

# News and Views 25

Date - 6/7/25

## Issue #21 - "More Pardons"

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### Topic - Trump goes wild with his pardon power

As if 1,600 right off the bat isn't enough pardons, Trump is setting some sort of record with so many more in the last couple weeks. No other president has issued so many pardons so fast, particularly in the early days of his administration.

And even worse, the norms of the pardon process have been totally trashed. The Office of Pardon Attorney was established to ensure that pardons are granted to those who have served their time in a respectful and humbled manner, and that political motives are not involved.

[Justice.gov](#) - [Office of the Pardon Attorney](#)

*The Pardon Attorney and staff are responsible for administering the executive clemency process, in accordance with longstanding [federal regulations](#). We review and investigate applications for executive clemency that are submitted to the Department of Justice, and we make recommendations to grant or deny those applications based on the standards written in the [Justice Manual](#).*

Trump has completely ignored the normal process and simply chosen, for obvious political or financial reasons, to grant pardons and clemency to whomever he wants, whenever he wants with no oversight. And take a look at the PolitiFact article showing the millions saved by those pardoned.

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### In the news

#### Role of the OPA

*Trump frequently bypassed the [Office of the Pardon Attorney](#), firing its leader Liz Oyer and installing political loyalist [Ed Martin](#) to its position. Ed Martin described the rationale for granting pardons as "[No MAGA left behind](#)". In April 2025, Oyer testified to the Senate and accused the Justice Department of "ongoing corruption" and that "the leadership of the Department of Justice appears to value political loyalty above the fair and responsible administration of justice"*

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**PolitiFact** June 8, 2025

*"President Trump has granted pardons that have wiped out over \$1 billion in debts owed by wealthy Americans who have committed fraud and broken the law," said Oyer, who said she was fired because she opposed a pardon to restore gun rights to actor Mel Gibson, a Trump supporter who was convicted on misdemeanor domestic violence charges in 2011.*

*U.S. Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., shared her post May 31 on [Instagram](#), saying Trump is "selling pardons to criminals who dump money on him and ingratiate themselves to his ego. They not only get out of jail, but they get out of the money they owe to make restitution for their crimes. This is wrong." [Read more](#)*

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**Jen Psaki** 5/27/25 video

### **Trump puts allies first in considering pardons**

*Jen Psaki pairs Donald Trump's political rhetoric about crimes like fraud against his abusive use of the president's pardon power to absolve criminals convicted of those very same crimes. [View video](#)*

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**Newsweek** 5/28/25

### **Full List of Donald Trump Pardons During His Second Term**

*President Donald Trump has announced a string of pardons this week, the latest examples of him using his clemency power to pardon people he believes have been treated unfairly by the justice system.*

*Since the start of his second term, Trump has issued a string of pardons while criticizing what he describes as the politicalization and weaponization of the justice system.*

*While his supporters see these pardons as efforts to correct unjust sentences, critics say they reflect a pattern of using presidential power to amplify Trump's narrative of persecution and to cast doubt on the legitimacy of the justice system. [Read more](#)*

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### **User Views**

*5/30 KH - Thanks Mike, a very informative read. Yes there are so many variables and inconsistencies when you're dealing with a real narcissist who has proven time and time again that he is a proven self absorbing, self-serving president.*