

OBAMA BUNDLERS DINE AT WHITE HOUSE

SALLY SUSMAN: ONE OF OBAMA'S BIGGEST BUNDLERS AND HEAD OF PFIZER LOBBYING SHOP

Sally Susman, A Major Obama Bundler, Is The Head Of Pfizer's Lobbying Shop:

Susman Leads Pfizer's Lobbying Shop, But Has Not Registered As A Federal Lobbyist. "Take Sally Susman. An executive at the drug-maker Pfizer, she has raised more than \$500,000 for the president's re-election and helped organize a \$35,800-a-ticket dinner that Mr. Obama attended in Manhattan in June. At the same time, she leads Pfizer's powerful lobbying shop, and she has visited the White House four times since 2009 -- twice on export issues." (Eric Lichtblau, "Obama Backers Tied to Lobbies Raise Millions," [The New York Times](#), 10/28/11)

- **"But Under The Byzantine Rules That Govern Federal Lobbying, Ms. Susman Has Not Registered With The Senate As A Lobbyist."** (Eric Lichtblau, "Obama Backers Tied to Lobbies Raise Millions," [The New York Times](#), 10/28/11)

Under Susman, Pfizer Spent \$26 Million On Lobbying In 2009 And More Than \$15 Million In 2010. "[Susman] oversees a government relations operation that spent more than \$26 million on lobbyists in 2009 at the height of the health care reform debate and more than \$15 million in 2010." (Michael Scherer, "Among Top Obama Fundraisers, Influence Seekers Abound," *Time's* ["Swampland"](#) Blog, 7/20/11)

- **Pfizer Spent At Least \$13,850,000 Lobbying For H.R. 3590, The Patient Protection And Affordable Care Act.** (CQ First Street, Accessed 3/15/12)

Susman Has Visited The Obama White House At Least Four Times. (White House, [Visitor Access Records](#), Accessed 3/15/12)

Pfizer Has Recently Amped Up Democratic Donations. "Pfizer also aggressively shifted political giving. According to OpenSecrets.org, in the 2006 campaign cycle it gave 33% of its money to Democrats. In the 2008 cycle, 52%. In the 2010 cycle so far, 61%. (The company says it has budgeted 55% for Democrats and the 61% is a misleading snapshot.) In 2009 Pfizer became the fourth largest federal lobbyist, spending nearly \$25 million. The year before it hadn't even made the top 20." ("*Pfizer's Bad Political Bet*," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 2/12/10)

Pfizer Was A Major Player In The Obama Administration's Back Room Deal With The Pharmaceutical Industry That Helped To Pass Obamacare:

In 2009, The Obama Administration Cut A Deal With The Pharmaceutical Industry; Obama Wouldn't Try To Overturn Medicare Drug Policy, Big Pharma Would Offer Political And Financial Support For Obama's Health Care Plan. "There, he says, he eventually secured an agreement that the administration wouldn't try to overturn the very Medicare drug policy that Obama had criticized on the campaign trail. 'The White House blessed it,' Tauzin said. At the same time, Tauzin said the industry he represents was offering political and financial support for the president's healthcare initiative, a remarkable shift considering that drug companies vigorously opposed a national overhaul the last time it

was proposed, when Bill Clinton was president.” (Tom Hamburger, “Obama Gives Powerful Drug Lobby A Seat At Healthcare Table,” [The Los Angeles Times](#), 8/4/09)

- **Pharmaceutical Industry Pledged \$80 Billion In Cost Savings To Help Pay For Obamacare In Exchange For Obama Abandoning Ambitions On Medicare Drug Price Bargaining And Prescription Drug Importation.** “If a package passes Congress, the pharmaceutical industry has pledged \$80 billion in cost savings over 10 years to help pay for it. For his part, Tauzin said he had not only received the White House pledge to forswear Medicare drug price bargaining, but also a separate promise not to pursue another proposal Obama supported during the campaign: importing cheaper drugs from Canada or Europe. Both proposals could cost the industry billions, undermine its ability to develop new cures and, in the case of imports, possibly compromise safety, industry officials contend.” (Tom Hamburger, “Obama Gives Powerful Drug Lobby A Seat At Healthcare Table,” [The Los Angeles Times](#), 8/4/09)

Executives From Pfizer Were Present At The White House Negotiations Between The Obama Administration And Big Pharma. “Much of the bargaining took place in July at a meeting in the Roosevelt Room, just off the Oval Office, a person familiar with the discussions said. In attendance were Tauzin, several industry chief executives -- including those from Abbott Laboratories, Merck and Pfizer -- White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel and White House aides.” (Tom Hamburger, “Obama Gives Powerful Drug Lobby A Seat At Healthcare Table,” [The Los Angeles Times](#), 8/4/09)

- **Pfizer CEO Jeffrey Kindler Was At The White House Meeting.** “Mr. Tauzin said major pharmaceutical chief executives attended the Tuesday meeting including Merck & Co.'s Richard Clark, Pfizer Inc.'s Jeffrey Kindler, Amgen Inc.'s Kevin Sharer, Abbott Laboratories' Miles White and AstraZeneca PLC's David Brennan. It wasn't clear who attended from the White House side. A White House official confirmed the meeting took place but didn't have immediate comment on what was discussed.” (Alicia Mundy, “White House Assures Drug Makers on Reimportation,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 7/7/09)

In March 2011, Obama Reportedly Considered Naming Kindler Commerce Secretary. “President Barack Obama may look to the business community for his next secretary of Commerce with former Pfizer Inc. (PFE) Chief Executive Officer Jeffrey Kindler and Google Inc. (GOOG) CEO Eric Schmidt among potential candidates, according to a person familiar with the process.” (Hans Nichols, “Obama Said To Consider Ex-Pfizer CEO, Google's Schmidt For Commerce Chief,” [Bloomberg](#), 3/10/11)

Susman Was Unable To Find A Suitable Home For \$3 Million:

Sally Susman Could Not Find Suitable Living In New York City With A \$3 Million Budget. “The rich are used to getting what they want but they are never satisfied. This being New York, we have an indecisive multi-millionaire lesbian couple, the writer Robin Cantor and PR executive Sally Susman and their nine-year-old daughter. Though they have \$3 million to spend, they simply can't find a thing that suits them.” (Caroline McGhie, “Rich Pickings,” [The Telegraph](#), 6/23/04)

LOUIS SUSMAN: 08 BUNDLER AND CURRENT AMBASSADOR TO U.K.

Louis Susman, Nicknamed “The Vacuum Cleaner,” Was An Obama Bundler In 2008 And Was Rewarded With The Ambassadorship To The United Kingdom:

In 2004, Susman Earned The Nickname “The Vacuum Cleaner” For His Lucrative Fundraising Talent As Finance Director For John Kerry. “But he is perhaps best known in political circles as a Democratic Party fundraiser, a role that reportedly earned him the nickname ‘the vacuum cleaner’ for his

ability to Hoover up contributions in 2004, when he served as finance director for Mr. Kerry's failed presidential bid." (Alex Spillius, U.S. Ambassador To London Louis Susman 'Won't Be A Lame Duck,' [The Telegraph](#), 7/08/09)

Some In England Considered Susman's Appointment To U.K. Ambassador "A Snub". "I read that Louis Susman is to be President Obama's choice as the US's rep to the court of St James (ie the UK). He's famous for having raised a prodigious sum for Obama's campaign. In other words, he did the new president a favour, and his reward is a few sumptuous years in London.'... 'The possibility of the Vacuum Cleaner (Susman's nickname, for his capacity to suck up donations) coming to London is being seen in some sensitive quarters as an Obama snub, putting us in our place and undoing the outpouring of joy that swept through the nation when it was revealed that Gordon Brown was to be the first European leader to become Obama's best friend." (Marcel Berlins, "Obama's Ambassador To The UK Might Throw A Good Party, But The Role Has Lost All Its Stature." [The Guardian](#), 2/24/09)

Susman's Ambassadorship Was Viewed By Some As "Pay To Play" Politics By Obama. "Jim Nuzzo, a former White House aide to the first President Bush whose elder son is educated in Britain, told The Sunday Telegraph: 'He has paid and now he gets to play in London.'...'Obama could have chosen for his ambassador to London an important diplomat who could strengthen the special relationship at a time when it is under strain from several quarters. Instead he seems to have selected someone who is going to have a four year vacation.' Mr Nuzzo pointed out that Mr Obama's decision to eschew public election funding to maximise his fundraising advantage over Republican John McCain makes him even more beholden that past presidents to rich fundraisers." (Tim Shipman, "Barack Obama Under Fire For Picking Crony Fundraiser As His Ambassador To Britain," [The Telegraph](#), 2/21/09)

In 2010, Wikileaks Exposed A Conversation Between Susman And Governor Of The Bank Of England Discussing Concerns That Cameron and Osborne Lacked Experience. "The leaked cables reveal that Mr King harboured serious doubts about the 'lack of depth' in the Conservative leadership in the months running up to the election. He said both men were reluctant to consult beyond a small coterie of trusted advisers. In private conversations with Mr Susman he said he had repeatedly pressed Mr Cameron and Mr Osborne in private for details of how they would cut the deficit but had 'received only generalities in return'. In a classified dispatch to US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in February this year, Mr Susman wrote: 'King expressed great concern about Conservative leaders' lack of experience.'" (Jason Groves, "Mervyn King Faces Calls To Resign Over His WikiLeaks Attack On Cameron And Osborne," [Daily Mail](#), 12/3/10)

The U.K. Ambassadorship Includes A 35 Bedroom Residence:

Susman Ambassadorship Comes With Big Perks, Including A Residence With 35 Bedrooms. "Today, Lou and Margie Susman are settling into the 35-room, red brick, neo-Georgian Winfield House in Regent's Park, surrounded by a private garden second in size only to the one at Buckingham Palace. The posting is as safe as it comes—no worries about a mob storming the embassy—and the one language required is the one language Susman speaks." (Carol Feisthal, "Our Man In London: On Louis Susman's Appointment As Ambassador To The U.K.," [Chicago Magazine](#), Feb. 2010)

JIM CROWN: OBAMA BUNDLER AND MICHELLE OBAMA TRAVEL AGENT

Crown Loaned His Massive Home In Aspen To Michelle Obama:

In February 2012, Michelle Obama And Her Daughters Vacationed At The Home Of Jim Crown In Aspen, CO. "First Lady Michelle Obama and daughters Malia and Sasha are in Aspen on a Presidents Day weekend vacation, according to the Aspen Daily News. The paper is reporting that they are staying at the home of Chicago's Jim and Susan Crown. ... Jim Crown is the president of Henry Crown and Company and

a major fund-raiser for Obama, in 2008 and again for his 2012 re-election.” (Lynn Sweet, “Michelle Obama, Malia, Sasha On Aspen Ski Vacation,” [Chicago Sun-Times](#), 2/18/12)

In 2011, Crown Hosted A Fund Raiser For Michelle Obama At His Same Aspen Home. “On Tuesday, Mrs. Obama makes a day trip to Park City, Utah, and Aspen, Colo., for two high-end fund-raisers with a sliding price tag, from \$1,000 to \$35,800. Both events are hosted by Obama bundlers: Mark and Nancy Gilbert in Park City and in Aspen, some 200 people are expected at the home of Chicagoans Jim and Paula Crown.” (Lynn Sweet, “Obama, Biden Cancel Fund-Raisers To Stay In DC For Debt Talks,” [Chicago Sun-Times](#), 7/24/11)

Crown Was Obama’s Illinois Co-Finance Chairman In 2008. “Jim Crown was Obama's 2008 Illinois co-finance chairman.” (Lynn Sweet, “Obama, Biden Cancel Fund-Raisers To Stay In DC For Debt Talks,” [Chicago Sun-Times](#), 7/24/11)