



Size Matters:

January 23, 2014

High Rollers Stake Abbott; Davis Check Sizes Increase

**27% of Davis Total is \$100 or Less, 50% is \$10,000-plus.
3% of Abbott Total is \$100 or Less, 69% is \$10,000-plus.
Davis Relies More on Out-of-State Dollars.**

As a result of her abortion-filibuster Twitter moment, Senator Wendy Davis raised more than \$1.3 million last summer, with an astounding [49 percent of that total](#) coming from grassroots checks worth \$100 or less. Last week Davis reported that she collected a total of \$12.2 million in the second half of 2013, with 27 percent arriving in denominations of no more than \$100.¹

Opponent Greg Abbott reported that he raised almost \$11.6 million in the second half of 2013. Checks of \$100 or less accounted for just 3

percent of his total. At the other extreme, checks of \$10,000 and up accounted for 69 percent of his total and 50 percent of what Davis collected.

Davis reported collecting funds through three committees. Her officeholder PAC raised money throughout 2013. The Wendy Davis for Governor PAC reported its first donation on September 28, after reports that she would definitely run for governor.² Starting in October Davis also claimed donations from the Texas Victory PAC, a joint venture with Battleground Texas (which seeks a Democratic majority).

Abbott and Davis Vary In Their Dependence On Extremely Large and Small Checks (July through December 2013)

PAC	Total Raised Late 2013	Unitem. ≤\$50	Unitem. (%)	All ≤\$100	All ≤\$100 (%)	All ≥\$10,000	All ≥\$10,000 (%)	Cash In Bank 12/31/13
TX4Abbott	\$11,570,420	\$0	0%	\$384,878	3%	\$8,026,440	69%	\$27,021,747
WDavis	\$4,555,229	\$925,158	20%	\$2,606,334	57%	\$768,853	17%	\$3,432,526
Davis4Gov	\$4,172,819	\$375,172	9%	\$624,804	15%	\$2,747,330	66%	\$2,939,566
TX Victory	\$3,501,514	\$773	<1%	\$12,833	<1%	\$2,630,224	75%	\$3,194,598
Davis TOTAL	\$12,229,562	\$1,301,103	11%	\$3,243,971	27%	\$6,146,407	50%	\$9,566,690

Fattest Checks Collected by Abbott and Davis (July through December 2013)

Amount	Contributor	Affiliation	Location	Recipient
\$1,000,000	Mostyn Law Firm	Steve Mostyn's plaintiff firm	Houston	TX Victory
\$1,000,000	Carolyn Oliver	Retired physician	Austin	Davis4Gov
\$250,000	Robert Patton	L.A. Dodgers owner	Fort Worth	Davis4Gov
\$250,000	Harold Simmons	Nuclear waste dump	Dallas	Abbott
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\$200,000	Lee & Amy Fikes	Bonanza Oil Co.	Dallas	WDavis
\$200,000	Nancy & Marcus Hiles	Homebuilders	Gr. Prairie	Abbott
\$200,000	Kelcy Warren	Energy Transfer Partners	Dallas	Abbott
\$150,000	Louise Carvey	Retired restaurateur	Fort Worth	Davis4Gov
\$150,000	Lone Star Project	Davis consultant (in-kind)	Wash. DC	Davis4Gov
\$150,000	N. Cypress Medical Ctr.	Dr.-owned hospital	Cypress	Abbott
\$150,000	Harold Simmons	Nuclear waste dump	Dallas	Abbott
\$125,000	Am. Fed'n of Teachers	Teacher's union	Wash. DC	Davis4Gov

Davis landed the two fattest checks. She reported that plaintiff attorney Steve Mostyn's firm and retired physician Carolyn Oliver gave her \$1 million apiece. Oliver, who gave \$90,000 to Bill White in 2010, told the *Austin American-Statesman* that Texas needs a new prescription because "our Texas government doesn't represent the fairness that I think Texans feel."³

Abbott collected a total of \$900,000 in four big checks from Harold Simmons, who had a Texas monopoly on dumping low-level nuclear waste until his death in December. Los Angeles Dodgers owner Robert Patton gave Davis

\$250,000. Abbott and Davis each collected a \$200,000 check from different energy tycoons.

Davis reported \$1.3 million of her latest haul as *unitemized* contributions of \$50 or less. She provided no details about the sources of those funds, which accounted for 11 cents of every dollar that Davis raised in the cycle.

Abbott accounted for every cent that he received. He reported that 93 percent of his total came from Texas. In-state donors supplied just 74 percent of the money that Davis *itemized*.

Top Money States *Itemized* By Abbott and Davis

Abbott		
State	Amount	Percent
TX	\$10,770,086	93%
NV	\$145,040	1%
CA	\$113,887	1%
IL	\$62,565	1%

Davis		
State	Amount	Percent
TX	\$8,127,571	74%
DC	\$727,286	7%
NY	\$502,399	5%
CA	\$469,690	4%
MA	\$354,418	3%
CT	\$140,940	1%
UT	\$71,305	1%
FL	\$62,825	1%

Notes

¹ Both of these reporting periods cover funds received during July 2013 (due to special-session reports).

² "Davis To Run For Governor," *Dallas Morning News*, September 27, 2013.

³ "Abbott Has 3-1 Fund Edge But Davis Bankroll Surges," *Austin American-Statesman*, January 16, 2014.