

Individuals Granted Executive Clemency Under Suspicious Circumstances

1. Trevor Milton — \$661,000,000 in restitution and forfeiture

Milton, the founder and former CEO of Nikola Corporation, were convicted on December 18, 2023 of securities fraud and wire fraud offenses. He was ordered to pay a \$1,000,000 fine, forfeit property in Utah, and to serve a term of 48 months of imprisonment. Federal prosecutors sought approximately \$661,000,000 in restitution to investors, though a final restitution order had not been entered at the time of his pardon. He and his wife donated \$1.8 million to a Trump re-election campaign fund in 2024.

2. Lawrence S. Duran — \$87,533,863.46 in restitution

Duran, the former co-owner of a Miami-area mental health company, pleaded guilty in April 2011 of orchestrating a \$205,000,000 Medicare fraud scheme involving American Therapeutic Corp. He was ordered to pay \$87,533,863.46 in restitution and to serve a term of 50 years of imprisonment.

3. Jason Galanis — \$84,817,513.43 in restitution and forfeiture

Galanis pleaded guilty on January 31, 2020, of multiple fraud schemes, including a scheme to defraud a Native American tribal entity of millions of dollars through the issuance of bonds.. Court documents indicate that he used at least \$8,500,000 of fraudulently obtained funds to purchase jewelry, travel, clothing, and entertainment. He was ordered to pay \$84,817,513.43 in restitution and forfeit \$80,869,117.10 to the U.S. government, and to serve a term of 189 months of imprisonment. Following this commutation, Galanis petitioned the Court to return the \$2,000,000 he had previously paid in restitution to his victims, but the Court denied his request.

4. Changpeng Zhao — \$50,000,000 in fines

Zhao, the well-known crypto billionaire founder of Binance, pleaded guilty on November 21, 2023 of failing to maintain an effective anti-money laundering (AML) program. He was ordered to pay a \$50,000,000 fine to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and to serve a term of four months of imprisonment. A lobbyist reportedly met with President Trump on behalf of Zhao, leading to Zhao's pardon the following week. Additionally, Zhao reportedly played an important role in brokering a massive investment in the Trump family's crypto business, surging the Trump Stablecoin to a \$2.1 billion valuation.

5. Adriana Isabel Camberos — \$48,824,415.45 in restitution and forfeiture

Camberos was convicted of several fraud offenses on October 25, 2024, involving a scheme to obtain goods from manufacturers under false pretenses and resell them for profit to U.S. companies rather than to Mexican companies, to prisoners, or to rehabilitation facilities. She was ordered to pay \$48,824,415.45 in restitution and forfeit several multimillion-dollar homes and luxury vehicles, and to serve a term of one year of imprisonment. She enlisted former White House counsel Stefan C. Passantino and former Rudolph W. Giuliani attorney Adam Katz to assist her bid for clemency. President Trump had previously commuted her 2021 conviction arising from a fraud scheme involving counterfeit 5-Hour Energy drinks.

6. Andres Enrique Camberos — \$48,824,415.45 in restitution and forfeiture

Camberos was convicted of several fraud offenses on October 25, 2024, involving a scheme to obtain goods from manufacturers under false pretenses and resell them for profit to U.S. companies rather than to Mexican companies, to prisoners, or to rehabilitation facilities. He was ordered to pay \$48,824,415.45 in restitution and serve a term of three years of probation. He enlisted former White House counsel Stefan C. Passantino and former Rudolph W. Giuliani attorney Adam Katz to assist his bid for clemency.

7. Devon Archer — \$43,427,436 in restitution and forfeiture

Archer was convicted of conspiracy to commit securities fraud and related offenses stemming from a scheme to defraud a Native American tribal entity through \$60,000,000 in fraudulent bond issuances. He was ordered to pay \$43,427,436 in restitution and forfeit \$15,700,513, and serve a term of one year of imprisonment.

8. Carlos R. Watson — \$36,769,153.97 in restitution and forfeiture

Watson, founder of Ozy Media, was convicted in 2024 of conspiracy to commit securities fraud, wire fraud, and aggravated identity theft by misleading investors about the company's financial condition and business relationships with individuals and entities like Google and Oprah Winfrey. He was ordered to pay \$36,769,153.97 in restitution and \$60,000,000 in forfeiture to the U.S. government, and to serve a term of nearly ten years of imprisonment. Watson hired the New York law firm Aidala, Bertuna & Kamins to help him seek assistance from individuals in Donald Trump's orbit, including Steve Bannon.

9. Marian I. Morgan — \$19,958,995 in restitution

Morgan was convicted on September 29, 2011, of several offenses, including wire fraud, money laundering, and filing false tax returns arising from a Ponzi scheme,

misappropriating roughly \$10 million in funds. She was ordered to pay \$19,958,995.00 in restitution and to serve a term of 405 months of imprisonment.

10. Todd Chrisley — \$17,270,741.57 in restitution

Chrisley, a reality television personality, was convicted of bank fraud and tax evasion in a scheme to defraud community banks out of \$30,000,000 and evade federal taxes. He was ordered to pay \$17,270,741.57 in restitution and to serve a term of 144 months of imprisonment. Brett Tolman, a frequent “go-to” for pardon assistance, aided his bid for executive clemency, as well as his daughter Savannah Chrisley’s advocacy efforts.

11. Imaad Shah Zuberi — \$15,705,080.11 in restitution and fines

Zuberi, a political fundraiser and venture capitalist, pleaded guilty in November 2019 of violating the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), tax evasion, and making illegal campaign contributions and in June 2020 for one count of obstruction of justice. He was ordered to pay \$15,705,080 in restitution and a criminal fine of \$1,750,000, and to serve a term of 12 years of imprisonment.

12. David Gentile — \$15,000,000 in restitution

Gentile, a former private equity executive, was convicted in August 2024 of securities fraud, wire fraud, and conspiracy to commit securities fraud and wire fraud, totaling \$1.6 billion across over 10,000 investors. He was ordered to pay roughly \$15,500,000 in restitution and to serve a term of seven years of imprisonment.

13. Joseph Lewis — \$5,400,000 in fines and restitution

Lewis, a British billionaire investor, pleaded guilty on January 24, 2024, of securities fraud through insider trading and conspiracy offenses. He was ordered to repay a \$5,000,000 fine and \$400,000 in restitution, and to serve a term of three years’ of probation.

14. Joseph Schwartz — \$5,100,000 in restitution and fines

Schwartz, a nursing home operator, pleaded guilty on November 18, 2024, of failure to pay employment taxes and failure to file the Annual 5500 Report regarding a \$38,000,000 fraud scheme. He was ordered to pay \$5,000,000 in restitution and a \$100,000 fine, and to serve a term of 36 months of imprisonment. Schwartz reportedly hired several lobbyists on his behalf to argue for executive clemency, including Jack Burkman, Jacob Wohl, and Joshua Nash.

15. Paul Walczak — \$4,381,265.76 in restitution

Walczak, a former Florida nursing home executive, pleaded guilty on November 15, 2024, of failure to pay \$7,500,000 in employee payroll taxes and failure to remit

\$3,480,111 in employer Social Security and Medicare taxes. He was ordered to pay \$4,381,265.76 in restitution and to serve a term of 18 months of imprisonment. Several weeks prior to President Trump granting Walczak a pardon, Walczak's mother, Elizabeth Fago, donated one million dollars through an exclusive fundraiser at Mar-a-Lago. This donation was preceded by his mother hosting at least three fundraisers for President Trump's campaign.

16. Michele Fiore — N/A (no restitution ordered at time of clemency)

Fiore, a former Las Vegas City Council member and Nevada gubernatorial candidate, was convicted on October 4, 2024, of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and wire fraud after using \$70,000 raised for two fallen police officers to pay for personal expenses, including rent and cosmetic surgery. President Trump pardoned Fiore prior to her May 14, 2025, sentencing hearing.

17. Timothy J. Leiweke — N/A (no restitution ordered at time of clemency)

Leiweke, the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Oak View Group, was indicted by a federal grand jury on July 9, 2025 of conspiracy to restrain trade by rigging the bidding process for an arena at a public university in Austin, Texas. This charge carried with it a potential maximum 10 years in prison and million dollar fine. Leiweke was represented by former U.S. Representative Trey Gowdy, who successfully lobbied on his behalf to President Trump for a pardon over a round of golf.