand it and eventually parents will forget what it really is.

This is exactly what the United Nations has tried to do with Climate Change. RE-brand!

2015 – August: **Bush** got into some hot water recently over his past work with a foundation run by former New York City **Mayor Michael Bloomberg** for its funding of Planned Parenthood. Bush has come under fire in recent weeks for being a founding director of Bloomberg’s foundation while the group gave $50 million to support “reproductive health rights in Burkina Faso, Nicaragua, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda.” The group worked with Planned Parenthood to send activists to poor countries to “help augment their capacity for effective advocacy.”

What went unnoticed, however, was that Bush worked with **Bloomberg** as he gave millions to **environmental groups to take down the coal industry. Bush** served as a founding director of the **Bloomberg Family Foundation** — now called Bloomberg Philanthropies — from 2010 through 2014. During Bush’s second year with the organization, **Bloomberg** donated $50 million to the [**Sierra Club’s “Beyond Coal**”](http://dailycaller.com/2015/08/10/jeb-worked-with-bloomberg-amid-50-million-anti-coal-campaign/) campaign. The **Sierra Club’s** anti-coal campaign took **Bloomberg’s** money in 2011 to cut coal production 30 percent by 2020 through litigation, lobbying for more environmental regulations and activism. The Beyond Coal campaign has also targeted coal-fired power plants with litigation, most recently forcing the closure of the 200th coal plant in the country.

**Bush told Megan Kelly during the first debate that his work with Bloomberg revolved around education**.

And if you think **Murdoch** and Fox are not working to put **Jeb Bush** in the White House Picture: Wall Street Journal CEO Council Dinner: **Murdoch and Valarie Jarrett**

2015 – August: Fundraising materials for **Jeb Bush** show clear echoes of techniques his brother mastered. **George W. Bush's** 2004 re-election had a sales-force quality. Top **George W. Bush** money-raisers called "Rangers," ''Pioneers" and "Mavericks" were rewarded with perks like trips to meet with the president. **Jeb Bush's** top fundraisers fall into NASA-themed categories called "Apollo," ''Endeavor" and "Voyager." These volunteer fundraisers refer to themselves a “bundler’s” and are then rewarded for their efforts.

**Bush** invited donors who raised at least $27,000 in the first two weeks of his campaign to a retreat last month at his family's property in Kennebunkport, Maine. About 300 of those donors mingled with the candidate and his top strategists in what attendees said had the feel of a family reunion, complete with **Jeb Bush's** parents as special guests.

2015 – October: CNN uses a **Jeb Bush** staffer Lauren Batchelder to antagonize Donald Trump during a Jon Huntsman event. She is a paid political operative of the GOP and a team **Jeb Bush** paid staff member.

2015 – October: In Atlanta, **Bush** stated the Obama Administration should have a wider reaching surveillance of powers in spying on Americans. He also stated that PRIVATE technology firms would cooperate better with the intelligence agencies than “combat evildoers”. Just who is this non-serving military “wanna be” calling evildoers?

**Additional Notes:**

Jeb Bush also sat on the board of Swisher Hygiene, a soap maker, “at a time when, its executives acknowledged, their financial statements were unreliable and their accounting practices inadequate,” the Times reported.

On his trip to kiss the ring of **Sheldon Adelson**, he gave the "act of love" immigration comment. (Re: **Jeb's** sudden interest in immigration means he is really running and he read **Romney's** showing with Hispanics). Although **Jeb** has probably shown sufficient contempt for blacks (in 1994, when asked what he would do to help the black community, he famously replied "probably nothing"), the tea party also hates brown. **Jeb** stabbed them in their racist hearts by not going with the "taking over our country" meme.

You know you have your work cut out for you with your base when national joke Donald Trump has you booed at a tea party rally.

**Jeb Bush** ran the most dysfunctional Department of Children and Families in the nation. The DCF under **Bush** was beyond disgraceful. **Rilya Wilson** and **Jami Cotter** are just two horror stories involving two innocent children that should have sunk his campaign. They didn't. And since Rick Scott, the situation at DCF has only gotten worse. The fact that there is still no outrage is more a reflection on our apathetic citizens than these two men.

I could go on with his "palling around" with terrorists, his imaginary Chinese friend, or any number of fails during his tenure, like eliminating our growth management, but I'll let others pick apart his record once he dives in. And he will.

I had really hoped Florida would at least learn something from having a **Bush** at the helm. Instead, we elected Rick Scott, who is so bad that even his supporters discourage him from seeking higher office.

<http://www.infowars.com/exclusive-jeb-bush-linked-to-cartel-money-laundering-while-serving-cia/>

As The Washington Post observed in 2002, Florida's governors' "growth management efforts had failed for decades, and **Jeb Bush's** administration has been especially close to real estate interests." A former attorney for the state, **Ross Burnaman**, summed it up: "**Jeb** and his lieutenants are by and large selling the state out."

The sprawl industry has a long history of corrupting government in Florida. The Post in their 2002 report that "Prosecutors showed that Collier County government in the 1990s was basically a developer-run criminal enterprise, with politicians enjoying free golf, envelopes stuffed with cash and even a free wedding reception while rubber-stamping developments and waiving fees." In early 2003, the Orlando Sentinel reported that three commissioners of Lake County, Florida "never met a subdivision they didn't like. They talk 'smart growth.' And then would always vote with developers - the same ones that poured thousands into their campaigns." They had voted to build a sewage treatment plant that would cause an explosion of sprawl by attracting 10,000 new homes in an area where every elementary school was already overcrowded. The Center for Public Integrity revealed that 25 Florida legislators had outside financial interests in real estate and that campaign contributions to state candidates in 1998 from the real estate sector totaled $2.5 million.

Al Hoffman is deemed the most influential Florida developer and has headed an exclusive council of CEOs advising then Governor Bush on policy. As to land development, Hoffman has boasted "You can't stop it. There's no power on earth that can stop it." Presumably in his mind that includes voters and government officials. In October 2003 Governor Bush and his Cabinet approved a project for a marina that could handle 100-foot yachts and a 15-story condo with 48 units selling from about $4 million to almost $9 million. Jim Baltzelle, editor of the St. Augustine Record, who attended the meeting, reported "Bush did not mention during the Cabinet meeting that his campaign finance chairman was the developer on the line. Neither did anyone else." Hoffman was also able to get Governor Bush to create in late 2003 the new state Office of Destination Florida so that state funds could be used to attract even more senior citizens to retire in Florida, providing even more business for developers like Hoffman. Hoffman is also active in getting the state to support transport of water from the panhandle to southern Florida to keep the development blitzkrieg moving there.

With the money he funnels to politicians Hoffman has every right to think that nothing can stop runaway sprawl development. He also has been the finance chair for the Republican National Committee and a prodigious fund raiser for the Bush brothers. He is a "Ranger" for President Bush's re-election campaign, because he has bundled at least $200,000 in contributions. Interestingly, in early 2004 out of 165 such Rangers at least 40 percent were connected to the sprawl industry. In November 2003 Hoffman hosted a reception for President Bush at his Fort Myers mansion where some 700 guests paid at least $2,000 a plate; the event raised $2.5 million.

The largest private land owner in Florida is the highly profitable St. Joe Company, with some 850,000 acres, and it has benefited greatly from the Bush brothers. It owns about 3 percent of the sunshine state. At the beginning of the last century it bought land for as little as $2 an acre, and now sells some land for $2 million an acre. Most of its land is in Florida's panhandle which it has renamed Florida's Great Northwest, because a panhandler is someone looking for a handout. And St. Joe is getting handouts from government. Moving roads and building new roads with government money make certain St. Joe parcels of land feasible for development. Hundreds of millions of state and federal dollars will help build infrastructure that St. Joe needs for maximum returns. In November 1999 Governor Bush issued and Executive Order designating eight panhandle counties as "rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern," which opened the floodgates for millions of state dollars for public infrastructure.

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And then there is the new Bay County airport it wants in the middle of an isolated forest 20 miles from Panama City. Why? To uncork development on 70,000 acres around the airport, which hardly any objective person thinks is necessary. The existing, relatively new and under-used airport in Panama City would be closed. The Bush brothers have backed the airport project with millions of state and federal dollars already, and 80 percent of the $200 million plus construction cost would come from state and federal funds. St. Joe's Chairman said that the new airport is "essential to unlocking the enormous value of our holdings."

Governor Bush's administration has aided St. Joe's development efforts by shifting growth management powers from the state to local government. In fact, when the governor created a growth management commission he put a St. Joe official on it who argued against laws that would force developers in rural regions like the Panhandle to preserve rural character. The governments in the panhandle have few resources to confront St. Joe's blitzkrieg. In one case, the company wanted 12 acres of state-owned land in Bessant Park in Panama City Beach so it could build a 240-acre complex of restaurants, hotels, theaters and an outlet mall. The city got $2.2 million of state funds which are supposed to be used to provide money for parks and used the money to buy the land from the state and give it to St. Joe.

St. Joe has cleverly sold more than 90,000 acres to the state for $120 million to preserve as green space. In the past five years St. Joe has become the chief recipient of funds from state programs to buy land for conservation. Various reviews have found much of the land overvalued or unsuitable for development anyway. The state set up a special program to allow the company to sell new tracts of land to the state more easily and with less scrutiny than other landowners confront.

When you trace the history of Jeb Bush you discover the beginning of his business success in Florida happened when his father asked a friend to hire him. Armando Codina hired Bush to sell and lease real estate, with a salary in 1981 of $42,408. Then Codina made Bush a partner, giving him 40 percent of the business without any investment of money, and named the company Codina Bush Group. In 1986 Bush's income was over $1 million from the company. In one deal, Bush invested $1,000 in the Museum Tower office development project in downtown Miami. In 1990 he sold his interest for about $346,000. Codina twice welcomed Bush back into the business after Bush quit, first to serve as Florida's Secretary of Commerce and then to run unsuccessfully for governor in 1994. When he left to run for governor he got a payment from the company for nearly $800,000, and the company became the Codina Group. Like Hoffman, Codina is active in Republican politics and communicates regularly with the first President Bush.

Connect the sprawl dots. Over the years Codina and Hoffman have done real estate deals. Codina and Hoffman were Florida electors in the Electoral College that made George W. Bush President. Back in 1997 the St. Joe Company bought one-third of the Codina Group; now they own 50 percent. St. Joe and its officials have also been major contributors to the Republican Party and Bush campaigns. The Chairman of St. Joe, Peter Rummell, is a "Pioneer" for President Bush's re-election campaign, because he has bundled at least $100,000 in contributions. In 2003 Governor Bush's trusted spokeswoman Katie Muniz left to work for St. Joe. St. Joe also hired William Harrison as a lobbyist; he had served as the local chairman of Jeb and George W. Bush's campaigns in the panhandle. And Sam Ard on St. Joe's lobbying team is one of the governor's golfing partners.

Anti-sprawl voices have not proved effective in Florida. Carl Hiaasen has been writing about the sprawling of Florida for many years. In a 1985 Miami Herald column he commented: "This year the Legislature passed a 'growth management' law, supposedly to impose order on the state's tumultuous development. Frankly, the notion of 'orderly growth' is about as tangible as the tooth fairy. Growth that is orderly would break a century-old tradition of lust, greed and wantonness." More recently, St. Petersburg Times writer Bill Maxwell opined in 2003: "The Sunshine State, one of the nation's great treasures, is fast becoming the Asphalt State. What we are doing to our paradise is criminal and, well, stupid." Similarly, Joe Newman of the Orlando Sentinel reported in 2003 "When it comes down to it, no matter how much lip service state and local planners offer against sprawl, they rarely do anything to stop it." Only money explains why Florida politicians have not stopped the sprawl juggernaut.

One way to curb the power and influence of Florida's sprawl lobby is to transfer power from the governments it controls to citizens. There is considerable public discontent with gluttonous land consumption. A survey of Florida citizens by the state in 1999 found that only 8 percent thought the state was very effective in managing growth, 57 percent thought suburban quality of life had declined, and over 75 percent wanted more public involvement in planning and development decisions. Now, these Floridians must act.

Distrust in government caused Florida Hometown Democracy in 2003 to launch a petition drive for a constitutional amendment that would give local voters control over land use changes through referenda, instead of local and state politicians. Lesley Blackner, one of the group's founders, made the case: "We have government by the developer and for the developer too many of Florida's elected officials only define the 'public interest' as keeping the development industry happy." If they get the required 500,000 signatures rest assured that the sprawl industry will pour millions of dollars into defeating the amendment in the general election. The group may win, despite opposition from the Florida Home Builders Association and Governor Jeb Bush.

It is crystal clear that long ago developers and corrupt politicians pushed Florida off the 60th floor of sprawl-central. Florida keeps tumbling toward social, fiscal and environmental disaster in bright sunshine for all but the time-blind to see. As in too many other states, laws are passed as window dressing and the sprawl blitzkrieg continues. Perhaps the grassroots Florida Hometown Democracy initiative will wake up Floridians before the sprawl hits the fan and all of Florida's unique natural beauty is lost. If not, most Floridians and visitors will be surrounded by sprawl instead of natural beauty and fighting brutal traffic to get to work, a beach or shopping, while sprawl developers enjoy their waterfront McMansions and yachts in the state they developed to death.

And how do you think Jeb Bush would earn money after he was governor?