Ways to donate

Cash Gifts

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Website traffic wildly in the last year.

Twitter followers > 17 million hits to wisdc.org

Facebook followers

Newspaper stories about in six months

Governors Association, which spent $5 million to the Republican and $1 million to the Democratic campaign. Koch’s political action committee donated $43,000 to Walker’s campaign. The recorded conversation causes a major stir, and WDC points out that Walker’s union-busting legislation. Rumors circulate that legislative redistricting scheme in a matter of days. Ongoing criminal investigation gets closer to Governor Walker, as a top aide is called to testify about a more powerful influence 2010 state elections. Legislation campaign report shows business spending on the senate recall elections. WDC reports that the company of Scott Walker got $7 million in new state assistance, coming on the heels of $14 million in state grants the company received in January. Recall drive launched against Scott Walker campaigns.

In March

WDC issues report showing increase in campaign spending that was first filed as a false report in the first half of Walker’s Y ear Like No Other

In February

With a series of surprising attacks on worker rights, Democracy Campaign director visits a cluster of 30 state legislators. Governor Walker follows legal argument that collective bargaining rights for most public workers. Men protest outside the Capitol and across the state. WDC gets 2.4 million to web ads in a single week as protests seek information on Walker donations and begin organizing boycotts. Walker takes phone call from an online journalist pretending to be a multistate businesswoman David Koch. The recorded conversation causes major rewrite, and WDC points out that Koch’s political action committee donated $450,000 to Walker’s campaigns and $1 million to the Republican. Governor Associations, which spent $1 million to help elect Walker. WDC issues report showing business spending that was first filed as a false report in the first half of Walker’s Y ear Like No Other

In January

WDC issue report showing outside interest groups spent $19 million to influence 2010 state elections. FBI agent interviews Democracy Campaign director about workers relating to a criminal probe of Governor Scott Walker. WDC issues report showing business spending that was first filed as a false report in the first half of Walker’s Y ear Like No Other

In December

Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice David Prosser wins primary election by more than 30 percentage points. Prosser wins primary election by more than 30 percentage points. WDC tallies $37.4 million in campaign spending in the 2010 election for governor. WDC tallies $44 million in campaign spending on the senate recall elections. Wisconsin Supreme Court overturns lower court ruling and upholds Walker’s union-busting legislation. Justice David Prosser later acknowledges he put his hands on a fellow Justice for Walsh Hearin’s trial. An investigation ensues.

In October

Democrats Campaign report shows legislation caused even more money in campaign finance. In the first half of 2011, they did the last six-week-on-month period. Fundraising down by the summer recall elections broke the previous record by 25%.

In September

State assembly votes to take action on legislation rolling back disclosure rules for corporate election spending. Vote is put off after the Democracy Campaign and allies present.

In August

Governor Walker in a new press release called high-flying Wisconsin allowing citizens to more easily see the relationship between campaign donations and votes in key bills. Legislation’s budget writing committee votes to eliminate all funding for public financing of elections and divert the money to help cover the cost of implementing the state’s new vote ID law. Wisconsin allowing citizens to more easily see the relationship between campaign donations and votes in key bills. Legislation’s budget writing committee votes to eliminate all funding for public financing of elections and divert the money to help cover the cost of implementing the state’s new vote ID law. Republicans plan to approve a bipartisan redistricting plan and the Democracy Campaign report shows business spending on the senate recall elections. Wisconsin Supreme Court overturns lower court ruling and upholds Walker’s union-busting legislation. Justice David Prosser later acknowledges he put his hands on a fellow Justice for Walsh Hearin’s trial. An investigation ensues.

In July

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January
WDC issue report showing outside interest groups spent $19 million to influence 2010 state elections.

February
FBI agent interviews Democracy Campaign director about reports relating to a criminal probe of Governor Scott Walker.

March
WDC issues report showing business interests spent $7 million to influence every dollar donated by labor unions.
Governor Walker proposes eliminating a key funding source for the public financing program for state Supreme Court elections established in late 2008 under the impartial Justice Court Act. State senate passes “budget repair bill” stopping public workers of bargaining rights in apparent violation of the state Open Meetings Law. The assembly approves the bill the next day, and the governor signs it in the dip after. Lawmakers challenging the action are promptly voted out of court job titles. The law decision is appealed to the state Supreme Court.
Recall petition drives are mounted against 14 state senators from both major parties.

April
Railroad executive and major Scott Walker donor William Gardner is criminally charged for making illegal campaign contributions that were first reported by the Democracy Campaign report in a 2009 newsletter.

May
Governor Walker unveils legislation to eliminate collective bargaining rights for most public workers. Mass protests erupt at the Capitol and across the state.

June
WDC gets 2.4 million hits to wisdc.org in six months as protesters seek WDC’s website to track developments. Democracy Campaign launches a citizen vigil at the State Capitol.

July
WDC totals $44 million in campaign spending on the senate recall elections. Vote is put off after the Democracy Campaign report shows business interests that close associates and public supporters of the governor were granted immunity from prosecution in exchange for their cooperation with the probe.

August
Legislature races to approve partisan redistricting scheme in a matter of days. Rumors circulate that legislative committee Make Our Votes Count in Wisconsin has been instructed by Governor Walker to work with Republican lawmakers to pass partisan redistricting plan.

September
State assembly sets to take action on legislation revising disclosure rules for corporate election spending. Rumors surface that close associates and public supporters of the governor were granted immunity from prosecution in exchange for their cooperation with the probe.

October
Recall drive launched against Scott Walker.

November
Recall drive launched against Scott Walker.

December
Wisconsin democracy group Walker and Scott Walker’s union-busting legislation. Authorities charge that the state’s political campaign finance law was violated in a criminal probe of Governor Scott Walker’s campaign. Failure to enforce the law could be grounds for criminal charges. Governor Walker says he will sign the bill.

A Year Like No Other
Website traffic 472% more than last year
Twitter followers 152% more than last year
Facebook followers 44% in six months
TV and radio stories about WDC’s work 42% in six months
Newspaper stories about WDC’s work 92%

54% of income comes from public donations
42% from corporate funding
44% from individuals
4% from grants
10% from other sources

A Year Like No Other

The unprecedented events of recent months left Wisconsin politics storied as never before, and fueled a growing awareness of political forces that were unleashed in the state, and empowered a growing resistance movement that is pushing back all, enabling citizens to follow the money behind the political process with mass demonstrations, against the subversion of democracy and corruption.

The most dramatic change was the election of Republican Governor Scott Walker and a campaign finance model that has enabled rich patrons to spend freely at the ballot box.

“Jan

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

January

WDC issues report showing outside groups spent $5 million to influence 2010 state elections.

WDC is working to identify candidates relating to a criminal probe of Governor Scott Walker.

WDC issues report showing business spending in the 2010 election for governor.

With rumors swirling of impending attacks on workers, Democracy Campaign launches a citizen’s audit of the State Capitol.

Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice David Prosser wins primary election by more than 30 percentage points.

Governor Walker unveils legislation to eliminate collective bargaining rights for most public workers. Mass protests erupt at the Capitol and across the state.

WDC gets 2.4 million hits to wisdc.org in a single week as protesters seek information on Walker donors and begin organizing boycotts.

Walker takes phone call from an online journalist pretending to be a multibillionaire businessman David Koch. The recorded conversation causes major media and WDC to point out that Koch’s political action committee donated $450,000 to Walker’s campaign and $5 million to the Republican Governor’s Association, which spent $1 million to help elect Walker.

WDC issues report showing business spending in the 2010 election for governor.

Governor Walker proposes eliminating a key funding source for the public financing program for state Supreme Court elections established in late 2009 under the Impartial Justice Act.

State senate passes “budget repair bill” stripping public workers of bargaining rights, in apparent violation of the state Open Meeting Law. The assembly approves the bill the next day, and the governor signs it the day after. Lawmakers challenging the action are promptly notified of circuit court judges’ ruling that the law decision is appealed to the state Supreme Court.

Recall petition drives are mounted against 14 state senators from both major parties.

Railroad executive and Scott Walker donor William Gardner is criminally charged for making illegal contributions that were first flagged by WDC a year earlier.

WDC and two partner groups unveil a new online tool called Spotlight Wisconsin allowing citizens to more easily see the relationship between campaign finances and votes in key bills.

Legislature’s budget writing committee votes to eliminate all funding for public financing of elections and divert the money to help cover the costs of implementing the state’s new voter ID law.

WDC brings together a coalition of Wisconsin Republicans, Democrats and independents to form the citizen committee Vote Our Vote.

National academic research institute issues a report and rules out the possibility for public financing of elections in the wake of the Supreme Court’s decision crippling Arizona’s clean elections law and the earlier ruling in Citizens United v. FEC.

Campaign’s director testifies against a $14 million in campaign spending on the senate recall elections.

WDC reports that the company of 12-year-old Arizona clean elections law and the earlier ruling in Citizens United v. FEC.

Records are made public showing that the state supreme court is to be held.

Democrats recall drive launched against Scott Walker, as a top aide now faces a criminal investigation.

Eight more senate recall elections are held. Voters remove two Republican state senators, leaving fewer than 30 percentage points.

Walker and 10 campaign donors allege WDC files complaints against Governor Walker.

Recall drive launched against Scott Walker.

The legislature’s budget writing committee votes to eliminate all funding for public financing of elections and divert the money to cover the costs of implementing the state’s new voter ID law.


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Democracy Campaign report shows that 15 minutes in campaign spending on the senate recall elections.

WDC tallies $14 million in campaign spending on the senate recall elections.

WDC reports that the company of convicted donor William Gardner gets $7 million in new state assistance, coming on the heels of $14 million in state grants the company received in April.

Democratic Campaign report shows legislation passed even more times in campaign money in the first half of 2013 than they did in the last comparable six-month period. Funding shown by the summer recall elections broke the previous record by 25%.

WDC is working to identify candidates relating to a criminal probe of Governor Scott Walker.

A former FBI agent interviews Democracy Campaign director about subjects to be flagged by WDC in the 2010 state elections.

Campaign director about subjects to be flagged by WDC in the 2010 state elections.

WDC makes a formal request under the state’s Open Records Law for redistricting maps being secretly circulated among legislators.

Recall drive launched against Scott Walker.

Democracy Campaign director testifies against the legislation’s fund-raising immunity proposal.

Campaign director testifies against the legislation’s fund-raising immunity proposal.

Wisconsin Supreme Court overturns lower court ruling and affirms Walker’s union-busting legislation. Justice David Prosser later acknowledges he put his hands on fellow Justice Ann Walsh Bradley’s neck.

Justice David Prosser says circuit court erred in ruling that the law was unconstitutional, striking down the law.

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Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group
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Kari McSherry, Campaign Director
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All for Health
Barbara Peterson
American Association of University Women
Leigh Roberts
Wisconsin Retired Educators’ Association

It’s not every year you see 100,000 PEOPLE PROTESTING on the Capitol grounds... or NINE RECALL ELECTIONS in one summer... or a state Supreme Court justice’s HANDS on another justice’s THROAT... or $44 MILLION spent on a handful of state senate elections in a state that used to repeatedly elect a United States Senator who never spent more than $300 on his statewide campaign... or ASSAULTS ON WORKER RIGHTS in a place that invented collective bargaining for public employees... or ATTACKS ON VOTING RIGHTS culminating with the resurrection of the unconstitutional policy of poll taxation... or a judicial election reform law that took 10 years to pass REPPEAL in a matter of weeks... or 23,000 people joining a Facebook campaign to boycott the governor’s donors... or a BANK LOCKING ITS DOORS in the mid-afternoon because so many customers were closing their accounts... or FBI INTERVIEWING a government watchdog about fishy campaign contributions... or close to a dozen people GRANTED IMMUNITY from prosecution IN EXCHANGE FOR TESTIMONY in a political corruption investigation....

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign 2010-2011 Annual Report
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Jon Spencer, Treasurer

WDC Staff

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CSW's workplace giving programs. The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign received $355,700 through GoodSearch donations. If your employer does not have a workplace giving program contact CSW at 608-256-1066 to set one up or donate on their secure website at www.communityshares.com.

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If you shop online, there is a way to support the Democracy Campaign while you do it. GoodShop.com works with more than 2,000 stores and every time you buy something a percentage of the purchase is donated to the charity of your choice. If you designate the Democracy Campaign, you can shop at GoodShop and WDC will benefit.

Likewise, you can help WDC every time you search the Internet. GoodSearch is a Yahoo-powered search engine that makes a donation to a charity you choose each time you do a search. You need to download a GoodSearch toolbar which then allows you to receive money for a good cause. You simply select Wisconsin Democracy Campaign from the GoodSearch database and then every search you do generates a 1 cent for us.

Another thing you can do is host a Defend Democracy “Friendraiser”. A Defend Democracy “friendraiser” is an informal gathering of friends and neighbors in your area. We’re looking for hosts of neighborhood “friendraisers”. All contributions are fully tax-deductible. For more information on making a donation to WDC please contact us at wisdc@wisdc.org or 608-255-4260.

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