




POLITICS

Clinton, Trump Donors Include Some Familiar Hawaii Names

Individual gifts from the islands totaled \$2.2 million to the 2016 presidential candidates.

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Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Hillary Clinton are the least popular set of presidential finalists in recent memory.

But both have benefited from Hawaii financial donors — especially Clinton, according to [Federal Election Commission](#) records.

All told, individual donors in the Aloha State contributed a total of \$2.2 million to 20 presidential candidates in 2015 and 2016.

Democrats received the lion's share of donations (\$1,583,414) and Clinton, the former secretary of state, received about two-thirds of that amount (\$954,323).



Presidential candidates Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.

Bernie Sanders, the independent U.S. senator from Vermont who ran as a Democrat and lost to Clinton in the primaries, received \$604,805 — more money than went to over a dozen GOP candidates.

Republicans got a total of \$590,090. Trump, the New York businessman, got the most (\$223,254). Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas was second with \$131,083.

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If Clinton and Trump donors from Hawaii share a trait, it is that many of them are retired, according to the FEC.

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Some contributors are familiar names from a cross-section of professions. They aren't necessarily the largest or smallest contributors, just people you might know:

Clinton donors include Alexander & Baldwin executives Chris Benjamin (\$1,250), Paul Ito (\$1,000) and Meredith Ching (\$500); Honolulu City Councilwoman Carol Fukunaga (\$241), legislators Roz Baker (\$2,543), Bertrand Kobayashi (\$250),

Lorraine Inouye (\$1,317), Chris Lee (\$250) and Josh Green (\$250); lobbyists Blake Oshiro (\$1,000) and Bruce Coppa (\$1,000); Ige administration staffer Cindy McMillan (\$250); Hawaii energy administrator Mark Glick (\$1,250); Hawaiian Electric executive Connie Lau (\$2,700); and blogger and journalist Ian Lind (\$250). Lind is a Civil Beat columnist.

Also donating to Clinton from Hawaii were banker Eric Yeaman (\$1,500), retired judges Steve Levinson (\$1,500) and Marie Milks (\$145), consultant Jennifer Sabas (\$1,000), labor leader Mel Kahele (\$120), U.S. Attorney Florence Nakakuni (\$2,230), City and County of Honolulu auditor Edwin Young (\$400), businessman Jeff Stone (\$2,700), Bert Kobayashi (\$2,700) and Bert Kobayashi Jr. (\$1,000); and attorneys Sherry Broder (\$1,000), Mitchell Imanaka (\$1,000), David Louie (\$1,750), Michael Livingston (\$2,700), Wayne Parsons (\$3,200) and Judith Pavey (\$2,500).

Trump donors include rail opponent Cliff Slater (\$800), lawmaker Bob McDermott (\$40), Clark Roofing executive Cindy Sue Clark (\$2,700), tax planner Janell Israel (\$400), Paradise Cruise executive Ron Howard (\$1,600), Honolulu Police Maj. Lester Hite (\$100), Monsanto executive Alvin Pelayo (\$200) and attorneys Adrienne King (\$3,336), Ian Sandison (\$200) and Gregory Frey (\$147).

This article does not include individual donations to political action committees, political parties and congressional candidates.

But the Center for Responsive Politics (aka [Open Secrets](#)) says that, as of Oct. 28, total [itemized contributions from Hawaii](#) amounted to \$6,852,286.

Nearly fourth-fifths went to Democrats, the second-highest percentage in the country.

In the Open Secrets table below, the “rank” column compares Hawaii to all 50 states:

Category	Total	Rank
Total Itemized Contributions **	\$6,852,286	44
Total to Candidates and Parties	\$6,191,859	N/A
Total to Democrats	\$4,881,730	37
Percent to Democrats	78.8%†	2
Total to Republicans	\$1,146,627	49
Percent to Republicans	18.5%†	49
Individual donations (\$200+)*	\$7,804,337	41
Soft money donations	\$775,632	41
PAC donations	\$130,700	48

Federal financial donations from Hawaii 2015-2016. Source: Open Secrets.

*** This figure includes PAC contributions to candidates, individual contributions (\$200+) to candidates and parties, and Levin fund contributions to parties. To avoid double-counting, it does not include individual (hard money) contributions to PACs, but does include individual (soft money) contributions to outside spending groups, including super PACs.*

** This figure includes individual contributions to candidates, PACs, outside spending groups (including super PACs) and party committees.*

† Percents to Democrats and Republicans calculated out of Total to Parties and Candidates only.

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