Lobby Watch: Death Merchants Hire More Accomplices!

Lena Guerrero, Yvonne Knight, Al Luna III
11th-Hour Tobacco Hires Choke Child Protection Bill

Philip Morris has hired three new lobbyists in the closing days of the session. Lena Guerrero, Yvonne Knight and Albert Luna III bring the number of registered lobbyists on big tobacco’s Texas payroll to 24, with contracts totaling up to $935,000.

The three new Philip Morris hired guns list start dates between May 8 and May 12th, plenty of time to help the tobacco cabal temporarily stop SB 55, the Childrens Access Bill, on the House floor Wednesday evening.

At least one of the three has a particularly interesting resume. Yvonne Knight also lobbies for health care provider Blue Cross/Blue Shield and a voucher group called “Putting Children First.” The forward-looking tobacco barons are also putting children first in their controversial marketing come-ons.

Tobacco Lobbyists Registered in Texas as of 5/22/97

Munoz, Manuel Mario
Brown & Williamson $100,000
Toomey, Michael
Philip Morris Management Corp. $100,000
Dawson, Sam
Tobacco Industry Labor Management Comm. $100,000
Longley, Susan
Tobacco Institute $100,000
Lopez, Edward
Philip Morris, Inc. $50,000
Dillard, Jack K.
Philip Morris Management Corp. $50,000
White, Michael
Philip Morris Management Corp. $50,000
Johnson, Jr., Robert E.
R. J. Reynolds/Philip Morris $50,000
Johnson, Gordon
R. J. Reynolds/Philip Morris $50,000
Lauderback, James
National Smokers Alliance $25,000
Fisher, Nancy C.
Philip Morris Management Corp. $25,000
Guerrero, Lena
Philip Morris Management Corp. $25,000
Hackney, Clinton P.
Philip Morris Management Corp. $25,000
Luna III, Albert
Philip Morris Management Corp. $25,000
Richie, Carl S.
Philip Morris Management Corp. $25,000
Robnett, Nolan “Buzz”
Philip Morris Management Corp. $25,000
Schlueter, Randy
Philip Morris Management Corp. $25,000
Schlueter, Stan
Philip Morris Management Corp. $25,000
Knight, Yvonne
Philip Morris Management Corp. $10,000
Anderson, Gary
Tobacco Institute $10,000
Clark, James M.
US Tobacco Co. $10,000
Culley, Robert D.
Smokeless Tobacco Council $10,000
Ingram, Dick
Smokeless Tobacco Council $10,000
Polan, Kraege
Smokeless Tobacco Council $10,000

Total ........................................................ $935,000