



October 25, 2012

GOP Donors Perry and Simmons Arm Hance Scarborough's PAC

Two of the nation's top three political contributors quietly turned an Austin law firm's PAC into a political force.

Hance Scarborough LLP launched HS Law PAC in 2008 with just \$20,794 from the firm. Its fortunes turned in 2010, when Texas' No. 1 contributor bought in. Houston homebuilder Bob Perry has given \$150,000 to the PAC, which also bagged another \$100,000 from Dallas billionaire Harold Simmons this May. The PAC has taken 84 cents of every dollar it raised from these two plutocrats.

Perry and Simmons are the nation's top Super PAC contributors after casino mogul Sheldon

Adelson. Perry already has given \$20.5 million to Super PACs this cycle, according to the [Center for Responsive Politics](#); Simmons has given these no-limits PACs another \$18.8 million so far. Perry spent \$8.3 million to influence Texas' last state elections; Simmons spent \$2.3 million.

Simmons' Waste Control Specialists, LLC lobbies to expand the grade and quantity of radioactive junk pouring into its nuclear dump in West Texas. Just since HS Law PAC formed in 2008 Waste Control has paid Hance Scarborough up to \$460,000 to lobby in Texas and another \$300,000 to [lobby the federal government](#).

Money from Bob Perry and Harold Simmons... (Sept. 2008 to Sept. 2012)

HS PAC	
Amount	Contributor
\$150,000	Bob Perry
\$100,000	Harold Simmons
\$48,094	Hance Scarborough
\$298,094	TOTAL

...Engorges a Once-Tiny HS Law PAC

Election Cycle	HS PAC Amount
2008	\$20,794
2010	\$87,300
*2012	\$190,000
TOTAL	\$298,094

*As of Sept. 25, 2012

Waste Control formed its own PAC, WCS-Texas Solutions PAC, in 2011. TPJ filed a formal [ethics complaint](#) earlier this year alleging that Waste Control’s fledgling PAC operated illegally. To legally contribute to political campaigns Texas PACs must have at least 10 contributors. TPJ’s complaint noted that this PAC doled out \$65,000 to candidates on behalf of a single \$100,100 donor: Harold Simmons.

Four days after getting hit with the ethics complaint, Waste Control recruited nine company executives, flaks and lobbyists (including Hance Scarborough’s Robert Floyd) to contribute \$100 apiece to the PAC. That’s all the money that the PAC has raised since—apart from another \$250,000 from Simmons.

Harold’s Helpmates Each Gave \$100 to Legalize His Waste PAC

\$100 Contributor (on 2/17/2012)	Waste Control Role
Rodney Baltzer	President
Robert Floyd	Lobbyist
Hal Harris	Flack
Lawrence Jacobi	Lobbyist
William Lindquist	CEO
Gavin Massinghill	Lobbyist
James Mathis	Lobbyist
Chuck McDonald	Lobbyist
Patrick McDonald	Flack

Neither Bob Perry nor his Perry Homes has retained Hance Scarborough lobbyists (the homebuilder relies on lobbyists at Locke Lord and HillCo Partners). Instead, Hance Scarborough lawyers have defended a couple of Perry-funded Republican PACs from charges of wrongdoing.

Hance Scarborough’s legal eagles defended the treasurer of Tom DeLay’s illegal Texans for a Republican Majority PAC (TRMPAC) from civil charges that he failed to report approximately \$600,000 in corporate contributions to the Texas Ethics Commission.

A state judge ordered TRMPAC Treasurer Bill Ceverha to pay \$196,600 in civil damages in 2005. This judgment prompted Bob Perry, TRMPAC’s No. 1 donor,¹ to give Ceverha a personal gift of \$100,000.²

Hance Scarborough defended another Perry-funded PAC from charges levied by 2006 Democratic gubernatorial nominee Chris Bell. After losing the election, Bell filed a lawsuit accusing Governor Perry and the [Republican Governors Association](#) (RGA) of violating state campaign laws by hiding the true source of a \$1 million Bob Perry contribution. Case depositions revealed that Governor Perry’s campaign officials solicited funds from then-RGA Chair Mitt Romney in October 2006. Two days later Bob Perry sent \$1 million to the RGA,³ which flipped that same amount to Rick Perry in a transaction disclosed after the election.⁴

The Perry campaign settled Bell’s lawsuit for \$426,000. Ruling that the RGA violated Texas campaign finance law, State District Judge John Dietz ordered the RGA to pay Bell \$2 million in 2010.⁵ Hance Scarborough has appealed that decision to Austin’s Third Court of Appeals (which also is reviewing Tom DeLay’s criminal conviction).⁶

Hance Scarborough’s PAC gave Third Court of Appeals Judge Melissa Goodwin \$3,000 in 2011 (see table below); the firm also contributed \$750 to Woodie Jones’ successful 2008 campaign to be chief justice of that court. The PAC has given a total of \$21,000 to Supreme Court Justices Paul Green, Eva Guzman and Debra Lehrmann (whose court would hear any further appeal of the RGA case).

Hance Scarborough PAC gave a total of \$20,000 to Railroad Commission candidates Christi Craddick, David Porter and Barry Smitherman. Waste Control disposes of naturally occurring radioactive material generated by the energy industry. The Railroad Commissioners regulate that material.

**Top Recipients of Hance Scarborough PAC Money
(Sept. 2008 Through Sept. 2012)**

HS PAC Amount	Recipient	Office Sought/Held	B. Perry Amount	Simmons Amount	Waste Control PAC
\$10,000	Barry Smitherman	Railroad Commission	\$0	\$95,000	\$0
\$9,000	Craig Estes	Senate	\$53,000	\$0	\$0
\$8,500	Debra Lehrmann	Supreme Court	\$20,000	\$0	\$0
\$7,500	Eva Guzman	Supreme Court	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$0
\$7,500	Jeff Wentworth	Senate	\$0	\$18,000	\$0
\$6,000	*Kirk Watson	Senate	\$0	\$21,000	\$0
\$5,000	Greg Abbott	Attorney General	\$1,025,000	\$0	\$0
\$5,000	Trent Ashby	House	\$20,000	\$0	\$0
\$5,000	Christi Craddick	Railroad Commission	\$30,000	\$0	\$0
\$5,000	Paul Green	Supreme Court	\$10,000	\$0	\$0
\$5,000	David Porter	Railroad Commission	\$0	\$35,000	\$0
\$5,000	Todd Staples	Agricult. Commissioner	\$400,000	\$0	\$0
\$5,000	TX House Leader. Fund	Speaker Joe Straus	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
\$4,500	Robert L. Duncan	Senate	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$3,500	Sid Miller	House	\$29,500	\$0	\$5,000
\$3,500	Jerry Patterson	Land Commissioner	\$220,000	\$0	\$0
\$3,000	Melissa Goodwin	3 rd Court of Appeals	\$15,000	\$0	\$0
\$3,000	*Tracy King	House	\$0	\$8,500	\$0
\$2,500	Susan Combs	Comptroller	\$395,000	\$0	\$0
\$2,500	David Dewhurst	Lieutenant Governor	\$0	\$435,000	\$0
\$2,500	Chuck Hopson	House	\$92,500	\$0	\$15,000
\$2,500	Joan Huffman	Senate	\$239,000	\$0	
\$2,500	Kel Seliger	Senate	\$23,500	\$0	\$20,000
\$2,000	Jimmie Don Aycock	House	\$0	\$500	\$0
\$2,000	John Frullo	House	\$26,000	\$0	\$0
\$2,000	Dan Huberty	House	\$60,000	\$0	\$0
\$2,000	Bryan Hughes	House	\$0	\$55,000	\$0
\$2,000	Wayne Smith	House	\$2,000	\$0	\$0
\$2,000	Tommy Williams	Senate	\$100,000	\$0	\$10,000
\$2,000	*Judith Zaffirini	Senate	\$12,500	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	Charles 'Doc' Anderson	House	\$52,500	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	*Juan 'Chuy' Hinojosa	Senate	\$22,000	\$0	\$20,000
\$1,500	Lance Gooden	House	\$18,000	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	*Ryan Guillen	House	\$6,000	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	Todd Hunter	House	\$124,000	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	Tryon Lewis	House	\$0	\$2,000	\$0
\$1,500	J.M. Lozano	House	\$66,000	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	*Eddie Lucio, Jr.	Senate	\$171,000	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	Charles Perry	House	\$32,500	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	Robert Nichols	Senate	\$95,000	\$0	\$0
\$1,500	Charles Schwertner	House	\$155,500	\$0	\$5,000
\$144,000	TOTALS		\$3,520,500	\$690,000	\$75,000

Note: Contributions listed from Simmons and Perry just cover through June 30, 2012.

*Democrats.

Top Lobby Hance Scarborough Lobby Clients (2008 through 2012)

Client	Min. Value of Contracts	Max. Value of Contracts
Silverleaf Resorts, Inc	\$205,000	\$550,000
Atmos Energy Corp.	\$250,000	\$500,000
DCP Midstream	\$250,000	\$500,000
Waste Control Specialists LLC	\$175,000	\$460,000
Boyd Gaming Corp.	\$175,000	\$370,000
Citigroup, Inc.	\$155,000	\$345,000
City of Lubbock	\$125,000	\$310,000
TX Pharmacy Business Council	\$125,000	\$295,000
Lufkin/Angelina Co. Econ. Dev. Corp.	\$50,000	\$265,000
TX Pharmacy Association	\$90,000	\$255,000
Energy Transfer Partners	\$125,000	\$250,000
Targa Resources Partners L.P.	\$125,000	\$250,000
Assn. of American Publishers	\$100,000	\$240,000
AT&T Corp.	\$70,000	\$185,000
Southwest Tow Operators	\$60,000	\$150,000
Boothe Eye Center	\$30,000	\$145,000
Innovative Block of South TX LTD	\$50,000	\$135,000
Pilgrim's Pride Corp.	\$40,000	\$100,000
Richardson Stevedoring & Logistics	\$20,000	\$90,000
Southwest Auto Tow	\$20,000	\$90,000
Parker Group	\$35,000	\$75,000

Note: 2012 data as of October 24, 2012.

Hance Scarborough Lobbyists

Lobbyist (2008 Into 2012)	Min. Value of Contracts	Max. Value of Contracts
Robert A. Floyd	\$1,235,000	\$3,025,000
Phil Gamble	\$820,000	\$1,825,000
Cheri Huddleston	\$150,000	\$815,000
Michael L. Woodward	\$140,000	\$370,000
TOTALS:	\$2,345,000	\$6,035,000

Notes

¹ Perry gave TRMPAC \$170,000.

² ["TRMPAC Treasurer Fails To Disclose Amount of Cash 'Gift' He Took From Kingmaker Bob Perry,"](#) TPJ news release, January 19, 2006.

³ "Texas Gov. Perry's Camp Denies Trying To Hide Source of Last-Minute \$1 M Donation," *Dallas Morning News*, April 10, 2009.

⁴ "Did Perry Contributor Earmark Contribution?" *Houston Chronicle*, September 3, 2011.

⁵ "GOP Governors Group Violated Law, Judge Rules," *Austin American-Statesman*, September 1, 2010. "Calls to Perry Donor Raise Questions," *Houston Chronicle*, August 29, 2011.

⁶ The Hance Scarborough firm contributed \$250 to Melinda Montford's failed 2010 challenge to Rosemary Lehmberg, the Travis County District Attorney prosecuting Tom DeLay.