



★ TEXAS SUPREME COURT ★ DOLLAR DOCKET

In Texas, 48% of judges and 79% of lawyers say contributions significantly influence judicial decisions. - Texas Supreme Court poll

TEXANS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE • 609 W. 18th St., Ste. E, Austin, TX 78701 • 512-472-9770

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High Court Candidates Raise \$1 Million A Seat

Even with three candidates sitting out the arms race, 10 surviving major-party candidates for five Texas Supreme Court spots raised an average of \$1 million per seat. The 10 candidates had raised \$4.8 million a week out from Tuesday's election (three failed primary candidates had previously raised another \$1.6 million).

Current Candidates' Top Donors

Source	Amount
Vinson & Elkins ^D	\$171,505
Baker Botts ^D	\$133,155
Watts Law Firm ^P	\$111,500
Fleming & Associates ^P	\$93,600
Fulbright & Jaworski ^D	\$86,870
Nix Patterson & Roach ^P	\$80,250
Haynes & Boone ^D	\$63,802
Locke Liddell & Sapp ^D	\$61,345
Texans for Lawsuit Reform	\$60,923
TX Medical Assoc.	\$56,406
TOTAL:	\$919,356

^D = Defense firm; ^P = Plaintiff firm.

Wallace Jefferson and Dale Wainwright raised more than \$1 million each (see table below); a third Republican, Michael Schneider, could clear this amount by election day. Due to a disclosure loophole, judicial candidates will not report their last week's campaign-finance activity until around the time that the winners take office next January. The only Democrat to outraise her Republican opponent is Margaret Mirabal, who raised \$761,134.

Spending skyrocketed as the election drew near. The 10 candidates spent \$1.4 million in the past month—about twice as much as they raised. The expenditures of five candidates greatly exceeded the money they received, with Jim Parsons spending more than three times what he raised last month.

Jefferson, Mirabal and Linda Yanez were the only candidates who reported more than \$100,000 in the bank on October 27, the last day covered in the latest disclosure reports. •

Dominated by lawyers active before the court, 19 percent of this money came from just 10 sources, including five defense firms and three plaintiff firms. The other top donors were Texans for Lawsuit Reform and the Texas Medical Association.

October Dollar Docket

Cases heard by the Texas Supreme Court in October and the corresponding contributions to justices from the parties and/or attorneys.

October 9, 2002

Progressive County Mutual Ins. v. Paul Sink \$5,350
\$0

Patsy Keen v. Diana Weaver \$250
\$140,374

In the Interest of A.V and J.V. \$0

Tana Oil & Gas Corp. v. Tom C. McCall & David B. McCall \$38,195
\$0

October 16, 2002

Golden Eagle Archery Inc. v. Ronald Jackson \$1,250
\$8,140

Tarrant Regional Water Dist. v. Billy Harden Gragg \$131,650
\$282,236

October 23, 2002

First National Bank of Seminole v. Sam P. Hooper \$5,727
\$0

Geoffrey S. Walker, M.D. v. Bertha Gutierrez \$17,775
\$0

Herman C. Page v. Structural Wood Components Inc. \$0
\$0

October 30, 2002

Texas Dpt. of Parks and Wildlife v. Maria and Ray Miranda \$0
\$0

Humble Sand & Gravel Inc. v. Raymond Gomez, et al. \$90,000
\$107,850

Sheffield Development Co. Inc. v. Glenn Heights \$35,085
\$0

Grand Total for October: \$864,882

Texas Supreme Court War Chests Inventory, Oct. 26, 2002

Place/ Party	Candidate	Total \$ Raised	Raised In Last Month	\$ Spent In Last Month	10/27 Cash On Hand	Top Money Source
CJ/R	Phillips ¹	\$7,716	\$2,113	\$3,112	\$7,116	Gov. Bush Committee
CJ/D	Baker	\$3,507	\$150	\$1,275*	\$309	Banker Doug Cameron
1/R	Schneider ¹	\$938,205	\$137,679	\$241,550	\$57,698	Vinson & Elkins
1/D	Yanez	\$402,783	\$40,143	\$20,595	\$103,287	Watts Law Firm
2/R	Wainwright	\$1,031,234	\$118,213	\$285,191	\$84,753	Vinson & Elkins
2/D	Parsons	\$311,818	\$64,675	\$212,420	\$17,066	Nix Patterson & Roach
3/R	Jefferson ¹	\$1,132,107	\$101,233	\$255,907	\$136,555	Vinson & Elkins
3/D	Moody	\$232,875	\$82,460	\$61,527	\$13,288	Nix Patterson & Roach
4/D	Mirabal	\$761,993	\$157,429	\$334,432	\$131,848	Fleming & Associates
4/R	Smith	\$21,590	\$3,150	\$3,173	\$212	Louis Beecher/Will Perry
TOTALS:		\$4,843,828	\$707,245	\$1,419,182	\$552,132	

¹ = Incumbent; *Includes \$722 in expenditures of candidate's personal funds.