

PROJECT ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



UNITED STATES

BY J. BARTHOLOMEW, F.R.G.S.



About POGO

Mission

The Project On Government Oversight (POGO) is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that investigates and exposes waste, corruption, abuse of power, and when the government fails to serve the public or silences those who report wrongdoing.

We champion reforms to achieve a more effective, ethical, and accountable federal government that safeguards constitutional principles.

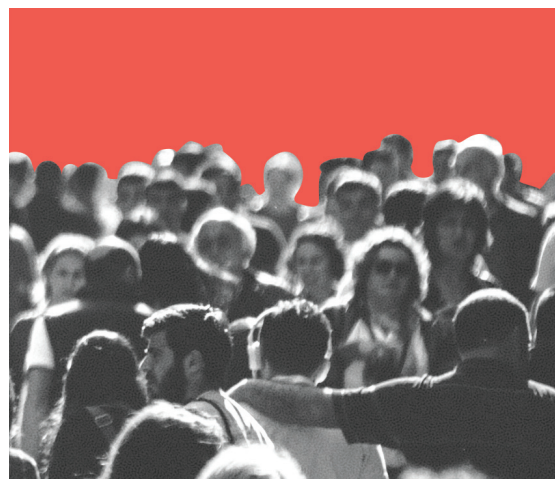
For more than 40 years, we've worked with supporters like you to create a more effective, more accountable federal government. Through Republican administrations and Democratic ones, we've rooted out corruption and abuse of power, held those responsible accountable, and fought for a government that truly serves the people. We've earned our reputation as a respected watchdog and changemaker.

You've helped build POGO into an organization ready to answer the needs of the moment — and together, we're working to build a government that can answer the needs of us all.

Our investigators and researchers uncover systemic problems, dragging corruption and abuse of power into the light. Our policy analysts and government affairs advocates work with policymakers across the executive and legislative branches to develop and champion reforms. And our

congressional oversight team builds capacity for fair-minded, bipartisan oversight — a foundational tool for accountability.

We're defending democracy and championing reforms for a better future. You've helped build POGO into an organization ready to answer the needs of the moment — and together, we're working to build a government that can answer the needs of us all. ■



The Project On Government Oversight (POGO) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and all contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations. EIN 52-1739443

Top Accomplishments in 2024

- **Prompted Action from Congress on Military Housing.** In 2024, we co-published two investigations exposing serious problems in family military housing with *Mother Jones* and *Rolling Stone*. After our investigations, the Pentagon launched a Housing Feedback System for tenants. POGO's investigations were cited by members of the House and Senate in press releases announcing the Restore Military Families' Voices Act and the Military Housing Oversight and Service Member Protection Act.
- **Exposed Flaws in Pentagon Production.** In the fall of 2024, we obtained a declassified report from the Pentagon showing that Defense Department testing revealed serious issues with the F-35 program. This report, POGO learned, was submitted to Congress about one month before it approved full-rate production of the F-35. Our work sent shockwaves through the defense space and was featured in *Newsweek*, *Defense One*, *Bloomberg*, *The Warzone*, *ABC15*, and *The National Interest*.
- **Provided Critical Guidance to Policymakers.** In 2024, POGO provided testimony to Congress on curbing wasteful spending at the Pentagon, the need for reform at the Supreme Court, and the importance of a strong civil service. Throughout 2024, POGO's work was cited more than 75 times by members of Congress.
- **Built Oversight Capacity on Capitol Hill.** Over the last decade, we've trained more than 4,000 Capitol Hill staffers from both sides of the aisle through our Congressional Oversight Initiative. In 2024, nearly 400 staff learned more about conducting investigations and oversight by participating in our monthly trainings or bi-annual boot camps (co-hosted with the Levin Center for Oversight and Democracy and The Lugar Center.)
- **Fought for More Accountability and Oversight at DHS.** Since 2021, we have been exposing significant failures in the office of the DHS Inspector General Joseph Cuffari, reporting on allegations of whistleblower retaliation, a record-setting settlement with an employee, and the office delaying vital reports to Congress. The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, which oversees the work of watchdogs across the federal government, issued a report of its own findings investigating Cuffari's office. In its report, the Council mentioned POGO's work 62 times, and it reproduced two of our investigations in their entirety.
- **Served as Top Experts on Corruption.** In the lead-up to the election, and in the weeks following Election Day, reporters came to POGO as a trusted source on corruption. Our experts were quoted by the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *ABC News*, *Politico*, *Washington Examiner*, *NPR*, *Bloomberg*, and more.

This is only a summary. Dive into more of our accomplishments from the last year in our 2024 Impact Reports at pogo.org/financials.

Financials

Overview

Change in net assets	\$1,577,113
Net assets at beginning of year	\$11,280,955
Net assets at end of year	\$12,858,068

Revenue

Foundation grants	\$5,938,670
Contributions	\$2,247,862
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	\$945,625
Interest and dividend income	\$257,581
Contributed services	\$44,305
Other income	\$15,994
Total	\$9,450,037

Supporting Services

General & administrative	\$774,796
Development	\$849,969
Total supporting services	\$1,624,765

Programs

General Program and Policy	\$2,406,966
General Investigations and Research	\$539,779
Center for Defense Information	\$473,883
Pentagon Accountability	\$473,560
The Constitution Project	\$412,241
Customs and Border Protection Oversight	\$387,040
Congressional Oversight Initiative	\$335,406
Program Integrity Alliance	\$255,377
Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion	\$252,480
Transparency in Federal Spending	\$243,124
Census Project	\$233,361
Civic Engagement	\$84,088
Surveillance Oversight	\$72,375
Lobbying	\$39,730
FOIA Litigation	\$38,749
Total	\$6,248,159

This statement of activities from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, has been audited.

POGO's full, audited financial statements and 990 forms are available at pogo.org/financials.

Development (11%) Administrative (10%)



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