

Corporate Crime: Federal Penalties Imposed on Largest Corporations Plunged During Trump's First Year

By [Good Jobs First](#)

Global Research, February 14, 2018

[Good Jobs First](#) 13 February 2018

Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Global Economy](#), [Law and Justice](#)

Federal penalties imposed on the largest U.S. companies for all kinds of misconduct fell sharply during the first 12 months of the Trump administration, with combined fines and settlements dropping to a fraction of the levels seen during the Obama Administrations. The Fortune 100 list of the very largest publicly traded U.S. corporations paid \$1.1 billion in penalties to federal regulatory agencies and the Justice Department during Trump's first year, compared to an annual average of more than \$17 billion during the Obama years.

These findings come from the latest information collected by Violation Tracker, the country's first wide-ranging database of corporate crime and misconduct. It covers banking, consumer protection, false claims, environmental, wage and hour, unfair labor practice, health, safety, employment discrimination, price-fixing, bribery and other civil and criminal cases. Violation Tracker, a free public service produced by the Corporate Research Project of Good Jobs First, is available [here](#).

"Along with the massive tax cut, the Trump administration has given the largest corporations billions of additional dollars of benefits in the form of reduced penalties for misconduct," said Good Jobs First Research Director Philip Mattera, who leads the work on the database.

Mattera acknowledged that the Obama Fortune 100 penalty totals reflected unprecedented settlements with the largest banks for their role in the financial meltdown. Those amounts peaked during the middle years of the Obama era.

"Yet Trump's \$1.1 billion total through January 19 is still far below the annual average of more than \$9 billion for the Fortune 100 during Obama's final two years in office," he added. "It also trails behind the \$3 billion total during Obama's first year."

To assist users in making comparisons, Violation Tracker has just added a new feature that allows searches to be limited to a specific administration. This can be combined with the numerous other search options relating to industry group, offense type, agency, penalty amount, etc. Violation Tracker now contains more than 300,000 entries from more than 40 federal regulatory agencies and all divisions of the Justice Department.

*

Featured image is from *The Greenville Post*.

The original source of this article is [Good Jobs First](#)
Copyright © [Good Jobs First](#), [Good Jobs First](#), 2018

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Good Jobs First](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca
www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca