

Livin' large - Luxury Cars

The following so-called public servants found it acceptable to spend tens-of-thousands in campaign funds to provide themselves with luxury vehicles. Such conduct clearly demonstrates arrogance and total disdain for the best interests of the constituents they allegedly represent and those that contributed to their campaigns.

Nothing is too good for these selfish and greedy political hacks! You'll see that their choice of a free ride is a Lexus, BMW, Jaguar, Cadillac, Lincoln or an Infiniti. There are others whose lease payments are equally outrageous despite the fact that they are driving Jeeps, Ford, Chryslers, Vans and/or other domesticated vehicles. The lease amounts they pay are astounding. What's next for some of these omnipotent imperialists? Will we discover in the future that one or more of them are leasing a Ferrari, Lamborghini or even a Rolls Royce Phantom? And why shouldn't they? They deserve it right? After all, they are required to slave away six (6) months every two years on behalf of their constituents. And it's not there money anyway, right?

The constituents who contributed to these fools certainly didn't do so with the knowledge that they were going to spend their money on luxury rides. Now to be fair, contributors like Bob (the Builder) Perry, Boone Pickens and Lonnie Pilgrim, all of whom have contributed millions to these and other political hacks over the years probably don't give a damn. And the reason is because they consider their contributions to be investments, which in truth they are.

The pompous ingrates who played fast and loose with their contributors money are listed below. After reading about the voracious appetite for luxury vehicles by the buffoons named below, go and view the page titled "Lone Star Arrogance. If you are not upset and/or angry after seeing how these so-called public servants are living high off the hog, then so be it. Lastly, there are more of them, so we will be updating the list every so often.

Averitt, Kip – Sen. – Waco – Infiniti
Bosse, Fred – Rep. – (lobbyist now) – Houston – Jaguar XKE
Cain, David – Sen. – Dallas - Cadillac
Carona, John – Sen. – Dallas – BMW
Christian, Walter – Rep. – Center – Lexus
Driver, Joe – Rep. – Garland - Ford
Fraser, Troy – Sen. Marble Falls – BMW
Ellis, Rodney – Sen. – Houston - Cadillac
Hardcastle, Richard – Rep. Vernon – Lincoln/Jaguar
Hardin, Ben – District Judge – Angleton – BMW
Kolkhorst, Louis Sen. – Brenham – Infiniti
Nelson, Jane – Sen. – Grapevine – Lexus
Ratliff, William – Sen. – Mt. Pleasant - Cadillac
Wentworth, Jeff – Sen. – San Antonio – Infiniti/Lexus
West, Royce – Sen. Dallas – Lincoln
Whitmire, John – Sen. – Houston – BMW
Zaffirini, Judith – Sen. Laredo – Cadillac/Lincoln

Averitt, Kip – Sen. – Waco – Infiniti

Kip is another legislator that believes he deserves to drive luxury cars. Kippy leased his first Infiniti in October 2003. It would appear that Kippy tired of the Infinity and began to lease a BMW in November 2007. If things go well for Kippy and he's re-elected for another term, then I believe he'll likely be "movin on up" by leasing a Porsche. Kippy hosed his contributors as follows:

- Infiniti lease costs = \$34,100 = \$1,100 per month
- Infiniti maintenance/insurance costs = \$8,896.01
- Infiniti fuel costs = \$10,470.38
- BMW lease costs = \$2,301.90 = \$1,150.45 per month



It would appear that Kippy is a high-risk driver. Kippy's campaign paid \$2,255.00 (see entry below) to Liberty Mutual in August 2005. Now, where I come from this type of auto insurance premium means you're normally dealing with someone that's had lots of wrecks or has been arrested on several occasions for drunk driving.



- Liberty Mutual,20050818,2255.00,Car expense

Bosse, Fred – Rep. – (lobbyist now) – Houston – Jaguar XKE



In June 2000, Freddy purchased a used Jaguar XKE from someone in California under the guise that it was to be used for campaign and/or parade purposes. As you'll see from reviewing Freddy's use of campaign funds in regards to the XKE, it should become painfully clear that he was involved in an ongoing scam to unjustly and illegally enrich

himself in contravention of the Texas Ethics Laws. Freddy had the XKE transported from California to Austin on or about June 6, 2000. . Since Fred filed paper reports prior to 2000, I do not know if he used campaign funds to purchase the Jag; however, if he did, his records do not show that he ever returned it to the campaign nor did he ever pay to purchase it.

Fred's scam involving the XKE is only the tip of the iceberg. After sticking it to his contributors while acting as a state representative (a rather pathetic act to say the least), Bosse was defeated at the polls. He then did what any upstanding ex-legislator would do, he became a lobbyist, which I understand is the second most ethical profession in Texas with lawyers being number one. Hmmm, since Freddy is also a practicing lawyer, I wonder what this duplicitous position really means.

The repair expenses Freddy paid for with campaign funds are as follows:

- Allstates Worldwide, Westlake Village, CA, 20000606, 569.25 Delivery charges Jaguar 1
- Larry's Garage, Houston 20000411,1023.15,Repairs
- Momentum Jaguar, Houston, 20000706,775.97,Repairs
- Momentum Jaguar, Houston, 20000908,537.24,Repairs
- Momentum Jaguar, Houston, 20001017,920.65,Repairs
- Momentum Jaguar, Houston, 20001125,1513.67,Repairs
- Olde English Jaguar, Austin, 20010123,459.37,Repairs

¹ If the car was delivered to Austin/Houston on or about June 6, 2000 as the entry below shows, then how is it possible for Larry's Garage in Houston to perform \$1,023.15 in repairs on the XKE on April 11, 2000, which was 2 months before the XKE was even delivered? Of course Larry could not have physically done so; therefore, whose car did Larry actually work on?

I'm no longer surprised at the ingenuity of political hacks who seek to unjustly enrich themselves at the expense of others. In fact, after investigating this type of aberrant behavior over the past 20 years, nothing surprises me. The only thing I find amusing is the fact that most of these guys/gals are intellectually insolvent, meaning they're lousy and incompetent in trying to pull the wool over our eyes. As a matter of fact, my 6-year-old grandson Trevor is much better at manufacturing humorous scenarios and/or defenses when he's caught with his hand in the proverbial cookie jar.

The Bosse billing himself for rental of the XKE

Unbelievably, Bosse actually had the chutzpah to bill himself for rental fees for use of the XKE. What Bosse did was have his campaign issue checks to "13410 Holly Park Inc., which is the address of Bosse's law office and condo in Austin. Bosse's ingenuity in putting forth this laughable scam clearly demonstrates that his I.Q. is equal to or lower than the legal speed limit for trucks traveling the I-35 corridor in and around Austin.

- ◆ 13410 Holly Park Inc,20010105,381.00,Lease on vehicle for use in Austin
- ◆ 13410 Holly Park Inc,20010129,381.00,Lease payment on vehicle in Austin
- ◆ 13410 Holly Park Inc,20010301,381.00,Lease payment on vehicle used in Austin
- ◆ 13410 Holly Park Inc,20010331,381.00,Lease payment on vehicle in Austin
- ◆ 13410 Holly Park Inc,20010430,381.00,Lease payment on Austin vehicle
- ◆ 13410 Holly Park Inc,20010531,381.00,Lease payment on Austin Vehicle

Cain, David – Sen. – Dallas = \$33,786.08

- ◆ 2000 Cadillac lease = \$10,372.88
- ◆ 2001 Cadillac lease = \$11,758.32
- ◆ 2002 Cadillac lease = \$11,634.88



Jan-April 2000 Dave paid \$633.35 in lease payments; however, beginning in May 2000 the monthly lease payments increased by over 50% to \$979.86 and continued at this rate until Dec. 2002.

Carona, John – Sen. – Dallas - BMW

Johnny began driving a BMW in 2000 and continued hosing his contributors through at least 2004. Johnny also found it convenient to wash his monthly lease payments through Principal Management Group and/or Associates, both of which he owned and/or managed.

And lastly, Johnny must be one crappy driver since his campaign paid \$4486.00 to Principal Management for 12 months of Auto Insurance on Nov 22, 2003.

- ◆ 2000 BMW lease = \$10,824.19
- ◆ 2001 BMW lease = \$11,125.49
- ◆ 2002 BMW lease = \$14,455.66
- ◆ 2003 BMW lease = \$10,755.63
- ◆ 2004 BMW lease = \$15,135.00 =



Christian, Walter – Rep. – Center – Lexus

- ◆ 2003 BMW lease - \$2,836.00 = 4 payments of \$709
- ◆ 2004 BMW lease = \$8,508.00 = 12 payments of \$709
- ◆ Aug 2003/Jan 2004 paid \$2,603.11 for Lexus repairs
- ◆ July 2003 Oldsmobile lease payment of \$1,200.40



- ◆ June 2000/June 2001 paid \$2,939.34 for Oldsmobile repairs
Total costs = \$16,886.45

Compare Walter's monthly lease of a Lexus for \$709 in 2003-2004 to the almost \$1500 per month that Sen. Jeffrey Wentworth claims he paid. Again, it would certainly appear that Jeffrey may have had his campaign pay for lease costs for two (2) Lexus'.

Driver, Joe – Rep. – Garland = \$87,788.30

Joey used campaign funds to make monthly car payments to State Farm North Texas FCU (Federal Credit Union) from 2000 to 2007. What's very interesting about these monthly payments is the fact that Joey describes them as a "Legislative Part of Car Payment."

Joey did the same thing when he paid Prestige Ford \$10,000 for "75% of down payment on legislative auto." This would lead me to believe that the down payment was actually about \$13,350. In other words, it appears that Joey is claiming that 75% of the use of the car is dedicated to official officeholder or candidate business and the other 25% is for personal use.

If this is true, then the monthly payments for 2007 must have been somewhere around \$1,570.00. It would also mean that the actual cost would be about \$110,000. In reviewing Joey's online records I could not locate any entries wherein he had personally reimbursed his campaign for any amounts relating to his personal use of an auto.

Lastly, I can't imagine any car that Ford sells wherein a monthly payment would be anywhere near \$1,000. Moreover, if one paid \$10,000 down on a Ford in April 2000, I can't understand how one's monthly payment would be nearly \$600. Something isn't right!

2007 lease

3 payments of \$1057.19

3 payments of \$1,505.92

3 payments of \$1,377.55

3 payments of \$1,088.73

Total = \$15,088.17 = avg. monthly lease payment of \$1,257.33

2006 lease

\$1,138.34 = 2 payments of \$569.17

\$3,844.32 = 3 payments of \$1,281.44

\$3,315.72 = 3 payments of \$1,105.24

\$3,556.59 = 3 payments of \$1,185.53

\$1,009.13 = one payment

Total = \$12,864.10 = avg. monthly lease payment of \$1,072.00

2005 lease

3 payments of \$867.30

3 payments of \$795.03

3 payments of 605.30

3 payments of \$406.55

Total = \$8,429.09 = avg. monthly lease payment of \$702.00

2004 lease

3 payments of \$785.99

3 payments of \$695.65

3 payments of \$623.37

3 payments of \$596.17

Total = \$8,103.34 = avg. monthly lease payment of \$675.25

2003 lease

2 payments of \$1,217.09

3 payments of \$851.24

1 payment of \$831.16

3 payments of \$641.44

3 payments of \$635.99

Total = \$9,650.75 = avg. monthly lease payment of \$804.23

2002 lease

3 payments of \$831.67

3 payments of \$812.11

3 payments of \$684.91

3 payments of \$655.56

Total = \$8,953.05 = avg. monthly lease payment of \$

2001 lease

4 payments of \$909.95

2 payments of \$880.60

3 payments of \$695.69

3 payments of \$665.34

Total = \$9,481.09 = avg. monthly lease payment of \$746.00

2000 lease

04-25-00 = \$10,000 payment to Prestige Ford for 75% down payment on legislative auto

2 payments of \$733.83

3 payments of \$587.06

3 payments of \$499.00

1 payment of \$492.37

Total = \$15,218.21 = avg. monthly lease payment of \$579.78

Ellis, Rodney – Sen. – Houston - \$81,550.91

It would appear that in April 2006, Rodney felt his position in the world required that he upgrade from a Jeep to a Cadillac. In the process, Rodney's lease payment jumped from \$629.94 to \$1,127.95, which is almost a doubling of the cost to his constituent-contributors.

In addition to the lease payments and repairs on the Jeep, Rodney spent \$8,109.74 in November 2005 at Land Rover of Austin for repairs. Obviously, nobody takes a Jeep to a Land Rover dealer for repairs unless you're begging for a real good screwing.

Rodney's lease of a Cadillac

- ◆ 2007 Cadillac lease = \$13,535.40 – 12 payments at \$1,127.95
- ◆ 2006 Cadillac lease = \$9,023.60 – 8 payments at \$1,127.95
- ◆ 2006/2007 Cadillac maintenance costs = \$2,547.85
- ◆ 2006-2007 Cadillac insurance costs = \$2,349.90



2006 Rodney's lease of Jeep

- ◆ 2006 Jeep lease = 1,259.88 – 2 payments at \$629.94
- ◆ 2006 Jeep lease = \$5,733.21 end of lease payment
- ◆ 2005 Jeep lease = \$6,929.35 – 11 payments at \$629.94
- ◆ 2004 Jeep lease = \$7,559.28 – 11 payments at \$629.94
- ◆ 2003 Jeep lease = \$7,559.28 – 11 payments at \$629.94



- ◆ 2000-2005 Jeep maintenance costs = \$10,055.21
- ◆ 2000-2005 Jeep insurance costs to = \$6,879.65

Rodney's repairs for Land Rover

It would certainly appear that the Land Rover that was repaired at Land Rover of Austin is Rodney's personal vehicle; therefore, I can't imagine that these aren't unlawful expenditures.



- ◆ 20051123, 8109.74, 10/26 Land Rover Austin Repairs
 - ◆ 20051228, 8.56, 12/19 Land Rover Austin Repairs
-

Fraser, Troy – Sen. Marble Falls – BMW = \$74,763.50

Troy prefers driving a BMW as long as someone else is paying for it, right Troy? As you'll see below, Troy's monthly BMW lease in 2000 was \$550. It jumped to 763 a month in 2003. Troy's current (2007) monthly lease costs are about \$933. Since the lease was \$550 in 2001, one can safely assume that Troy is now leasing a 7 series or is getting a two-fer, meaning he's leasing two Beamers.

Troy's Lease Costs for Infiniti/Lexus = \$74,763.50

- ◆ 2007 lease payments = \$11,204.64
- ◆ 2006 lease payments = \$13,971.32
- ◆ 2005 lease payments = \$11,437.26
- ◆ 2004 lease payments = \$15,828.23
- ◆ 2003 lease payments = \$9,162.30
- ◆ 2002 lease payments = \$6,559.80
- ◆ 2001 lease payments = \$6,600.00



Hardcastle, Richard – Rep. Vernon – Lincoln/Jaguar

- ◆ 2003 lease = \$2,317.42 = 2 payments at \$1,058.71
 - ◆ 2004 lease = \$12,704.52 = 12 payments at \$1,058.71
 - ◆ 2005 lease = \$14,150.14
-

Hardin, Ben – District Judge – Angleton – BMW

Of the hundreds of judges I've investigated in Texas, Ben's the only one who used campaign funds to lease an auto. Benny first drove a Cadillac (1998-1999); however, being the omnipotent buffoon that he is, he decided to upgrade to a BMW in 2000.

Benny's Lease Costs for Cadillac and BMW are:

- ◆ 1998-2000 Cadillac Lease = \$9,700 (\$600 per month)
- ◆ Cadillac Maintenance Costs = \$1,452.68
- ◆ July 2000-2007 BMW Lease = \$58,836.76 –
- ◆ BMW Maintenance/Insurance Costs = \$24,580.95
- ◆ BMW Fuel Purchases = \$21,088.81



In addition, Benny received \$10,764.06 in mileage reimbursements payable to himself and/or his campaign from the State of Texas. How can this be justified when Benny's campaign paid

for the lease, maintenance, insurance and fuel? Put simply, Texas taxpayers were hosed in this regard. In addition, Benny obviously used the BMW for commuting to and from work and for other personal purposes, which is taxable income under IRS rules. Think Benny actually reported this income and paid tax on it?

Kolkhorst, Louis Sen. – Brenham – Infiniti

- ◆ 2003 Infiniti lease = \$4,400 – 4 payments
- ◆ 2004 Infiniti lease = \$11,000 – 10 payments



Nelson, Jane – Sen. – Grapevine – Lexus

- ◆ 2005 Lexus lease = \$8,644.90 – 11 payments at \$785.90



Ratliff, William – Sen. – Mt. Pleasant - Cadillac

- ◆ 2002 GMAC lease = \$9,356.49
- ◆ 2003 GMAC lease = \$9,356.49
- ◆ 2003 GMAC lease = \$8,505.90



Wentworth, Jeff – Sen. San Antonio - \$144,898.11

Jeffrey justified his lease of an Infiniti and then a Lexus by telling the *San Antonio Express-News* that he did so because he was accustomed to driving luxury cars. How sweet is that

Of course his aristocratic tastes paled in comparison to his laughable claim that he did so due to “safety concerns.” When I imparted Jeff’s “safety concern” defense to my 14-year-old granddaughter for her response, I had to wait several minutes for her to stop laughing.



Stop dogging me
doggie! I told ya
it's for safety.

Amazingly, Jeffrey’s average monthly lease was \$1,484.62, which is unbelievable to say the least. I couldn’t find any Lexus or Infiniti that cost this much per month to lease. Jeff has two sons who drive luxury cars for safety reasons according to Jeff. (Source: *San Antonio Express-News*). I wonder how many Lexus’ Jeff is really leasing at almost \$1500 per month. If the Texas Ethics Commission was really a “watchdog agency” that was truly interested in rooting out corruption, then I would suggest that they obtain a copy of Jeff’s original lease agreement.

According to *The Lease Outlet* (<http://www.theleaseoutlet.com/>) below are the current monthly lease costs for 2008 luxury autos followed by the actual purchase costs:

- ◆ Mercedes Benz S 550 = \$1,104
- ◆ Audi S 8 - \$1,167 (\$85,551)
- ◆ BMW M6 Conv = \$1,321 (\$100,995)
- ◆ BMW M5 = \$1,022 (\$78,725)
- ◆ Infiniti 45 = \$565 (\$45,318)

- Jaguar XK Coupe = \$920 (\$68,545)
- Land Rover/Range Rover = \$939 (\$71,284)
- Porsche Carrera = \$979 (\$77,2410)
- Porsche Cayenne GTS = \$859 (\$65,655)
- Mercedes Benz CLS63 AMG = \$1,181 (\$90,232)

Costs to lease a Lexus (that's Jeff's current choice) are:

- 2008 LS 460 = \$789 (\$62,486)
- 2008 LS 600 hL = \$1,586 (\$105,507)
- 2008 LX 570 SUV = \$1,129 (\$82,062)

Jeffrey's Lease Costs for the Infiniti and Lexus are as follows:

- 2007 lease payments = \$20,544.38
- 2006 lease payments = \$15,495.36
- 2005 lease payments = \$18,700.12
- 2004 lease payments = \$5,459.52
- 2003 lease payments = \$24,592.84
- 2002 lease payments = \$16,976.28
- 2001 lease payments = \$22,933.36
- Maintenance Lexus/Infiniti = \$4,732.23
- Fuel costs Lexus/Infiniti = \$15,456.72



West, Royce – Sen. – Dallas = \$71,954.35

- 2007 Lincoln lease = \$9,388.08
- 2006 Lincoln lease = \$11,900.74
- 2005 Lincoln lease = \$8,998.68
- 2004 Lincoln lease = \$8,998.68
- 2003 Lincoln lease = \$8,998.68
- 2002 Lincoln lease = \$6,802.57
- 2001 Lincoln lease = \$9,490.73
- 2000 Lincoln lease = \$7,376.19



Whitmire, John – Sen. – Houston

- 2007 BMW lease = \$9,480 = 12 payments at \$790 each
- 2006 BMW lease = \$13,430 = 17 payments at \$790 each
- 2005 BMW lease = \$9,480 = 12 payments at \$790 each



Zaffirini, Judith – Sen. – Laredo

- 2008 GMAC lease = \$841.18
- 2007 GMAC lease = \$10,094.16
- 2006 GMAC lease = \$1,682.36
- 2006 Ford lease = 14,717.56
- 2005 Ford lease = \$10,062.24
- 2004 Ford lease = \$10,062.24
- 2003 Ford lease = \$8,364.96
- Fuel costs 2003-Feb. 2008 = \$29,404.01
- Car washes 2003-2007 = \$2,358.50 + \$100 for one time leather cleaning

