

and ask for and receive the official actions. He encouraged his lobbyists to lobby their former employers, though he was aware of the statutory post-employment lobbying ban. See 18 U.S.C. §207(e); Volz Fact. Basis. at ¶ 12. Abramoff was personally and directly involved in approving the things of value given to public officials, especially the tickets, jobs, fundraisers, and campaign contributions for officials from whom he wanted official action. Abramoff also attended some of the sporting events to which he had made the tickets available, and he often could be found at his restaurant, directing his restaurant staff and his lobbyists to provide free food and drinks.

2. Official Action

The types of official action sought included everything from meetings with clients that would boost Abramoff's apparent influence and power as a lobbyist to millions of dollars in appropriations, to other legislation or executive branch action, to letters or other communication pressuring executive branch officials to take action favorable to his clients. Often the legislative action was sought in ways least subject to public scrutiny. For example, Abramoff requested that Congressman Ney insert language into the Help America Vote Act during the conference committee proceedings to avoid extensive public debate or scrutiny of his amendment.

3. Public Officials

Since Scanlon and Abramoff pled guilty, twelve individuals have been prosecuted so far for engaging in or attempting to cover up this type of corruption. Of those, ten were public officials when they accepted such benefits, and two (Tony Rudy and Neil Volz) later became lobbyists with Abramoff and provided the same things of value. The public officials included the following:

- Tony Rudy, lobbyist and former deputy chief of staff to a leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, pled guilty on March 31, 2006 to one count of conspiring with Abramoff and others to commit honest services fraud, to commit mail and wire fraud, and to violate the federal one-year lobbying ban. United States v. Rudy, 06cr82 (D.D.C.). Rudy admitted that he corruptly accepted from Abramoff all-expenses-paid trips to Hilton Head, South Carolina, and Pebble Beach, California; numerous tickets, including the use of a box suite at Fed Ex Field to host a bachelor party; and the aforementioned \$5,000 per month to fund a job for Rudy's wife.
- Neil Volz, lobbyist and former chief of staff to Congressman Ney, pled guilty on May 8, 2006, to one count of conspiring with Abramoff and others to commit honest services fraud and violate the federal one-year lobbying ban. United States v. Volz, 06cr119 (D.D.C.). Volz admitted that he corruptly accepted from Abramoff tickets for concerts and sporting events as well as regular meals and drinks.
- David Safavian, former chief of staff at the General Services Administration, was convicted by a jury on June 20, 2006, of one count of obstruction of justice and three counts of making false statements regarding Abramoff's work with GSA and Safavian's receipt from Abramoff of a reduced-price golf trip to Scotland in August 2002.² United States v. Safavian, 05cr370 (D.D.C.) (Judge Friedman);
- Roger Stillwell, former Department of Interior employee, pled guilty on August 11, 2006, to one misdemeanor count of making a false writing for failing to disclose on his annual financial disclosure statement tickets with a face value of nearly \$500. United States v. Stillwell, 06mj300 (D.D.C.);
- U.S. Representative Robert W. Ney pled guilty on October 13, 2006, to one count of conspiring with Abramoff and others (to commit honest services fraud, make false statements, and violate the federal one-year lobbying ban) and one count of making false statements. United States v. Ney, 06cr272 (D.D.C.). Ney admitted or was charged with corruptly accepting from Abramoff foreign and domestic trips with total trip costs exceeding \$170,000 (although Ney's pro-rata share of those costs would have been far lower); during an eight-month period in 2002, directly and indirectly receiving \$6,400 worth of meals and drinks and \$1,100 worth of concert tickets; accepting \$32,000 in campaign contributions in exchange for his agreement to take various official actions; and receiving unreported in-kind campaign contributions.³

²In June 2008, Safavian's convictions were reversed, with some counts dismissed entirely and others remanded for a new trial.

³Ney also admitted to corruptly accepting thousands of dollars worth of gambling chips from a foreign businessman, and failing to accurately disclose his receipt of that money on his 2003 financial disclosure form.

- William Heaton, former chief of staff to Congressman Ney, pled guilty on February 26, 2007, to one count of conspiring with Abramoff and others to commit honest services fraud. United States v. Heaton, 07cr42 (D.D.C.). Heaton admitted corruptly accepting from Abramoff the same trips as his former boss Congressman Ney, namely foreign and domestic trips with total trip costs exceeding \$170,000 (although Heaton's pro-rata share of those costs would have been far lower); and numerous tickets, meals, and drinks. Heaton also admitted to corruptly accepting thousands of dollars worth of gambling chips from the foreign businessman, and failing to accurately disclose his receipt of that money on his 2003 financial disclosure form.
- J. Steven Griles, former Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior, pled guilty on March 23, 2007, to one count of obstruction of a Senate inquiry. United States v. Griles, 07cr79 (D.D.C.). Griles admitted repeatedly lying under oath in an effort to conceal the true nature of his relationship with Abramoff.
- Mark Zachares, former high-level Republican staffer at the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, pled guilty on April 24, 2007, to one count of conspiring with Abramoff and others to commit honest services fraud. United States v. Zachares, 07cr106 (D.D.C.). Zachares admitted corruptly accepting from Abramoff a trip to play golf in Scotland in August 2003; \$10,000 in payments; tickets totaling more than \$30,000 to events at the MCI Center and FedEx Field; and numerous free meals, drinks, and rounds of golf.
- Robert Coughlin, II, a former Department of Justice employee, pled guilty on April 22, 2008, to one felony count of conflict of interest in connection with assistance he provided to Kevin Ring and Jack Abramoff in return for a stream of things of value such as sports and concert tickets, meals at upscale restaurants, and golf, which the Government has valued at more than \$5,000. United States v. Coughlin, 08cr111 (D.D.C.).
- John Albaugh, former chief of staff for a former U.S. Representative, pled guilty on June 2, 2008 to one count of conspiring with a lobbyist working for Abramoff, to commit honest services fraud. United States v. Albaugh, 08cr157 (D.D.C.). Albaugh admitted corruptly accepting from Ring meals, concert, sports, and other entertainment tickets valued at more than \$4,000 while using his official position to assist Abramoff and his lobbying clients.

There are ongoing investigations focusing on Abramoff's relationships with other public officials. To date, our investigations reveal only the same type of conduct which was outlined in Abramoff's plea documents. In other words, the allegations are that the lobbyists provided a stream of things of value to public officials in exchange for a stream of official action. The