

SOME OF GEORGE SANTOS' ALLEGED CRIMES RESEMBLE TRUMP'S SUSPECTED CRIMES

DOJ has released the indictment against George Santos.

The charges are:

1-5: Fraudulent political contribution scheme

6-8: Money laundering of false donations

9: Theft of public money

10-11: Wire fraud tied to unemployment payments

12-13: False statements in Congressional disclosure report

The most interesting charges are 1-5:

pictures and sounds, as set forth below:

<u>Count</u>	<u>Approximate Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
ONE	October 4, 2022	Email on behalf of Company #1 to Contributor #1 falsely stating that funds received from Contributor #1 would be used in support of DEVOLDER SANTOS's candidacy for the House.
TWO	October 12, 2022	Email on behalf of Company #1 to Contributor #2 falsely stating that funds received from Contributor #2 would be used to independently support DEVOLDER SANTOS's candidacy for the House and that Company #1 was a Section 501(c)(4) social welfare organization that could accept limitless contributions.
THREE	October 20, 2022	Email on behalf of Company #1 to Contributor #1 falsely stating that funds received from Contributor #1 would be used, in part, to purchase television advertisements supporting DEVOLDER SANTOS's candidacy for the House.
FOUR	October 21, 2022	Text message from DEVOLDER SANTOS to Contributor #2 falsely stating that funds received from Contributor #2 would be used, in part, to purchase television advertisements supporting DEVOLDER SANTOS's candidacy for the House.
FIVE	October 25, 2022	Text message on behalf of Company #1 to Contributor #1 falsely stating that funds received from Contributor #1 would be used, in part, to purchase television advertisements supporting DEVOLDER SANTOS's candidacy for the House.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343, 2 and 3551 et seq.)

Effectively, DOJ accuses Santos of telling two donors their money would support his candidacy when instead he was pocketing the money.

This is the same theory behind the Build the Wall fraud, where Bannon et al raised money promising to build a wall and instead spent it on their own personal expenses. Bannon et al were charged with conspiracy to violate 18 USC 1343, whereas Santos was charged with 1343 himself. And Santos was charged on a different money laundering statute (18 USC 1957(a) and (b) versus 1956). But the theory is the same.

The scam – directing political donations to a private company – is the same scam that Daily Beast recently reported Herschel Walker to have engaged in.

More interesting, though, given the speed with which some Republicans have denounced Santos, this is close to the same theory behind the financial part of the investigation into Trump. He is suspected of soliciting funds for use on voter security and instead spent it on his legal fees and other expenses.

There's at least one obvious difference though: Santos falsely claimed that "Company #1" was a 501(c)(4). It was no such thing. There's no reason to doubt that Trump's PACs are what they say they are.

But for that significant difference, a bunch of Republicans are condemning the same kind of solicitation fraud for which Trump is currently being investigated.