

Sean Parnell (PA-17) Research Report

The following report contains research on Sean Parnell, a Republican candidate in Pennsylvania's 17th district. Research for this research book was conducted by the DCCC's Research Department between March and April 2020. By accepting this report, you are accepting responsibility for all information and analysis included. Therefore, it is your responsibility to verify all claims against the original documentation before you make use of it. Make sure you understand the facts behind our conclusions before making any specific charges against anyone.



Sean Parnell

Republican Candidate in
Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District

Research Book – 2020

Last Updated April 2020

Prepared by the DCCC Research Department



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Key Findings

Parnell Supported Stripping Away Pennsylvanians' Health Care

Parnell Was A Vehement Critic Of The Affordable Care Act From At Least 2013 And Mocked A Program Critical For Millions. *Parnell began intense criticism of the ACA on social media starting at least as early as 2013. Parnell often mocked the ACA for no apparent reason, all the while offering no alternatives of his own. Parnell attacked the ACA with derision on social media, suggesting a willingness to return to a time when those with preexisting conditions were not protected. Parnell was still criticizing the ACA in early 2020, describing it as a disaster, suggesting ongoing support for repeal of the law. Parnell's criticism ignored the key benefits of the law, as well as the disastrous consequences for over 130 million Americans, and for seniors in particular, that would ensue if the ACA were to be repealed.*

Parnell Supported Any Republican Health Care Alternative To The Affordable Care Act. *Parnell was on record supporting any and all alternatives to the ACA (except Medicare for All), and claimed that any change would be better than the ACA. Parnell made this statement in 2017, signaling support for the GOP repeal effort, the American Health Care Act (AHCA). Parnell ignored the potentially catastrophic effects the AHCA would have had on Pennsylvania families as well its effects on U.S. veterans. Parnell opposed the ACA at all costs and was willing to let that opposition drive his support for fundamentally flawed legislation like the AHCA.*

Parnell Went From Trump Critic To Pawn

Parnell Was a Onetime Marco Rubio Supporter And Sometimes Trump Critic... *Parnell was a surrogate for Marco Rubio in the 2016 Republican Primaries and campaigned for Rubio in South Carolina. Parnell was critical of Trump's statements, even going so far as to call Trump's comments about John McCain the "height of arrogance." Parnell also criticized Trump's pick for VA Secretary after he won election to the Presidency, expressing doubts about Trump's commitment to VA reform.*

...Who Backtracked And Fully Embraced Donald Trump, The Administration, And Trump Brand. *Parnell retracted his criticism of Trump's VA Secretary Pick and supported him after a meeting with Secretary Shulkin. By 2018, Parnell had fully embraced President Trump, praising his decision on nearly every matter. Parnell appeared on Fox News to state that the U.S. Army "loved and adored" Trump and expressed his admiration for Trump's role as Commander-In-Chief. Parnell expressed his support for Trump's proposed peace deal with the Taliban, despite Parnell's own previous reservations about any peace deal in Afghanistan that involved concessions to the Taliban.*

Parnell Misrepresented His Work For Veterans

Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative, Which Branded Itself As A Charitable Organization That Solely Focused On Aid To Veterans... *In 2013, Parnell co-founded the American Warrior Initiative, a non-profit that presented itself as an aid organization for veterans. The organization touted its "hundreds" of giveback initiatives for veterans. According to tax filings, Parnell did not receive any compensation for his role as a director of the initiative in any year on file since 2013 despite his prominent role.*

...Parnell Wasn't Paid By AWI, But Likely Received Millions From Fairway Mortgage For Driving Veterans To Do Their Business With Fairway. *Parnell received over \$700,000 from Fairway Independent Mortgage Company, which was associated with the American Warrior Initiative, for his work as an "Independent Consultant." It is not entirely clear what this work entailed, but given Parnell's lack of compensation at the non-profit, it is reasonable to conclude that rather than acting primary as an agent of the non-profit as benefactor for veterans, but rather as a spokesman for a for-profit corporation.*

Thematics

Parnell Supported Stripping Away Pennsylvanians' Health Care

Significant Findings

- ✓ Parnell was a fierce critic of the ACA for years, with anti-ACA commentary starting at least as early as 2013.
- ✓ Parnell made light of any potential issue with the ACA and appeared to oppose it for opposition's sake.
- ✓ While Parnell was relentless in his criticism of the ACA, Parnell's criticism ignored the vital protections the law provided for millions, and the disastrous consequences of repeal.
 - ✓ Parnell ignored the consequences of repeal for over 30 million Americans who would lose their health insurance and over 130 million Americans with preexisting conditions.
 - ✓ Parnell ignored the fact that repealing the ACA would increase the cost of prescription drugs for seniors.
 - ✓ Parnell ignored the benefits of Medicaid expansion.
 - ✓ Parnell ignored the benefits of increased preventative health care visits caused by the ACA.
 - ✓ Parnell ignored the increased costs for small businesses that would occur if the ACA were to be repealed.
- ✓ In 2020, Parnell was still opposing the ACA, without any apparent alternative other than full repeal of the law.
- ✓ Parnell supported the 2017 GOP repeal bill, the AHCA.
 - ✓ Parnell was vehement in his criticisms of the ACA, saying that "ANYTHING" would be a better health care system than the ACA.
 - ✓ Parnell made this comment in mid-2017, indicting support for the GOP repeal bill.
 - ✓ Parnell ignored the GOP repeal bill's potentially disastrous effects on veterans.
 - ✓ More than 5 million Pennsylvanians had preexisting conditions whose care would have been threatened by the GOP repeal bill.
 - ✓ The GOP repeal bill would have made cuts to the CDC, further putting Pennsylvanians at-risk during the Coronavirus pandemic.
 - ✓ The GOP repeal would have saddled older Pennsylvanians with an age tax.

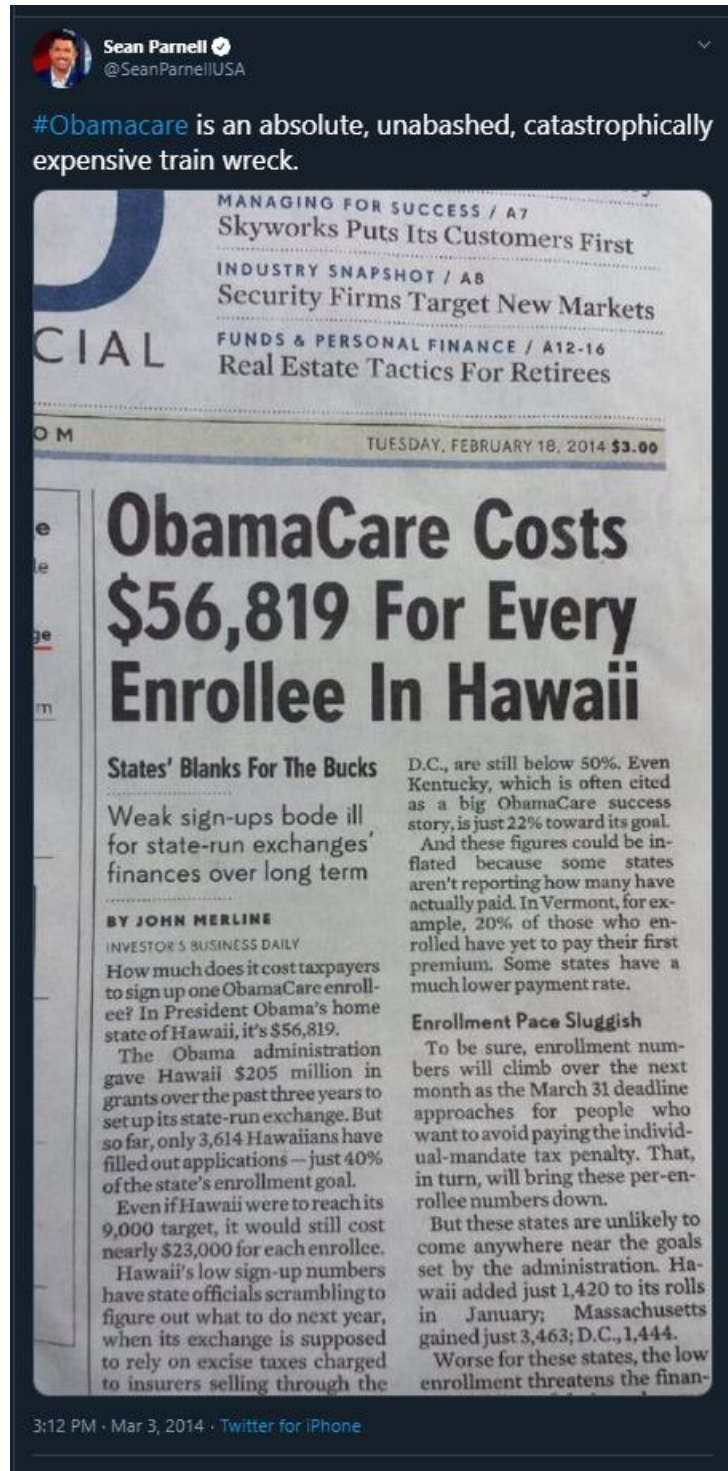
Parnell Was A Vehement Critic Of The ACA From At Least 2013 And Mocked A Program Critical For Millions

Parnell Was A Fierce Critic Of The Affordable Care Act As Least As Early As 2013

Parnell Attacked The ACA At Every Possible Opportunity, Often For No Apparent Reason

2014: Parnell Called The ACA An “Absolute, Unabashed, Catastrophically Expensive Train Wreck.”

“#Obamacare is an absolute, unabashed, catastrophically expensive train wreck.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/3/14](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/3/14](#)]

Parnell Called A Sticker Modeled After The Revolutionary War Gadsden Flag Defending The ACA An “Insult To Freedom-Loving Patriots.” “Comparing #Obamacare to the Gadsden Flag is an insult to freedom loving Patriots.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/22/14](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/22/14](#)]

Parnell Mocked Technical Issues With ACA Rollout. “Users may experience longer than average wait times while attempting to login for #Obamacare.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/4/13](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/4/13](#)]

October 2013: Parnell Used Star Wars References To Indicate How Bad He Thought The ACA Was. “Jeez, someone is VERY upset about being enrolled in Obamacare....” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/20/13](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/20/13](#)]

Parnell Compared President Obama To Darth Vader And Mocked Him For Pledges On Doctor Choice. “Darth Vader says: If you like your planet, you can keep it!” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/13](#)]



Sean Parnell ✓
@SeanParnellUSA

Darth Vader says: If you like your planet, you can keep it! ==>



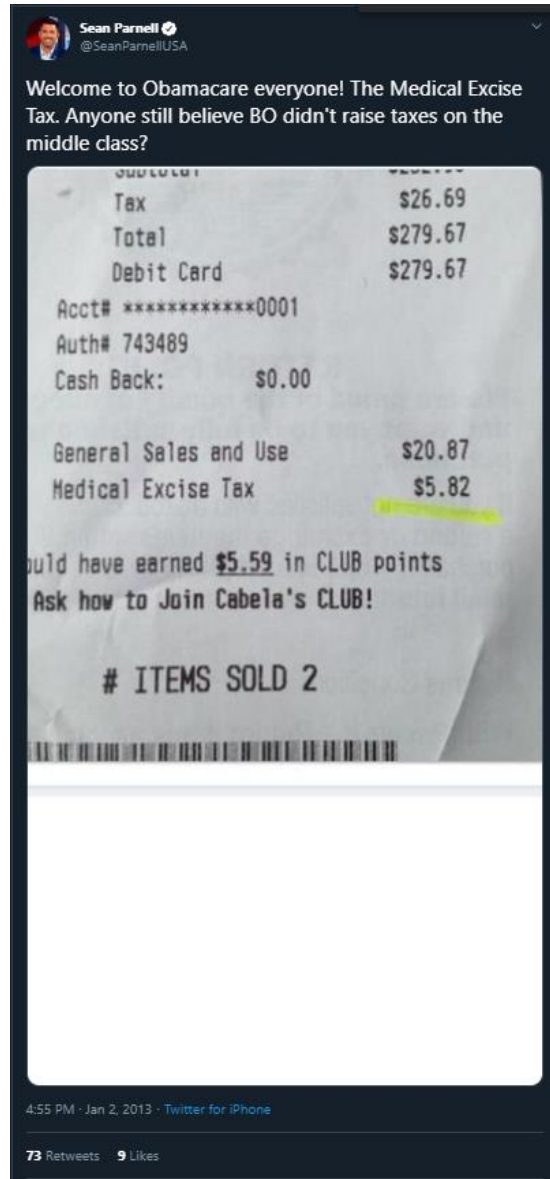
8:35 AM · Nov 17, 2013 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

15 Retweets 6 Likes

[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/13](#)]

2013: Parnell Criticized The ACA's Medical Device Tax

2013: Parnell Criticized The ACA's Medical Device Tax, Alleging That It Was Being Levied On Purchases At Cabela's Outdoor Supply Store. "Welcome to Obamacare everyone! The Medical Excise Tax. Anyone still believe BO didn't raise taxes on the middle class?" [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/2/13](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/2/13](#)]

Cabela's Mistakenly Applied The Medical Device To A Limited Number Of Purchases. "The answer was that vendors typically use upgraded sales software at the beginning of each year which is programmed to handle changes in tax laws that have just gone into effect, and on 1 January 2013 Cabela's found that their upgraded software was improperly applying the medical device excise tax to all purchases rather than just those of qualifying items: A companywide glitch in Cabela's cash register system that added a 2.3 percent "Medical Excise Tax" to customers' purchases — everything from boots to bullets — was an error and will be refunded, a company spokesman said. The error was discovered last week after consumers in several states notified the company that the surcharge appeared on their sales receipt and had been applied to all of their purchases. 'It was a glitch in the

system,’ said Cabela’s spokesman Joe Arterburn said. The error was limited to transactions that occurred Jan. 1 and was caught that same day by the Sidney, Neb.-based hunting and outdoor outfitter. Images of Cabela’s sales receipts showing the surcharge have appeared on various websites prompting several rumors.” [Snopes, [6/28/13](#)]

Parnell’s Criticism Ignored The Vital Protections ACA Provided For Millions Of Americans

Repealing The ACA Would Cause 30 Million Americans To Lose Their Health Insurance, And Endanger Health Care Coverage For Over 130 Million Americans With Preexisting Conditions

29.8 Million People Would Lose Their Health Insurance If Affordable Care Act Were Repealed. “Across the country, 29.8 million people would lose their health insurance if the Affordable Care Act were repealed—more than doubling the number of people without health insurance. And 1.2 million jobs would be lost—not just in health care but across the board.” [EPI, accessed [3/26/19](#), based on 2016 data]

The Affordable Care Act Prevented Insurers From Denying Coverage Or Charging More If An Individual Had A Pre-existing Condition. “In the old days, insurance companies had ways to avoid selling policies to people who were likely to cost more than insurers wanted to spend. They might deny them coverage outright, or exclude coverage for a known condition, or charge so much that insurance became unaffordable. The Affordable Care Act boxes out the old insurance practices with a package of legal moves. First, it says point-blank that carriers ‘may not impose any preexisting condition exclusion.’ It backs that up with another section that says they ‘may not establish rules for eligibility’ based on health status, medical condition, claims experience or medical history.” [Politifact, [10/17/18](#)]

2017: Repeal Could Have Denied Coverage To As Many As 133 Million Americans. “This analysis updates that earlier study. It confirms that a large fraction of non-elderly Americans have pre-existing health conditions: at least 23 percent of Americans (61 million people) using a narrow definition based on eligibility criteria for pre-ACA state high-risk pools, or as many as 51 percent (133 million people) using a broader definition closer to the underwriting criteria used by insurers prior to the ACA. Any of these 133 million Americans could have been denied coverage, or offered coverage only at an exorbitant price, had they needed individual market health insurance before 2014.” [HHS.gov, Issue Brief, [1/5/17](#)]

Repealing The ACA Would Increase The Cost Of Prescription Drugs For Seniors

CMS: Affordable Care Act Has Helped 7.3 Million Seniors Save \$8.9 Billion In Prescription Drug Costs. “ObamaCare has saved seniors and people with disabilities nearly \$9 billion in prescription drug costs, according to data touted Tuesday by the Obama administration. According to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, 7.3 million people who reached the ‘doughnut hole’ in their Medicare prescription drug coverage have saved \$8.9 billion on their prescription drugs since the law was enacted in 2010. That’s an average savings of \$1,209 per person.” [The Hill, [11/26/13](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Benefits The ACA Provided Through Medicaid Expansion

The Affordable Care Act Expanded Medicaid To Cover Millions Of Low Income Americans. “One of the most important provisions of the Affordable Care Act is the expansion of health coverage to low-income families through the Medicaid program. Before the ACA, most states did not give health coverage to adults without children, no matter how poor they were. And most states only covered parents if they had extremely low incomes. Repealing the ACA means that millions of Americans in the 32 states (including D.C.) that chose to expand Medicaid will lose their health coverage. Most of them are hard-working people in low-wage jobs—like waiters and waitresses, sales clerks, cooks, and home health aides.” [Families USA, accessed [3/26/19](#)]

As Of 2016, Medicaid Covered Almost 12 Million Newly Eligible Americans In Expansion States.

“Overwhelming evidence shows how Medicaid expansion, which began in 2014, has substantially increased health

insurance coverage and improved access to affordable care. As of 2016, Medicaid covered 11.9 million newly eligible Americans in expansion states, reducing the share of nonelderly adults without insurance in these states from 13.6 percent in 2013, the year before expansion, to 8.1 percent.” [Center for American Progress, [10/24/18](#)]

In 2020, States That Did Not Expand Medicaid Under The ACA Faced A Growing Crisis Of Uninsured People In The Midst Of The Coronavirus Crisis. “The decision to forgo an increase in state Medicaid programs, an ideological resistance borne of fiscal conservatism in Republican-controlled state legislatures, has left nearly 5 million people across the country without access to health care coverage and meant states turned down billions of federal dollars that would have come with the expansion. [...]With demand growing and the clinic moving more of its care to phone calls and email to limit contact with potentially infected patients, their ability to bill for those visits is as limited as their capacity to pay for basic protective gear and pharmaceuticals. [...] Having patients with medical coverage through a program like Medicaid would expand their ability to treat patients by receiving reimbursement for care, Niess said, and it wouldn't cause the spread of the coronavirus to seem quite as existential for them.” [NBC News, [3/26/20](#)]

HEADLINE: Coronavirus challenges states that rejected Medicaid expansion, leaves uninsured with few options. [NBC News, [3/26/20](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Public Health Benefits The ACA Provided By Prompting Increased Preventative Health Care Visits

Parnell Ignored The Increase In Preventative Health Care Visits That Were A Direct Result Of The ACA. “About 71 million Americans with private health insurance plans received at least one free preventive health service -- such as a mammogram or flu shot -- in 2011 and 2012 because of the Affordable Care Act, the Obama administration said Monday. In addition, about 34 million people in traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans also received at least one free preventive health service -- such as an annual wellness visit -- due to the health care law, according to a report released Monday by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In total, about 105 million Americans have been helped by the preventive services coverage improvements in the Affordable Care Act, said the HHS, which is marking the third anniversary of passage of the law.” [US News & World Report, [3/18/13](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Costs For Small Businesses If The ACA Were To Be Repealed

Parnell Ignored The Higher Costs For Small Businesses If The ACA Was Repealed. “The Rand report found that, with the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, workers at firms employing fewer than 100 workers are expected pay almost 6 percent less in premiums in 2016 than without the health care reform law. Nationally, the report said, average premiums for equal plans would cost \$5,837 with Obamacare in effect and \$6,192 without it – a \$355 savings under the Affordable Care Act. Premiums at large companies weren't examined in the report.” [USA Today, [8/29/13](#)]

As Of 2020, Parnell Was Still Criticizing The ACA Without Any Proposals To Improve It

As Of 2020, Parnell Was Still Criticizing The ACA. “@TheDemocrats forced #Obamacare on the American People. Premiums skyrocketed. People lost their doctors. It was a disaster. And after all that chaos, Biden says this? @ConorLambPA is about to endorse @JoeBiden for President. These irresponsible people don't belong in government.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/5/20](#)]



Sean Parnell @SeanParnellUSA

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Red Nation Rising @RedNationRising · Jan 5
A young man tells Joe Biden that his father lost his health insurance plan and the cost doubled, even though Obama promised it will be cheaper. Asks if Joe was lying or he didn't understand Obamacare when he supported it

Joe: "No one understood Obamacare"

0:37 1.3M views

4:27 PM · Jan 5, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

350 Retweets 657 Likes

[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/5/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/4/17](#)]

Parnell Supported Any Health Care Alternative To The Affordable Care Act, Including The 2017 GOP Repeal Plan, The American Health Care Act

Parnell Stated That “Literally ANYTHING” Is Better Than The ACA, Indicating Support For Repeal

Parnell Commented On Senator Elizabeth Warren’s Warnings On The Disastrous Effects Of ACA Repeal By Saying “Literally ANYTHING” Would Be Better. “How can she say this with a straight face?! Literally ANYTHING is an improvement on Obamacare.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/5/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/5/17](#)]

Parnell Replied To Concerns Over The GOP Repeal Bill By Saying Senator Sanders “Forced Obamacare Down Our Throats.” “I dunno. What was your solution a few years back when you forced Obamacare down our throats?” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/4/17](#)]

Parnell Ignored The GOP Health Bill’s Potentially Disastrous Effects On Veterans

McClatchy: An Estimated 7 Million Veterans Who Qualify For VA Health Care Benefits But Elect Not To Take Them Would Be Ineligible For AHCA Tax Credits. “The bill offers Americans tax credits that they can use to buy private insurance – as long as they are not eligible for other low-cost government health care options. That’s the catch for veterans, who are eligible for medical care offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. That means that an estimated 7 million veterans who qualify for VA health care benefits but elect not to take them would be ineligible for the tax credits. Republicans argued during debate on the bill that Internal Revenue Service rules would exempt veterans from the tax-credit limits. But it’s unclear whether those rules would apply, since they were drawn for the Obama-era Affordable Care Act, which the House bill ostensibly repeals.” [McClatchy, [5/5/17](#)]

Republican Rep. Phil Roe Claimed Nothing In AHCA “Changes How Veterans Are Treated,” But Acknowledged Provision Of AHCA Exempting Veterans Had To Be Removed To Comply With

Senate Budget Rules. “Republicans argued during debate on the bill that Internal Revenue Service rules would exempt veterans from the tax-credit limits. But it’s unclear whether those rules would apply, since they were drawn for the Obama-era Affordable Care Act, which the House bill ostensibly repeals. Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn., who chairs the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, insisted on the House floor Thursday that ‘nothing in this bill changes how veterans are treated under the law. Nothing.’ But Roe acknowledged that a provision that had been inserted to exempt veterans had to be removed because it violated the reconciliation rules that Senate leaders intend to impose to allow the bill to be passed by a simple majority, not the 60 votes that ordinarily would be required. Those rules require that a bill considered under reconciliation may deal only with spending and not policy.” [McClatchy, [5/5/17](#)]

Paralyzed Veterans Of America: AHCA Would “Purportedly [...] Deny Access To Tax Credits Making Health Insurance Affordable To Anyone Eligible” For VA Health Care. “The underlying AHCA bill would purportedly [...] Deny access to tax credits making health insurance affordable to anyone eligible for a host of other federal health programs, including those ‘eligible’ for coverage under Title 38 health care programs. This would prevent many veterans who may be ‘eligible for’ but not enrolled in the VA health care system from accessing these tax credits intended to help people buy insurance.” [Paralyzed Veterans of America, Press Release, [5/8/17](#)]

McClatchy: Veterans Also Express Dismay That The Bill Would Cut \$880 Billion From Medicaid, Which They Argue Is Used By Thousands Of Veterans. “Veterans also express dismay that the bill would cut \$880 billion from Medicaid, which they argue is used by thousands of veterans. Paralyzed Veterans of America called the bill ‘particularly devastating to people with disabilities.’ The bill also would eliminate the federal match for the Community First Choice Option under Medicaid, through which ‘many poor veterans with serious non-service-connected disabilities have been able to move from nursing homes into their communities,’ the group wrote in a letter to House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis.” [McClatchy, [5/5/17](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Millions Of Pennsylvanians Whose Protections Would Have Been Threatened By The 2017 American Health Care Act (AHCA)

The AHCA Would Have Allowed States To Waive Essential Health Benefits And Community Rating Provisions Of The Affordable Care Act

The AHCA Would Allow States To Waive Essential Health Benefits. “In exchange for that conservative concession, the amendment would reinstate the Essential Health Benefits that were already taken out of the bill — though, again, states could waive those provisions as well if they were able to show that doing so would lower premiums, increase the number of people insured, or ‘advance another benefit to the public interest in the state.’” [Huffington Post, [4/19/17](#)]

The AHCA Allowed States Could Get Waivers To Eliminate The Community Rating Provision. “The deal, brokered between House Freedom Caucus chairman Mark Meadows (R-N.C.) and Tuesday Group co-chairman Tom MacArthur (R-N.J.), would allow states to get waivers eliminating the so-called community rating provision — the rule that prohibits insurers from charging higher premiums to people with pre-existing conditions. In order to obtain the waiver, states would have to participate in a federal high-risk pool or establish their own, and satisfy some other conditions.” [Huffington Post, [4/19/17](#)]

Without Those Provisions, People With Pre-Existing Conditions Would Not Be Protected

ABC News: MacArthur Amendment Would “Effectively Undermine Obamacare’s Protections For People With Pre-Existing Conditions.” “The amendment to the current GOP health care plan would effectively undermine Obamacare’s protections for people with pre-existing conditions, allowing states to apply for a waiver from national pre-existing conditions rules.” [ABC News, [5/2/17](#)]

Los Angeles Times: MacArthur Amendment “Would Effectively End Obamacare’s Guarantee Of Insurance Coverage For Those With Preexisting Conditions.” “Of particular concern is that this latest version of the bill contains a provision, added to attract votes from conservatives, that would effectively end Obamacare’s guarantee of insurance coverage for those with preexisting conditions. States could allow insurers to charge sick people more and offer them coverage through so-called high-risk pools, which many states operated before Obamacare. But experts and consumer advocates panned this arrangement as unaffordable.” [Los Angeles Times, [5/2/17](#)]

Politifact Found That AHCA “Would Weaken Protections” For Those With Pre-Existing Conditions, “Would Allow States To Give Insurers The Power To Charge People Significantly More.” “An ad by the American Action Network says that under the American Health Care Act ‘people with pre-existing conditions are protected.’ The only kernel of truth here is that the amendment has language that states insurers can’t limit access to coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions. However, the ad omits that the House GOP health plan would weaken protections for these patients. The legislation would allow states to give insurers the power to charge people significantly more if they had a pre-existing condition. While Republicans point to the fact that those patients could get help through high-risk pools, experts question their effectiveness. Current law does not allow states to charge people with pre-existing conditions significantly more. We rate this claim Mostly False.” [Politifact, [5/24/17](#)]

Over 5 Million Pennsylvanians Had Preexisting Conditions Whose Protections The ACHA Would Have Eliminated

If The AHCA Had Been Enacted, Over 5 Million Pennsylvanians With Preexisting Conditions Would Have Lost Vital Protections Provided By The ACA. [Center for American Progress, [10/2/19](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Cuts The AHCA Would Have Made To The CDC, Further Imperiling Pennsylvanians To The Coronavirus Pandemic

The Atlantic: AHCA “Would Cancel Unobligated Funding For The Prevention And Public Health Fund After 2018,” Which Supplements CDC Funding. “On the other side of the revenue coin, the bill would cancel unobligated funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund after 2018. That fund allows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to supplement lagging public-health funding and respond to public-health crises via a wide range of mechanisms, including block grants to states. That fund also covers the CDC’s childhood lead prevention program.” [The Atlantic, [3/6/17](#)]

Prevention and Public Health Fund Accounts For 12 Percent Of The CDC’s Funding, And Funds Vaccines, Lead Monitoring In The Water Supply, Suicide Prevention, Among Other Goals. “The Prevention and Public Health Fund accounts for 12 percent of the budget for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The 2010 Affordable Care Act set it up specifically to try to lower health costs by preventing diseases before they happen. The CDC uses it to help states deliver vaccines, watch for infectious diseases, keep an eye out for lead in water, promote breastfeeding in hospitals, prevent suicide and watch out for hospital-associated infections. It totals \$931 million for 2017.” [NBC News, [3/8/17](#)]

STAT: Obamacare Repeal And Trump’s Spending Plan Put CDC Budget In Peril [STAT, [3/7/17](#)]

Bloomberg BNA: GOP Obamacare Repeal Would Raid Vaccine Program Funds [Bloomberg BNA, [3/8/17](#)]

Parnell Ignored That The AHCA Would Have Created An Age Tax On Older Pennsylvanians

The AHCA Would Have Created An Age Tax On Older Pennsylvanians

The AHCA Would Have Allowed Insurers To Charge Older Customers Five Times More Than Younger Adults. “Raises premiums for older people. The Affordable Care Act limited insurers from charging older

customers more than three times what they charge younger adults. The House bill would raise that to five times. This may enable younger consumers to find cheaper coverage, but older policyholders would face higher rates.” [Huffington Post, [3/6/17](#)]

New York Times: ACHA Achieved Lower Premiums Not Through Increased Choice And Competition, But By Making Health Insurance So Unaffordable For Many Older Americans They Would Leave The Market.

“There are a lot of unpleasant numbers for Republicans in the Congressional Budget Office’s assessment of their health care bill. But congressional leadership found one to cheer: The report says that the bill will eventually cut the average insurance premiums for people who buy their own insurance by 10 percent. [...] But the way the bill achieves those lower average premiums has little to do with increased choice and competition. It depends, rather, on penalizing older patients and rewarding younger ones. According to the C.B.O. report, the bill would make health insurance so unaffordable for many older Americans that they would simply leave the market and join the ranks of the uninsured.” [New York Times, [3/14/17](#)]

Parnell Went From Trump Critic To Pawn

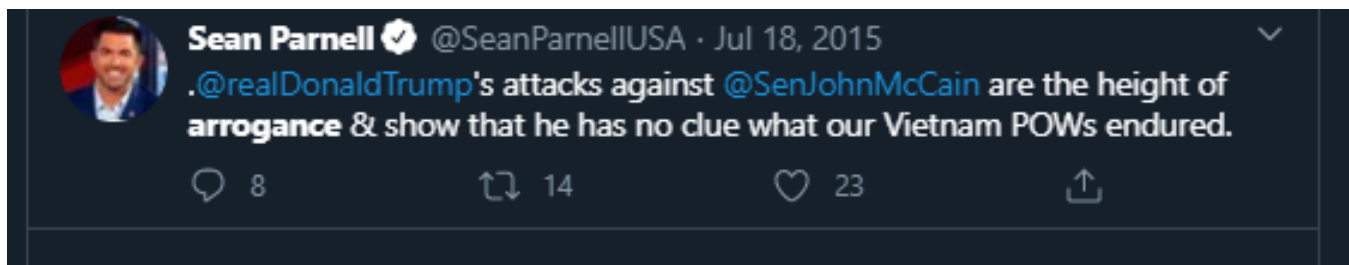
Significant Findings

- ✓ *Parnell was once a critic of Trump, even going as far to call Trump's comments on John McCain the "height of arrogance" and claiming they showed that Trump had "no clue" when it came to Veterans' experiences.*
 - ✓ *Parnell was a Marco Rubio surrogate during the 2016 Republican Primaries and campaigned for him in South Carolina.*
- ✓ *After Trump was nominated and became President, Parnell started to change his tune on Trump, offering praise among some mild criticisms.*
 - ✓ *In 2017, Parnell continued criticism of Trump's VA policy, including his choice of VA Secretary in David Shulkin.*
 - ✓ *After meeting with Shulkin, Parnell reversed course and supported Shulkin as VA Secretary.*
- ✓ *Shortly after his meeting with Shulkin, Parnell abandoned his objections to Trump and became a fully devoted Trump Republican.*
- ✓ *In 2018, Parnell appeared on Fox News to praise Trump and said that US soldiers "love and adore him."*
- ✓ *Parnell embraced Trump's endorsement for his race in PA-17.*
- ✓ *In 2019, Parnell praised Trump's peace plan with the Taliban, despite his earlier reservations about any peace deal with the Taliban.*

Parnell Was A Onetime Marco Rubio Supporter And Sometimes Trump Critic...

2015: Parnell Criticized Trump's Comments On John McCain And United States Oil Interests

Parnell Criticized Trump's Comments On John McCain And United States Oil Interests. "Mr. Parnell tweeted on July 18, 2015, that Mr. Trump's comments about John McCain 'are the height of arrogance & show that he has no clue what our Vietnam POWs endured.' On Sept. 26, 2016, Mr. Parnell tweeted 'Ugh. I hate it when Trump says take the oil. I get what he means. But US troops are liberators and protectors. We aren't pirates.'" [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [10/30/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [7/18/15](#)]

2016: Parnell Endorsed Marco Rubio In The 2016 Republican Primary And Acted As A Campaign Surrogate

2016: Parnell Endorsed Rubio Ahead Of The South Carolina Primary. “South Carolina voters and veterans will soon go to the polls to choose a president and commander-in-chief. There are lots of strong options. But if fixing the VA, rebuilding our military, and doing right by our veterans is a top priority for you, then Senator Rubio should be your first and only choice. I can attest that he is fully committed — and capable — of putting an end to the bureaucratic nightmares that have plagued the VA and our veterans altogether. We deserve nothing less.” [Marco Rubio For President via Internet Archive, [2/18/16](#)]

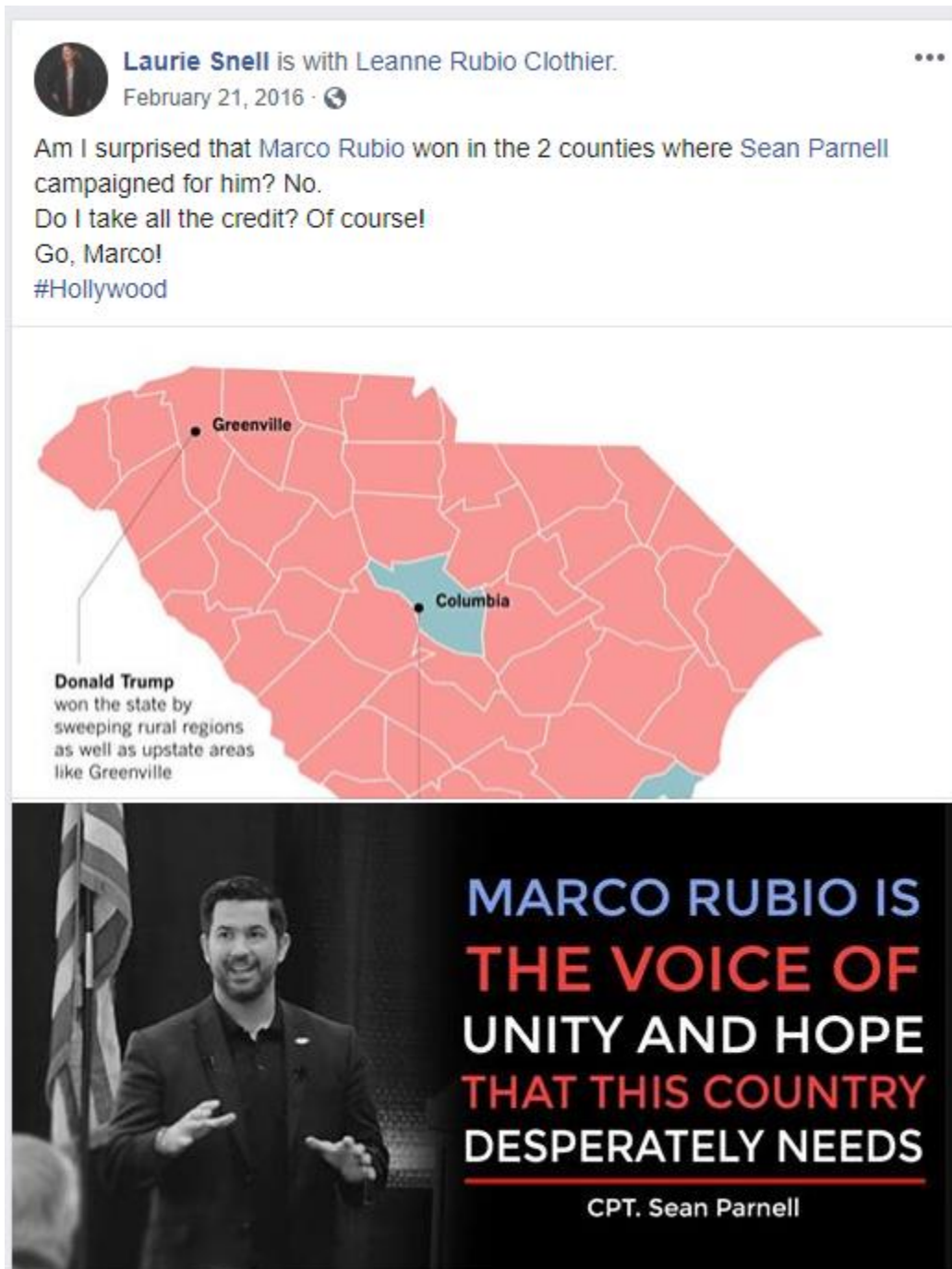


[Marco Rubio, Facebook, [2/17/16](#)]

Parnell Campaigned For Rubio In South Carolina. “Got a chance to hang out w/former Green Beret, Mario Rubio campaigning in SC for @marcorubio. A hero for sure.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/20/16](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/20/16](#)]



[Laurie Snell, Facebook, [2/21/16](#)]

Parnell Appeared On Fox News As A Surrogate For Rubio. [Marco Rubio, YouTube, [2/23/16](#)]

+



[Marco Rubio, YouTube, [2/23/16](#)]

2016: Parnell Said That It Was Time For A “Younger Conservative” Like Rubio. “This fall, Parnell acknowledged his previous support for Rubio, saying he “believed in a younger conservative,” on an episode of ‘Leather Talk,’ a military and veteran-focused YouTube series. But Parnell said his views have shifted since the President took office.” [WITF, [10/31/19](#)]

2017: Parnell Expressed His Disappointment In Trump’s Appointment Of David Shulkin As VA Secretary

January 2017: Donald Trump Announced That He Would Appoint David Shulkin, Then A VA Undersecretary, To Lead The VA

January 2017: Donald Trump Announced That He Would Appoint David Shulkin, Then A VA Undersecretary, To Lead The VA. “Donald Trump announced Wednesday that he would name David Shulkin to head the Department of Veterans Affairs. ‘And by the way, speaking of veterans, I appointed today the head secretary of the Veterans Administration, David Shulkin,’ Trump said during a wide-ranging press conference,

adding, ‘He's fantastic. He will do a truly great job.’” [NBC News, [1/11/17](#)]

Shulkin Was The First Non-Veteran To Lead The VA. “A board-certified internist and a fellow of the American College of Physicians, Shulkin would be the first non-veteran to ever serve as VA secretary, according to the Military Times.” [NBC News, [1/11/17](#)]

Parnell Expressed His Disappointment With Trump’s Pick

Parnell Expressed His Disappointment With Trump’s Pick. “I had high hopes that the Trump administration would take the #VA in a new direction & maybe they still will. But I'm disappointed.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/11/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/11/17](#)]

Parnell Reinforced His Disappointment With A GIF From “Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade” Indicating That Trump “Chose Poorly.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

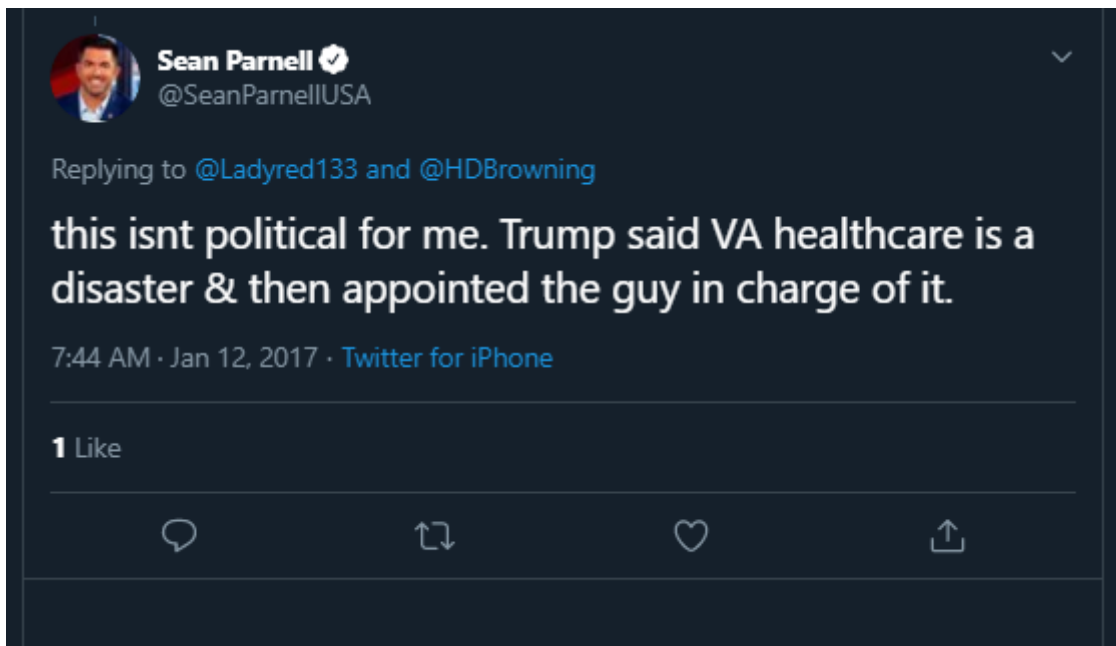
Parnell Accused Trump Of Not Being True To His Word

Parnell Said That He Was Sick Of Waiting For VA Reform After “8 Years Of Hell.” “It’s been 8 years of hell. I’m sick of waiting for reform.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

Parnell Accused Trump Of Going Back On His Word, Appointing A Figure That Had Led Part Of A VA That Trump Called A “Disaster.” “this isn’t political for me. Trump said VA healthcare is a disaster & then appointed the guy in charge of it.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

... Who Backtracked And Fully Embraced Donald Trump, The Administration, And Trump Brand

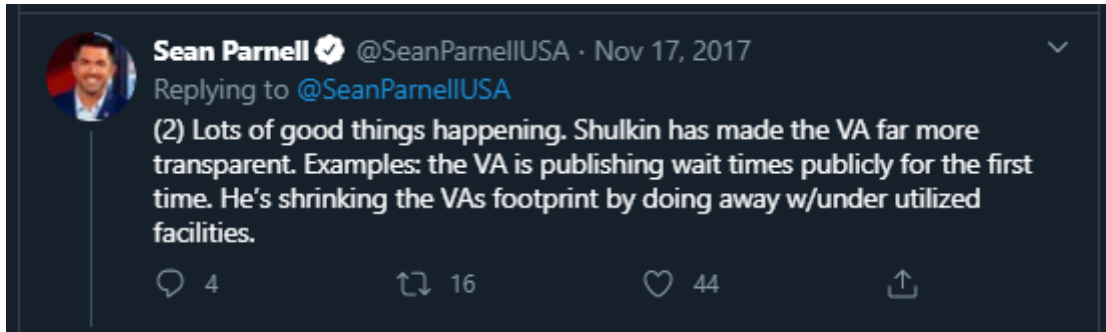
Late 2017: Parnell Backtracked His Comments On Secretary Shulkin And Praised The VA Leader After Meeting With Him

November 2017: Parnell Backtracked And Praised Secretary Shulkin After Meeting With Him. “(1) Had a great meeting with the VA Secretary yesterday. The good news? Shulkin is a good man that cares about helping our nation’s vets. He agrees that the VA needs significant reform.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



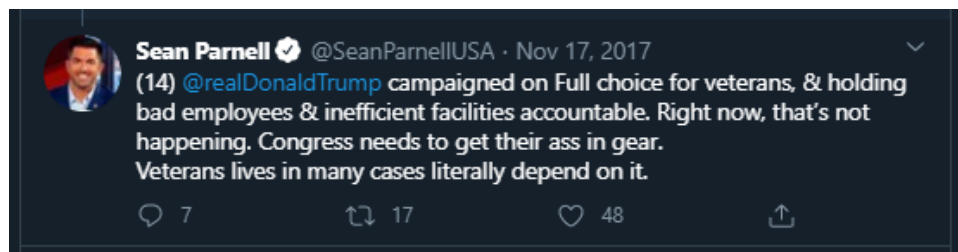
[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

Parnell Said That “Lots Of Good Things Are Happening” Under Shulkin’s Leadership. “Lots of good things happening. Shulkin has made the VA far more transparent. Examples: the VA is publishing wait times publicly for the first time. He’s shrinking the VAs footprint by doing away w/under utilized facilities.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

Parnell Concluded That Congress Needed To “Get Its Ass In Gear” To Make Trump’s Campaign Promises On The VA A Reality. “@realDonaldTrump campaigned on Full choice for veterans, & holding bad employees & inefficient facilities accountable. Right now, that’s not happening. Congress needs to get their ass in gear. Veterans lives in many cases literally depend on it.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

2019: Parnell Said That Trump “Earned My Respect”

2019: Parnell Said His Position Had Changed And That “Trump Earned My Respect. “‘Trump earned my respect since he’s been in office,’ Parnell said. ‘Because he forces us to talk about issues. Political correctness doesn’t allow us to talk about them.’” [WITF, [10/31/19](#)]

Parnell Acknowledged That He Did Not Agree Elements Of Trump’s Presentation, But Defended The Results

Parnell Acknowledged He Did Not Agree With Trump’s Presentation, But Defended The Results. “‘When his past criticisms of Mr. Trump were brought up Tuesday night, Mr. Parnell said that although he may not always agree with the president’s message, he can’t deny the results. ‘You can dislike his presentation, but you can’t argue with his success in the White House and the things that he’s set forth to do,’ Mr. Parnell said.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [10/30/19](#)]

Parnell Embraced The Trump Family

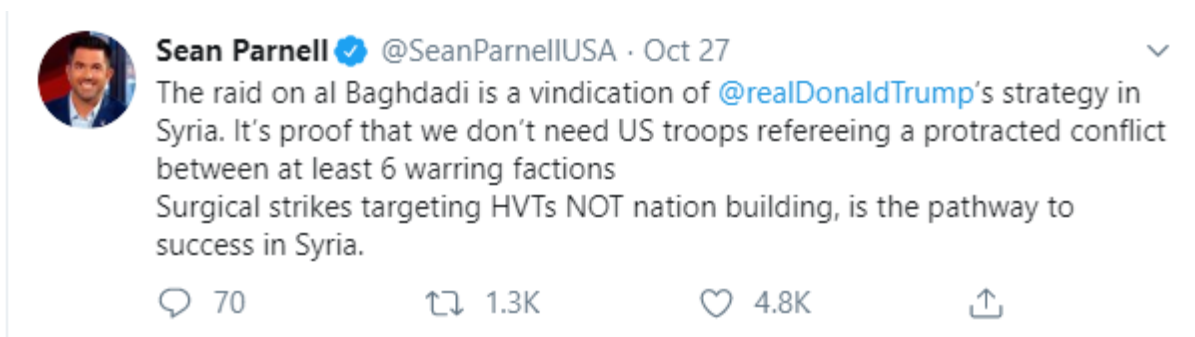
Parnell Tweeted Photo Of Himself With Donald Trump Jr. [Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/30/19](#)]



[Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/30/19](#)]

Parnell Expressed Support For Trump's Baghdadi Raid And Syria Policy

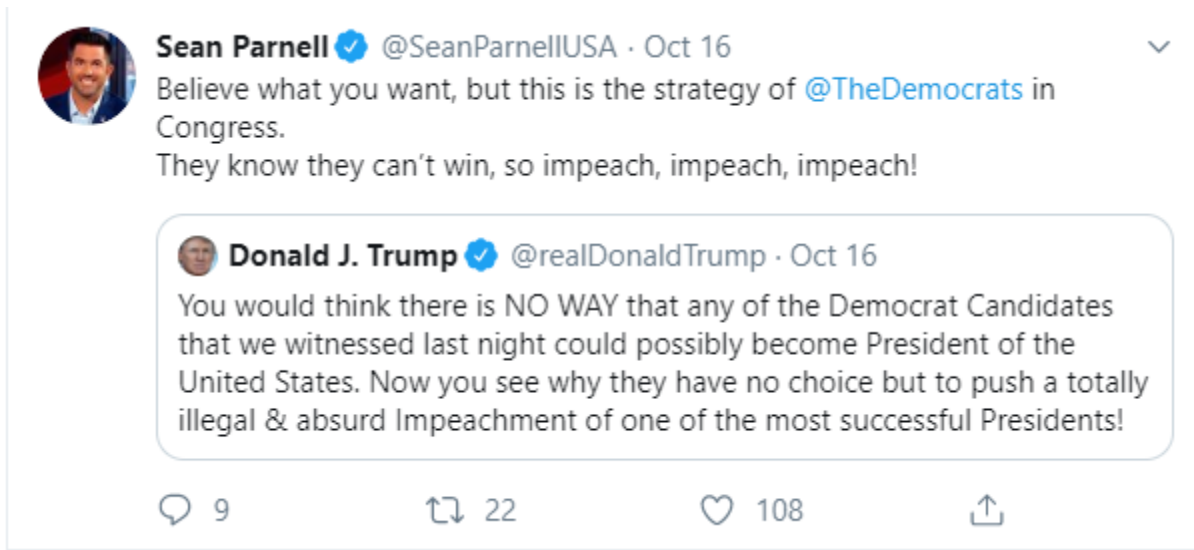
Parnell Tweeted Support For Trump's Baghdadi Raid And Syria Policy. "The raid on al Baghdadi is a vindication of @realDonaldTrump's strategy in Syria. It's proof that we don't need US troops refereeing a protracted conflict between at least 6 warring factions Surgical strikes targeting HVTs NOT nation building, is the pathway to success in Syria." [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/27/19](#)]



[Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/27/19](#)]

Parnell Was A Critic Of Impeachment

Parnell Tweeted Criticism Democrats' Impeachment Efforts. "Believe what you want, but this is the strategy of @TheDemocrats in Congress. They know they can't win, so impeach, impeach, impeach!" [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/16/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/16/19](#)]

2018: Parnell Said That The US Military “Loves And Adores” Donald Trump

Parnell Expressed His Belief That Soldiers In The US Military “Love And Adore” Donald Trump

On Fox News, Parnell Defended Political Comments That Donald Trump Made On A Visit To Iraq And Said That The Troops “Love And Adore” Trump. “I’ve lead soldiers on the battlefield, I know how much it means to have a VIP come to your base. I also know what a tremendous honor it would be to have the Commander-In-Chief come to your base. So, when I saw President Trump out there visiting the troops, I mean clearly the troops love and adore him. Even if you don’t agree with all of his political positions, he’s still the commander of the United States Military and you show him deference and respect. He was surely and clearly met with enthusiasm.” [Fox News Network, Fox & Friends [12/28/18](#)]



[Fox News Network, Fox & Friends [12/28/18](#)]

Parnell Dismissed Criticism That Trump Was Treating Visits To The Troops Like A Campaign Rally

Parnell Dismissed Criticism That Trump Was Treating Visits To The Troops Like A Campaign Rally. “And all the criticism about the president. Visiting the troops and it’s like a campaign rally? It’s not like he has these troops marching down Pennsylvania Avenue knocking on doors for him! They simply showed up to see the president speak and greet him in Iraq.” [Fox News Network, Fox & Friends [12/28/18](#)]

In The Same Interview, Parnell Encouraged Soldiers To Violate DoD Protocol Against Political Activity And Ask Trump To Sign Their MAGA Hats

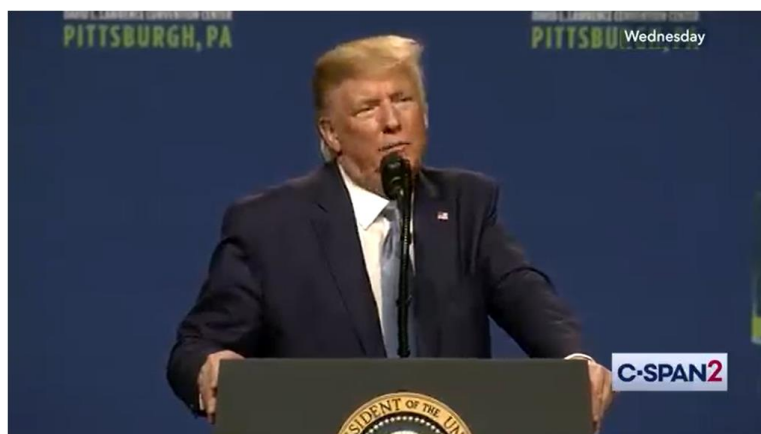
Parnell Encouraged Soldiers To Violate DoD Protocol Against Political Activity And Ask Trump To Sign Their MAGA Hats. “Q: Would it surprise you if a few of those guys and gals had MAGA hats in their duffel bags and they pulled them out and asked ‘hey would you sign it?’” PARNELL: ‘No not at all! I mean, in fact, I would encourage! I mean, look, these men and women are making life and death decisions every day. The fact of the matter is, when you’re in combat, you don’t know if you’re going to be around tomorrow. So if you’ve got a MAGA hat in your mag or you’ve got a Trump flag in your bag, and you want to bring to meet the president to get him to sign it, God, just let them have it!” [Fox News Network, Fox & Friends [12/28/18](#)]

Parnell Embraced Trump’s Endorsement

VIDEO: October 2019: Trump Praised Parnell As An Opponent To Conor Lamb At An Energy Company Forum In Pittsburgh

October 2019: Trump Praised Parnell As An Opponent To Conor Lamb At An Energy Company Forum In Pittsburgh. “In the middle of his address at the Marcellus Shale Insight conference, President Trump launched into an attack on local Congressman Conor Lamb. ‘Democrat Conor Lamb,’ Trump said to boos from the crowd. [...] So on Wednesday, he pitched a Republican to oppose Lamb. ‘There’s a guy named Sean Parnell who’s a fantastic military man, brilliant, got everything going,’ said Trump. ‘And I heard, fellows,’ Trump said, looking at the local Republican congressmen in the audience, ‘maybe my genius congressman can tell me. I hear that Sean, Sean Parnell, is going to run against Conor Lamb.’ Parnell, who lives in Cranberry, is an army combat veteran who served in Afghanistan and is now an accomplished author who appears on Fox News.” [KDKA, 10/24/20]

VIDEO: Trump Said That Parnell Would “Work For Us.” “And he should win. He should win. And Sean will vote for us, and he’ll work for us.” [CSPAN, [10/23/19](#)]



[CSPAN, [10/23/19](#)]

Days Later, Parnell Announced His Run For PA-17 On “Fox & Friends.” “Sean Parnell said he was asleep last week when President Donald Trump announced that the Army veteran was going to challenge U.S. Rep. Conor Lamb in Pennsylvania’s 17th congressional district. Speaking Tuesday night at the Allegheny County Republican Committee, Mr. Parnell said he had no idea how Mr. Trump knew his plan or that the president was going to make it public. [...] Mr. Parnell officially announced his candidacy at the Republican committee’s fall reception hours after he appeared on ‘Fox and Friends’ and said he planned to run against Mr. Lamb, a Mt. Lebanon Democrat who beat third-term Republican Keith Rothfus last year by 12 percentage points. Mr. Trump floated Mr. Parnell's name as a possible candidate for the 17th district last week in his keynote speech to the annual Shale Insight conference in Pittsburgh.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [10/30/19](#)]

December 2019: Trump Formally Endorsed Parnell

December 2019: Trump Reiterated His Endorsement Of Parnell On Twitter. “On the morning of his likely impeachment, President Donald Trump took to Twitter to again endorse the Army combat veteran running against Democrat Conor Lamb for Western Pennsylvania’s 17th Congressional District. Mr. Trump wrote that Republican candidate Sean Parnell ‘is a great patriot and will do a fantastic job’ and ‘has my total and complete endorsement.’ responding to a tweet by the candidate asking for donations. The president also quoted a tweet from conservative commentator Dan Bongino that referred to Mr. Lamb's support of impeachment, writing, Sean P is a much stronger candidate!’ Mr. Trump had previously endorsed Mr. Parnell's candidacy, but these tweets came just a half-hour before the House began to debate two articles of impeachment against him - and amid a flurry of tweets and retweets blasting Democrats for the proceedings.[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [12/18/19](#)]



[Donald Trump, Twitter, [12/18/19](#)]

Parnell Thanked Trump For His Endorsement. “Mr. Parnell, who, announced his candidacy in October claiming that Mr. Lamb votes in ‘lockstep’ with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, thanked the president for his words Wednesday morning. ‘It’s an honor to have the opportunity to serve our great nation once again,’ Mr. Parnell wrote. ‘I’ve got your back & will always stand in defense of freedom for all Americans.’ In a press call with reporters later Wednesday, Eric Trump, the president's son and executive vice president of the Trump Organization, said the 29 congressional Democrats in the districts his father carried in 2016 - including Mr. Lamb - are ‘going back to their districts and getting bombarded by people who are saying, ‘this is a sham.’ Asked by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette how he’d weigh that statement with the crowd that gathered outside Mr. Lamb's office Tuesday night to support his vote, Mr. Trump reiterated that people are ‘universally upset’ about what's happening and it's resulting in more donors to his father's re-election campaign. ‘I’ll be out on the road in 2020 and I’ll be in every single one of those districts using [impeachment] against them,’ Mr. Trump said.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [12/18/19](#)]

Parnell Embraced The Trump Peace Deal With The Taliban, Despite His Earlier Opposition

Parnell Opposed The Trump Administration’s Peace Deal With The Taliban, But Then Reversed Course And Then Backed Trump’s Plan

2019: Parnell Opposed A US-Taliban Peace Deal, Calling It “Garbage”

Parnell Said That People Should Be Weary Of Any Proposed Peace Deal With The Taliban. “Read this thread if care about what’s happening in Afghanistan. Ben is exactly right in his analysis & we should be wary of any peace deal with the Taliban.” [Sean Parnell, [8/10/19](#)]

2019: Parnell Opposed A US-Taliban Peace Deal, Calling It “Garbage.” “The US/Afghan “Peace” deal is actually a garbage deal, with no peace. I want out of Afghanistan just as bad as most Americans, but HOW we leave is important, and right now this deal stinks to high heaven.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [9/3/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [9/3/19](#)]

2020: Parnell Reversed Course, And Praised Trump’s Peace Deal With The Taliban

2020: Parnell Reversed Course, And Praised Trump’s Peace Deal With The Taliban. “I’m grateful for @realDonaldTrump & his administration’s efforts in support of a peace deal in Afghanistan. We’ve been at war there my entire adult life. Americans have been bleeding the ground red for nearly two decades with no end in sight. This deal was long overdue.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/3/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/3/20](#)]

Parnell Misrepresented His Work For Veterans

Significant Findings

- ✓ Parnell was a co-founder of the American Warrior Initiative, a charitable organization that presented itself as an advocate for veterans.
 - ✓ The website for AWI described “hundreds of giveback initiatives” that it engaged in on behalf of veterans.
 - ✓ Tax filings indicate that the stated legal objectives of AWI were to “give an education platform to real estate agents and mortgage professionals.”
 - ✓ Tax filings for AWI indicate that Parnell was not compensated for his role as one of the Directors of AWI.
 - ✓ Parnell was, however, paid over \$700,000 by the Fairway Independent Mortgage Company from 2018-2019 as an “independent consultant.”
 - ✓ This compensation suggests that Parnell was being paid for his non-profit work, which was acting as a public face for the organization and generating business for Fairway.
 - ✓ As AWI was founded in 2013, Parnell has likely received millions in compensation by Fairway.

Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative, Which Branded Itself As A Charitable Organization That Solely Focused On Aid To Veterans

2013: Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative, Which Stated That It Aimed To Aid Suffering Veterans

Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative

2013: Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative (AWI). “Mr. Parnell, 37, grew up in Oakland and Murrysville and now lives in Cranberry with his wife and three children. Although he left Afghanistan in 2007 and the Army in 2010, “the war is always with me,” he said in a telephone interview. He chooses to channel his experiences and memories in positive ways, including writing two books and co-founding the American Warrior Initiative to help men and women who served in the military. Dogs are an important part of the nonprofit foundation. The American Warrior Initiative, founded in 2013, has teamed 40 highly trained service dogs with veterans dealing with traumatic brain injury and/or post-traumatic stress.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

AWI Described Parnell As “One Of America’s Most Influential Advocates For Our Military.” “Since leaving the Army, Sean penned the New York Times bestselling book, *Outlaw Platoon*, which is the story of his platoon’s crucible of combat in Eastern Afghanistan. He has also quietly become one of America’s most influential advocates for our military. He is the Co-Founder of the American Warrior Initiative, an organization that inspires people to give back to our nation’s veterans, and a regular contributor to Fox News.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Leaders



Louise Thaxton

NATIONAL SPEAKER & AUTHOR, VETERANS
ADVOCATE, MORTGAGE PROFESSIONAL



Sean Parnell

DECORATED COMBAT VETERAN, NYT BEST-SELLING
AUTHOR

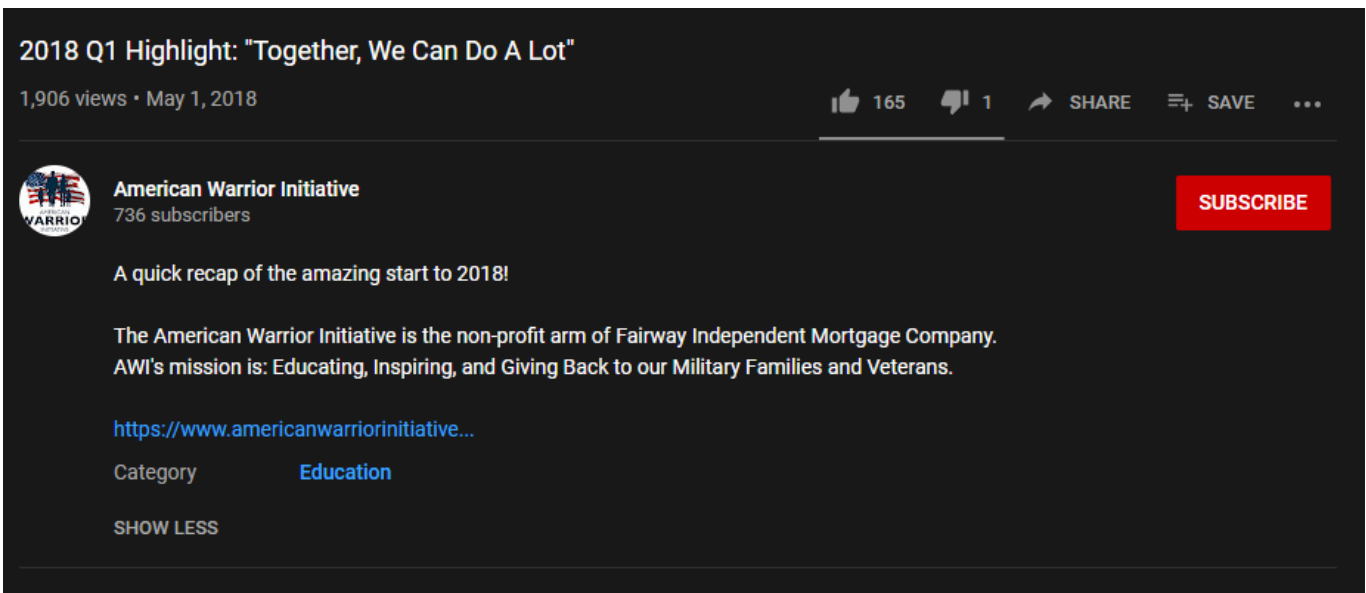
[American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

According To Their Website, AWI Sponsored “Hundreds Of Give Back Initiatives” Providing Wounded Veterans With Service Dogs And Grants

According To Their Website, AWI Sponsored “Hundreds Of Give Back Initiatives” Providing Wounded Veterans With Service Dogs And Grants. “In 2018 AWI launched Freedom Tours with Gold Star mom Karen Vaughn. From her unique perspective—as a mom whose son was killed in action in Afghanistan—Karen shares a powerful message on our obligation as everyday citizens to honor the sacrifice of those who’ve given so much for our freedom. AWI has spearheaded hundreds of give-back initiatives to the wounded heroes of America. These wounded heroes have been served through the gifting of service dogs, business grants, home upgrades, mortgage-free housing, and more.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

According To AWI, It Was The Non-Profit Arm Of The Fairway Independent Mortgage Company

According To AWI, It Was The Non-Profit Arm Of The Fairway Independent Mortgage Company. “The American Warrior Initiative is the non-profit arm of Fairway Independent Mortgage Company. AWI’s mission is: Educating, Inspiring, and Giving Back to our Military Families and Veterans.” [American Warrior Initiative, YouTube, accessed [3/25/20](#)]



2018 Q1 Highlight: "Together, We Can Do A Lot"

1,906 views · May 1, 2018

165 likes, 1 comment, SHARE, SAVE, ...

American Warrior Initiative
736 subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

A quick recap of the amazing start to 2018!

The American Warrior Initiative is the non-profit arm of Fairway Independent Mortgage Company. AWI's mission is: Educating, Inspiring, and Giving Back to our Military Families and Veterans.

<https://www.americanwarriorinitiative...>

Category: **Education**

SHOW LESS

[American Warrior Initiative, YouTube, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Was Incorporated As A 501(c)3, With Its Stated Focus To Give An Education Platform To “Real Estate Agents And Mortgage Professionals”

AWI Was Incorporated As A 501(c) 3

AWI Was Incorporated As A 501(c)3 That Stated It Wanted To Help Americans “Give Back To Our Military.” “The objective of the non-profit American Warrior Initiative 501(c)3 is to educate, encourage and inspire Americans to give back to our military.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Further Stated That Its Mission Was To Educate Real Estate Agents To The Needs Of Military And Veteran Clients. “A key part of this initiative is the education platform for real estate agents and mortgage professionals. [...] Boot camps are held throughout the country in which real estate agents have the opportunity to not only receive continuing education credits, but also be a part of our veteran initiatives- wherein we meet local veterans’ needs. The objective in offering the CE course is to provide a platform whereby Real Estate Professionals can be trained and equipped to handle with excellence the home purchase needs of active duty and former military clients. Also, exclusive to Fairway loan professionals is the Military Mortgage Specialist™ Designation. This Designation thoroughly trains and equips mortgage loan professionals, loan processors, closers, loan assistants, and branch managers to handle with excellence the mortgage loan needs of our active and former military clients.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Claimed That They Had Talked To Over 30,000 People A Real Estate Professional “Boot Camps.” “They have taken this message to over 30,000 real estate agents and other business professionals around the country, at the American Warrior Real Estate Professional (AWREP) Boot Camps, bringing awareness of the challenges facing the men and women who have served in the military when returning from war.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

According To The IRS, AWI Was Classified As A Private Foundation

According To The IRS, AWI Was Classified As A Private Foundation. [Internal Revenue Service, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

Publication 78 Data

Organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions. Users may rely on this list in determining deductibility of their contributions.

On Publication 78 Data List: Yes

Deductibility Code: PF

[Internal Revenue Service, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

In 2018, AWI Had Over \$1.3 Million In Net Assets And Spent \$524,303 On Charitable Grants And Contributions

By The End of 2018, AWI Had Over \$1.3 Million In Net Assets. According to the Internal Revenue Service, AWI had a net of \$1,341,638 in assets at the end of the 2018 calendar year, their highest on record. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Net	30	Total net assets or fund balances (see instructions)	1,100,139	1,341,638
	31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see instructions) .	1,221,463	1,497,847

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

According To The IRS, AWI Spent \$524,303 On Charitable Grants And Contributions In 2018. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

2015-2018: According To IRS Filings, Parnell Received No Compensation From AWI For His Position As Director

2015-2018: According To IRS Filings, Parnell Received No Compensation From AWI For His Position As Director. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filings, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

2015-2018: According To IRS Filings, Parnell Worked About One Hour Per Week For AWI In His Position As Director. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filings, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

NAME AND ADDRESS	TITLE AND AVRG HRS/WK	COMPEN- SATION	EMPLOYEE BEN PLAN CONTRIB	EXPENSE ACCOUNT
STEVEN JACOBSON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
LEONARD KRUPINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
TODD GAVINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
SEAN PARNELL 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
LOUISE THAXTON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
TOTALS INCLUDED ON 990-PF, PAGE 6, PART VIII		0.	0.	0.

FORM 990-PF SUMMARY OF DIRECT CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES STATEMENT 2

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2015, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Form 990PF Part VIII Line 1 - List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation

(a) Name and address	Title, and average (b) hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
STEVEN JACOBSON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LEONARD KRUPINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
TODD GAVINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
SEAN PARNELL 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LOUISE THAXTON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2016, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Form 990PF Part VIII Line 1 - List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation

(a) Name and address	Title, and average hours per week (b) devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	Expense account, (e) other allowances
STEVEN JACOBSON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LEONARD KRUPINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
TODD GAVINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
SEAN PARNELL 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LOUISE THAXTON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2017, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Form 990PF Part VIII Line 1 - List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation

(a) Name and address	Title, and average hours per week (b) devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	Expense account, (e) other allowances
STEVEN JACOBSON 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	PRESIDENT 1 00	0	0	0
TODD GAVINSKI 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LEONARD KRUPINSKI 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
SEAN PARNELL 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LOUISE THAXTON 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Parnell Wasn't Paid By AWI, But Likely Received Millions From Fairway Mortgage, Likely For Driving Veterans To Do Their Business With Fairway

While Parnell Didn't Receive Compensation From AWI, He Was Paid Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars By Fairway Mortgage As An "Independent Consultant"

2018-2019: According To Parnell’s Personal Financial Disclosure, He Was Paid Over \$700,000 By Fairway Independent Mortgage Company Over A Two-Year Period

According To Parnell’s 2019 Personal Financial Disclosure, He Was Paid \$706,516.23 For Work As An “Independent Consultant.” [Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

AWI Ran A Scholarship Program Called “The Collin Cross Entrepreneurial Scholarship”

AWI Ran A Scholarship Program Called “The Collin Cross Entrepreneurial Scholarship.” “Collin Cross was born in 1996. From the time he could walk Collin carried a briefcase almost everywhere he went. He was an eclectic synthesis of spontaneity, originality and pure, unadulterated, genius. He was a dreamer and adventurer. Always driven by the thrill of discovery, Collin scoured the spectrum of life with an open mind and entrepreneurial spirit. In early 2017, Collin’s life was tragically cut short. In his honor, The Collin Cross Entrepreneurial scholarship was established and will be awarded to those who exemplify Excellence, Character, Passion and Tenacity.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

2018: AWI’s Form 990-PF Indicated It Paid \$15,000 For An Individual’s Cancer Treatment In Mexico

2018: AWI’s Form 990-PF Indicated It Paid \$15,000 For The Cancer Treatment Of Someone Named Angel Vazquez, Which AWI Stated Occurred In Mexico. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Form 990PF Part XV Line 3 - Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

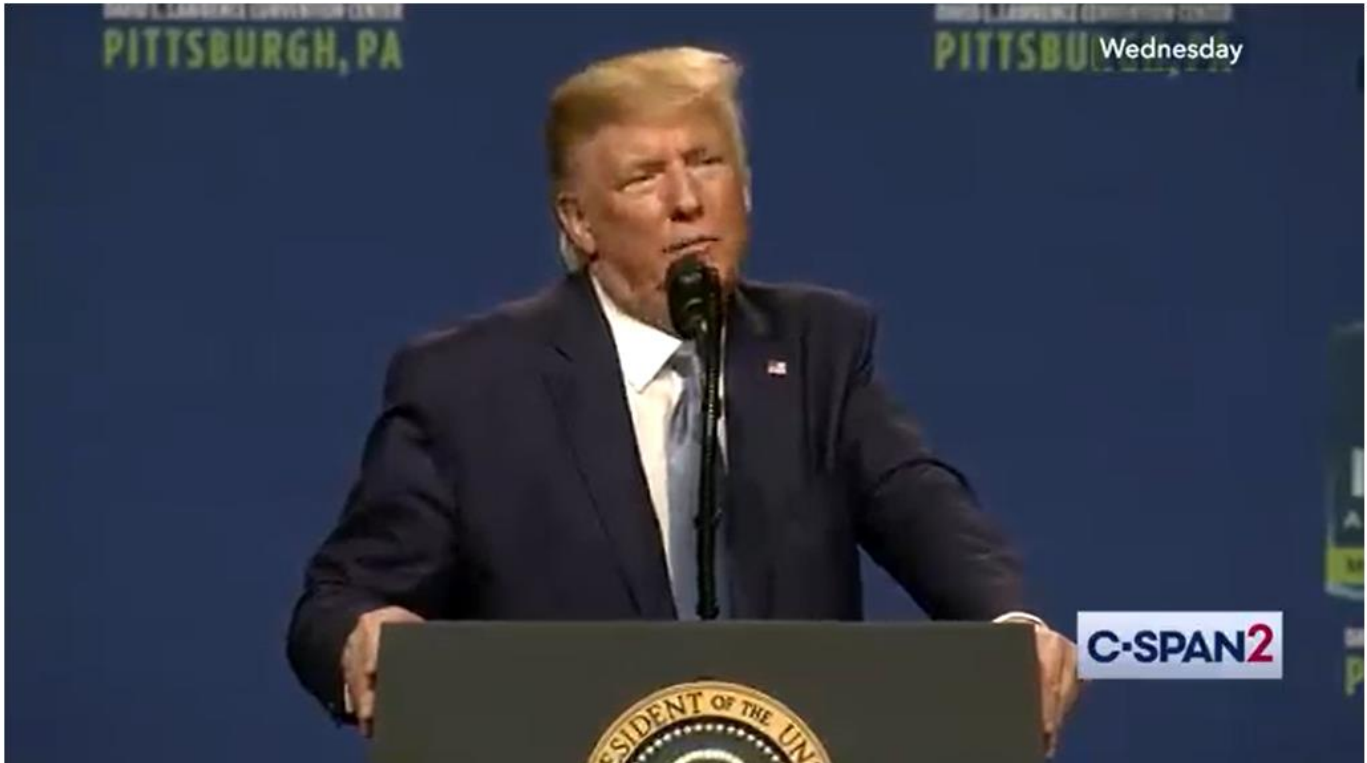
Recipient	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
Name and address (home or business)				
a Paid during the year				
ANGEL VAZQUEZ 4301 S VALLEY VIEW BLVD STE 2 LAS VEGAS, NV 891034007	NONE	I	CANCER TREATMENT IN MEXICO	15,000

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Key Visuals

Video

Trump Suggesting That Parnell Would Challenge Lamb And That He Would “Work For Us.”



[CSPAN, [10/23/19](#)]

Parnell Praising Trump’s Visit To The Troops In Iraq.



[Fox News Network, Fox & Friends [12/28/18](#)]

Parnell As A Rubio Surrogate.



FOX NEWS LIVE **RUBIO RISING** **AMERICA'S ELECTION HQ**
SENATOR GAINS ENDORSEMENTS AHEAD OF NV CAUCUS

0:29 / 3:03

Capt. Sean Parnell Supports Marco On FOX & Friends | Marco Rubio for President

1,023 views · Feb 23, 2016

43 4 SHARE SAVE

Marco Rubio 18.4K subscribers **SUBSCRIBE**

Capt. Sean Parnell, who served our country in Afghanistan, says Marco is the "unifying voice our country needs."

SHOW MORE

[Marco Rubio, YouTube, [2/23/16](#)]

Images

Parnell And Donald Trump, Jr.



[Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/30/19](#)]

Parnell As A Leader Of American Warrior Initiative.

AWI Leaders



Louise Thaxton

NATIONAL SPEAKER & AUTHOR, VETERANS
ADVOCATE, MORTGAGE PROFESSIONAL



Sean Parnell

DECORATED COMBAT VETERAN, NYT BEST-SELLING
AUTHOR

[American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

Front Pages

Facing down terrorists

Former Army Ranger led his platoon against barbaric insurgents along Pakistan border

By Torsten Ove
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The American platoon stopped its Humvees in the road.

Ahead, a small boy of about 6, dressed in rags, staggered in circles.

Army Ranger Sean Parnell and his men were wary. It was July 2006 and they'd been in combat on the remote Afghan-Pakistan border for five months.

When the soldiers moved close enough, they saw that someone had gouged out the boy's eyes and burned the sockets black with a heated instrument. His teeth had also been knocked out.

"Jesus Christ, what is this?" said a hard-bitten sergeant.

In the nearby village, the unit's interpreter, Yusef, talked to an elder and learned what happened. The insurgents had swept through this village and punished the inhabitants for cooperating with the coalition.

They kidnapped the oldest grandson of the elder and took him to the mountains, where they gouged out his eyes and raped him for weeks.

The platoon medic did what he could for the boy and other brutalized children in this place the men came to call



Robin Rombach/Post-Gazette

Lt. Sean Parnell of Cranberry with his book "Outlaw Platoon."

the "Village of the Damned." The elder thanked them and they drove on, even the toughest among them stunned by what they'd seen.

SEE **PLATOON**, PAGE E-4

Personal & Professional History

Biography

This section provides background information on Parnell's personal life, including education, personal finances, criminal and civil record, and other areas. Searches were conducted with various local media in Allegheny And Butler Counties, media outlets including the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, the Pittsburgh Tribune Review, as well as a number of other online resources, including Lexis-Nexis.

Education

2000-2002: Parnell Attended Clarion University And Was Enrolled When 9/11 Occurred

Parnell Attended Clarion University And Was Enrolled When 9/11 Occurred. "Lt. Parnell was attending Clarion University when he watched 9/11 unfold on television. Enraged, he joined the Army and found purpose, transforming from a listless college kid into a reed-tough Ranger with the 10th Mountain Division. He shipped off for Afghanistan in 2006 to take command of a 40-man platoon, nicknamed the Outlaws, with the goal of rooting out the Haqqani Network near the Pakistan border." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Stated That If 9/11 Had Not Occurred, He Would Have "Continued To Drift" At Clarion. "I'd been drifting through life without purpose, studying elementary education at Clarion University. [...] Had it not been for 9/11, I would have continued to drift." [Sean Parnell, Outlaw Platoon, 53-54]

2002-2004: Parnell Transferred To Duquesne University In Pittsburgh Where He Enrolled In The ROTC Program

Parnell Transferred To Duquesne University In Pittsburgh Where He Enrolled In The ROTC Program. "I remembered back to the night before the attacks. It had been a typical college Monday. We had studied, drunk, an eaten Pizza until I staggered off to bed long after midnight. The next morning, I'd awoken to an apartment scattered with empty beer cans clicked on the television, and watched the towers collapse. [...] I'd transferred from Clarion to Duquesne University so I could enroll in the ROTC program there.

Parnell Earned A Degree In History And Completed The ROTC Program, Commissioning Into The Army As A Second Lieutenant. "Two years later, I'd completed my coursework, earning a degree in history, and the army had commissioned me as a second lieutenant." [Sean Parnell, Outlaw Platoon, 54]

According To His LinkedIn, Parnell Graduated From Duquesne University In 2004 And Received A B.A. In History And Psychology. [Sean Parnell, LinkedIn, accessed [3/20/20](#)]

Parnell Was A Member Of The Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. [Sean Parnell, LinkedIn, accessed [3/20/20](#)]

2010-2012: Parnell Returned To Duquesne University To Obtain His Masters In Clinical Psychology

2010-2012: Parnell Returned To Duquesne University To Obtain His Masters In Clinical Psychology. [Sean Parnell, LinkedIn, accessed [3/20/20](#)]

Career

The following provides a brief overview of Parnell's professional career:

Professional

- **2005-2010: United States Army. Final Rank: Captain**
- **2013-Present: American Warrior Initiative: Director**

Military Career

Parnell Was Inspired To Join Army By The Events Of 9/11

Parnell Was Inspired To Join Army By Events Of 9/11. “Lt. Parnell was attending Clarion University when he watched 9/11 unfold on television. Enraged, he joined the Army and found purpose, transforming from a listless college kid into a reed-tough Ranger with the 10th Mountain Division.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Entered The Army As A Second Lieutenant

Parnell Entered The Army As A Second Lieutenant. “Mr. Parnell graduated from Duquesne University, where he took the ROTC path that enabled him to enter the Army as a second lieutenant.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 9/28/18]

2006-2007: Parnell Was A Platoon Commander In The 10th Mountain Light Infantry Division, Serving In Active Combat Roles In Afghanistan

2006-2007: Parnell Was A Platoon Commander In The 10th Mountain Light Infantry Division, Serving In Active Combat Roles In Afghanistan. “Lt. Sean Parnell, a former Army Ranger, led his platoon against barbaric insurgents along Pakistan border in 2006-07. [...] Lt. Parnell was attending Clarion University when he watched 9/11 unfold on television. Enraged, he joined the Army and found purpose, transforming from a listless college kid into a reed-tough Ranger with the 10th Mountain Division.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell’s Platoon Had Goal Of Rooting Out The Haqqani Network Near The Pakistan Border. “He shipped off for Afghanistan in 2006 to take command of a 40-man platoon, nicknamed the Outlaws, with the goal of rooting out the Haqqani Network near the Pakistan border. His book details his 16 months in combat, engaging Pakistan-based insurgents in numerous firefights in the mountains of Paktika Province.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Openly Spoke About The Traumatic Moments He Faced While Deployed In Afghanistan

Parnell Spoke About His “Alive Day,” June 10, 2006, Where His Platoon Was Ambushed And His Men Inspired Him To Continue Fighting

Parnell Described An Ambush On June 10, 2006 As His “Alive Day” Where He Would Have Died If Not For His Soldiers. “June 10, 2006, is the day in my mind that I call my ‘Alive Day.’ [...] They had 200-plus enemy troops, and I had 24 guys on the ground. So we fought like hell for probably what felt like forever, and the attack was pretty relentless. [...] You always hear that the American military is the best in the battlefield because of our technology and our weapon systems, and all of that is partly true, but really what separates us from our enemy is ... the love and brotherhood that we share with each other. You always hear great leaders are supposed to inspire their troops through their actions, but the reality of the situation is on that day it was great troops inspire their leader. For me, I saw the selfless acts of my soldiers trying to save one another every minute during that fight, and that was really what inspired me to fight further, faster, and harder than I ever thought that I could. So after six or seven hours of this intense firefight, we eventually fought the enemy off, fought the enemy to a stalemate, actually. We had to drop something like 21 what you call JDAMs, 21 2,000-pound bombs—a JDAM is a Joint Direct Attack Munition—just to break the enemies’ will to fight that day.” [Daily Signal, Interview with Virginia Allen, 10/07/19]

Parnell Described An Ambush Where Enemy Outnumbered His Platoon 10 To 1. “Parnell described the

events of a firefight on June 10, 2006. Assessing the landscape that day, Parnell ordered artillery to be fired into a cave on the mountain above which the enemy was using to stage attacks. Parnell was wounded three times that day. He was lying on the ground after regaining consciousness when one of his soldiers grabbed him and pulled Parnell away as bullets impacted the ground all around him. ‘I was watching hell descend on us, Parnell said. They had us dialed in and were waiting for the sun to attack us when our artillery fire interrupted them.’[...] He said the enemy soldiers possibly Al Qaeda or Taliban were preparing to attack and had Parnell’s platoon outnumbered 10 to one. ‘They carried knives. They just wanted to overrun our position, cut off our heads and film it,’ Parnell said.” [Herald Standard, 4/17/17]

Parnell Claimed He Was Inspired By The Men In His Platoon Who Attempted To Save Their Fellow Soldiers’ Lives. “He spoke with passion about the heroics of Sgt. Philip Baldwin, who was more concerned with stemming the flow of blood to a fellow soldiers wounds than to tend to his own leg wound. ‘I’m watching Phil Baldwin selflessly trying to save another soldiers life,’ Parnell said. Good leaders are supposed to inspire their troops, but in that moment, I learned that great soldiers inspire their leaders. That inspired Parnell to stand despite his initial shrapnel wounds. Whether you’re an officer or a manager or a CEO, you work for your troops, Parnell said. The power and trust you invest in your people, they will give back to you and you give it right back to them. [...] He said the platoon would win the day because of the brotherhood of love. Afghan National troops and a U.S. platoon in the area helped them fight the enemy back to a stalemate and evacuate their wounded. He said medic Jose Pantoja, a Mexican immigrant who wanted to serve his new country he loved, was an example of the men who came from varying backgrounds but served together. He said Baldwin left a high-paying union job at age 35, motivated by 9/11, to serve as well. Pantoja and Parnell pulled Baldwin out of the firefight, wounded and bleeding, and carried him to the aid station.” [Herald Standard, 4/17/17]

Parnell Described The Moment Where His Platoon Found The “Village Of The Dammed,” A Village Where Insurgents Punished The Inhabitants For Cooperating With The Coalition

Parnell Described The Moment Where His Platoon Found The “Village Of The Dammed,” A Village Where Insurgents Punished The Inhabitants For Cooperating With The Coalition. “The American platoon stopped its Humvees in the road. Ahead, a small boy of about 6, dressed in rags, staggered in circles. Army Ranger Sean Parnell and his men were wary. It was July 2006 and they’d been in combat on the remote Afghan-Pakistan border for five months. When the soldiers moved close enough, they saw that someone had gouged out the boy’s eyes and burned the sockets black with a heated instrument. His teeth had also been knocked out. ‘Jesus Christ, what is this?’ said a hard-bitten sergeant. In the nearby village, the unit’s interpreter, Yusef, talked to an elder and learned what happened. The insurgents had swept through this village and punished the inhabitants for cooperating with the coalition. They kidnapped the oldest grandson of the elder and took him to the mountains, where they gouged out his eyes and raped him for weeks. The platoon medic did what he could for the boy and other brutalized children in this place the men came to call the ‘Village of the Damned.’” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Was Deeply Impacted By A Girl Who Died In His Arms On His First Day In Afghanistan

Parnell Was Deeply Impacted By A Girl Who Died In His Arms On His First Day In Afghanistan. “The book differs from other memoirs coming out of Afghanistan in that Mr. Parnell includes an internal dialogue that reveals a sensitive leader. He’s deeply affected by everything he endures, starting with his first day in Paktika when a little girl dies in his arms after a rocket blows off part of her leg. ‘It was hard for me to see that,’ he says. ‘I felt like part of me was dying.’” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Criticized Afghan Border Police, The Afghan National Army, The Sincerity Of The Pakistanis, And Even The Actions Of American Soldiers On Base

Parnell Criticized Actions Of Other Soldiers On Base: “Combat Is A Horrible Thing To Go Through. Some People Crack. That Doesn’t Mean They’re A Bad Person”

Parnell Criticized Actions Of Other Soldiers On Base. “Parnell recounts incidents where his men came home tired and bedraggled only to learn that those who had stayed behind used all of the hot water, or took all the seats in the mess hall, forcing his men to eat standing up. One sergeant, nicknamed R. Kelly, made a point of getting up early in the morning and singing at the top of his lungs, waking Parnell after he had been out late on patrol. Another sergeant went out of his way to avoid combat. The woman in charge of delivering the mail not only was rude and nasty to Parnell's men, she also lied about being bit by one of the dogs the platoon had adopted. That dog and others, including some puppies, were killed because of her complaints. Parnell says he had no ax to grind, but felt compelled to be honest about what he and his men experienced in what should have been a refuge from battle.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell: “Combat Is A Horrible Thing To Go Through. Some People Crack. That Doesn't Mean They're A Bad Person.” “Lt. Parnell calls out those who didn't measure up, such as the fellow leader who avoided the action, a sergeant who disappeared for weeks, another sergeant who froze in combat and the ‘mail bitch,’ a nasty female letter carrier. He debated how much of these elements to include but decided a sanitized version would serve no one. ‘My agent said the best memoirs are always the most honest,’ he said. Sgt. Cowan said the book is a truthful portrait of the platoon's experiences. ‘You gotta be real,’ he said. ‘Combat is a horrible thing to go through. Some people crack. That doesn't mean they're a bad person.’” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Criticized Competence Of The Afghan Border Police, The Questionable Fighting Spirit Of The Afghan National Army And The Sincerity Of The Pakistanis

Parnell Criticized Competence Of The Afghan Border Police, The Questionable Fighting Spirit Of The Afghan National Army And The Sincerity Of The Pakistanis. “Lt. Parnell also passes harsh judgment on the competence of the Afghan Border Police, the questionable fighting spirit of the Afghan National Army and the sincerity of the Pakistanis, since many attacks originated in Pakistan.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Described Two Instances Where He Spared The Lives Of Insurgents

Parnell Spared The Life Of Insurgent During An Engagement. “In one engagement, a wounded insurgent tumbles down a slope next to his Humvee and stares up at him. ‘His eyes never moved from mine,’ he writes. ‘I've never felt a more malign and sinister presence.’ Spc. Chris Brown begs to be allowed to finish him off. The unit had lost Jeremiah Cole and is out for revenge. Lt. Parnell says no. He had studied the My Lai massacre in Vietnam and how the guilt had haunted the U.S. soldiers who participated. He says he wanted to spare Spc. Brown that fate. ‘I loved Chris Brown too much to let him burden his conscience with this man's foul soul,’ he writes.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Resisted Killing An Interpreter Who Leaked Information To The Taliban And Waited For Him To Be Arrested. “Early in the book, [Parnell] catches [Yusef] using a satellite phone but accepts his story that he was calling his family. He later learns that Yusef had arranged the death of Abdul, his rival interpreter. When Abdul's family had received threats from the Taliban, he left the U.S. base to check on them. Yusef alerted the insurgents, who ambushed Abdul. ‘This is a mistake that I will have to live with for the rest of my life,’ said Lt. Parnell. He writes of eating a meal with a joking Yusef, knowing that the Army was on to him but unable to reveal it. ‘I could kill you, Yusef,’ he says to himself. ‘I would pull that trigger and feel less remorse than if I'd just crushed a cockroach.’ Yet in the end Yusef is arrested, not executed. ‘Our discipline and ability to choose the hard right in times like these are what make us the best army the world has ever known,’ Lt. Parnell writes. ‘And so Yusef lived.’ [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Military Awards

Parnell Earned Two Bronze Stars And A Purple Heart. “Four hundred and 85 days of heavy fighting with the Army in Afghanistan earned Sean Parnell two Bronze Stars - one for valor. A horrific head injury got him a Purple Heart and ultimately a medical discharge from the military.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

85 Percent Of The Soldiers Under Parnell’s Command Were Awarded Purple Hearts. “Although 85 percent of Mr. Parnell’s men were awarded Purple Hearts for wounds incurred in battle, only one was killed.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

Parnell’s Unit, The “Outlaw Platoon,” Lost Three Men To Suicide After Returning Home

Parnell’s Unit, “Outlaw Platoon,” Lost Three Men To Suicide. “Outlaw Platoon has lost three men to suicide, and that’s one of the factors that drives Mr. Parnell to write and speak on behalf of veterans.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

While “Outlaw Platoon” Only Lost One Soldier In Combat, Three Committed Suicide After Returning Home. “In April, my Army unit that served in Afghanistan passed a dark milestone: We’ve now lost more men to suicide than we lost in combat. During a 485-day deployment in 2006-07, a single member of our platoon was killed (though many, myself included, were wounded — we had an 85 percent casualty rate). But since returning home, three members of my platoon have taken their own lives. To grapple with the fact that we lost three times as many men to post-war suicide than to combat is to begin to grasp the true burden of war that veterans carry.” [Sean Parnell, Op-Ed, Military Times, [5/19/15](#)]

Post-Military Professional Life

Parnell Earned A Master’s Degree In Clinical Psychology From Duquesne University In Order To Help Counsel Other Veterans

Parnell Earned A Master’s Degree In Clinical Psychology From Duquesne University In Order To Help Counsel Other Veterans

Parnell Earned A Master’s Degree In Clinical Psychology From Duquesne University. “After leaving the Army, Mr. Parnell earned a master’s degree in clinical psychology at Duquesne University.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

Parnell Suffered From PTSD And Wanted To Change Army’s Macho Culture By Counseling Others Damaged By War. “He also suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder. The stigma of PTSD is not as bad as it once was, he says, but the macho culture of the military is still an impediment to treatment. He wants to change that. He’s studying for his doctorate in clinical psychology at Duquesne University and hopes to counsel others damaged by war. ‘You have to go numb to survive,’ he said. ‘The problem is that a lot of vets stay numb when they come home. My goal is to help soldiers.’” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [2/26/12](#)]

Parnell Advocated For Rethinking Reintegration Of Veterans Into Civilian Life To Put A Stop To Veteran Suicides

Parnell Advocated For Rethinking Reintegration Of Veterans Into Civilian Life To Put A Stop To Veteran Suicides. “To address the crisis of veterans’ suicide, we need to rethink how we reintegrate veterans into civilian society after their service. Far too many veterans return home, often from high-stakes, high-stress combat situations, only to find themselves ignored, misunderstood and alienated from their fellow Americans. [Sean Parnell, Op-Ed, Military Times, [5/19/15](#)]

PARNELL: Halting Vet Suicides Requires Culture Change. [Sean Parnell, Op-Ed, Military Times, [5/19/15](#)]

2013: Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative, Which Aimed To Aid Suffering Veterans

2013: Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative. “Mr. Parnell, 37, grew up in Oakland and Murrysville and now lives in Cranberry with his wife and three children. Although he left Afghanistan in 2007 and the Army in 2010, ‘the war is always with me,’ he said in a telephone interview. He chooses to channel his experiences and memories in positive ways, including writing two books and co-founding the American Warrior Initiative to help men and women who served in the military. Dogs are an important part of the nonprofit foundation. The American Warrior Initiative, founded in 2013, has teamed 40 highly trained service dogs with veterans dealing with traumatic brain injury and/or post-traumatic stress.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

2013: Parnell Was A Military Adviser For Concerned Veterans Of America**2013: Parnell Was A Military Adviser For Concerned Veterans Of America (CVA)**

2013: Parnell Was A Military Adviser For Concerned Veterans Of America. “Sean Parnell, military adviser to Concerned Veterans for America, is a retired U.S. Army Airborne Ranger who served six years in Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division. The author of The New York Times best-seller ‘Outlaw Platoon: Heroes, Renegades, Infidels, and the Brotherhood of War in Afghanistan,’ he lives in Cranberry.” [Pittsburgh Tribute Review, Sean Parnell Op-Ed, 12/6/13]

The Concerned Veterans Of America Was An Alleged Veterans Advocacy Group Actually Run By The Koch Brothers

2014: Fox News Anchor And CVA CEO Pete Hegseth Told A Secret Meeting Of A Koch Brothers Organization That They “Literally Created” CVA. Pete Hegseth made a statement at a meeting of the Koch Brothers’ organization Freedom Partners, saying that “Concerned Veterans for America is an organization this network literally created.” [The Undercurrent, YouTube, Timestamp: 3:07, [6/16/14](#)]

Hegseth Also Thanked The Koch Brothers Personally For Making CVA A Reality. “I thank Charles and David [...] everyone that puts in the sweat equity that makes this possible.” [The Undercurrent, YouTube, Timestamp: 3:32, [6/16/14](#)]

CVA CEO Pete Hegseth Bragged About CVA’s Role In “Driving” Crises At The VA

Hegseth Bragged About CVA’s Role In “Driving” Crises At The VA. “What you probably don’t know is the central role that Concerned Veterans for America played in exposing and driving this [VA scandal] from the very beginning.” [The Undercurrent, YouTube, Timestamp: 3:35, [6/16/14](#)]

2014: Parnell Was A Speaker At A Veterans-Focused Seminar For Fairway Mortgage Company

2014: Parnell Was A Speaker At A Veterans-Focused Seminar For Fairway Mortgage Company. “Fairway Independent Mortgage Corp. will present a seminar on the barriers that active-duty and veteran military clients face when trying to buy homes and how to help those clients overcome them. The session will be Thursday, May 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bent Creek Country Club. It’s geared to real estate professionals, financial planners, attorneys, home builders and other professionals. The luncheon speaker will be author Sean Parnell, a retired Army Ranger. Also during the event, Fairway, the Boot Campaign and the Military Warriors Support Foundation will announce the wounded veteran who will receive a mortgage-free home. The seminar is free, but for continuing education credit, the charge is \$35. For more information, contact Ken Pederson at kenp@fairwaymc.com.” [Intelligencer Journal/New Era, 4/33/14]

2017: Parnell Spoke At Local University

2017: Parnell Spoke At An Event Hosted By The California University Of Pennsylvania. “California University of Pennsylvania will host U.S. Army veteran and author Sean Parnell from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Thursday, in Manderino Library, Room 208. Parnell will share stories about his military service during Operation Enduring Freedom. A question-and-answer session will follow the talk. The event is free and open to the public.” [Herald-Standard, 4/9/17]

The Event Was Hosted By The University Office Of Military And Veterans Affairs. “Sean Parnell: 11 a.m. April 13. California University Office of Military and Veterans Affairs host U.S. Army veteran Parnell, author of "Outlaw Platoon: Heroes, Renegades, Infidels and the Brotherhood of War in Afghanistan." Free. Manderino Library, Room 208, California University of Pennsylvania. calu.edu.” [Tribune-Review, 4/13/17]

Parnell Shared His Experiences In Afghanistan With The Attendees. “College student Sean Parnell watched in shock as the events of Sept. 11 unfolded on TV. It was raw horror, Parnell said. I watched people tumble to their deaths. The first responders were ordinary citizens who on Sept. 11 became extraordinary. They ran into the flames and did so to save someone they did not even know. Watching the effects of terrorism, the Cranberry Township man asked himself how he could watch and not act. The two most important days of your life are the day you are born and the day you figure out why, Parnell recently told an audience in the Manderino Library on the campus of California University of Pennsylvania. That was when Parnell decided to serve his country, although his father convinced him to graduate from Duquesne University first and become an officer.” [Herald-Standard, 4/17/20]

2018: Parnell Worked As CEO Of Branding Freedom

Parnell Worked As CEO Of Branding Freedom, A Marketing Company For Young Authors. “He works as CEO of Branding Freedom, which he says is a marketing company that helps young authors.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

American Warrior Initiative

2013: Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative, Which Stated That It Aimed To Aid Suffering Veterans

Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative

2013: Parnell Co-Founded The American Warrior Initiative (AWI). “Mr. Parnell, 37, grew up in Oakland and Murrysville and now lives in Cranberry with his wife and three children. Although he left Afghanistan in 2007 and the Army in 2010, "the war is always with me," he said in a telephone interview. He chooses to channel his experiences and memories in positive ways, including writing two books and co-founding the American Warrior Initiative to help men and women who served in the military. Dogs are an important part of the nonprofit foundation. The American Warrior Initiative, founded in 2013, has teamed 40 highly trained service dogs with veterans dealing with traumatic brain injury and/or post-traumatic stress.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

AWI Described Parnell As “One Of America’s Most Influential Advocates For Our Military.” “Since leaving the Army, Sean penned the New York Times bestselling book, Outlaw Platoon, which is the story of his platoon’s crucible of combat in Eastern Afghanistan. He has also quietly become one of America’s most influential advocates for our military. He is the Co-Founder of the American Warrior Initiative, an organization that inspires people to give back to our nation’s veterans, and a regular contributor to Fox News.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Leaders



Louise Thaxton

NATIONAL SPEAKER & AUTHOR, VETERANS
ADVOCATE, MORTGAGE PROFESSIONAL



Sean Parnell

DECORATED COMBAT VETERAN, NYT BEST-SELLING
AUTHOR

[American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

According To Their Website, AWI Sponsored “Hundreds Of Give Back Initiatives” Providing Wounded Veterans With Service Dogs And Grants

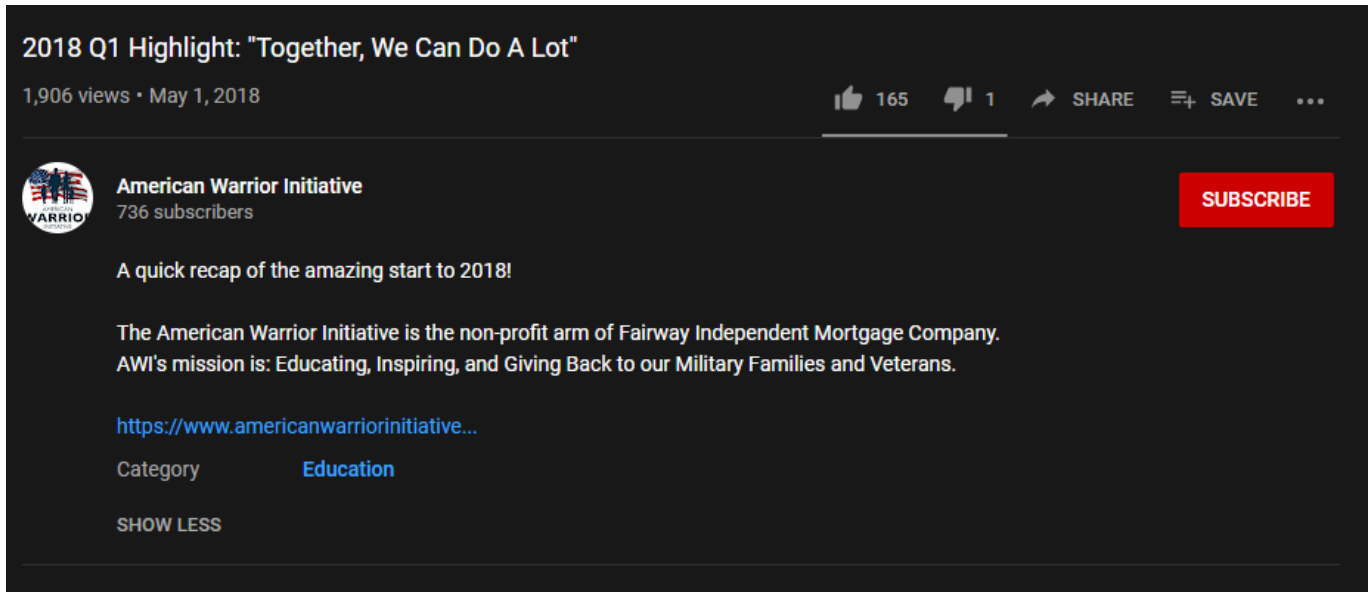
According To Their Website, AWI Sponsored “Hundreds Of Give Back Initiatives” Providing Wounded Veterans With Service Dogs And Grants. “In 2018 AWI launched Freedom Tours with Gold Star mom Karen Vaughn. From her unique perspective—as a mom whose son was killed in action in Afghanistan—Karen shares a powerful message on our obligation as everyday citizens to honor the sacrifice of those who’ve given so much for our freedom. AWI has spearheaded hundreds of give-back initiatives to the wounded heroes of America. These wounded heroes have been served through the gifting of service dogs, business grants, home upgrades, mortgage-free housing, and more.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Claimed That It Focused On Helping Veterans Dealing With Traumatic Brain Injury And Post Traumatic Stress

AWI Claimed It Focused On Helping Veterans Dealing With Traumatic Brain Injury And Post Traumatic Stress. “Parnell’s Non-Profit The American Warrior Initiative, founded in 2013, has teamed 40 highly trained service dogs with veterans dealing with traumatic brain injury and/or post traumatic stress. Partnering with Fairway Mortgage and the company’s 6,000 employees, AWI has also awarded 30 mortgage-free homes, sent families on dream vacations and given thousands of dollars in emergency family grants.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

According To AWI, It Was The Non-Profit Arm Of The Fairway Independent Mortgage Company

According To AWI, It Was The Non-Profit Arm Of The Fairway Independent Mortgage Company. “The American Warrior Initiative is the non-profit arm of Fairway Independent Mortgage Company. AWI’s mission is: Educating, Inspiring, and Giving Back to our Military Families and Veterans.” [American Warrior Initiative, YouTube, accessed [3/25/20](#)]



[American Warrior Initiative, YouTube, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Was Incorporated As A 501(c)3, With Part Of Its Focus To Give An Education Platform To “Real Estate Agents And Mortgage Professionals”

AWI Was Incorporated As A 501(c) 3

AWI Was Incorporated As A 501(c)3 That Stated It Wanted To Help Americans “Give Back To Our Military.” “The objective of the non-profit American Warrior Initiative 501(c)3 is to educate, encourage and inspire Americans to give back to our military.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Further Stated That Its Mission Was To Educate Real Estate Agents To The Needs Of Military And Veteran Clients. “A key part of this initiative is the education platform for real estate agents and mortgage professionals. [...] Boot camps are held throughout the country in which real estate agents have the opportunity to not only receive continuing education credits, but also be a part of our veteran initiatives- wherein we meet local veterans’ needs. The objective in offering the CE course is to provide a platform whereby Real Estate Professionals can be trained and equipped to handle with excellence the home purchase needs of active duty and former military clients. Also, exclusive to Fairway loan professionals is the Military Mortgage Specialist™ Designation. This Designation thoroughly trains and equips mortgage loan professionals, loan processors, closers, loan assistants, and branch managers to handle with excellence the mortgage loan needs of our active and former military clients.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

AWI Claimed That They Had Talked To Over 30,000 People A Real Estate Professional “Boot Camps.” “They have taken this message to over 30,000 real estate agents and other business professionals around the country, at the American Warrior Real Estate Professional (AWREP) Boot Camps, bringing awareness of the challenges facing the men and women who have served in the military when returning from war.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

According To The IRS, AWI Was Classified As A Private Foundation

According To The IRS, AWI Was Classified As A Private Foundation. [Internal Revenue Service, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

Publication 78 Data ⓘ

Organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions. Users may rely on this list in determining deductibility of their contributions.

On Publication 78 Data List: Yes

Deductibility Code: [PF](#)

[Internal Revenue Service, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

In 2018, AWI Had Over \$1.3 Million In Net Assets And Spent \$524,303 On Charitable Grants And Contributions

By The End of 2018, AWI Had Over \$1.3 Million In Net Assets. According to the Internal Revenue Service, AWI had a net of \$1,341,638 in assets at the end of the 2018 calendar year, their highest on record. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Net	30	Total net assets or fund balances (see instructions)	1,100,139	1,341,638
	31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see instructions) .	1,221,463	1,497,847

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

According To The IRS, AWI Spent \$524,303 On Charitable Grants And Contributions In 2018. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

2015-2018: According To IRS Filings, Parnell Received No Compensation From AWI For His Position As Director

2015-2018: According To IRS Filings, Parnell Received No Compensation From AWI For His Position As Director. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filings, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

2015-2018: According To IRS Filings, Parnell Worked About One Hour Per Week For AWI In His Position As Director. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filings, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

NAME AND ADDRESS	TITLE AND AVRG HRS/WK	COMPEN- SATION	EMPLOYEE BEN PLAN CONTRIB	EXPENSE ACCOUNT
STEVEN JACOBSON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
LEONARD KRUPINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
TODD GAVINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
SEAN PARNELL 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
LOUISE THAXTON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 53718-2108	DIRECTOR 1.00	0.	0.	0.
TOTALS INCLUDED ON 990-PF, PAGE 6, PART VIII		0.	0.	0.

FORM 990-PF SUMMARY OF DIRECT CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES STATEMENT 2

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2015, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Form 990PF Part VIII Line 1 - List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation				
(a) Name and address	Title, and average hours per week (b) devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
STEVEN JACOBSON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LEONARD KRUPINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
TODD GAVINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
SEAN PARNELL 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LOUISE THAXTON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2016, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Form 990PF Part VIII Line 1 - List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation				
(a) Name and address	Title, and average hours per week (b) devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	Expense account, (e) other allowances
STEVEN JACOBSON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LEONARD KRUPINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
TODD GAVINSKI 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
SEAN PARNELL 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LOUISE THAXTON 4801 S BILTMORE LN MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2017, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Form 990PF Part VIII Line 1 - List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation				
(a) Name and address	Title, and average hours per week (b) devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	Expense account, (e) other allowances
STEVEN JACOBSON 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	PRESIDENT 1 00	0	0	0
TODD GAVINSKI 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LEONARD KRUPINSKI 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
SEAN PARNELL 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0
LOUISE THAXTON 4750 S BILTMORE LANE MADISON, WI 537182108	DIRECTOR 1 00	0	0	0

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

While Parnell Didn't Receive Compensation From AWI, He Was Paid Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars By Fairway Mortgage As An "Independent Consultant"

2018-2019: According To Parnell's Personal Financial Disclosure, He Was Paid Over \$700,000 By Fairway Independent Mortgage Company Over A Two-Year Period

According To Parnell's 2019 Personal Financial Disclosure, He Was Paid \$706,516.23 For Work As An "Independent Consultant." [Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

AWI Ran A Scholarship Program Called “The Collin Cross Entrepreneurial Scholarship”

AWI Ran A Scholarship Program Called “The Collin Cross Entrepreneurial Scholarship.” “Collin Cross was born in 1996. From the time he could walk Collin carried a briefcase almost everywhere he went. He was an eclectic synthesis of spontaneity, originality and pure, unadulterated, genius. He was a dreamer and adventurer. Always driven by the thrill of discovery, Collin scoured the spectrum of life with an open mind and entrepreneurial spirit. In early 2017, Collin’s life was tragically cut short. In his honor, The Collin Cross Entrepreneurial scholarship was established and will be awarded to those who exemplify Excellence, Character, Passion and Tenacity.” [American Warrior Initiative, accessed [3/25/20](#)]

2018: AWI’s Form 990-PF Indicated It Paid \$15,000 For An Individual’s Cancer Treatment In Mexico

2018: AWI’s Form 990-PF Indicated It Paid \$15,000 For The Cancer Treatment Of Someone Named Angel Vazquez, Which AWI Stated Occurred In Mexico. [Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Form 990PF Part XV Line 3 - Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
Name and address (home or business)				
a Paid during the year				
ANGEL VAZQUEZ 4301 S VALLEY VIEW BLVD STE 2 LAS VEGAS, NV 891034007	NONE	I	CANCER TREATMENT IN MEXICO	15,000

[Internal Revenue Service, 990-PF Filing 2018, EIN: 47-3566126, accessed 3/25/20]

Media Coverage

2012: Parnell Was Profiled In The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

2012: Parnell Was Profiled In The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. “The American platoon stopped its Humvees in the road. Ahead, a small boy of about 6, dressed in rags, staggered in circles. Army Ranger Sean Parnell and his men were wary. It was July 2006 and they’d been in combat on the remote Afghan-Pakistan border for five months. When the soldiers moved close enough, they saw that someone had gouged out the boy’s eyes and burned the sockets black with a heated instrument. His teeth had also been knocked out. ‘Jesus Christ, what is this?’ said a hard-bitten sergeant. ‘There’s not a day goes by that I don’t think about it,’ said Lt. Parnell, 30, a Murrysville native. ‘All I know is that moment taught me that there is definite good and evil in this world. We don’t always realize it in America, but the rest of the world can be a barbaric place.’ The “Village of the Damned” is just one short chapter in Lt. Parnell’s new book, ‘Outlaw Platoon,’ written with author John Bruning and set for release by William Morrow/HarperCollins on Tuesday.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette via Newspapers.com, [2/26/12](#)]

Facing down terrorists

Former Army Ranger led his platoon against barbaric insurgents along Pakistan border

By Torsten Ove
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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Army Ranger Sean Parnell and his men were wary. It was July 2006 and they'd been in combat on the remote Afghan-Pakistan border for five months.

When the soldiers moved close enough, they saw that someone had gouged out the boy's eyes and burned the sockets black with a heated instrument. His teeth had also been knocked out.

"Jesus Christ, what is this?" said a hard-bitten sergeant.

In the nearby village, the unit's interpreter, Yusef, talked to an elder and learned what happened. The insurgents had swept through this village and punished the inhabitants for cooperating with the coalition.

They kidnapped the oldest grandson of the elder and took him to the mountains, where they gouged out his eyes and raped him for weeks.

The platoon medic did what he could for the boy and other brutalized children in this place the men came to call



Robin Rombach/Post-Gazette

Lt. Sean Parnell of Cranberry with his book "Outlaw Platoon."

the "Village of the Damned." The elder thanked them and they drove on, even the toughest among them stunned by what they'd seen.

SEE **PLATOON**, PAGE E-4

[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette via Newspapers.com, [2/26/12](#)]

2012: Parnell Participated In A Forum On Soldiers Transitioning To Civilian Life Hosted By Local Public Radio

2012: Parnell Participated In A Forum On Soldiers Transitioning To Civilian Life Hosted By Local Public Radio. "Coming Home PA: Trauma & Transitions," will be presented tonight at 7:30 in the Community Broadcast Center in Bedford Square, South Side. This is 90.5 Essential Public Radio's (WESA-FM) first public forum. Hosted by Paul Guggenheimer of 'Essential Pittsburgh,' it features a panel discussion dealing with soldiers returning from

war. Among the participants is Sean Parnell, a former Army airborne ranger and native of Murrysville.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 4/18/12]

2012: Parnell Threw Out The First Pitch Of A Pittsburgh Pirates Game, And Was A Guest Of Pirates Owner Bob Nutting

2012: Parnell Threw Out The First Pitch Of A Pittsburgh Pirates Game And Was A Guest Of Pirates Chairman Bob Nutting. “Murrysville native, Pirates fan and former Army Ranger Sean Parnell played host to about 15 Rangers who served with him in Afghanistan Sunday at PNC Park. The Rangers were guests of Pirates chairman Bob Nutting and were given access to a suite for the Pirates-Cubs game. Parnell and four members of his platoon also attended the game Friday, when Parnell threw out the first pitch.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 5/28/12]

2012: Parnell Was Interviewed By CNN, In His First Appearance On A National Cable Channel

2012: Parnell Was Interviewed By CNN, In His First Appearance On A National Cable Channel. “ERIN BURNETT: Sean Parnell knows firsthand what it is like to deal with the pressures of war. He served six years in the Army, 16 months in one of the most feared units in Afghanistan, which was patrolling the valleys and capturing insurgents. He has written a best-seller about his experience called ‘Outlaw Platoon’ and is OUTFRONT tonight.” [CNN, Erin Burnett Out Front, 3/14/12]

2013: Parnell Was A Speaker At A “Hometown Heroes” Event Hosted By Pittsburgh Radio Station KDKA

2013: Parnell Was A Speaker At A “Hometown Heroes” Event Hosted By Pittsburgh Radio Station KDKA. “NewsRadio 1020 KDKA Morning Host Larry Richert hosted the Larry Richert Honors Hometown Heroes event, March 7, at the Lexus Club at PNC Park. Legendary Bruno Sammartino, who will be inducted into the Wrestling Hall of Fame in April, served as the keynote speaker, in addition to retired Army Ranger and Captain Sean Parnell, author of Outlaw Platoon,” serving as the guest speaker.” [New Pittsburgh Courier, 3/20/26]

2014: Parnell Made His First Appearance On Fox News, On Sean Hannity’s Show

2014: Parnell Made His First Appearance On Fox News, On Sean Hannity’s Show. “HANNITY: Welcome back to HANNITY. It’s time to bring in our distinguished studio audience for their reaction to my exclusive interview with former defense secretary Robert Gates, his revelations about President Obama’s leadership or lack thereof during his time at the White House. [...] SEAN PARNELL, FORMER U.S. ARMY INFANTRY OFFICER AND RANGER: I was in Afghanistan for 485 days. I was wounded, 32 of my guys were wounded. We bled on that ground, longest combat deployment in either of the wars. The bottom line is when you’re there, you’re in the worried about politics. When that first round cracks by your head you’re not thinking about all this stuff. But I will tell you now that I’ve been home seven years, any time we send soldiers to war we have a moral obligation to win, to win big, because otherwise you’re going to have an entire America veterans and their families --.” [Fox News Network, Hannity, 1/14/20]

2018: The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Profiled Parnell Again, Highlighting The Publishing Of His Novel “Man Of War”

2018: The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Profiled Parnell Again, Highlighting The Publishing Of His Novel “Man Of War. “On Sept. 11, Mr. Parnell’s fast-paced action novel, ‘Man of War,’ was published by William Morrow, an imprint of HarperCollins. The book’s hero, Eric Steele, was raised in Pennsylvania and was a Special Forces soldier who served in Afghanistan. He’s now a top-secret agent who operates outside the military, answering directly to the U.S. president as he fights to save his country from a rogue agent who is trying to destroy it. The book rates a favorable dust-jacket blurb from Lee Child, author of the hugely popular Jack Reacher books. Mr. Child says ‘Man

of War' is 'fast, hard and effortlessly authentic.' Mr. Parnell graduated from Duquesne University, where he took the ROTC path that enabled him to enter the Army as a second lieutenant. He was an Army Ranger and at 24 was named commander of the 10th Mountain Division, which became known as the Outlaw Platoon." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

Parnell Wrote An Autobiography Called "Outlaw Platoon"

2012: Parnell Published His First Book, An Autobiography Entitled "Outlaw Platoon"

2012: Parnell Publishes His Autobiography "Outlaw Platoon" Detailing Time Serving In Afghanistan. "The 'Village of the Damned' is just one short chapter in Lt. Parnell's new book, "Outlaw Platoon," written with author John Bruning and set for release by William Morrow/HarperCollins on Tuesday. Yet it captures the dichotomy of Afghanistan -- the contrast between Americans and terrorists, between good Afghans and bad, between quiet heroism and treachery. Yusef, it turns out, is a spy. He later reveals to an Iranian cell of bomb-makers that the platoon plans to set up an observation post on a certain hilltop, allowing insurgents to seed it with mines. When the platoon arrives, villagers come out to watch. One of the mines explodes and kills Cpl. Jeremiah Cole." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [2/26/12](#)]

Parnell Was Profiled In The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette In Connection With The Book. "The American platoon stopped its Humvees in the road. Ahead, a small boy of about 6, dressed in rags, staggered in circles. Army Ranger Sean Parnell and his men were wary. It was July 2006 and they'd been in combat on the remote Afghan-Pakistan border for five months. When the soldiers moved close enough, they saw that someone had gouged out the boy's eyes and burned the sockets black with a heated instrument. His teeth had also been knocked out. 'Jesus Christ, what is this?' said a hard-bitten sergeant. [...] 'There's not a day goes by that I don't think about it,' said Lt. Parnell, 30, a Murrysville native. 'All I know is that moment taught me that there is definite good and evil in this world. We don't always realize it in America, but the rest of the world can be a barbaric place.' The "Village of the Damned" is just one short chapter in Lt. Parnell's new book, 'Outlaw Platoon,' written with author John Bruning and set for release by William Morrow/HarperCollins on Tuesday." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette via Newspapers.com, [2/26/12](#)]

The Pittsburgh Tribune Review Praised "Outlaw Platoon." "'Outlaw Platoon' is not a sanitized version of warfare and the men that go into battle. Parnell illustrates the horrors of war and recounts how the stresses and dangers of battle forged an unbreakable bond among his men. Because of his respect for them, Parnell made sure they were included in strategy sessions." [Pittsburgh Tribune Review, [3/4/12](#)]

HEADLINE: Soldier's Combat Memoir 'Outlaw Platoon' A Remarkable, Compelling Tale. [Pittsburgh Tribune Review, [3/4/12](#)]

Parnell Wanted To Make Sure Hesitancy And Fear About Going Into Battle Featured In "Outlaw Platoon"

Parnell Wanted To Make Sure Hesitancy And Fear About Going Into Battle Featured In "Outlaw Platoon." "Parnell makes it plain that he was not a gung-ho warrior going into battle. 'I wanted to make sure my hesitancy and fear was in the book,' he says. But as the platoon became more experienced in combat -- there were opportunities to engage the enemy every time it went out on patrol -- the men became more confident in their superior firepower." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [2/26/12](#)]

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They kidnapped the oldest grandson of the elder and took him to the mountains, where they gouged out his eyes and raped him for weeks.

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Robin Rombach/Post-Gazette

Lt. Sean Parnell of Cranberry with his book "Outlaw Platoon."

the "Village of the Damned." The elder thanked them and they drove on, even the toughest among them stunned by what they'd seen.

SEE **PLATOON**, PAGE E-4

[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette via Newspapers.com, [2/26/12](#)]

Parnell Claimed That His Autobiography "Displays No Political Agenda" Despite Comments To The Contrary

Parnell Claimed That His Autobiography "Displays No Political Agenda"

Parnell Claimed His Book “Displays No Political Agenda.” “It’s also worth noting that this book displays no political agenda nor is it a review of U.S. Foreign Policy in Afghanistan. This story is not intended to hurt anyone’s feelings but rather to provide an honest assessment of what combat was like for these young warriors.” [Sean Parnell, *Outlaw Platoon*, ix]

Parnell Claimed That Every Event Described In The Book Did Indeed Take Place. “Finally, this book is a work of nonfiction. Every event in this book took place. Actions and experiences have been retold using both my own memory and interviews with my men.” [Outlaw Platoon, x]

Parnell Suggested That That The Invasion Of Iraq Caused US Positions In Afghanistan To Deteriorate And Led To The Exhaustion Of Men Under His Command

Parnell Suggested That That The Invasion Of Iraq Caused US Positions In Afghanistan To Deteriorate And Led To The Exhaustion Of Men Under His Command. “With The U.S. Military heavily committed in Iraq, the only way to reinforce our units around Kandahar was to strip troops from other sections of Afghanistan. [...] To Compensate for the lack of combat power left to us, Lieutenant Colonel Toner ratcheted up our operational tempo to the breaking point. We patrolled nonstop, returning to the base only to refuel, rearm, and grab more supplies. Days off became distant memories as we tried to make our numerical weakness with a constant presence our in the neighborhood. Even with this effort, there was no way we could continue to support all the operations we’d undertaken earlier in the spring.” [Sean Parnell, *Outlaw Platoon*, 134]

Parnell Decried US Aid To Pakistan, Saying That It Allowed Taliban And Other Insurgents To Take Advantage Of The Pakistani Health Care System

Parnell Decried US Aid To Pakistan, Saying That It Allowed Taliban And Other Insurgents To Take Advantage Of The Pakistani Health Care System. “In some of the dugouts, we found prescription bottles for antibiotics and painkillers issued by hospitals in Pakistan. After passing that up the chain of command, we later learned that the treatment facilities served as havens for wounded insurgents. Bitterly, we wondered how much of the humanitarian aid money we were giving Pakistan went to creating and maintaining those places. What an odd situation—our wounded enemy recovering in our erstwhile ‘ally’s’ medical system. What would folks have thought if the German wounded had recovered in London hospitals in 1944, only to return to the battlefield to fight later.” [Sean Parnell, *Outlaw Platoon*, 135]

Parnell Described That A Fellow Solider Told Him That For Afghans, “Lying Is A Part Of Their Culture”

Parnell Described That A Fellow Solider Told Him That For Afghans, “Lying Is A Part Of Their Culture.” “As Americans, we’re blunt and get straight to the point. Afghans are more nuanced. Small talk here is an art form. It can go on for hours before anything of substance is brought up. But within the small talk, the Afghans often drop hints as to what they’re really after. ‘Lying is a part of their culture,’ Canady had told me. ‘There’s no stigma to it; it is expected. Don’t trust Ghul, and be careful what you give him. But remember, he’s the power broker around Gamal. Maybe even more than the mayor. We need him on our side.’” [Sean Parnell, *Outlaw Platoon*, 40]

Parnell Wrote A Series Of Two Novels Staring A Main Character Who Resembled Himself

September 2018: Parnell Published “Man Of War”

September 2018: Parnell’s First Novel, “Man Of War,” Was Released. “Sept. 11, Mr. Parnell's fast-paced action novel, ‘Man of War,’ was published by William Morrow, an imprint of HarperCollins. The book's hero, Eric Steele, was raised in Pennsylvania and was a Special Forces soldier who served in Afghanistan. He's now a top secret agent who operates outside the military, answering directly to the U.S. president as he fights to save his country from a rogue agent who is trying to destroy it. The book rates a favorable dust-jacket blurb from Lee Child, author of the hugely popular Jack Reacher books. Mr. Child says ‘Man of War’ is ‘fast, hard and effortlessly

authentic.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [9/28/18](#)]

Parnell’s Main Character Eric Steele Was A Fictional “Alpha” Who Took Orders Directly From The President Of The United States And Resembled Parnell In Many Ways

Parnell’s Character Steele Was A Fictional “Alpha” Who Took Orders Directly From The President Of The United States. “Steele was an Alpha—a clandestine operative assigned to a unit known simply as ‘the Program.’ It traced its lineage to World War II and existed because there were enemies that the President of the United States couldn’t handle with diplomacy or all-out war.” [Sean Parnell, *Man of War*, p. 6]

Like Parnell, Steele Had A Background In Afghanistan Where He “Hunted Terrorists.” “Steele hadn’t seen the inside of a gym in years. His physique, like his light, measured step, had come from the mountains of Afghanistan, where he had hunted terrorists as a Green Beret.” [Sean Parnell, *Man of War*, p. 7]

One Of The Novel’s Antagonists Is A Robin Styles, A Character Modeled After A Right-Wing Caricature Of Hillary Clinton

Styles’ Character Is Described As An “Annoying Dog”

Styles’ Character Is Described As An “Annoying Dog.” “Rockford walked out of the Situation Room with Styles nipping at his heels like an annoying dog.” [Sean Parnell, *Man of War*, p. 79]

Robin Styles Was Portrayed As A Ruthless CIA Director Who Doesn’t Think Twice About Committing Murder And Treason

Styles’ Internal Monologue Reveals That She Has Committed Treason. “going. In the last twenty-four hours she had broken enough laws to earn a free room at the black site of her choice. Treason was one thing, but what she had done, shit, they didn’t even have a law for that. Styles didn’t want to think about it and held to the mantra she had been using since President Cole took office. [Sean Parnell, *Man of War*, p. 25-26]

Robin Styles Contracted Killers To Murder Someone So That She Can Become The First Female President

Robin Styles Contracted Killers To Murder Someone So That She Can Become The First Female President. “But the damage was irreversible. Styles knew that with West nosing around the Iran deal, it would be impossible for her to run against Cole. If the slightest whiff of her involvement in the deal got out, it would kill her bid to become the first female President of the United States while it was still in the crib. So Styles made the only play she could. She hired a team to take West out and hope the trail would die with him. The hit was textbook, but she knew that all it had done was buy her some time.” [Sean Parnell, *Man of War*, p. 116]

Styles Attempted To Murder The President, And Is Arrested For It

Styles Attempted To Murder The President, And Is Arrested For It. ““That’s enough, Robin,” Rockford interrupted, coming to a halt a foot away. He reached into his pocket and took out a sheet of paper. “This is a warrant signed by a federal judge.’ ‘For what?’ she sneered. ‘For the attempted murder of the President of the United States, and aiding and abetting a terrorist,’ he said, tossing the warrant on her lap. ‘I want a lawyer.’ ‘If you had done all of this as just a plain old citizen that would be your right. But since you used your office in the CIA to conduct your affairs, well, that changes things.” [Sean Parnell, *Man of War*, 320-321]

Parnell Oddly Compared A Firefight In Algiers To The Los Angeles Riots Of 1992

Parnell Oddly Compared A Firefight In Algiers To The Los Angeles Riots Of 1992. “He fell out of the clouds and far to the west he saw Algiers. He could have been looking at L.A. in the midst of the '92 riots. The white city was wrapped and wavering in artificial smog created by innumerable fires that flickered like burning ships on the horizon. Flaming tires released tendrils of jet-black smoke, sending them skyward like offerings to the god of war.” [Sean Parnell, Man of War, 121]

2019: Parnell’s Novel “All Out War” Was Released

According To Amazon.com, “All Out War” Was Released On September 3, 2019. [Amazon.com, accessed [4/3/20](#)]

Parnell Painted Mossad In A Negative Light In His Novel, Depicting The Organization As Failing To Act On Intelligence To Apprehend A Terrorist With Ties To Tehran

In The Novel, Mossad Infects A US Government Computer System With A Virus. “The first time Lanksy had heard about Operation Archangel was after an NSA employee on the cyber security team located a Trojan virus during a routine mainframe defrag. The virus was traced back to Tel Aviv and the national intelligence agency of Israel, more commonly known as Mossad.” [Sean Parnell, All Out War, 38]

Parnell Portrays Mossad As Not Acting When Intelligence Suggests That A Terrorist Is Plotting To Assassinate The Saudi Crown Prince. “Sitta came up with a bold plan: plant a bomb beneath the Sacred Mosque in Meccas and detonate it during the Crown Prince’s visit. Mossad traced the money to a Hezbollah offshoot with close ties to Tehran. But instead of acting on the intelligence, the Israeli government did nothing. Lanksy had no choice but to take the intel to President Rockford, who dispatched an Alpha team to grab Sitta without notifying Israel.” [Sean Parnell, All Out War, 38]

Parnell’s Character Eric Steele Carried A Concealed Firearm Into A Grocery Store In Violation Of Pennsylvania Law

The Character Eric Steele Carried A Concealed Firearm Into A Grocery Store While Off Duty. “PRESENT DAY: BELLEVUE, PENNSYLVANIA. [...] *What the hell could have happened in New Zealand?* He Wondered, tugging his shirttail so it covered the 1911 holstered on his hip. Much like the parking lot, the aisles were packed with people eager to begin their weekend, most of them focused on the beer, which created a human traffic jam en route to his destination.” [Sean Parnell, All Out War, 19]

Members Of The United States Military Are Only Allowed To Carry Firearms Without A Pennsylvania License While On Duty. “Members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard of the United States or of the National Guard or organized reserves when on duty.” [Pennsylvania State Police, accessed [4/1/20](#)]

Criminal Record

No Evidence Of Federal Criminal Record

According To The Federal Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER), Parnell Has Not Been The Subject Of Federal Criminal Proceedings. [PACER, accessed [4/1/20](#)]

Evidence Of Pennsylvania Criminal Record

Parnell Was Associated With One Traffic Violation

2002								
2001								
2000								
1999								
1998								

[VoteBuilder, Accessed 3/25/20]

Personal Finance

In 2019, Parnell had an estimated net worth of between \$63,999 and \$13,502.

According to Parnell's federal personal financial disclosures, his 2019 annual unearned income was between \$1,001 to \$2,500. Parnell's assets totaled between \$16,002 to \$65,000. Parnell had between \$15,001 and \$50,000 in liabilities.

NOTE: For detailed descriptions of Parnell's personal financial disclosures by year, see Appendix I – Personal Financial Disclosures.

Parnell's Federal Personal Financial Disclosure Summary

NOTE: For detailed descriptions of Parnell's personal financial disclosures by year, see Appendix I – Personal Financial Disclosures.

Parnell PFD Toplines									
Year	Earned Income	Asset Value		Unearned Income		Transactions		Liabilities	
		MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX
2019	467,331.34	\$16,002	\$65,000	\$1,002	\$2,500	N/A	N/A	\$16,002	\$2,500
2018	\$497,971.32	Unk.	Unk.	Unk.	Unk.	N/A	N/A	Unk.	Unk.

[Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

Political Career

This section provides an overview of Parnell’s political career, from 2019 to 2020.

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Parnell announced his run for Congress on Fox & Friends.*
- ✓ *Parnell used the campaign hashtag “#Silencethelamb,” potentially implying violence against his opponent, Rep. Conor Lamb.*
- ✓ *Parnell used a typical line of attack, branding Lamb, Nancy Pelosi, and the Democratic Party generally as Socialists.*

Campaign 2020

October 2019: Parnell Announced His Campaign To Challenge Conor Lamb On Fox & Friends

October 2019: Parnell Announced His Campaign To Challenge Conor Lamb On Fox & Friends. “Murrysville native and former Army Ranger Sean Parnell announced Wednesday that he will challenge U.S. Rep. Conor Lamb, D-Mt. Lebanon, in 2020 for the 17th Congressional District seat. ‘I think that Pennsylvanians, and specifically the people of Western Pennsylvania, deserve leadership that truly represents them,’ Parnell said Wednesday on “Fox & Friends,” the Fox News morning show. ‘And right now, my opponent does not represent them at all.’” [Tribune-Review, 10/30/19]



[Fox News Network. [10/30/19](#)]

On Fox And Friends, Parnell Claimed That Lamb Did Not Represent Pennsylvanians. “I think that Pennsylvanians, and specifically the people of western Pennsylvania, deserve leadership that truly represents them, and right now my opponent does not represent them at all,” Parnell, an Army veteran, Fox News contributor and author said on ‘Fox and Friends.’ Lamb, he charged ‘has voted lock-step with [Speaker of the House] Nancy Pelosi 98 percent of the time, and the policies that he’s advocating for would be absolutely devastating to the people of western Pennsylvania.” [YouTube, Fox and Friends, [10/30/19](#)]

October 2019: Parnell Used The Potentially Violent Hashtag #Silencethelamb When Campaigning Against Rep. Lamb

Parnell Posted Campaign Ad On Twitter With “#Silencethelamb.” “Less than two years ago Conor Lamb promised to be independent- even bragged. [Lamb voiceover] ‘I’ve already said on the front page of the newspaper that I don’t support Nancy Pelosi.’ But ever since, Lamb has been in lockstep with Nancy Pelosi, voting with her nearly 90% of the time. President Trump noticed. [Trump voiceover] ‘Democrat Conor Lamb—he never votes with us. We have to vote this Democrat insanity and get back to work.’ It’s time to get real. Sean Parnell. [Trump voiceover]’Sean Parnell who is a fantastic military man. Sean Parnell is going to run against Conor Lamb. That will help the energy business a lot. And he should win.’ To change Washington: Sean Parnell.” [Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/31/19](#)]

2019: Parnell Was Criticized By The Washington, PA Observer-Reporter For Ads That Ran With The Hashtag #Silencethelamb. “#SilenceTheLamb Really? In this hyper-partisan age, Sean Parnell, a Republican congressional candidate in the 17th District, deliberately chose a hashtag that could easily be interpreted to mean he supports violence against his political opponent? A quick glance through his Twitter feed shows a troubling pattern: Democrats are the bad guys. Republicans are the good guys. Parnell stood in front of Congressman Conor Lamb’s office recently and said, ‘I’m in my district earning votes.’ This is a blatant lie – he’s not in his district. He’s choosing not to even live in the district. I’ve been pretty vocal about my disagreements with Lamb on many issues. But, unlike Parnell, Lamb never insinuated that I was a bad person for disagreeing with him. Lamb, to the chagrin of just about everyone across party lines, actually strives to represent the entire district. It’s clear Parnell is not interested in bipartisanship. He only wants a fight. It’s clear he will be in lockstep with President Trump, whatever the cost to democracy. Parnell should know that he single-handedly caused this disgruntled activist to throw her full support behind Lamb, because it’s imperative that men like Parnell, who so clearly despise an entire political party that represents half of America, never set foot in the halls of Congress.” [Observer-Reporter, Lynne Hughes Letter, 11/12/19]

2019: A Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Op-Ed Praised Conor Lamb And Criticized Parnell On The Issue of Impeachment

2019: A Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Op-Ed Praised Lamb And Criticized Parnell. Imagine, for a moment, that you are Rep. Conor Lamb, D-Mt. Lebanon. He represents a swing district. He has the left flank of the Democratic Party demanding that he oppose President Donald Trump at every turn, while the Republicans insist that he oppose Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi at every turn. Mr. Lamb’s Republican opponent is encouraging political violence and division with a Twitter hashtag - #SilenceTheLamb - and demanding unquestioning loyalty to the president. Mr. Lamb will meet with anyone. He doesn’t pit one side against the other. He reminds us, at every opportunity, that we are all Americans. He didn’t go to Washington, D.C., to impeach the president - he went to reach across the aisle and work with the president to serve both the Democrats and Republicans in his district. And yet, when the president committed an offense so brazenly corrupt that there was no other option but to impeach him, Mr. Lamb chose his oath to the Constitution against the very real threat he may lose his seat (Dec. 13, "Lamb, Citing Oath to Protect Country, to Vote for Articles of Impeachment"). Ask yourself if Sean Parnell would do the same. Ask yourself how you’d like to be remembered in this moment. For the sake of America, democracy and freedom, I hope and pray the future is filled with more men and women like Mr. Lamb.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Lynne Hughes Op-Ed, 12/18/19]

February 2020: Parnell Received Favorable Coverage By The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

February 2020: Parnell Received Favorable Coverage By The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. “When Sean Parnell talks about the 485 days he spent fighting in the Hindu Kush mountains during the war in Afghanistan, his memories from more than a decade ago assemble like they're filling the pages of a military thriller. Coincidentally, the military veteran has written a few of those, including the nonfiction ‘Outlaw Platoon’ that tells the story of his experience commanding a 40-man infantry platoon as a 24-year-old Army Ranger, and how 16 months in combat along Afghanistan's eastern frontier transformed his life and connected him with his fellow soldiers. ‘I think about the Afghan war every single day of my life,’ Mr. Parnell said this past week. ‘It's the first thing I think about when I wake up and the last thing I think about before I go to sleep.’ A decade and a half later, Mr. Parnell is molding the lessons he learned into an effort on a new battlefield - or battleground, in political pundits' speak - as he vies for the Republican nomination in Western Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional district, hoping to eventually face Marine Corps veteran and Democratic incumbent Conor Lamb in November's general election.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/2/20]

HEADLINE: Parnell Ready To Fight On Political Battlefield. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/2/20]



Parnell ready to fight on political battlefield

Steve Melloni/Post-Gazette



JULIAN ROUTH ✓
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
jrouth@post-gazette.com

[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [2/2/20](#)]

ADVERTISEMENT

An advertisement for ShelfGenie. The background is light blue. The text "ShelfGenie" is in a large, green, sans-serif font. Below it, in smaller green text, is "EVERYTHING WITHIN REACH". Underneath that, in a bold, dark blue font, is "Easy Access Means Easy Living". At the bottom, in a smaller, dark blue font, is "Custom pull-out shelves for your existing cabinets." There is a small icon of a camera in the bottom right corner of the ad.

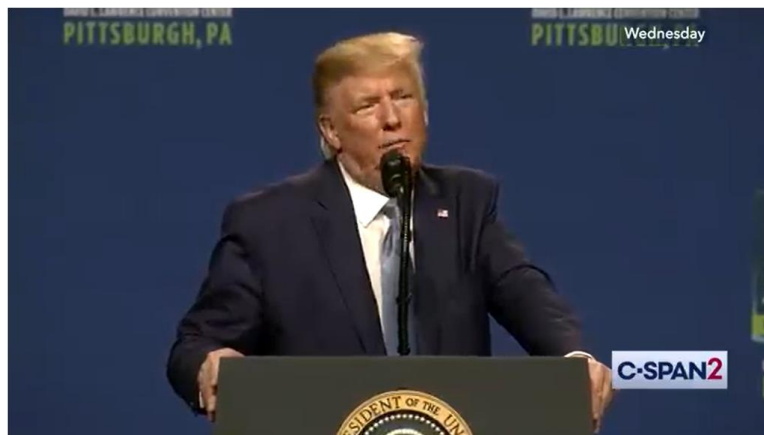
Parnell Accused Lamb, Pelosi, And The Democratic Party Of Being Socialists

Parnell Accused Lamb, Pelosi, And The Democratic Party Of Being Socialists. “Parnell clearly identifies with Trump and sees the 2020 election as a fight between freedom and socialism. Delano: ‘Do you think that Conor Lamb represents socialism?’ Parnell: ‘I do. I mean his party and his candidates embrace socialism. The Democratic Party is no longer the party of the American middle class or the American working class. They are no longer the party of unions.’ ‘The Democratic Party at every level, at every candidate on stage, embraces wholesale socialism, and Conor Lamb is a part of that whether he likes it or not,’ adds Parnell.” [KDKA, [10/31/19](#)]

VIDEO: October 2019: Parnell’s Campaign Was Previewed By Donald Trump, Who Named Him As An Ally And Said That He Would “Work For Us”

Parnell’s Campaign Was Previewed By Donald Trump Who Named Him As An Ally. “Mr. Trump floated Mr. Parnell’s name as a possible candidate for the 17th district last week in his keynote speech to the annual Shale Insight conference in Pittsburgh. In his address to national gas executives and employees, Mr. Trump criticized Mr. Lamb’s voting record -- ‘he never votes with us,’ he said -- and praised Mr. Parnell as a ‘fantastic military man.’ ‘I hear that...Sean Parnell is going to run against Conor Lamb,’ Mr. Trump said then. ‘That will help the energy business. And he should win. He should win. And Sean will vote for us, and he’ll work for us.’” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [10/30/19](#)]

VIDEO: Trump Said That Parnell Would “Work For Us.” “And he should win. He should win. And Sean will vote for us, and he’ll work for us.” [CSPAN, [10/23/19](#)]



[CSPAN, [10/23/19](#)]

Personal Political Donations

According to the Federal Election Commission, Sean Parnell has contributed \$64,981.75 to federal candidates and committees. [Federal Election Commission, accessed 2/19/20]

Parnell Political Giving History - Federal			
Year	Candidate (Office Sought) or Committee	Party	Amount
2019	WinRed (Earmarked by Americans for Parnell Committee)	R	\$5,600.00
2019	WinRed (Earmarked by Americans for Parnell Committee)	R	\$2,800.00
2019	WinRed (Earmarked by Americans for Parnell Committee)	R	\$2,800.00

2015	Mike Kelly (PA-03)	R	\$500.00
2015	Lead The Way PAC	R	\$1,500.00
2013	Republican National Committee	R	\$750.00
2012	Republican Federal Committee of Pennsylvania	R	\$400.00
		Total	\$14,350.00

[Federal Election Commission, accessed 4/3/20]

Sean Parnell Pennsylvania Contributions

According To The Pennsylvania Department Of State, Sean Parnell Has Not Made Any Contributions To Political Committees In Pennsylvania. [Pennsylvania Department of State Contributions Lookup, accessed 4/3/20]

According to the National Institute on Money in Politics, Sean Parnell Has Not Made Any Political Contributions To Committees Outside Of Pennsylvania. [Pennsylvania Department of State Contributions Lookup, accessed 4/3/20]

Relationships

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Parnell repeatedly used the initialism BHO when referring to President Obama, likely seeking to derisively emphasize his middle name Hussein.*
- ✓ *Despite his repeated criticism of President Obama, Parnell spoke favorably about his visit to Afghanistan in 2012.*
- ✓ *Parnell endorsed Marco Rubio in the republican primaries and campaigned for him in multiple primary contests.*
- ✓ *In 2014, Parnell spoke in support of Republican Governor of Pennsylvania Tom Corbett during his bid for reelection.*

President Obama

2012: Parnell Spoke Favorably About President Obama's Visit To Afghanistan And Said His Speech Boosted Morale Of The Soldiers

2012: Parnell Spoke Favorably About President Obama's Visit To Afghanistan And Said His Speech Boosted Morale Of The Soldiers. "BURNETT: And Sean, a final question to you. As you fought on the ground in Afghanistan, you know, lately we have heard awful things. The Quran burnings although accidental. The Sergeant Bales alleged shooting of Afghan civilians, Afghan security forces killing their U.S. colleagues. I mean, the headlines have been a drum beat of terrible things. What does this president -- presidential visit do for troop morale over there? PARNELL: I've got to tell you that I watched this speech and I think that the president is a great orator. And to be perfectly honest, you know, that's what I'm a boots on the ground infantry guy. I was inspired by the speech. I mean, Erin. For one third of my life, we have been at war in this nation. I have been intricately involved in training and fighting on the ground there. And it almost brought tears to my eyes, you know, dreaming about the fact that the Afghan war might be coming to a close, you know. But, I think the president's speech was good. And I'm glad he gave it and I think it was good for the morale of the soldiers over there too." [CNN, In The Arena, 5/1/12]

Parnell Repeatedly Referred To President Obama As "BHO"

Parnell Accused President Obama Of Destroying Private Businesses, Referring To Him As BHO

Parnell Accused President Obama Of Destroying Private Businesses, Referring To Him As BHO. "@IngrahamAngle Of course. Politicians should support private enterprise, not use their power to destroy it...ahem..Emanual...ahem BHO..." [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [8/2/12](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [8/2/12](#)]

Parnell Criticized Obama For Calling US Olympian Michael Phelps On His Victories In London, And Not For Calling The Family Of Murdered Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry

Parnell Criticized Obama For Calling US Olympian Michael Phelps On His Victories In London, And Not For Calling The Family Of Murdered Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry. “How is it that BHO can personally find time to call Phelps but not the family of border agent Brian Terry? Seriously!?” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [8/2/12](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [8/2/12](#)]

2010: Agent Brian Terry Was Killed, Setting Off The ATF Gunwalking Or “Fast And Furious” Scandal. “Brian Terry’s December 2010 death — linked to firearms traced to the ATF’s Fast and Furious program — was the incident that brought the operation into public scrutiny.” [Politico, [6/22/12](#)]

Parnell Peddled Conspiracy Theories That Barack Obama Supported A World Government

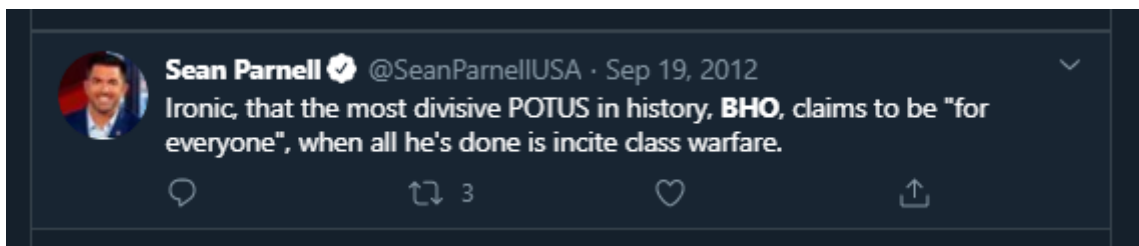
Parnell Stated That Barack Obama’s Goal For The United States Was To Make It Subservient It To A World Government. “BHO's vision and end state for the United States of America.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [8/15/12](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [8/15/12](#)]

Parnell Called Obama “The Most Divisive POTUS In History” And An Instigator Of Class Warfare

Parnell Called Obama “The Most Divisive POTUS In History” And An Instigator Of Class Warfare. “Ironic, that the most divisive POTUS in history, BHO, claims to be ‘for everyone’, when all he’s done is incite class warfare.”



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [9/19/12](#)]

Parnell Tweeted A Photoshopped Picture Of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Implying That He Supported Barack Obama

Parnell Tweeted A Photoshopped Picture Of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Implying That He Supported Barack Obama. “I want to tweet this again this a.m. Stakes are high this election! 4 more years of BHO will be devastating to the US!” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/1/12](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/1/12](#)]

Marco Rubio

2016: Parnell Endorsed Marco Rubio In The Republican Presidential Primary And Campaigned For Him In Multiple Primary Contests

2016: Parnell Endorsed Rubio For President Ahead Of The South Carolina Primary. “South Carolina voters and veterans will soon go to the polls to choose a president and commander-in-chief. There are lots of strong options. But if fixing the VA, rebuilding our military, and doing right by our veterans is a top priority for you, then Senator Rubio should be your first and only choice. I can attest that he is fully committed — and capable — of putting an end to the bureaucratic nightmares that have plagued the VA and our veterans altogether. We deserve nothing less.” [Marco Rubio For President via Internet Archive, [2/18/16](#)]



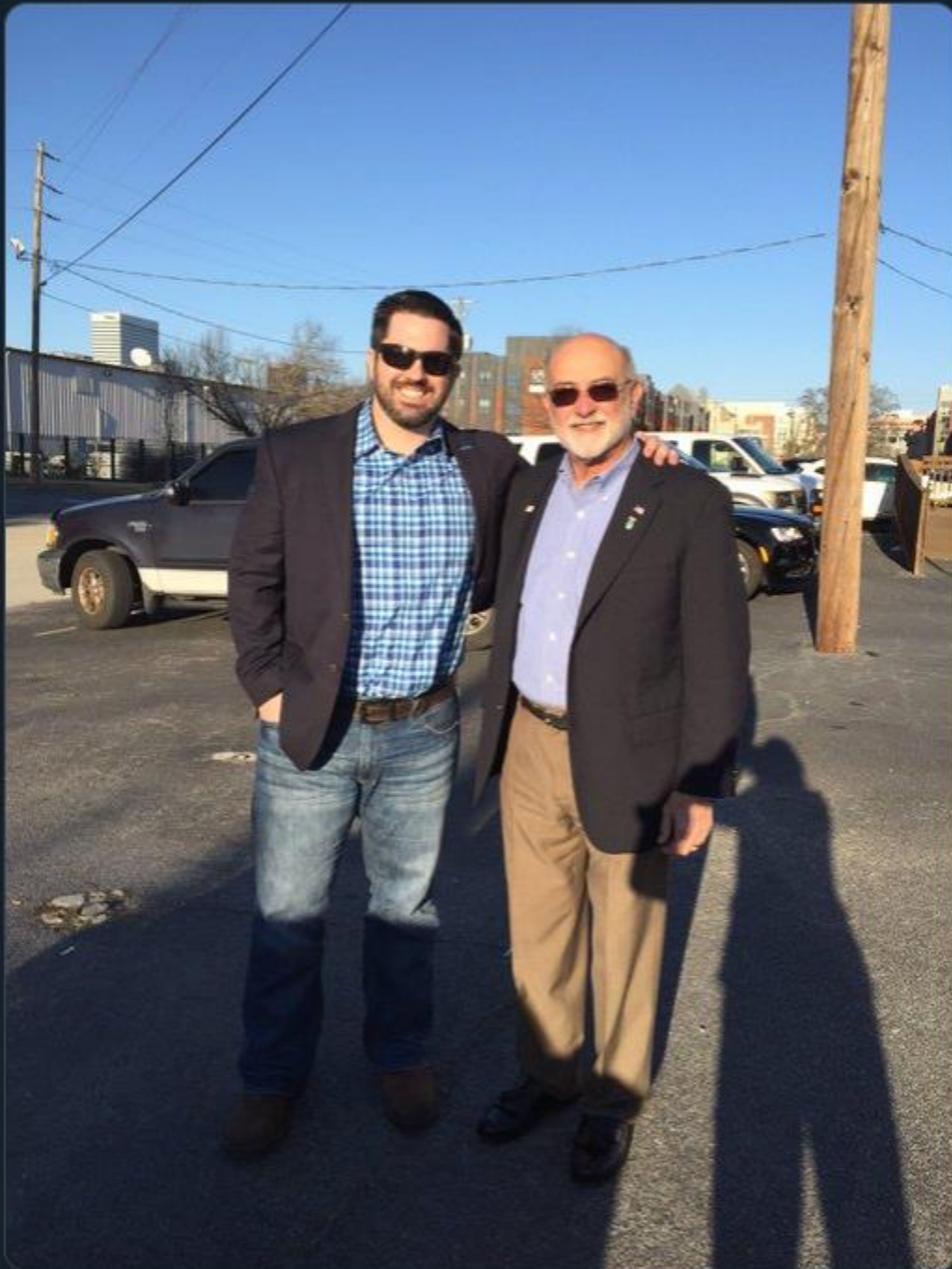
[Marco Rubio, Facebook, [2/17/16](#)]

Parnell Campaigned For Rubio In South Carolina. “Got a chance to hang out w/former Green Beret, Mario Rubio campaigning in SC for @marcorubio. A hero for sure.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/20/16](#)]



Sean Parnell ✓
@SeanParnellUSA

Got a chance to hang out w/former Green Beret, Mario Rubio campaigning in SC for [@marcorubio](#). A hero for sure.



5:54 PM · Feb 20, 2016 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

116 Retweets **352** Likes

[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/20/16](#)]



Laurie Snell is with Leanne Rubio Clothier.
February 21, 2016 · 🌐

Am I surprised that Marco Rubio won in the 2 counties where Sean Parnell campaigned for him? No.
Do I take all the credit? Of course!
Go, Marco!
#Hollywood



Donald Trump won the state by sweeping rural regions as well as upstate areas like Greenville



**MARCO RUBIO IS
THE VOICE OF
UNITY AND HOPE
THAT THIS COUNTRY
DESPERATELY NEEDS**
CPT. Sean Parnell

👍 31 3 Comments 1 Share

🔗 Share

[Laurie Snell, Facebook, [2/21/16](#)]

Parnell Appeared On Fox News As A Surrogate For Rubio. [Marco Rubio, YouTube, [2/23/16](#)]



[Marco Rubio, YouTube, [2/23/16](#)]

2016: Parnell Said That It Was Time For A “Younger Conservative” Like Rubio

2016: Parnell Said That It Was Time For A “Younger Conservative” Like Rubio. “This fall, Parnell acknowledged his previous support for Rubio, saying he “believed in a younger conservative,” on an episode of ‘Leather Talk,’ a military and veteran-focused YouTube series. But Parnell said his views have shifted since the President took office.” [WITF, [10/31/19](#)]

2019: Parnell Said His Position Had Changed And That “Trump Earned My Respect. “‘Trump earned my respect since he’s been in office,’ Parnell said. ‘Because he forces us to talk about issues. Political correctness doesn’t allow us to talk about them.’” [WITF, [10/31/19](#)]

David Hogg

2019: In Response To A Tweet By David Hogg Criticizing U.S. Military Involvement In Africa, Parnell Insulted Hogg As A “Beta Male”

Parnell Insulted Hogg As A “Beta Male” After Hogg’s Critical Comments On Military Involvement In Africa. “Alexa, what does a beta male look like? Oh, & one more lesson you won’t likely learn at Harvard. We fight to liberate & protect. Not occupy & take. We fight in defense of freedom worldwide. Wise up kiddo.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/23/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/23/19](#)]

Hogg Had Commented On A Map Of U.S. Military Installations In Africa With The Question “What Does US Military Imperialism Look Like?” “Alexa, what does US military imperialism look like?” [David Hogg, Twitter, [4/23/19](#)]

Parnell Went On To State That Hogg “Impugned The Legacy Of My Men” Through Hogg’s Criticism Of The U.S. Military. “When Hogg says things like this he impugns the legacy of my men who fought & bled on foreign soil for the freedom of others & asked nothing in return for it.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/23/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/23/19](#)]

Parnell Further Stated That Hogg’s Comments Were Not Fair To Those Who Fought For “Global Freedom.” “When people thoughtless criticize policy w/ nonsensical talking points, how do you thing that makes men & women serving on the front lines feel? It cheapens the altruism behind their service. What Hogg said isn’t fair to those who lost loved ones in support of global freedom.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/23/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/23/19](#)]

Hogg Was A School Shooting Survivor Who Was 19 Years Old At The Time Of Parnell’s Insults

David Hogg Was A Survivor Of The Shooting At Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School In Parkland, Florida And A Gun Control Activist. “Listening to David Hogg, the 18-year-old former high school student who became an internationally known gun-control campaigner after a gunman shot dead 17 students and staff and injured 17 others at his school in Parkland, Florida, reminds me of McCain’s account of his protest. Fearless, relentless, passionate, earnest and old beyond his years yet brimming with youthful intensity. A teenager who, having already entertained his own mortality, has become recklessly audacious and singlemindedly driven.” [The Guardian, [12/12/18](#)]

Chris Kyle (American Sniper)

2015: Sean Hannity Described The Author Of American Sniper, Chris Kyle, As Parnell’s Friend

2015: Sean Hannity Described The Author Of American Sniper, Chris Kyle, As Parnell’s Friend. “Joining me now with reaction are two of Chris Kyle's friends, former U.S. Army Ranger Sean Parnell and former U.S. Navy SEAL Jason Redman. Guys, good to see you.” [Fox News Network, Hannity, 1/19/15]

Parnell Called Criticisms Of Kyle By People Like Michael Moore “Cowardly.” “HANNITY: Sean, let me start with you. Look, I know my reaction. Navy SEALs, our military, protect Michael Moore and Seth Rogen's right to be dumb and ignorant and idiotic in their comments, and even mean-spirited. But what's your reaction? SEAN PARNELL, FORMER U.S. ARMY RANGER: Well, first of all, don't hold anything back about how

you feel about their comments. But second of all, I think, you know, he's -- Michael Moore has backed off of his comments, but to me, that doesn't really... HANNITY: No, he really didn't, though. He's still saying snipers are cowards. HANNITY: Snipers are the guys that save the lives of American troops that are about to be killed. That's their job! PARNELL: I'm with you. I mean, the definition of cowardice is not taking accountability for your own words. Another thing that is pretty cowardly in my book is wrongly attacking or insinuating that a man is cowardly when he's not even here to defend himself because believe me when I tell you, if Chris Kyle were here, he would probably have hit back on his own. That's why I'm responding to this tonight, because he's not. And I also think that it's highly ironic that a guy like Michael Moore uses the freedom that he's been graciously gifted by the American soldiers and heroes like Chris Kyle to then turn around and blame the American militaries for all the problems of the world. To me, that's the definition of irony and cowardice all at the same time." [Fox News Network, Hannity, 1/19/15]

Governor Tom Corbett

2014: Parnell Spoke In Support Of Governor Corbett's Energy Policy At A Campaign Rally

Parnell Spoke At A Reelection Campaign Rally For Governor Corbett And Endorsed His "All-Of-The-Above-And-Below" Energy Policy. "Gov. Tom Corbett promoted what he called his 'all-of-the-above-and-below strategy for energy' during a campaign rally in downtown Johnstown on Tuesday. He discussed his goal to develop multiple sources – wind, solar, nuclear, timber, hydro and coal – when joined by a packed room of supporters inside the Frank J. Pasquerilla Conference Center. Most specifically, though, he talked about the burgeoning Marcellus Shale natural gas industry and how it can impact the commonwealth. [...] He received support from several speakers, including U.S. Army Ranger Sean Parnell, who spent almost 500 days fighting along the Afghanistan–Pakistan border." [Tribune-Democrat, 9/20/14]

Parnell Called governor Corbett "A Man Of Integrity Of Impeccable Moral Character." "Gov. Tom Corbett is a man of integrity of impeccable moral character,' Parnell said. 'He's a man that will put the needs of the people of this commonwealth before his own, 100 percent of the time.'" [Tribune-Democrat, 9/20/14]

Mike Pence

December 2019: Pence Endorsed Parnell While Addressing A The Pennsylvania VFW

December 2019: Pence Endorsed Parnell While Addressing A The Pennsylvania VFW. "Wayne Perry, state commander of the Pennsylvania VFW, said veterans have lined up behind Mr. Trump because he's been "proactive" in helping them - especially when they go before Congress every spring to request resources for the VA. The treatment of veterans by the public has improved under Mr. Trump, too, Mr. Perry said, continuing a trend in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in which people on the street will thank them for their service. In thanking the VFW's veterans himself, Mr. Pence endorsed the congressional candidacy of Army veteran Sean Parnell, a Republican who is running for U.S. Rep. Conor Lamb's seat. Mr. Lamb is a Marine Corps veteran." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 12/11/19]

Donald Trump

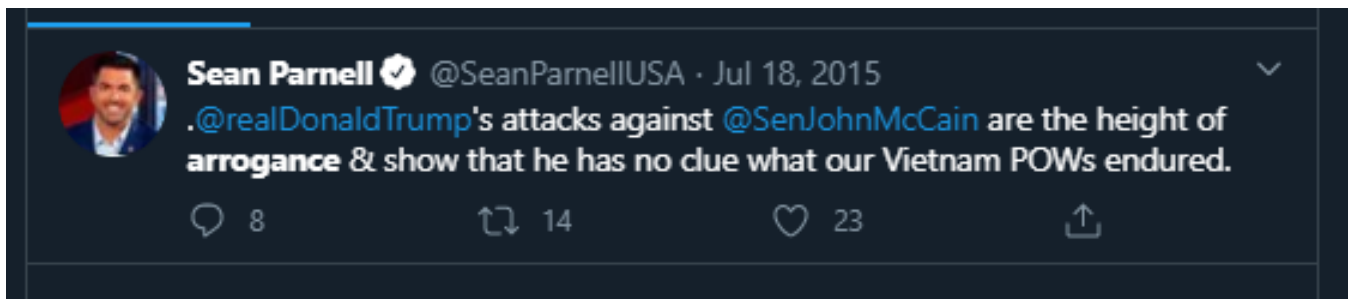
Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2012, Parnell approved of Trump’s comments criticizing quantitative easing and the Obama Administration’s economic policies.*
- ✓ *In 2015, Parnell criticized Trump’s comments on John McCain and called it the “height of arrogance” and showed that Trump had “no clue” when it came to veterans’ experiences*
- ✓ *Parnell was a Marco Rubio surrogate during the 2016 Republican Presidential Primary and campaigned for him in South Carolina.*
- ✓ *Throughout 2017, Parnell continued to offer some mild criticism of Trump’s VA policy, including his choice of VA Secretary in David Shulkin.*
 - ✓ *After meeting with Shulkin, Parnell reversed course and supported Shulkin as VA Secretary.*
- ✓ *Shortly after meeting with Shulkin, Parnell became much less reserved in his criticism of Trump.*
- ✓ *In 2018, Parnell appeared on Fox News to praise Trump and said that U.S. soldiers “love and adore him.”*
- ✓ *Parnell embraced Trump’s endorsement for his race in PA-17.*
- ✓ *In 2019, Parnell praised Trump’s peace plan with the Taliban, despite his earlier reservations about any peace deal with the Taliban.*

2015-2017: Parnell Made Comments Critical Of Donald Trump

2015: Parnell Criticized Trump’s Comments On John McCain And United States Oil Interests

Parnell Criticized Trump’s Comments On John McCain And United States Oil Interests. “Mr. Parnell tweeted on July 18, 2015, that Mr. Trump’s comments about John McCain ‘are the height of arrogance & show that he has no clue what our Vietnam POWs endured.’ On Sept. 26, 2016, Mr. Parnell tweeted ‘Ugh. I hate it when Trump says take the oil. I get what he means. But US troops are liberators and protectors. We aren’t pirates.’” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [10/30/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [7/18/15](#)]

2017: Parnell Expressed His Disappointment In Trump's Appointment Of David Shulkin As VA Secretary

January 2017: Donald Trump Announced That He Would Appoint David Shulkin, Then A VA Undersecretary, To Lead The VA

January 2017: Donald Trump Announced That He Would Appoint David Shulkin, Then A VA Undersecretary, To Lead The VA. “Donald Trump announced Wednesday that he would name David Shulkin to head the Department of Veterans Affairs. ‘And by the way, speaking of veterans, I appointed today the head secretary of the Veterans Administration, David Shulkin,’ Trump said during a wide-ranging press conference, adding, ‘He's fantastic. He will do a truly great job.’” [NBC News, [1/11/17](#)]

Shulkin Was The First Non-Veteran To Lead The VA. “A board-certified internist and a fellow of the American College of Physicians, Shulkin would be the first non-veteran to ever serve as VA secretary, according to the Military Times.” [NBC News, [1/11/17](#)]

Parnell Expressed His Disappointment With Trump's Pick

Parnell Expressed His Disappointment With Trump's Pick. “I had high hopes that the Trump administration would take the #VA in a new direction & maybe they still will. But I'm disappointed.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/11/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/11/17](#)]

Parnell Reinforced His Disappointment With A GIF From “Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade” Indicating That Trump “Chose Poorly.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

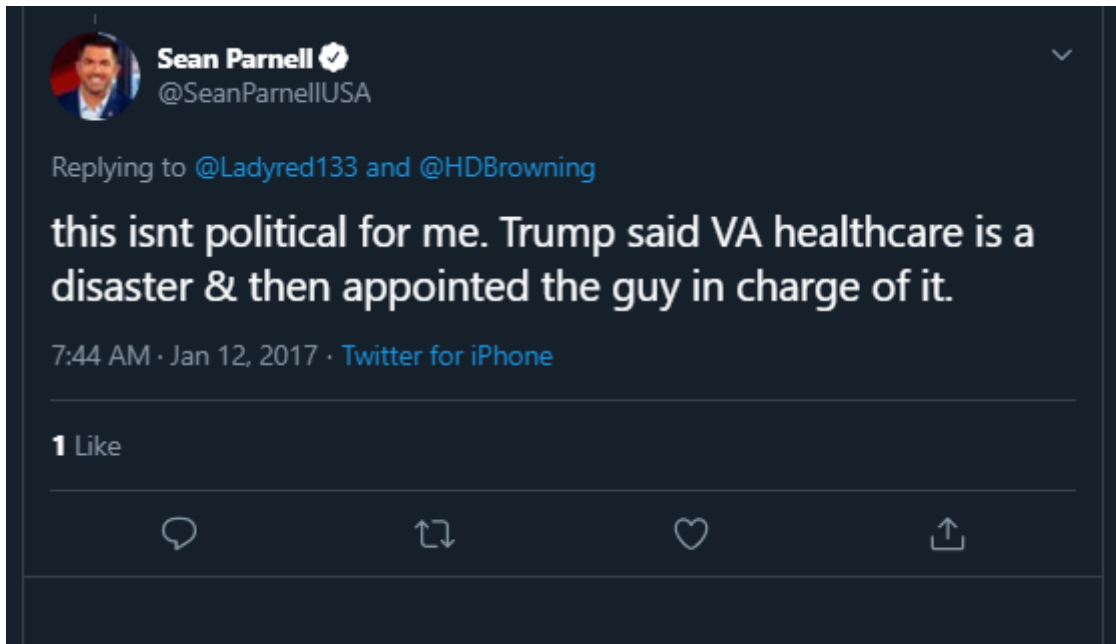
Parnell Accused Trump Of Not Being True To His Word

Parnell Said That He Was Sick Of Waiting For VA Reform After “8 Years Of Hell.” “It’s been 8 years of hell. I’m sick of waiting for reform.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

Parnell Accused Trump Of Going Back On His Word, Appointing A Figure That Had Led Part Of A VA That Trump Called A “Disaster.” “this isnt political for me. Trump said VA healthcare is a disaster & then appointed the guy in charge of it.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

Parnell Then Backtracked And Fully Embraced Donald Trump, The Administration, And Brand

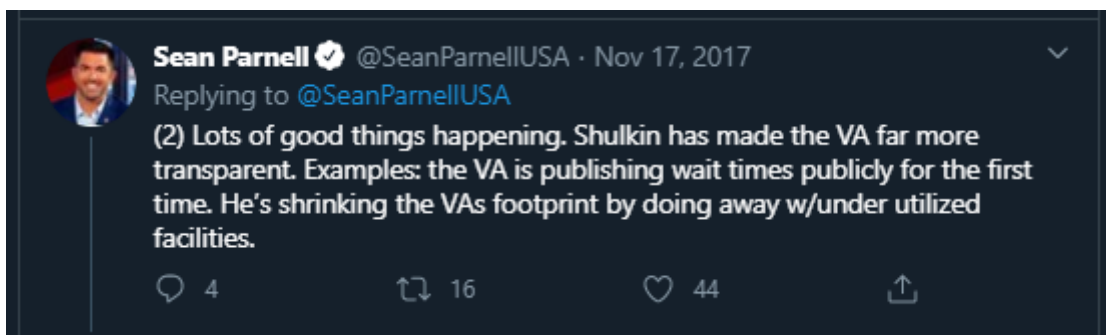
Late 2017: Parnell Backtracked His Comments On Secretary Shulkin And Praised The VA Leader After Meeting With Him

November 2017: Parnell Backtracked And Praised Secretary Shulkin After Meeting With Him. “(1) Had a great meeting with the VA Secretary yesterday. The good news? Shulkin is a good man that cares about helping our nation’s vets. He agrees that the VA needs significant reform.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



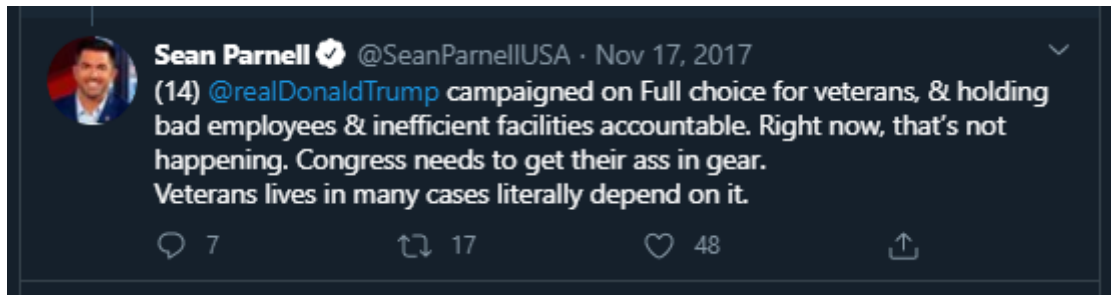
[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

Parnell Said That “Lots Of Good Things Are Happening” Under Shulkin’s Leadership. “Lots of good things happening. Shulkin has made the VA far more transparent. Examples: the VA is publishing wait times publicly for the first time. He’s shrinking the VAs footprint by doing away w/under utilized facilities.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

Parnell Concluded That Congress Needed To “Get Its Ass In Gear” To Make Trump’s Campaign Promises On The VA A Reality. “@realDonaldTrump campaigned on Full choice for veterans, & holding bad employees & inefficient facilities accountable. Right now, that’s not happening. Congress needs to get their ass in gear. Veterans lives in many cases literally depend on it.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

Parnell Acknowledged He Did Not Agree With Trump's Presentation, But Defended The Results

Parnell Acknowledged He Did Not Agree With Trump's Presentation, But Defended The Results. “When his past criticisms of Mr. Trump were brought up Tuesday night, Mr. Parnell said that although he may not always agree with the president’s message, he can’t deny the results. ‘You can dislike his presentation, but you can’t argue with his success in the White House and the things that he’s set forth to do,’ Mr. Parnell said.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [10/30/19](#)]

Parnell Tweeted Photo Of Himself With Donald Trump Jr

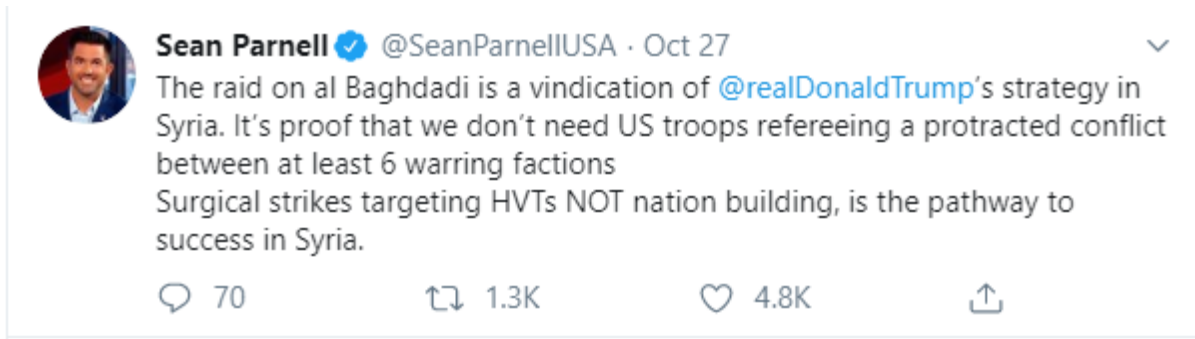
Parnell Tweeted Photo Of Himself With Donald Trump Jr. [Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/30/19](#)]



[Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/30/19](#)]

Parnell Tweeted Support For Trump's Baghdadi Raid And Syria Policy

Parnell Tweeted Support For Trump's Baghdadi Raid And Syria Policy. [Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/27/19](#)]



[Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/27/19](#)]

Parnell Criticized Democrats' Impeachment Efforts

Parnell Criticized Democrats' Impeachment Efforts. [Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/16/19](#)]



[Twitter, Sean Parnell, [10/16/19](#)]

2018: Parnell Said That The U.S. Military "Loves And Adores" Donald Trump

Parnell Expressed His Belief That Soldiers In The U.S. Military "Love And Adore" Donald Trump

On Fox News, Parnell Defended Political Comments That Donald Trump Made On A Visit To Iraq And Said That The Troops "Love And Adore" Trump. "I've lead soldiers on the battlefield, I know how much it means to have a VIP come to your base. I also know what a tremendous honor it would be to have the Commander-In-Chief come to your base. So, when I saw President Trump out there visiting the troops, I mean clearly the troops love and adore him. Even if you don't agree with all of his political positions, he's still the commander of the United States Military and you show him deference and respect. He was surely and clearly met with enthusiasm." [Fox News Network, Fox & Friends [12/28/18](#)]

Parnell Dismissed Criticism That Trump Was Treating Visits To The Troops Like A Campaign Rally

Parnell Dismissed Criticism That Trump Was Treating Visits To The Troops Like A Campaign Rally. “And all the criticism about the president. Visiting the troops and it’s like a campaign rally? It’s not like he has these troops marching down Pennsylvania Avenue knocking on doors for him! They simply showed up to see the president speak and greet him in Iraq.” [Fox News Network, Fox & Friends [12/28/18](#)]

In The Same Interview, Parnell Encouraged Soldiers To Violate DoD Protocol Against Political Activity And Ask Trump To Sign Their MAGA Hats

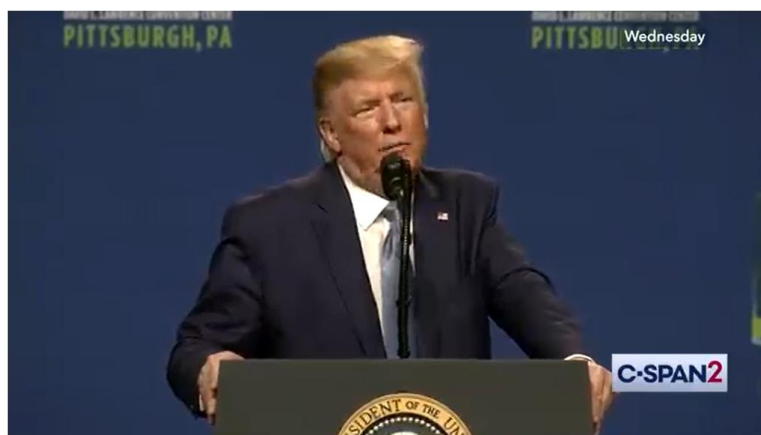
Parnell Encouraged Soldiers To Violate DoD Protocol Against Political Activity And Ask Trump To Sign Their MAGA Hats. “Q: Would it surprise you if a few of those guys and gals had MAGA hats in their duffel bags and they pulled them out and asked ‘hey would you sign it?’” PARNELL: ‘No not at all! I mean, in fact, I would encourage! I mean, look, these men and women are making life and death decisions every day. The fact of the matter is, when you’re in combat, you don’t know if you’re going to be around tomorrow. So if you’ve got a MAGA hat in your mag or you’ve got a Trump flag in your bag, and you want to bring to meet the president to get him to sign it, God, just let them have it!” [Fox News Network, Fox & Friends [12/28/18](#)]

Trump’s Endorsement

October 2019: Trump Praised Parnell As An Opponent To Conor Lamb At An Energy Company Forum In Pittsburgh

October 2019: Trump Praised Parnell As An Opponent To Conor Lamb At An Energy Company Forum In Pittsburgh. “In the middle of his address at the Marcellus Shale Insight conference, President Trump launched into an attack on local Congressman Conor Lamb. ‘Democrat Conor Lamb,’ Trump said to boos from the crowd. [...] So on Wednesday, he pitched a Republican to oppose Lamb. ‘There’s a guy named Sean Parnell who’s a fantastic military man, brilliant, got everything going,’ said Trump. ‘And I heard, fellows,’ Trump said, looking at the local Republican congressmen in the audience, ‘maybe my genius congressman can tell me. I hear that Sean, Sean Parnell, is going to run against Conor Lamb.’ Parnell, who lives in Cranberry, is an army combat veteran who served in Afghanistan and is now an accomplished author who appears on Fox News.” [KDKA, 10/24/20]

VIDEO: Trump Said That Parnell Would “Work For Us.” “And he should win. He should win. And Sean will vote for us, and he’ll work for us.” [CSPAN, [10/23/19](#)]



[CSPAN, [10/23/19](#)]

Days Later, Parnell Announced His Run For PA-17 On “Fox & Friends.” “Sean Parnell said he was asleep last week when President Donald Trump announced that the Army veteran was going to challenge U.S. Rep. Conor

Lamb in Pennsylvania's 17th congressional district. Speaking Tuesday night at the Allegheny County Republican Committee, Mr. Parnell said he had no idea how Mr. Trump knew his plan or that the president was going to make it public. [...] Mr. Parnell officially announced his candidacy at the Republican committee's fall reception hours after he appeared on 'Fox and Friends' and said he planned to run against Mr. Lamb, a Mt. Lebanon Democrat who beat third-term Republican Keith Rothfus last year by 12 percentage points. Mr. Trump floated Mr. Parnell's name as a possible candidate for the 17th district last week in his keynote speech to the annual Shale Insight conference in Pittsburgh." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [10/30/19](#)]

December 2019: Trump Endorsed Parnell

December 2019: Trump Reiterated His Endorsement Of Parnell On Twitter. "On the morning of his likely impeachment, President Donald Trump took to Twitter to again endorse the Army combat veteran running against Democrat Conor Lamb for Western Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District. Mr. Trump wrote that Republican candidate Sean Parnell 'is a great patriot and will do a fantastic job' and 'has my total and complete endorsement.' responding to a tweet by the candidate asking for donations. The president also quoted a tweet from conservative commentator Dan Bongino that referred to Mr. Lamb's support of impeachment, writing, Sean P is a much stronger candidate!' Mr. Trump had previously endorsed Mr. Parnell's candidacy, but these tweets came just a half-hour before the House began to debate two articles of impeachment against him - and amid a flurry of tweets and retweets blasting Democrats for the proceedings. [...] Mr. Parnell, who, announced his candidacy in October claiming that Mr. Lamb votes in 'lockstep' with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, thanked the president for his words Wednesday morning. 'It's an honor to have the opportunity to serve our great nation once again,' Mr. Parnell wrote. 'I've got your back & will always stand in defense of freedom for all Americans.' In a press call with reporters later Wednesday, Eric Trump, the president's son and executive vice president of the Trump Organization, said the 29 congressional Democrats in the districts his father carried in 2016 - including Mr. Lamb - are 'going back to their districts and getting bombarded by people who are saying, 'this is a sham.' Asked by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette how he'd weigh that statement with the crowd that gathered outside Mr. Lamb's office Tuesday night to support his vote, Mr. Trump reiterated that people are 'universally upset' about what's happening and it's resulting in more donors to his father's re-election campaign. 'I'll be out on the road in 2020 and I'll be in every single one of those districts using [impeachment] against them,' Mr. Trump said." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [12/18/19](#)]

HEADLINE: On Impeachment Day, Trump Tweets Support For Lamb's Opponent. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [12/18/19](#)]



[Donald Trump, Twitter, [12/18/19](#)]

2012: Parnell Approved Of Trump's Comments Criticizing Quantitative Easing And The Obama Administration's Economic Policies

2012: Parnell Approved Of Trump's Comments Criticizing Quantitative Easing

2012: Trump Tweeted That The Fed's Quantitative Easing 3 Plan (QE3) Was A "Political Favor" For President Obama And A Mistake. "QE3, a political favor for Obama, will cause record inflation on food and fuel. This hits low income families the hardest. Big mistake." [Donald Trump, Twitter, [9/19/12](#)]

Parnell Replied To This Tweet With Agreement. "@realDonaldTrump Very well said." [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [9/19/12](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [9/19/12](#)]

Issues

Abortion & Women's Health Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Parnell was a vocal critic of so-called "Post-Birth Abortion" and accused Rep. Conor Lamb of supporting it.*
 - ✓ *"Post-Birth Abortion" does not exist.*

Abortion

Parnell Was A Repeated Opponent Of So-Called "Post-Birth Abortion," Accusing Conor Lamb Of Supporting It And Opposing A Bill To Outlaw The Practice

Parnell Sarcastically Said That People Call The Tea Party Extreme, While Linking To An Article That Allegedly Described Those Advocating For Abortion After Birth. "And ppl call the Tea Party extreme...RT @brithume: There are now people seriously arguing for abortion AFTER BIRTH." [Sean Parnell, [2/24/14](#)]

2020: Parnell Alleged That Conor Lamb Supported "Post-Birth Abortion" Through Lamb's Support Of Joe Biden. "Here's what I think @ConorLambPA: You're endorsing a man who supports: Open Borders; Outlawing private healthcare; Post birth abortion; Banning fossil fuels in pursuit of the Green New Deal; Killing hundreds of thousands of blue collar jobs in WPa; Appeasing enemies." [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/6/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/6/20](#)]

Parnell Accused Conor Lamb Of Voting Against Legislation That Would Make So-Called “Post-Birth Abortion” Illegal. “@ConorLambPA once again voted AGAINST legislation that would penalize the intentional killing of infants who survive an abortion. I’m truly horrified by this. Saving the lives of children after birth is not a partisan issue.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/1/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/1/20](#)]

So-Called “Post-Birth Abortion” Does Not Exist

Under The Bill Parnell Supported, A Doctor Who Did Not Apply The Bill’s Required Treatment To A Baby Born Alive After An Abortion Attempt Could Be Sentenced To Prison

The Born-Alive Survivors Protection Act Would Require Doctors To Treat A Baby Born Alive After A Failed Abortion As If They Would Any Other Child At The Same Gestational Age. “The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would have required doctors to provide the same care for a baby born alive after a failed attempt at abortion as they would for any child of the same gestational age. After providing appropriate care, they would be required to ensure that the baby ‘is immediately transported and admitted to a hospital.’ Doctors who failed to comply with the requirements would face a fine and up to five years in prison.” [Vox, [2/26/19](#)]

Doctors And Reproductive Rights Groups Argued That “Post-Birth Abortion” “Doesn’t Exist In Medicine Or Reality”

Dr. Kristyn Brandi, Physicians For Reproductive Health Board Member: “Patients Do Not Request Abortion When They Are In Labor And Doctors Do Not Provide It.” “Abortions in the third trimester are very rare — just 1.4 percent of all abortions take place at 21 weeks or beyond, according to Planned Parenthood. The situation described in the Virginia committee hearing simply doesn’t come up, Brandi said — ‘patients do not request abortion when they are in labor and doctors do not provide it.’” [Vox, [2/26/19](#)]

Dr. Kristyn Brandi, Physicians For Reproductive Health Board Member: The Bill Was Based On A “False Narrative” About Abortion. “But reproductive rights and physicians’ groups said the bill could criminalize doctors and was unnecessary since laws already exist to protect an infant in the extremely unlikely scenario of a birth after an abortion attempt. ‘The bill maligns and vilifies providers and patients to push a false narrative about abortion later in pregnancy,’ Dr. Kristyn Brandi, a board member of Physicians for Reproductive Health, told Vox in an email.” [Vox, [2/26/19](#)]

Planned Parenthood President: The Bill Was “Aimed At Shaming Women And Criminalizing Doctors For A Practice That Doesn’t Exist In Medicine Or Reality.” “Senate Democrats, reproductive rights groups, and groups representing doctors disagreed, calling the legislation unnecessary and potentially damaging. ‘This

legislation is based on lies and a misinformation campaign, aimed at shaming women and criminalizing doctors for a practice that doesn't exist in medicine or reality,' said Dr. Leana Wen, the president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, in a statement to Vox." [Vox, [2/26/19](#)]

Dr. Kristyn Brandi, A Physicians For Reproductive Health Board Member, Said She Had Never Heard Of A Child Born Alive After A Failed Abortion. "[Dr. Kristyn] Brandi, of Physicians for Reproductive Health, said she had never heard of a case of a child born after a failed abortion attempt. 'This is a part of the false narrative around this bill and abortion later in pregnancy,' she said." [Vox, [2/26/19](#)]

Arthur Caplan, A NYU Bioethicist, Said He Knew Of No Examples Of A "Medically Active Killing" Of A Baby Born Alive After Abortion. "A failure to resuscitate, which is typical in such cases, 'is a much more contentious issue,' said Arthur Caplan, a bioethicist at New York University Langone Medical Center. 'Babies born post-abortion, spontaneous or induced, with horrible and potentially painful conditions incompatible with life, would not be routinely resuscitated or aggressively treated by most medical teams. In fact some would not even know how to try, or lack the technology to do so, especially in rural areas.' Caplan said he is unaware of examples of 'medically active killing,' and that while 'allowing to die does happen,' it occurs 'very rarely—say, a baby born with no lungs at 20 weeks.'" [Politifact, [2/28/19](#)]

Most Abortions Performed At 21 Weeks Or Later Involved Fetal Anomalies Incompatible With Life; Only 1 Percent Of All Abortions Were Performed That Late

American College Of Obstetricians And Gynecologists: Abortions Occurring Later In Pregnancy Usually "Involve Fetal Anomalies Incompatible With Life." "'Many abortions that occur later in pregnancy involve fetal anomalies incompatible with life, such as anencephaly, the absence of the brain and cranium above the base of the skull, or limb-body wall complex, when the organs develop outside of the body cavity,' the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has written." [Politifact, [2/28/19](#)]

CDC: In 2015, 1.3 Percent Of Abortions Were Performed At 21 Weeks Of Gestation Or Later. "The Republican push to pass these bills follows efforts in New York and Virginia to roll back restrictions surrounding late-term abortions, which represent a small minority of hundreds of thousands of abortions performed in the United States each year. Those abortions, experts say, typically are prompted by concerns for the mother's health or fetal abnormalities. According to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1.3 percent of abortions in 2015 were performed at 21 weeks of gestation or later. About 91 percent took place at or before 13 weeks of gestation." [Washington Post, [2/25/19](#)]

Even More, Any Baby Born Alive Was Already Granted Full Legal Rights Under Federal Law

2002: The Born-Alive Infants Protection Act Guaranteed Full Legal Rights To Infants Born At Any Stage Of Development. "Even if a child were to be born after an abortion attempt, she said, laws already exist to protect the baby. In 2002, Congress passed the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, which guaranteed to infants born at any stage of development full legal rights. That bill, which passed with bipartisan support, did not include criminal penalties for doctors and did not impose specific requirements on medical care." [Vox, [2/26/19](#)]

The Child Abuse Prevention And Treatment Act, Passed In 1974 And Updated In The 1980s, Made Certain Federal Funding To States Contingent On Adoption Of Policies To Prevent Improper Withholding Of Treatment From Newborns. "Legal experts pointed to several specific laws relevant to newborns: The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, first passed in 1974 and subsequently revised, including major updates in the 1980s. The relevant portion of the law makes certain types of federal funding for states conditional on their adoption of policies to prevent improper withholding of treatment from newborns, including those with disabilities." [Politifact, [2/28/19](#)]

Education Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ Parnell alleged that liberalism “runs rampant” in school systems in the United States.

Alleged Liberal Bias In Schools

2012: Parnell Attacked What He Viewed As Liberalism That “Runs Rampant” In School Systems

2012: Parnell Attacked What He Viewed As Liberalism That “Runs Rampant” In School Systems.

“@OCAmericans @chrisloesch I've been saying that insulated & detached liberalism runs rampant in our education system.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [12/17/12](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [12/17/12](#)]

Energy Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2017, Parnell criticized Trump’s tone when Trump made a comment about “taking the oil” from the Middle East.*
- ✓ *Parnell was fiercely opposed to restrictions or a ban on fracking.*

Middle East Oil

Parnell Criticized Trump’s Comments On United States Oil Interests

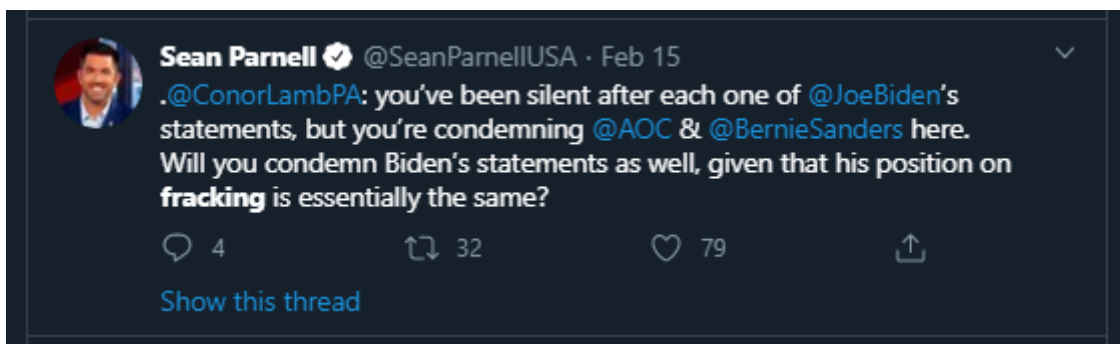
Parnell Criticized Trump’s Comments On John McCain And United States Oil Interests. “Mr. Parnell tweeted on July 18, 2015, that Mr. Trump’s comments about John McCain ‘are the height of arrogance & show that he has no clue what our Vietnam POWs endured.’ On Sept. 26, 2016, Mr. Parnell tweeted ‘Ugh. I hate it when Trump says take the oil. I get what he means. But US troops are liberators and protectors. We aren’t pirates.’” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, [10/30/19](#)]

Fracking

Parnell Was Fiercely Opposed To Restrictions Or A Ban On Fracking

Parnell Called On Conor Lamb To Condemn Joe Biden’s Statements Regarding Fracking

Parnell Called On Conor Lamb To Condemn Joe Biden’s Statements Regarding Fracking, Comparing Them To Anti-Fracking Comments Made By AOC And Bernie Sanders. “.@ConorLambPA: you’ve been silent after each one of @JoeBiden’s statements, but you’re condemning @AOC & @BernieSanders here. Will you condemn Biden’s statements as well, given that his position on **fracking** is essentially the same?” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/15/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/15/20](#)]

Equal Rights & Workplace Fairness

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2014, Parnell agreed with President Obama's statement that "women deserve equal pay for equal work," but suggested that he was a hypocrite for not paying women of the Obama Administration as much as they deserved.*
- ✓ *Parnell had a history of using misogynistic language. Parnell admits in his autobiography that he referred to a fellow servicemember as the "mail bitch."*

Equal Pay

2014: Parnell Said That Women Should Receive Equal Pay, But Attacked President Obama's Stance On The Issue As Hypocritical

Parnell Agreed With President Obama's 2014 State Of The Union Remark That "Women Deserve Equal Pay For Equal Work," But Said That Obama Needed To Start In His Own Administration. "'Women deserve equal pay for equal work.' Absolutely correct. So let's start in your admin. where women routinely make less then men. #sotu" [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/28/14](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/28/14](#)]

Women In Pennsylvania Made 81 Cents For Every Dollar A Man Made

Women In Pennsylvania Made 81 Cents For Every Dollar A Man Made. [National Women's Law Center, accessed [4/2/20](#)]

Parnell Had A History Of Using Misogynistic Language

Parnell Referred To A Fellow Service Member As The “Mail Bitch”

Parnell Referred To A Fellow Service Member As The “Mail Bitch.” Yet that band of brothers bond only goes so far. Lt. Parnell calls out those who didn't measure up, such as the fellow leader who avoided the action, a sergeant who disappeared for weeks, another sergeant who froze in combat and the ‘mail bitch,’ a nasty female letter carrier. He debated how much of these elements to include but decided a sanitized version would serve no one. ‘My agent said the best memoirs are always the most honest,’ he said. Sgt. Cowan said the book is a truthful portrait of the platoon's experiences. ‘You gotta be real,’ he said. ‘Combat is a horrible thing to go through. Some people crack. That doesn't mean they're a bad person.’” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2/26/12]

Parnell Alleged That The Mail Carrier Lied About A Dog Biting Her, Leading To The Several Dogs Being Put Down. “The woman in charge of delivering the mail not only was rude and nasty to Parnell's men, she also lied about being bit by one of the dogs the platoon had adopted. That dog and others, including some puppies, were killed because of her complaints. Parnell says he had no ax to grind, but felt compelled to be honest about what he and his men experienced in what should have been a refuge from battle. ‘When we're out beyond the wire (the term used for venturing beyond the safety of the base) every day, men getting wounded and killed, and other men on the base aren't measuring up -- or not even measuring up, but verbally attacking or assaulting or not holding up their end of the bargain -- it hurts the morale of the men who are patrolling,’ he says. ‘I feel like a lot of Americans don't know that. ... You read books about Afghanistan or Iraq that are written by reporters. Some of them are really great, but they tend to portray infantrymen as the stereotypical misogynistic, racist, burping, flatulent guys. And they are. But they are so much more, too. I wanted to write a book that humanized them and showed America the mettle of their warrior sons. They are much more than just that stereotype, an oftentimes inaccurate stereotype.’” [Pittsburgh Tribune Review, 3/4/12]

Foreign Policy Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Parnell opposed a proposed peace plan with the Taliban in 2019 but fell in line behind the Trump Administration's proposed peace deal in early 2020.*
- ✓ *Parnell was a fierce critic of U.S. aid to Pakistan, claiming that it was used to provide medical aid to insurgent fighters in Afghanistan.*
- ✓ *Parnell was a staunch opponent of the Iran Nuclear Deal (JCPOA) and supported Trump's withdrawal from the deal.*
- ✓ *Parnell wrote in 2013 that the Iran Nuclear Deal was undermining the United States' relationship with Saudi Arabia.*
- ✓ *Parnell wrote in 2013 that the Iran Nuclear Deal could cause Israel to act unilaterally in the Middle East to "ensure its own survival."*
 - ✓ *Parnell said that the nuclear deal ended U.S. hope of "restraining Israel."*
- ✓ *In one of his novels, Parnell painted Israel's intelligence agency Mossad in an unfavorable light.*
- ✓ *In 2014, Parnell supported Ukrainian protesters in that year's revolution in that country.*

General Foreign Policy

Parnell: "Both Parties Have Had A 'One Size Fits All Foreign Policy'"

Parnell: "Both Parties Have Had A 'One Size Fits All Foreign Policy.'" "One Size Fit's Parnell, after being asked if he agrees with the President in wanting to leave the Middle East and 'forever wars' again stresses the need to 'look at every tactical situation differently,' and says both parties have had a 'one size fits all foreign policy.' Parnell says Trump's desire to pull out of Middle East is 'what Americans appreciate about the President, while people don't—often don't agree with his presentation. People do have a sense that he's a fighter and puts Americans first.' Cites decision to pull out of Syria as example of this. Parnell praises Trump's decision to leave Syria and fight against criticism from both sides of the aisle. Also credits Trump with the Al-Baghdadi raid." [KDKA, [11/01/19](#)]

Afghanistan

Parnell Opposed The Trump Administration's Peace Deal With The Taliban, But Then Reversed Course And Then Backed Trump's Plan

2019: Parnell Opposed A U.S.-Taliban Peace Deal, Calling It "Garbage"

Parnell Said That People Should Be Weary Of Any Proposed Peace Deal With The Taliban. "Read this thread if care about what's happening in Afghanistan. Ben is exactly right in his analysis & we should be wary of any peace deal with the Taliban." [Sean Parnell, [8/10/19](#)]

2019: Parnell Opposed A U.S.-Taliban Peace Deal, Calling It “Garbage.” “The US/Afghan ‘Peace’ deal is actually a garbage deal, with no peace. I want out of Afghanistan just as bad as most Americans, but HOW we leave is important, and right now this deal stinks to high heaven.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [9/3/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [9/3/19](#)]

2020: Parnell Reversed Course, And Praised Trump’s Peace Deal With The Taliban

2020: Parnell Reversed Course, And Praised Trump’s Peace Deal With The Taliban. “I’m grateful for @realDonaldTrump & his administration’s efforts in support of a peace deal in Afghanistan. We’ve been at war there my entire adult life. Americans have been bleeding the ground red for nearly two decades with no end in sight. This deal was long overdue.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/3/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/3/20](#)]

2012: On CNN, Parnell Expressed Doubt That Afghanistan Would Be Able To Support Its Own Army In The Absence Of U.S. Assistance

Parnell Questioned The Ability Of The Afghan Army To Support Itself By The End Of 2014. “BURNETT: Sean, let me get your point of view. You spent a lot of time in Afghanistan and you served there. When the president refers as we heard him refer to, quote, ‘we have built strong Afghan security forces,’ a lot of people will say well, God, we have been supposed to have trained these security forces them back since 2002. Are they strong? Are they ready or is that wishful thinking? SEAN PARNELL: Well, look, yes, I mean, everybody is talking about a 352,000 robust Afghan military force. But really that's not -- that's not the talking point here. I mean, the questions that we need to be asking is, is there an infrastructure in Afghanistan to feed those soldiers, to transport those soldiers, to pay those soldiers? And the answer to that question is no. And if you don't have those things, all you have is a bunch of soldiers with guns and whether or not they're courageous isn't the issue. They will collapse within a week if we don't have that infrastructure and command and supply infrastructure with which to pay them so they can operate effectively. And right now, we can't expect them to do that right now.” [CNN, In The Arena, 5/1/12]

Parnell Stated That The Idea That Afghan Forces Would Take Over Security After U.S. Troops Left Was “Wishful Thinking.” “BURNETT: And Sean, what about the follow, as the president is trying to define, you know. As he said, look, if we try to define the mission more broadly than simply trying beating al Qaeda then we will lose a lot of more American lives and spend a lot more money. So, I'm redefining it that way and that's within reach. Would you agree? And given the concern that both you and Colonel Leighton have raised about the security force, once the U.S. pulls out does something possibly then rise whether that's al Qaeda or something else? PARNELL: Yes. I mean, that's a great question to ask. And I think you know, I agree with the president with regards to the fact that we had decimated high-level leaders in al Qaeda. And they are not going to be able to operate as effectively as they did in a pre-9/11 world. And this much is true. But the bottom line is, is that we have 150,000 soldiers in Afghanistan right now and we have our work cut out for us on the border as it is. And to expect an Afghan force to do it when we leave I think is wishful thinking.” [CNN, In The Arena, 5/1/12]

2012: Parnell Spoke Favorably About President Obama’s Visit To Afghanistan And Said His Speech Boosted Morale Of The Soldiers

2012: Parnell Spoke Favorably About President Obama’s Visit To Afghanistan And Said His Speech Boosted Morale Of The Soldiers. “BURNETT: And Sean, a final question to you. As you fought on the ground in Afghanistan, you know, lately we have heard awful things. The Quran burnings although accidental. The Sergeant Bales alleged shooting of Afghan civilians, Afghan security forces killing their U.S. colleagues. I mean, the headlines have been a drum beat of terrible things. What does this president -- presidential visit do for troop morale over there? PARNELL: I've got to tell you that I watched this speech and I think that the president is a great orator. And to be perfectly honest, you know, that's what I'm a boots on the ground infantry guy. I was inspired by the speech. I mean, Erin. For one third of my life, we have been at war in this nation. I have been intricately involved in training and fighting on the ground there. And it almost brought tears to my eyes, you know, dreaming about the fact that the Afghan war might be coming to a close, you know. But, I think the president's speech was good. And I'm glad he gave it and I think it was good for the morale of the soldiers over there too.” [CNN, In The Arena, 5/1/12]

Parnell Described That A Fellow Solider Told Him That For Afghans, “Lying Is A Part Of Their Culture”

Parnell Described That A Fellow Solider Told Him That For Afghans, “Lying Is A Part Of Their Culture.” “As Americans, we’re blunt and get straight to the point. Afghans are more nuanced. Small talk here is an art form. It can go on for hours before anything of substance is brought up. But within the small talk, the Afghans often drop hints as to what they’re really after. ‘Lying is a part of their culture,’ Canady had told me. ‘There’s no stigma to it; it is expected. Don’t trust Ghul, and be careful what you give him. But remember, he’s the power broker around Gamal. Maybe even more than the mayor. We need him on our side.’” [Sean Parnell, Outlaw Platoon, 40]

Pakistan

Parnell Decried U.S. Aid To Pakistan, Saying That It Allowed Taliban And Other Insurgents To Take Advantage Of The Pakistani Health Care System

Parnell Decried U.S. Aid To Pakistan, Saying That It Allowed Taliban And Other Insurgents To Take Advantage Of The Pakistani Health Care System. “In some of the dugouts, we found prescription bottles for antibiotics and painkillers issued by hospitals in Pakistan. After passing that up the chain of command, we later learned that the treatment facilities served as havens for wounded insurgents. Bitterly, we wondered how much of the humanitarian aid money we were giving Pakistan went to creating and maintaining those places. What an odd situation—our wounded enemy recovering in our erstwhile ‘ally’s’ medical system. What would folks have thought if the German wounded had recovered in London hospitals in 1944, only to return to the battlefield to fight later.” [Sean Parnell, Outlaw Platoon, 135]

Parnell Sarcastically Called Pakistan An “Ally” And Blamed Them For Sex-Selective Infanticide In That Country

Parnell Attacked Pakistan And Blamed Them For Sex-Selective Infanticide In That Country. “People were shocked by what they read in #OutlawPlatoon. About how our enemy treated children. Well, Pakistan is an “ally” & look how they treat babies. This is evil.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/1/18](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/1/18](#)]

Iran

2020: Parnell Praised The Trump Administration's Decision To Strike Iranian General, Who He Called The "Architect" Of All U.S. Woes In Iraq

2020: Parnell Praised The Trump Administration's Decision To Strike Iranian General, Who He Called The "Architect" Of All U.S. Woes In Iraq. "Iran is the world's #1 state sponsor of terror. They kidnap & kill Americans. They're responsible for the deaths of thousands of US troops. They've wounded thousands more. They attacked our embassy. Soleimani was the architect of it all. The world is better off without him." [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/2/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/2/20](#)]

2013: Parnell Opposed The Iran Nuclear Deal (JCPOA)

Parnell Called President Obama Naïve For The Iran Deal And Warned It Would Only Lead To Iran Developing A Nuclear Weapon

Parnell Op-Ed: Parnell Called President Obama Naïve For The Iran Deal And Warned It Would Only Lead To Iran Developing A Nuclear Weapon. “The Iran Deal The Obama administration, believing its intentions are good and noble, failed to grasp the lessons of history. Appeasing enemies, creating arms limitation accords that legitimize dangerous and destabilizing weapons programs, and ignoring our allies have never led to peace. The 20th century is full of examples proving the opposite. Obama has abandoned our closest Middle East allies in pursuit of an illusion of peace and security. As a result, we face a destabilizing nuclear arms race between Islamic fundamentalist powers and potential war between Iran and Israel. Congress must take swift bipartisan action to counter the president's reckless naiveté before it is too late.” [Pittsburgh Tribute Review, Sean Parnell op-Ed., 12/6/13]

Parnell Accused President Obama Of Pursuing A Policy Of Appeasement Regarding Iran’s Nuclear Policy. “The Obama administration, believing its intentions are good and noble, failed to grasp the lessons of history. Appeasing enemies, creating arms limitation accords that legitimize dangerous and destabilizing weapons programs, and ignoring our allies have never led to peace. The 20th century is full of examples proving the opposite.” [Pittsburgh Tribute Review, Sean Parnell op-Ed. 12/6/13]

Parnell Called The Limits That The JCPOA Put On Iranian Uranium Enrichment “Symbolic.” “The agreement, forged between the P5+1 powers and Iran, rolls back economic sanctions in return for token concessions from Tehran. It also places symbolic limits on Tehran's nuclear program and allows it to retain the uranium already enriched, along with most of the facilities to do so. Indeed, the infrastructure for Iran's atomic weapons program remains intact.” Pittsburgh Tribute Review, Sean Parnell op-Ed. 12/6/13]

Saudi Arabia

2013: Parnell Wrote That The Iran Nuclear Deal Was Undermining “The Kingdom’s Confidence In The United States”

2013: Parnell Wrote That The Iran Nuclear Deal Was Undermining “The Kingdom’s Confidence In The United States.” “The Saudis are similarly troubled. Obama's catastrophic policy errors in Egypt and Syria had already shaken the kingdom's confidence in the United States. The Saudis see the Iran agreement as tacit acceptance of Iran's nuclear ambitions since it limits, not dismantles, the program. Now the Saudis are considering undertaking their own nuclear weapons program to counter Iran's - meaning Obama's six-month agreement may have sparked a nuclear arms race in the Middle East.” [Pittsburgh Tribute Review, Sean Parnell op-Ed. 12/6/13]

Israel

2013: Parnell Wrote That The Iran Nuclear Deal Could Force Israel To Act Unilaterally To “Ensure Its Own Survival”

2013: Parnell Wrote That The Iran Nuclear Deal Could Force Israel To Act Unilaterally To “Ensure Its Own Survival.” “Israel watched with increasing discomfort as American policy in the Middle East devolved into empty promises and dire missteps. This agreement could force Israel to act unilaterally to ensure its own survival. Without a reliable American ally, Israeli leadership may be forced to take military action or face nuclear destruction. President Obama's credibility and assurances are now empty vessels, and any hope the U.S. had of restraining the Israelis ended when we made a deal with a nation whose leader called Jews "rabid dogs" as recently as last month.” [Pittsburgh Tribute Review, Sean Parnell op-Ed. 12/6/13]

Parnell Wrote That The Iran Nuclear Deal Ended Any U.S. Hope Of “Restraining Israel.” “Without a reliable American ally, Israeli leadership may be forced to take military action or face nuclear destruction. President Obama’s credibility and assurances are now empty vessels, and any hope the U.S. had of restraining the Israelis ended when we made a deal with a nation whose leader called Jews ‘rabid dogs’ as recently as last month.” [Pittsburgh Tribute Review, Sean Parnell op-Ed. 12/6/13]

Parnell Condemned A Synagogue Attack By “Our Enemy” In Jerusalem

On November 18, 2014, A Synagogue In Jerusalem Was Attacked By Palestinian Militants. “The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a small left-wing group within the Palestine Liberation Organisation that is usually dwarfed by Mahmoud Abbas’s Fatah movement and the militant Hamas organisation, came to the fore today by claiming responsibility for the attack on the Jerusalem synagogue that left four worshippers dead.” [The Independent, [11/18/14](#)]

Parnell Condemned The Attack, Saying That It Showed The True Nature Of “Our Enemy.” “Attacking a synagogue shows the true nature of our enemy & the depth that they’re willing to go in order to kill us at our most vulnerable.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/18/14](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/18/14](#)]

In His Novel “All Out War” Parnell Paints Mossad, Israel’s Covert Intelligence Agency, In An Unfavorable Light

In The Novel, Mossad Infects A U.S. Government Computer System With A Virus. “The first time Lanksy had heard about Operation Archangel was after an NSA employee on the cyber security team located a Trojan virus during a routine mainframe defrag. The virus was traced back to Tel Aviv and the national intelligence agency of Israel, more commonly known as Mossad.” [Sean Parnell, All Out War, 38]

Parnell Portrays Mossad As Not Acting When Intelligence Suggests That A Terrorist Is Plotting To Assassinate The Saudi Crown Prince. “Sitta came up with a bold plan: plant a bomb beneath the Sacred Mosque in Meccas and detonate it during the Crown Prince’s visit. Mossad traced the money to a Hezbollah offshoot with close ties to Tehran. But instead of acting on the intelligence, the Israeli government did nothing. Lanksy had no choice but to take the intel to President Rockford, who dispatched an Alpha team to grab Sitta without notifying Israel.” [Sean Parnell, All Out War, 38]

2014: Parnell Supported Protesters In Ukraine In That Country's Revolution To Oust Its Pro-Russian Leadership

Parnell Stated That Vladimir Putin's Invasion Of Crimea And The Rest Of Ukraine Was Due To American "Weakness In Response To Syria." "Putin was emboldened by our weakness in response to Syria. Now the use of force is authorized in the "territory of Ukraine", not nation. Smh." [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/1/14](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/1/14](#)]

Gun Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2013, Parnell supported and was a speaker at an event supporting a proposed Pennsylvania law that would have made federal gun regulations unenforceable. Such a bill was likely unconstitutional.*
- ✓ *In one of Parnell's novels, the main character, who strongly resembled Parnell, broke Pennsylvania gun laws by carrying a concealed weapon without a permit.*
- ✓ *In 2018, Parnell expressed his condolences after the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh but declined to call out the extremist motives of the shooter.*
 - ✓ *In 2014, Parnell specifically called those who attacked a synagogue in Jerusalem reprehensible and "our enemy."*
- ✓ *Parnell repeatedly denied that "assault" weapons and "assault" rifles did not exist.*
 - ✓ *According to the United States Army and the NRA, assault rifles do indeed exist.*
- ✓ *In 2019, Parnell promoted the weapons of Primary Weapons Systems from a gun show on social media.*

Parnell Was A Staunch Opponent Of Gun Regulations

2013: Parnell Joined Gun Enthusiasts To Rally For A Pennsylvania Law That Would Have Attempted To Invalidate Federal Gun Laws

Parnell Joined "Hundreds Of Gun Enthusiasts" To Rally And Endorse A Proposed Anti-Gun Control Pennsylvania Law. "A week after the U.S. Senate nixed a gun control measure pushed by President Obama, gun advocates in Pennsylvania said they will lobby for a state House bill making any federal law to ban guns unenforceable in Pennsylvania. H.B. 357, authored by Republican Rep. Daryl Metcalfe of Cranberry, holds that any federal law that 'attempts to register, restrict or ban a firearm or to limit the size of a magazine' would be unenforceable in Pennsylvania. Lawmakers said 74 legislators co-sponsored the bill, which would make it a felony for any federal, state or local government agent to enforce a federal gun control law restricting gun owners' rights. Hundreds of gun enthusiasts cheered the lawmakers on Tuesday at a rally on the Capitol steps. Metcalfe used his eighth annual Second Amendment Action Day to promote the bill, filed in January. [...] The Senate, yes, handed us a victory but the campaign continues on many fronts,' said retired Capt. Sean Parnell of Butler County, an Army Ranger, author of a bestseller 'Outlaw Platoon' and featured speaker at the event." [Pittsburgh Tribune Review, 3/24/13]

Parnell Was A Featured Speaker At The Event. "The featured speaker was Capt. Sean Parnell, a retired U.S. Army combat veteran, Ranger and author of the book 'Outlaw Platoon.' He called the votes against several gun control proposals in the U.S. Senate last week a victory for the Constitution.' This is our generation's time to take a stand,' Parnell said. 'For if we don't and the Second Amendment falls, the First Amendment won't be far behind.'" [Patriot News, 4/25/13]

In One Of Parnell's Novels, A Character That Resembles Him Carried A Concealed Firearm Into A Grocery Store In Violation Of Pennsylvania Law

In Parnell's Novel, The Character Eric Steele Carried A Concealed Firearm Into A Grocery Store While Off Duty. "PRESENT DAY: BELLEVUE, PENNSYLVANIA. [...] *What the hell could have happened in New Zealand?* He Wondered, tugging his shirttail so it covered the 1911 holstered on his hip. Much like the parking lot, the aisles were packed with people eager to begin their weekend, most of them focused on the beer, which created a human traffic jam en route to his destination." [Sean Parnell, *All Out War*, 19]

Members Of The United States Military Are Only Allowed To Carry Firearms Without A Pennsylvania License While On Duty. "Members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard of the United States or of the National Guard or organized reserves when on duty." [Pennsylvania State Police, accessed [4/1/20](#)]

Tree Of Life Shooting

2018: Parnell Expressed His Condolences For Victims Of The Tree Of Life Synagogue Shooting In Pittsburgh But Declined To Call Out Right-Wing Violence By Name

Parnell Expressed His Condolences Of The Shootings' Victims And Support For The City Of Pittsburgh

2018: Parnell Expressed His Condolences For Victims Of The Tree Of Life Synagogue Shooting In Pittsburgh, But Did Not Explicitly Condemn The Attacker's Extremist Motives. "#Pittsburgh is my hometown. It's the biggest city in the world, where everyone knows your name. We are strong, steel woven into the fabric of who we are. We will recover, & heal from this tragedy. We are #PittsburghStrong." [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/28/18](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/28/18](#)]

Parnell Declined To Call Out Right-Wing Extremism By Name In Pittsburgh, Despite His Earlier Condemnation Of A Synagogue Attack By “Our Enemy” In Jerusalem

On November 18, 2014, A Synagogue In Jerusalem Was Attacked By Palestinian Militants. “The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a small left-wing group within the Palestine Liberation Organisation that is usually dwarfed by Mahmoud Abbas’s Fatah movement and the militant Hamas organisation, came to the fore today by claiming responsibility for the attack on the Jerusalem synagogue that left four worshippers dead.” [The Independent, [11/18/14](#)]

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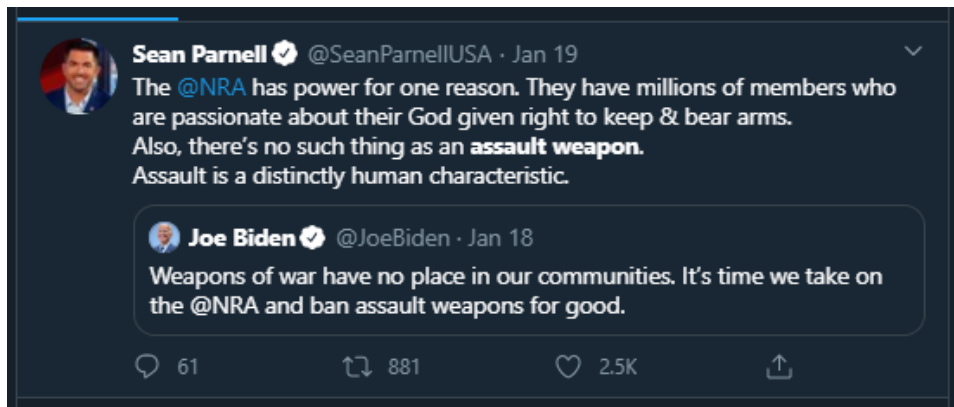
[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/18/14](#)]

Assault Weapons

Parnell Repeatedly Denied That “Assault” Weapons Exist; They Do

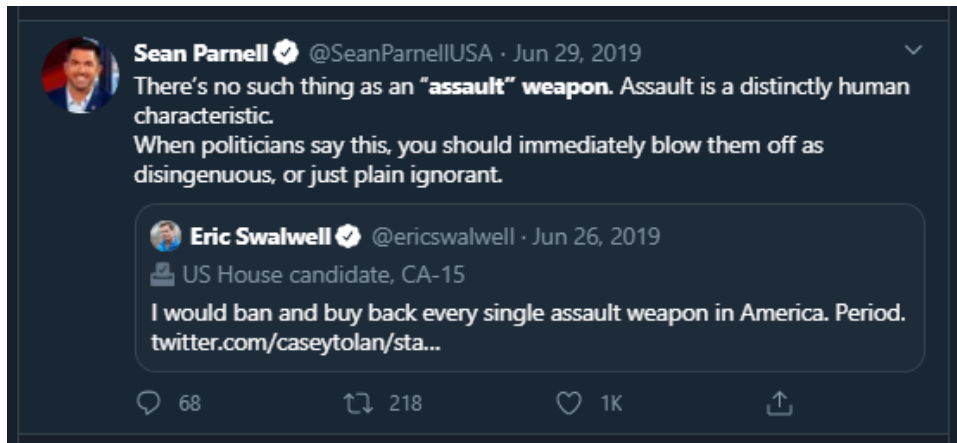
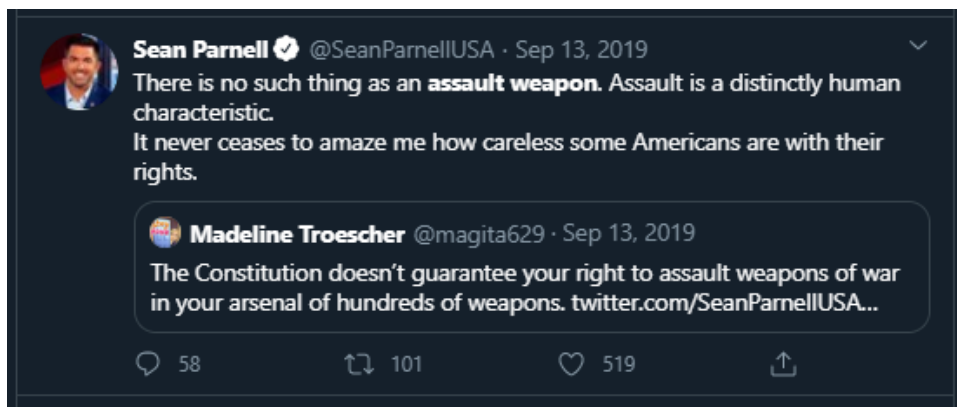
Parnell Denied The Existence Of “Assault Weapons” And Specifically Assault Rifles

Parnell Claimed That There Was No Such Thing As An “Assault Weapon.” “The @NRA has power for one reason. They have millions of members who are passionate about their God given right to keep & bear arms. Also, there’s no such thing as an assault weapon. Assault is a distinctly human characteristic.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/19/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/19/20](#)]

Parnell Said Repeatedly That “Assault” Was A “Distinctly Human Characteristic.” “There’s no such thing as an “assault” weapon. Assault is a distinctly human characteristic. When politicians say this, you should immediately blow them off as disingenuous, or just plain ignorant.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [6/29/19](#)]

[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [6/29/19](#)][Sean Parnell, Twitter, [9/13/19](#)][Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/16/18](#)]

Parnell Specifically Claimed That There Was No Such Thing As An “Assault Rifle.” “There's no such thing as an assault rifle. Assault is a distinctly human action.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/3/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/3/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/17/18](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/1/13](#)]

According To The NRA, Assault Rifles Do Indeed Exist

According To The NRA, The Term “Assault Rifle” Has A Concrete Definition Outlined By The United States Army. “By U.S. Army definition, a selective-fire rifle chambered for a cartridge of intermediate power. If applied to any semi-automatic firearm regardless of its cosmetic similarity to a true assault rifle, the term is incorrect.” [National Rifle Association of America, Institute for Legislative Action, accessed [4/2/20](#)]

GLOSSARY

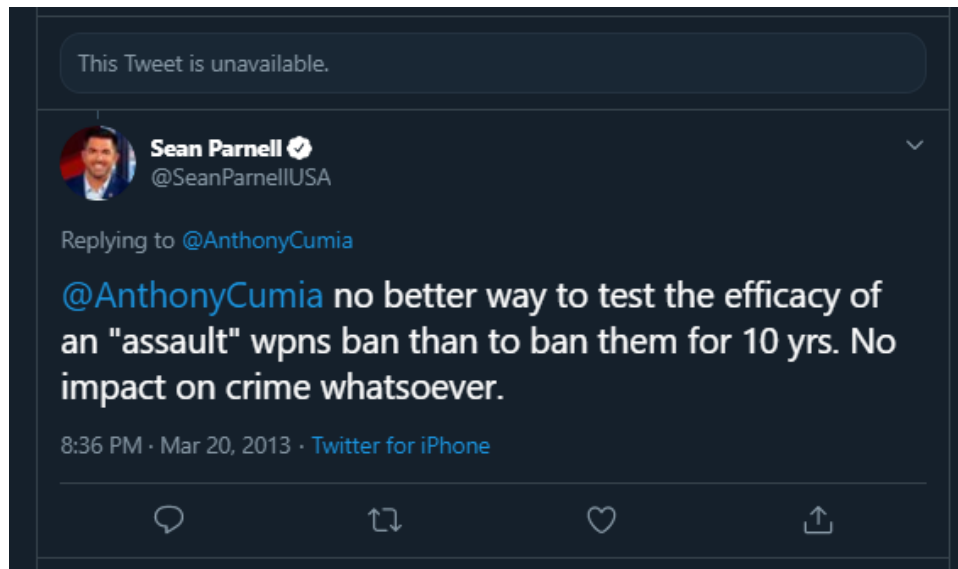
Assault Rifle

By U.S. Army definition, a selective-fire rifle chambered for a cartridge of intermediate power. If applied to any semi-automatic firearm regardless of its cosmetic similarity to a true assault rifle, the term is incorrect.

[National Rifle Association of America, Institute for Legislative Action, accessed [4/2/20](#)]

Parnell Opposed An Assault Weapons Ban

Parnell Opposed An Assault Weapons Ban And Said That It “Had No Impact On Crime.” “@AnthonyCumia no better way to test the efficacy of an "assault" wpns ban than to ban them for 10 yrs. No impact on crime whatsoever.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/20/13](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/20/13](#)]

Weapons Manufacturers

2019: Parnell Promoted Rifles From Primary Weapons Systems

2019: Parnell Promoted Rifles From Primary Weapons Systems, Specifically What He Called A “Bad Ass Rifle Platform.” “At #shotshow2019 with @primaryweapons. Man, they manufacture a bad ass rifle platform.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/2/20](#)]

Parnell Also Wrote That Primary Weapons Systems Products Were Ideal For Those Looking To “Shoot Suppressed,” That Is, With A Silencer. “And if you’re looking to shoot suppressed, look no further.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/2/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/2/20](#)]

Health Care Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *From at least as early as 2013 up to the present day, Parnell has been a fierce critic of the Affordable Care Act, consistently opposing nearly every aspect of it.*
- ✓ *While Parnell was relentless in his criticism of the ACA, Parnell's criticism ignored the vital protections the law provided for millions, and the disastrous consequences of repeal.*
 - ✓ *Parnell ignored the consequences of repeal for over 30 million Americans who would lose their health insurance and over 130 million Americans with preexisting conditions.*
 - ✓ *Parnell ignored the fact that repealing the ACA would increase the cost of prescription drugs for seniors.*
 - ✓ *Parnell ignored the benefits of Medicaid expansion.*
 - ✓ *Parnell ignored the benefits of increased preventative health care visits caused by the ACA.*
 - ✓ *Parnell ignored the increased costs for small businesses that would occur if the ACA were to be repealed.*
- ✓ *Parnell supported the 2017 GOP ACA repeal bill, the American Health Care Act.*
 - ✓ *Parnell was vehement in his criticisms of the ACA, saying that "ANYTHING" would be a better health care system than the ACA.*
 - ✓ *Parnell made this comment in mid-2017, indicting support for the GOP repeal bill.*
 - ✓ *The GOP repeal bill contained potentially disastrous effects on veterans.*
 - ✓ *More than 5 million Pennsylvanians with pre-existing conditions care would have been threatened by the GOP repeal bill.*
 - ✓ *The GOP repeal bill would have made cuts to the CDC, further putting Pennsylvanians at-risk during the Coronavirus pandemic.*
 - ✓ *The GOP repeal bill would have forced older Pennsylvanians to pay an age tax.*
- ✓ *In 2020, Parnell criticized Medicare for All as an-anti union proposal.*

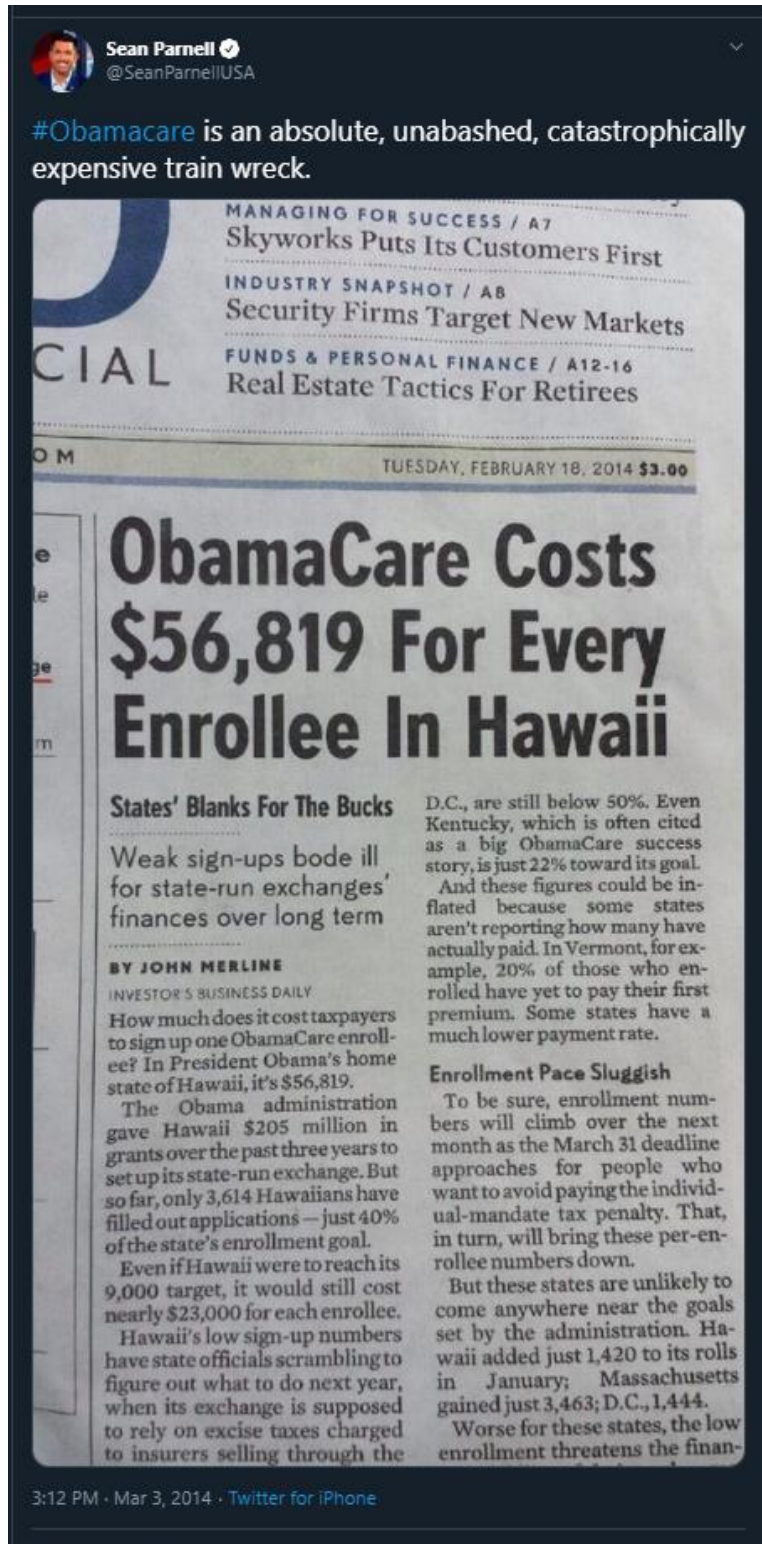
Affordable Care Act (ACA)

Parnell Was A Fierce Critic Of The Affordable Care Act As Least As Early As 2013, But Ignored The Protections It Provided For Millions Of Americans

Parnell Criticized The ACA As Among Other Things, An “Absolute, Unabashed, Catastrophically Expensive Train Wreck”

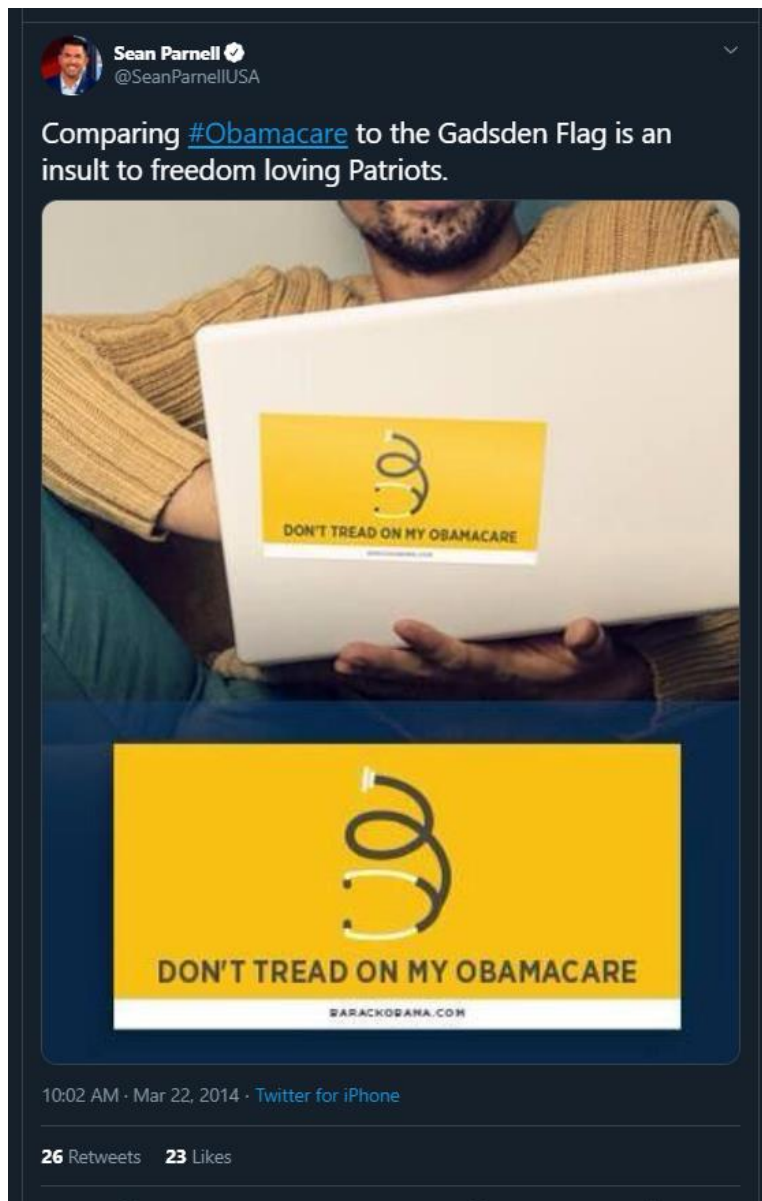
2014: Parnell Called The ACA An “Absolute, Unabashed, Catastrophically Expensive Train Wreck.”

“#Obamacare is an absolute, unabashed, catastrophically expensive train wreck.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/3/14](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/3/14](#)]

Parnell Called A Sticker Modeled After The Revolutionary War Gadsden Flag Defending The ACA An “Insult To Freedom-Loving Patriots.” “Comparing #Obamacare to the Gadsden Flag is an insult to freedom loving Patriots.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/22/14](#)]



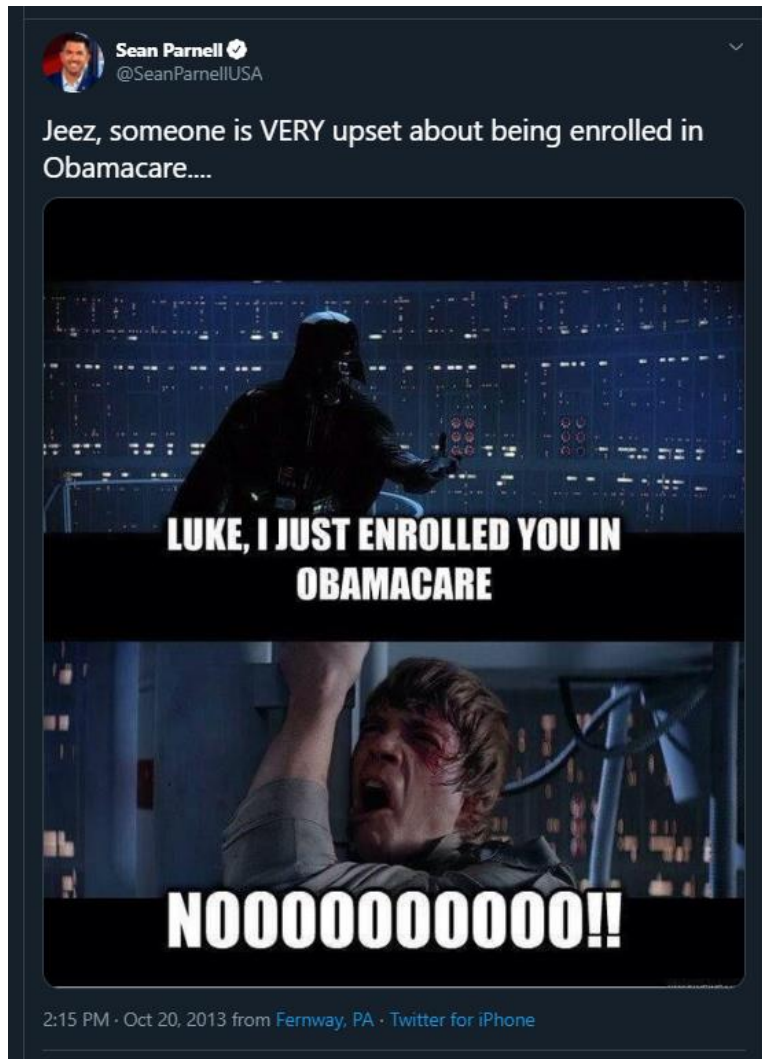
[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/22/14](#)]

Parnell Mocked Technical Issues With ACA Rollout. “Users may experience longer than average wait times while attempting to login for #Obamacare.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/4/13](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/4/13](#)]

October 2013: Parnell Used A Star Wars Meme To Indicate How Bad He Thought The ACA Was. “Jeez, someone is VERY upset about being enrolled in Obamacare....” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/20/13](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/20/13](#)]

Parnell Compared President Obama To Darth Vader And Mocked Him For Pledges On Doctor Choice.
“Darth Vader says: If you like your planet, you can keep it!” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/13](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/13](#)]

Parnell's Criticism Ignored The Vital Protections ACA Provided For Millions Of Americans

Repealing The ACA Would Cause 30 Million Americans To Lose Their Health Insurance, And Endanger Health Care Coverage For Over 130 Million Americans With Preexisting Conditions

29.8 Million People Would Lose Their Health Insurance If Affordable Care Act Were Repealed. “Across the country, 29.8 million people would lose their health insurance if the Affordable Care Act were repealed—more than doubling the number of people without health insurance. And 1.2 million jobs would be lost—not just in health care but across the board.” [EPI, accessed [3/26/19](#), based on 2016 data]

The Affordable Care Act Prevented Insurers From Denying Coverage Or Charging More If An Individual Had A Pre-existing Condition. “In the old days, insurance companies had ways to avoid selling policies to people who were likely to cost more than insurers wanted to spend. They might deny them coverage outright, or exclude

coverage for a known condition, or charge so much that insurance became unaffordable. The Affordable Care Act boxes out the old insurance practices with a package of legal moves. First, it says point-blank that carriers ‘may not impose any preexisting condition exclusion.’ It backs that up with another section that says they ‘may not establish rules for eligibility’ based on health status, medical condition, claims experience or medical history.” [Politifact, [10/17/18](#)]

2017: Repeal Could Have Denied Coverage To As Many As 133 Million Americans. “This analysis updates that earlier study. It confirms that a large fraction of non-elderly Americans have pre-existing health conditions: at least 23 percent of Americans (61 million people) using a narrow definition based on eligibility criteria for pre-ACA state high-risk pools, or as many as 51 percent (133 million people) using a broader definition closer to the underwriting criteria used by insurers prior to the ACA. Any of these 133 million Americans could have been denied coverage, or offered coverage only at an exorbitant price, had they needed individual market health insurance before 2014.” [HHS.gov, Issue Brief, [1/5/17](#)]

Repealing The ACA Would Increase The Cost Of Prescription Drugs For Seniors

CMS: Affordable Care Act Has Helped 7.3 Million Seniors Save \$8.9 Billion In Prescription Drug Costs. “ObamaCare has saved seniors and people with disabilities nearly \$9 billion in prescription drug costs, according to data touted Tuesday by the Obama administration. According to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, 7.3 million people who reached the ‘doughnut hole’ in their Medicare prescription drug coverage have saved \$8.9 billion on their prescription drugs since the law was enacted in 2010. That’s an average savings of \$1,209 per person.” [The Hill, [11/26/13](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Benefits The ACA Provided Through Medicaid Expansion

The Affordable Care Act Expanded Medicaid To Cover Millions Of Low Income Americans. “One of the most important provisions of the Affordable Care Act is the expansion of health coverage to low-income families through the Medicaid program. Before the ACA, most states did not give health coverage to adults without children, no matter how poor they were. And most states only covered parents if they had extremely low incomes. Repealing the ACA means that millions of Americans in the 32 states (including D.C.) that chose to expand Medicaid will lose their health coverage. Most of them are hard-working people in low-wage jobs—like waiters and waitresses, sales clerks, cooks, and home health aides.” [Families USA, accessed [3/26/19](#)]

As Of 2016, Medicaid Covered Almost 12 Million Newly Eligible Americans In Expansion States. “Overwhelming evidence shows how Medicaid expansion, which began in 2014, has substantially increased health insurance coverage and improved access to affordable care. As of 2016, Medicaid covered 11.9 million newly eligible Americans in expansion states, reducing the share of nonelderly adults without insurance in these states from 13.6 percent in 2013, the year before expansion, to 8.1 percent.” [Center for American Progress, [10/24/18](#)]

In 2020, States That Did Not Expand Medicaid Under The ACA Faced A Growing Crisis Of Uninsured People In The Midst Of The Coronavirus Crisis. “The decision to forgo an increase in state Medicaid programs, an ideological resistance borne of fiscal conservatism in Republican-controlled state legislatures, has left nearly 5 million people across the country without access to health care coverage and meant states turned down billions of federal dollars that would have come with the expansion. [...]With demand growing and the clinic moving more of its care to phone calls and email to limit contact with potentially infected patients, their ability to bill for those visits is as limited as their capacity to pay for basic protective gear and pharmaceuticals. [...] Having patients with medical coverage through a program like Medicaid would expand their ability to treat patients by receiving reimbursement for care, Niess said, and it wouldn’t cause the spread of the coronavirus to seem quite as existential for them.” [NBC News, [3/26/20](#)]

HEADLINE: Coronavirus challenges states that rejected Medicaid expansion, leaves uninsured with few options. [NBC News, [3/26/20](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Public Health Benefits The ACA Provided By Prompting Increased Preventative Health Care Visits

Parnell Ignored The Increase In Preventative Health Care Visits That Were A Direct Result Of The ACA “About 71 million Americans with private health insurance plans received at least one free preventive health service -- such as a mammogram or flu shot -- in 2011 and 2012 because of the Affordable Care Act, the Obama administration said Monday. In addition, about 34 million people in traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans also received at least one free preventive health service -- such as an annual wellness visit -- due to the health care law, according to a report released Monday by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In total, about 105 million Americans have been helped by the preventive services coverage improvements in the Affordable Care Act, said the HHS, which is marking the third anniversary of passage of the law.” [US News & World Report, [3/18/13](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Costs For Small Businesses If The ACA Were To Be Repealed

Parnell Ignored The Higher Costs For Small Businesses If The ACA Was Repealed. “The Rand report found that, with the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, workers at firms employing fewer than 100 workers are expected pay almost 6 percent less in premiums in 2016 than without the health care reform law. Nationally, the report said, average premiums for equal plans would cost \$5,837 with Obamacare in effect and \$6,192 without it – a \$355 savings under the Affordable Care Act. Premiums at large companies weren't examined in the report.” [USA Today, [8/29/13](#)]

2020: Parnell Called The ACA “A Disaster”
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As Of 2020, Parnell Was Still Criticizing The ACA. “@TheDemocrats forced #Obamacare on the American People. Premiums skyrocketed. People lost their doctors. It was a disaster. And after all that chaos, Biden says this? @ConorLambPA is about to endorse @JoeBiden for President. These irresponsible people don't belong in government.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/5/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/5/20](#)]

2017: Parnell Stated That “Literally ANYTHING” Is Better Than The ACA, Indicating Support For The GOP Repeal Bill, The AHCA

Parnell Commented On Senator Elizabeth Warren’s Warnings On The Disastrous Effects Of ACA Repeal By Saying “Literally ANYTHING” Would Be Better. “How can she say this with a straight face?! Literally ANYTHING is an improvement on Obamacare.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/5/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/5/17](#)]

Parnell Tweeted This The Day After The House Of Representatives Passed A Bill To Repeal The ACA. “The House on Thursday narrowly approved legislation to repeal and replace major parts of the Affordable Care Act, as Republicans recovered from their earlier failures and moved a step closer to delivering on their promise to reshape American health care without mandated insurance coverage. The vote, 217 to 213, held on President Trump’s 105th day in office, is a significant step on what could be a long legislative road. Twenty Republicans bolted from their leadership to vote no. But the win keeps alive the party’s dream of unwinding President Barack Obama’s signature domestic achievement.” [New York Times, [5/4/17](#)]

Parnell Replied To Concerns Over The GOP Repeal Bill By Saying Senator Sanders “Forced Obamacare Down Our Throats.” “I dunno. What was your solution a few years back when you forced Obamacare down our throats?” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/4/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [5/4/17](#)]

Parnell Ignored The GOP Health Bill’s Potentially Disastrous Effects On Veterans

McClatchy: An Estimated 7 Million Veterans Who Qualify For VA Health Care Benefits But Elect Not To Take Them Would Be Ineligible For AHCA Tax Credits. “The bill offers Americans tax credits that they can use to buy private insurance – as long as they are not eligible for other low-cost government health care options. That’s the catch for veterans, who are eligible for medical care offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. That means that an estimated 7 million veterans who qualify for VA health care benefits but elect not to take them would be ineligible for the tax credits. Republicans argued during debate on the bill that Internal Revenue Service rules would exempt veterans from the tax-credit limits. But it’s unclear whether those rules would apply, since they were drawn for the Obama-era Affordable Care Act, which the House bill ostensibly repeals.” [McClatchy, [5/5/17](#)]

Republican Rep. Phil Roe Claimed Nothing In AHCA “Changes How Veterans Are Treated,” But Acknowledged Provision Of AHCA Exempting Veterans Had To Be Removed To Comply With Senate Budget Rules. “Republicans argued during debate on the bill that Internal Revenue Service rules would exempt veterans from the tax-credit limits. But it’s unclear whether those rules would apply, since they were drawn for the Obama-era Affordable Care Act, which the House bill ostensibly repeals. Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn., who chairs the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, insisted on the House floor Thursday that ‘nothing in this bill

changes how veterans are treated under the law. Nothing.’ But Roe acknowledged that a provision that had been inserted to exempt veterans had to be removed because it violated the reconciliation rules that Senate leaders intend to impose to allow the bill to be passed by a simple majority, not the 60 votes that ordinarily would be required. Those rules require that a bill considered under reconciliation may deal only with spending and not policy.” [McClatchy, [5/5/17](#)]

Paralyzed Veterans Of America: AHCA Would “Purportedly [...] Deny Access To Tax Credits Making Health Insurance Affordable To Anyone Eligible” For VA Health Care. “The underlying AHCA bill would purportedly [...] Deny access to tax credits making health insurance affordable to anyone eligible for a host of other federal health programs, including those ‘eligible’ for coverage under Title 38 health care programs. This would prevent many veterans who may be ‘eligible for’ but not enrolled in the VA health care system from accessing these tax credits intended to help people buy insurance.” [Paralyzed Veterans of America, Press Release, [5/8/17](#)]

McClatchy: Veterans Also Express Dismay That The Bill Would Cut \$880 Billion From Medicaid, Which They Argue Is Used By Thousands Of Veterans. “Veterans also express dismay that the bill would cut \$880 billion from Medicaid, which they argue is used by thousands of veterans. Paralyzed Veterans of America called the bill ‘particularly devastating to people with disabilities.’ The bill also would eliminate the federal match for the Community First Choice Option under Medicaid, through which ‘many poor veterans with serious non-service-connected disabilities have been able to move from nursing homes into their communities,’ the group wrote in a letter to House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis.” [McClatchy, [5/5/17](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Millions Of Pennsylvanians Whose Protections Would Have Been Threatened By The 2017 American Health Care Act (AHCA)

The AHCA Would Have Allowed States To Waive Essential Health Benefits And Community Rating Provisions Of The Affordable Care Act

The AHCA Would Allow States To Waive Essential Health Benefits. “In exchange for that conservative concession, the amendment would reinstate the Essential Health Benefits that were already taken out of the bill — though, again, states could waive those provisions as well if they were able to show that doing so would lower premiums, increase the number of people insured, or ‘advance another benefit to the public interest in the state.’” [Huffington Post, [4/19/17](#)]

The AHCA Allowed States Could Get Waivers To Eliminate The Community Rating Provision. “The deal, brokered between House Freedom Caucus chairman Mark Meadows (R-N.C.) and Tuesday Group co-chairman Tom MacArthur (R-N.J.), would allow states to get waivers eliminating the so-called community rating provision — the rule that prohibits insurers from charging higher premiums to people with pre-existing conditions. In order to obtain the waiver, states would have to participate in a federal high-risk pool or establish their own, and satisfy some other conditions.” [Huffington Post, [4/19/17](#)]

Without Those Provisions, People With Pre-Existing Conditions Would Not Be Protected

ABC News: MacArthur Amendment Would “Effectively Undermine Obamacare’s Protections For People With Pre-Existing Conditions.” “The amendment to the current GOP health care plan would effectively undermine Obamacare’s protections for people with pre-existing conditions, allowing states to apply for a waiver from national pre-existing conditions rules.” [ABC News, [5/2/17](#)]

Los Angeles Times: MacArthur Amendment “Would Effectively End Obamacare’s Guarantee Of Insurance Coverage For Those With Preexisting Conditions.” “Of particular concern is that this latest version of the bill contains a provision, added to attract votes from conservatives, that would effectively end Obamacare’s guarantee of insurance coverage for those with preexisting conditions. States could allow insurers to charge sick people more

and offer them coverage through so-called high-risk pools, which many states operated before Obamacare. But experts and consumer advocates panned this arrangement as unaffordable.” [Los Angeles Times, [5/2/17](#)]

Politifact Found That AHCA “Would Weaken Protections” For Those With Pre-Existing Conditions, “Would Allow States To Give Insurers The Power To Charge People Significantly More.” “An ad by the American Action Network says that under the American Health Care Act ‘people with pre-existing conditions are protected.’ The only kernel of truth here is that the amendment has language that states insurers can’t limit access to coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions. However, the ad omits that the House GOP health plan would weaken protections for these patients. The legislation would allow states to give insurers the power to charge people significantly more if they had a pre-existing condition. While Republicans point to the fact that those patients could get help through high-risk pools, experts question their effectiveness. Current law does not allow states to charge people with pre-existing conditions significantly more. We rate this claim Mostly False.” [Politifact, [5/24/17](#)]

Over 5 Million Pennsylvanians Had Preexisting Conditions Whose Protections The ACHA Would Have Eliminated

If The AHCA Had Been Enacted, Over 5 Million Pennsylvanians With Preexisting Conditions Would Have Lost Vital Protections Provided By The ACA. [Center for American Progress, [10/2/19](#)]

Parnell Ignored The Cuts The AHCA Would Have Made To The CDC, Further Imperiling Pennsylvanians To The Coronavirus Pandemic

The Atlantic: AHCA “Would Cancel Unobligated Funding For The Prevention And Public Health Fund After 2018,” Which Supplements CDC Funding. “On the other side of the revenue coin, the bill would cancel unobligated funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund after 2018. That fund allows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to supplement lagging public-health funding and respond to public-health crises via a wide range of mechanisms, including block grants to states. That fund also covers the CDC’s childhood lead prevention program.” [The Atlantic, [3/6/17](#)]

Prevention and Public Health Fund Accounts For 12 Percent Of The CDC’s Funding, And Funds Vaccines, Lead Monitoring In The Water Supply, Suicide Prevention, Among Other Goals. “The Prevention and Public Health Fund accounts for 12 percent of the budget for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The 2010 Affordable Care Act set it up specifically to try to lower health costs by preventing diseases before they happen. The CDC uses it to help states deliver vaccines, watch for infectious diseases, keep an eye out for lead in water, promote breastfeeding in hospitals, prevent suicide and watch out for hospital-associated infections. It totals \$931 million for 2017.” [NBC News, [3/8/17](#)]

STAT: Obamacare Repeal And Trump’s Spending Plan Put CDC Budget In Peril [STAT, [3/7/17](#)]

Bloomberg BNA: GOP Obamacare Repeal Would Raid Vaccine Program Funds [Bloomberg BNA, [3/8/17](#)]

Parnell Ignored That Older Pennsylvanians Would Have Been Saddled With An Age Tax Under The AHCA

The AHCA Would Have Created An Age Tax On Older Pennsylvanians

The AHCA Would Have Allowed Insurers To Charge Older Customers Five Times More Than Younger Adults. “Raises premiums for older people. The Affordable Care Act limited insurers from charging older customers more than three times what they charge younger adults. The House bill would raise that to five times. This may enable younger consumers to find cheaper coverage, but older policyholders would face higher rates.” [Huffington Post, [3/6/17](#)]

New York Times: ACHA Achieved Lower Premiums Not Through Increased Choice And Competition, But By Making Health Insurance So Unaffordable For Many Older Americans They Would Leave The Market. “There are a lot of unpleasant numbers for Republicans in the Congressional Budget Office’s assessment of their health care bill. But congressional leadership found one to cheer: The report says that the bill will eventually cut the average insurance premiums for people who buy their own insurance by 10 percent. [...] But the way the bill achieves those lower average premiums has little to do with increased choice and competition. It depends, rather, on penalizing older patients and rewarding younger ones. According to the C.B.O. report, the bill would make health insurance so unaffordable for many older Americans that they would simply leave the market and join the ranks of the uninsured.” [New York Times, [3/14/17](#)]

2013: Parnell Criticized The Medical Device Tax

2013: Parnell Criticized The Medical Device Tax, Alleging That It Was Being Levied On Purchases At Cabela’s Outdoor Supply Store. “Welcome to Obamacare everyone! The Medical Excise Tax. Anyone still believe BO didn't raise taxes on the middle class?” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/2/13](#)]



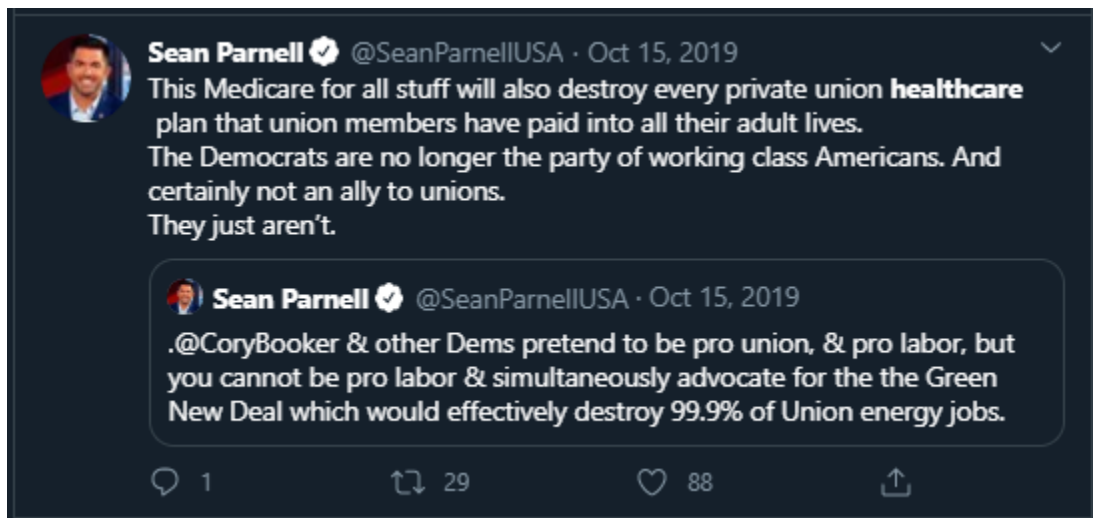
[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/2/13](#)]

Cabela’s Mistakenly Applied The Medical Device To A Limited Number Of Purchases. “The answer was that vendors typically use upgraded sales software at the beginning of each year which is programmed to handle changes in tax laws that have just gone into effect, and on 1 January 2013 Cabela’s found that their upgraded software was improperly applying the medical device excise tax to all purchases rather than just those of qualifying items: A companywide glitch in Cabela’s cash register system that added a 2.3 percent “Medical Excise Tax” to customers’ purchases — everything from boots to bullets — was an error and will be refunded, a company spokesman said. The error was discovered last week after consumers in several states notified the company that the surcharge appeared on their sales receipt and had been applied to all of their purchases. ‘It was a glitch in the system,’ said Cabela’s spokesman Joe Arterburn said. The error was limited to transactions that occurred Jan. 1 and was caught that same day by the Sidney, Neb.-based hunting and outdoor outfitter. Images of Cabela’s sales receipts showing the surcharge have appeared on various websites prompting several rumors.” [Snopes, [6/28/13](#)]

Medicare For All

Parnell Attacked Medicare For All As Anti-Union

Parnell Claimed That Medicare For All Would “Destroy Every Private Union Healthcare Plan.” “This Medicare for all stuff will also destroy every private union healthcare plan that union members have paid into all their adult lives. The Democrats are no longer the party of working class Americans. And certainly not an ally to unions. They just aren’t.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/15/19](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [10/15/19](#)]

Labor & Working Families

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Before running for office, Parnell displayed contempt for union members.*
- ✓ *Once a candidate for office, Parnell embraced union members and accused Democrats of being anti-union.*

Unions

2012: Parnell Agreed With A Statement Insulting Union Members

Parnell Agreed With A Statement That Someone Being A Union Representative Meant He “Has No Damn Idea What He’s Talking About.” “So true man RT ‘@xplosivSF_18C: the ‘retired union rep’ in his bio was an instant giveaway that he has no damn idea what he's talking about.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/3/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/3/20](#)]

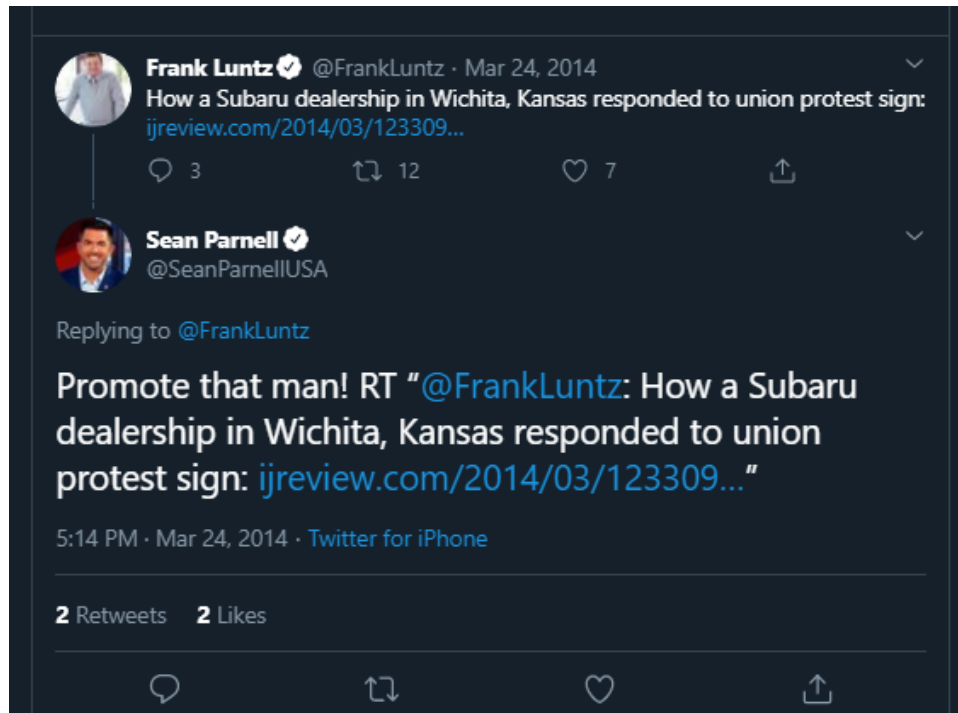
2014: Parnell Expressed His Approval Of A Car Dealership’s Snide Response To A Union Protest

2014: The United Brotherhood Of Carpenters And Joiners Of America Local 201 Protested In Front Of A Subaru Dealership In Wichita, KS Over A Labor Dispute. “Subaru is in the process of a \$1.5 million update to transform the property to the Subaru brand from the previous Suzuki brand that was there. Wirtz says in addition to hiring a local architect on the project, Subaru hired Wichita's Key Construction as its contractor. He says Key then hired Hi-Tech Interiors, a local nonunion firm, to do a small portion of drywall work. In response, the Carpenters union now has people manning a Shame on Subaru of Wichita’ sign on an easement in front of the dealership.” [Wichita Eagle, [3/14/14](#)]

The Dealership Responded By Making Fun Of The Protest With A Sign Promoting Their Pricing. “In response, Subaru now has a sign that plays off the Shame’ by saying, ‘For having unbeatable prices.’ It also says ‘indisputable’ in a couple of places on the sign.” [Wichita Eagle, [3/14/14](#)]

Parnell Expressed His Support Of The Anti-Union Rhetoric, Writing That The Person Who Came Up With The Idea For The Sign Should Be Promoted. “Promote that man! RT ‘@FrankLuntz: How a Subaru dealership in

Wichita, Kansas responded to union protest sign: <http://ijreview.com/2014/03/123309-car-dealer-awesomely-responds-union-protest/>.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/24/14](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [3/24/14](#)]

2020: Parnell Claimed He Would Fight For Unions In PA-17

Parnell Said To Union Firefighters That “I Will Fight For You.” “Thank you Mark! I love it. Union Firefighters are most welcome to stand with me. I will fight for you, & make sure you have a voice. Thank you for protecting our communities.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/26/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/26/20](#)]

Parnell Claimed That The Republicans Were The Only Pro-Union Party And That Democrats Wanted To Put Union Members Out Of Their Jobs. “It’s time to dispel w/ this far left myth once and for all. There’s only one party that’s trying to put millions of hard working union members out of a job by banning entire industries. And it’s The New Democrat Party. Remember your history, Davis & Bacon were both Republicans.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/11/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [2/11/20](#)]

Immigration & Border Issues

Significant Findings

✓ *In 2013, Parnell decried what he called a country prioritizing illegal immigrants over veterans.*

DACA

2013: In Reference To The DACA Debate, Parnell Said That “Illegal Immigrants Take Precedence Over Veterans” In The United States

2013: Parnell Lamented What He Called A Country Where “Illegal Immigrants Take Precedence Over Veterans,” Likely Referring To DACA. “Welcome to America 2013: A place where illegal immigrants take precedence over vets & you can be fired for expressing your personal opinion.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [12/18/13](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [12/18/13](#)]

LGBT Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In the wake of the Pulse nightclub shooting, Parnell said that all those who “give a damn” about the LGBT community should speak out against “Radical Islam.”*

LGBT And Islam

In The Wake Of The Pulse Shooting Parnell Said That “If You Give A Damn” About The LBGT Community, You Should Opposed “Radical Islam”

2016: Parnell Said That “If You Give A Damn” About The LBGT Community, You Should Opposed “Radical Islam.” “If you gave a DAMN about the LGBT community you'd speak out against Radical Islam. They murder them every day.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [6/13/16](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [6/13/16](#)]

Trade & Outsourcing Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2020, Parnell supported the USMCA and the Phase One China trade agreement, while saying that Trump was “crushing it for American workers.”*

USMCA

2020: Parnell Supported USMCA And Said That Trump Was “Crushing It For American Workers”

2020: Parnell Supported USMCA And Said That Trump Was “Crushing It.” “This has been the most significant week for trade policy in decades. Historic in every way. Phase One trade agreement with China, done. Senate passed USMCA. @realDonaldTrump is crushing it for American workers.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/16/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/16/20](#)]

China

2020: Parnell Supported The Phase One Agreement With China And Said That Trump Was “Crushing It”

2020: Parnell Supported The Phase One Agreement With China And Said That Trump Was “Crushing It.” “This has been the most significant week for trade policy in decades. Historic in every way. Phase One trade agreement with China, done. Senate passed USMCA. @realDonaldTrump is crushing it for American workers.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/16/20](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/16/20](#)]

Veterans & Military Family Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Parnell was a fierce critic of the VA under President Obama, writing an op-ed in 2014 specifically criticizing the department for its handling of an outbreak of Legionnaires' Disease.*
- ✓ *Parnell supported various iterations of VA reform, including the proposed 2015 VA Accountability Act, which would have allowed for VA employees to be more easily fired.*
- ✓ *In 2017, Parnell expressed his disappointment at Trump's appointment of David Shulkin to lead the VA.*
 - ✓ *Parnell later recanted his criticism and supported Shulkin as VA Secretary.*
- ✓ *Parnell was a vocal supporter of the 2018 Mission Act, which effectively privatized portions of the VA, and allowed for federal funds to be used at private health care facilities.*
 - ✓ *Parnell was a member of Concerned Veterans For America, a group founded by the Koch Brothers that pushed for the Mission Act.*
 - ✓ *In 2020, Parnell criticized the VA for considering halting the implementation of the Mission Act during the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- ✓ *Parnell has twice called for leniency for service members convicted in U.S. Military Courts of killing Afghan civilians.*
 - ✓ *In 2012, Parnell said that potential PTSD should be taken into account regarding a case of a U.S. Soldier convicted of killing 16 Afghan civilians.*
 - ✓ *In 2015, Parnell openly criticized the sentencing of Lt. Clint Lorange, who was convicted of the murder of by a U.S. Military Court. Lorange was pardoned by Trump in 2019.*
- ✓ *Parnell advocated for mandatory behavioral health sessions for combat soldiers, to help combat PTSD.*

Veterans Administration Issues

Parnell Condemned The VA's Mishandling Of A Legionnaires' Outbreak And Called For An Overhaul Of The Department, Including The VA Accountability Act of 2015

Parnell Op-Ed: Parnell Condemned The VA's Mishandling Of A Legionnaires' Outbreak And Called For An Overhaul Of The Department. "Pennsylvania military veterans who receive medical care from the Department of Veterans Affairs Healthcare System in Pittsburgh probably weren't completely surprised by the failure, after a 2011-12 Legionnaires' disease outbreak there left six veterans dead and 16 sickened. Rather than alert affected veterans and their families, Pittsburgh VA officials moved to cover up the outbreak. Now, one of the architects of that cover-up, Deputy Director David Cord, is being promoted to director of the Erie VA, a fact that will lead many veterans to question if anyone will be held accountable for the VA's failures that killed six patients. The Pittsburgh VA Legionnaires' disease outbreak stemmed from poor sanitation in the facility's water system. An investigation found poor recordkeeping, lack of oversight and testing failures that led to significant gaps in sanitation practices. As a result, the bacteria thrived in the water system for months. What happened next is an

even greater outrage, as Pittsburgh VA officials undertook a systematic campaign to conceal the outbreak [...] The VA's dysfunction stretches far beyond the failures of a single executive. As we've learned from other VA scandals this year, the department too often seems more committed to protecting bureaucrats than serving veterans. [Pittsburgh Tribune Review, Sean Parnell, 11/04/14]

Parnell Op-Ed: Parnell Called On Washington Politicians To Support The VA Accountability Act Of 2015.

“After watching scandal after scandal unfold at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs over the past several years, I have a single overriding question: When will Washington step up to address the problems of this dysfunctional department? In fact, a viable solution is right now awaiting action in the U.S. Senate - the VA Accountability Act of 2015, a bipartisan bill passed by the House in July to hold VA employees accountable for poor performance. It's time for the Senate to follow suit to put these much-needed reforms to work on behalf of veterans. [...] The VA has lost sight of its core mission, choosing to protect bureaucrats rather than supporting veterans. It's time to put veterans back at the center of the VA mission. To do that, the VA needs a culture change - and creating a culture of results starts with expecting greater accountability for all VA workers. The VA Accountability Act of 2015 would give the department its best chance at meaningful reform. The Senate should move swiftly to pass this vital legislation.” [Pittsburgh Post- Gazette, Sean Parnell, 9/25/15]

2017: Parnell Expressed His Disappointment In Trump's Appointment Of David Shulkin As VA Secretary

January 2017: Donald Trump Announced That HE Would Appoint David Shulkin, Then A VA Undersecretary, To Lead The VA

January 2017: Donald Trump Announced That HE Would Appoint David Shulkin, Then A VA Undersecretary, To Lead The VA. “Donald Trump announced Wednesday that he would name David Shulkin to head the Department of Veterans Affairs. ‘And by the way, speaking of veterans, I appointed today the head secretary of the Veterans Administration, David Shulkin,’ Trump said during a wide-ranging press conference, adding, ‘He's fantastic. He will do a truly great job.’” [NBC News, [1/11/17](#)]

Shulkin Was The First Non-Veteran To Lead The VA. “A board-certified internist and a fellow of the American College of Physicians, Shulkin would be the first non-veteran to ever serve as VA secretary, according to the Military Times.” [NBC News, [1/11/17](#)]

Parnell Expressed His Disappointment With Trump's Pick

Parnell Expressed His Disappointment With Trump's Pick. “I had high hopes that the Trump administration would take the #VA in a new direction & maybe they still will. But I'm disappointed.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/11/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/11/17](#)]

Parnell Reinforced His Disappointment With A GIF From “Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade” Indicating That Trump “Chose Poorly.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

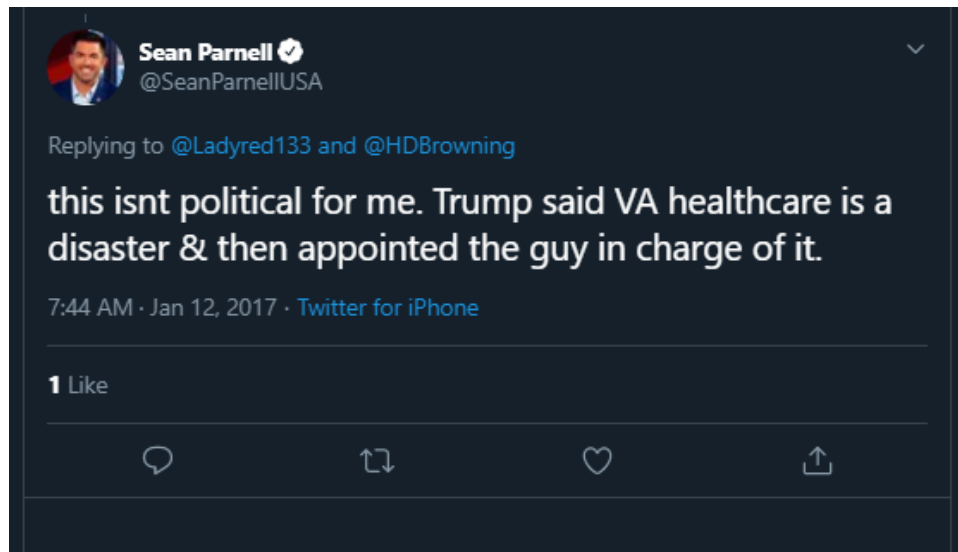
Parnell Accused Trump Of Not Being True To His Word

Parnell Said That He Was Sick Of Waiting For VA Reform After “8 Years Of Hell.” “It's been 8 years of hell. I'm sick of waiting for reform.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

Parnell Accused Trump Of Going Back On His Word, Appointing A Figure That Had Led Part Of A VA That Trump Called A “Disaster.” “this isnt political for me. Trump said VA healthcare is a disaster & then appointed the guy in charge of it.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [1/12/17](#)]

Late 2017: Parnell Backtracked His Comments On Secretary Shulkin And Praised The VA Leader After Meeting With Him

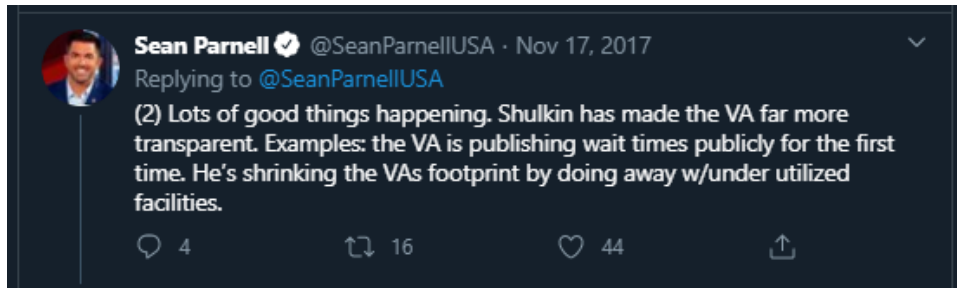
November 2017: Parnell Backtracked And Praised Secretary Shulkin After Meeting With Him. “(1) Had a great meeting with the VA Secretary yesterday. The good news? Shulkin is a good man that cares about helping our nation’s vets. He agrees that the VA needs significant reform.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

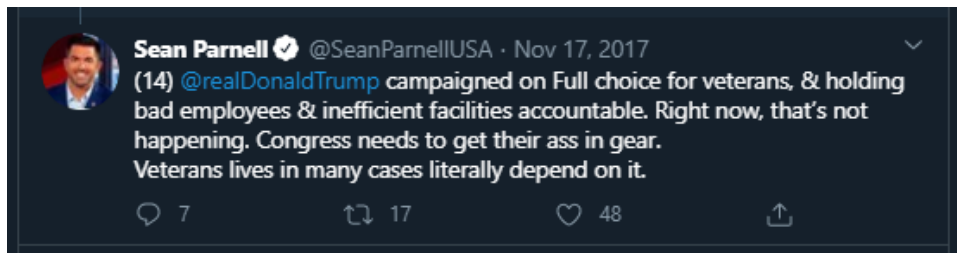
Parnell Said That “Lots Of Good Things Are Happening” Under Shulkin’s Leadership. “Lots of good things

happening. Shulkin has made the VA far more transparent. Examples: the VA is publishing wait times publicly for the first time. He's shrinking the VAs footprint by doing away w/under utilized facilities." [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

Parnell Concluded That Congress Needed To “Get Its Ass In Gear” To Make Trump’s Campaign Promises On The VA A Reality. “@realDonaldTrump campaigned on Full choice for veterans, & holding bad employees & inefficient facilities accountable. Right now, that’s not happening. Congress needs to get their ass in gear. Veterans lives in many cases literally depend on it.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [11/17/17](#)]

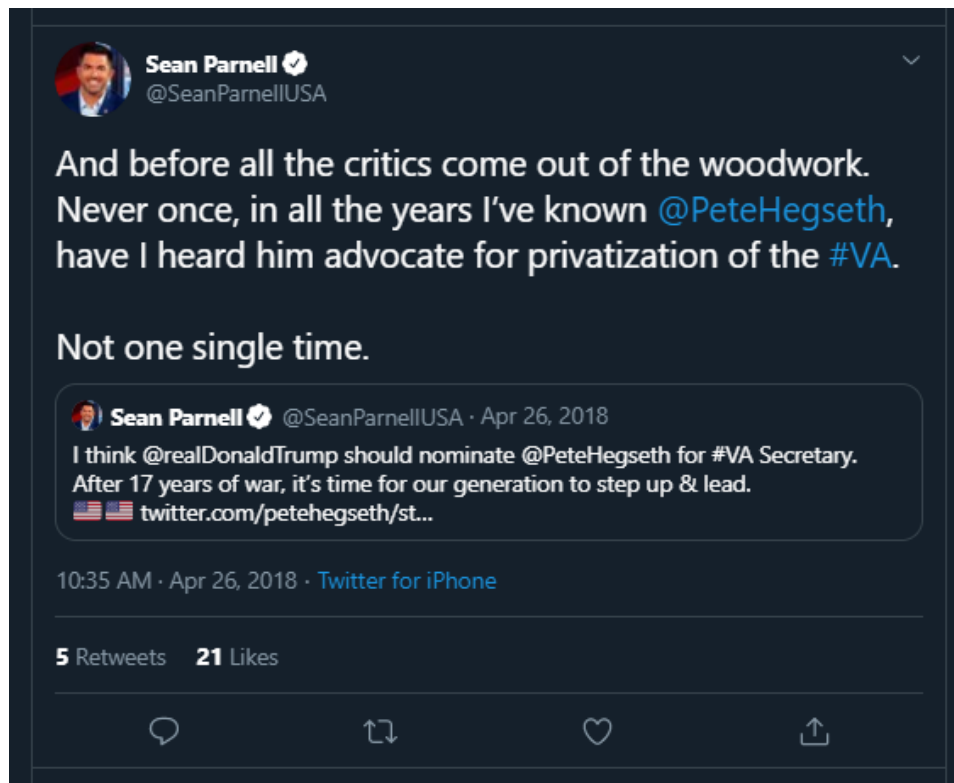
2018: Parnell Supported The Appointment Of “Fox & Friends” Host Pete Hegseth As VA Secretary

2018: Parnell Supported The Appointment Of “Fox & Friends” Host Pete Hegseth As VA Secretary. “I think @realDonaldTrump should nominate @PeteHegseth for #VA Secretary. After 17 years of war, it’s time for our generation to step up & lead.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/26/18](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/26/18](#)]

Parnell Said He Had Never Heard Hegseth Advocate For The Privatization Of The VA. “And before all the critics come out of the woodwork. Never once, in all the years I’ve known @PeteHegseth, have I heard him advocate for privatization of the #VA. Not one single time.” [Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/26/18](#)]



[Sean Parnell, Twitter, [4/26/18](#)]

Military Justice

2012: Parnell Commented On The Case Of An American Soldier Who Allegedly Shot 16 Afghan Civilians

In 2012, An American Soldier Was Alleged To Have Killed 16 Afghan Civilians. “ERIN BURNETT: Well, tonight, the American soldier who allegedly shot 16 Afghan civilians is in Kuwait awaiting charges. Now, this news came shortly after a security scare at Camp Bastion where Defense Secretary Leon Panetta was arriving on his plane. [...] Well, investigators are trying to determine how and why that shooting massacre in Afghanistan occurred. We are beginning to learn a little bit more about the alleged shooter who, as you heard Chris talking about, is in Kuwait tonight. He's an Army staff sergeant. He served three tours in Iraq. He just went to Afghanistan only in December. Records also show he suffered a head injury. We now know that was in the year 2010. Some people have said that might explain why he killed 16 civilians, but no one knows at this point.” [CNN, Erin Burnett Out Front, 3/14/12]

Asked If He Was Surprised About The Massacre, Parnell Said That He Was Not, And Talked About How Difficult Fighting In Afghanistan Was. “ERIN BURNETT: What -- based on your experience, and you were in high-pressure situation, some of the men that you served with died. Many were very seriously injured. You yourself were injured. Were you surprised when you heard what happened what this soldier did? SEAN PARNELL: No, no, not at all. Counterinsurgency operations is something -- it's one of the most difficult fights to fight in Afghanistan. I mean, you don't know who your enemy is. And the fact is, is that our military has been strapped for the better part of 10 years with year on and year-off deployments. These guys are absolutely smoked.” [CNN, Erin Burnett Out Front, 3/14/12]

Parnell Said That He Did Not Excuse The Actions Of The Soldier Could “See How It Would Happen.” “PARNELL: Well, I mean, like I said before, these year on, year of deployments are really difficult for military families. And get this. The year that soldiers spend at home, most of that time is spent in the field training for their

next combat deployment. So these guys, even when they're home and they're supposed to be spending time with their families and their children, they're not spending time with their families and their children. They're training for the next rotation to combat. So, you know, while it certainly doesn't excuse the horrific acts, I mean, I can certainly see how it would happen.” [CNN, Erin Burnett Out Front, 3/14/12]

When Asked About Punishment For The Soldier, Parnell Didn't Rule Out The Death Penalty, But Said Potential PTSD Should Be Taken Into Account

Parnell Said That The Death Penalty Should Be Considered For The Soldier Who Committed The Massacre.

“BURNETT: So, Sean, what about punishment for this soldier? I know there's been talk about the death penalty. If it turns out that PTSD was involved, should that affect his sentence or not? PARNELL: Well, I think it should be taken into consideration, but I think -- I think if I was advising President Obama, I would say that I think that the investigation needs to be fast and transparent. And I think that does two things. It communicates to the Afghans that we're holding the soldier accountable, but it also communicates to them that we are going to handle it. We are going to handle this soldier.” [CNN, Erin Burnett Out Front, 3/14/12]

Parnell Also Said That Potential PTSD Should Also Be Taken Into Account When Determining Punishment.

“You know, as far -- I think he should be held accountable for his actions. I think PTSD, the fact that he's been on three combat deployments, should also be taken account. Again, it doesn't excuse it, though.” [CNN, Erin Burnett Out Front, 3/14/12]

2015: Parnell Spoke Out Against The Sentencing Of Lt. Clint Lorance, Who Was Convicted Of Second-Degree Murder By A Military Court

January 2015: Parnell Wrote An Op-Ed Defending Clint Lorance In The Military Newspaper Stars And Stripes

Lt. Clint Lorance Was Sentenced To Prison For Second-Degree Murder After Ordering Soldiers Under His Command To Fire On Afghan Civilians. “On July 2, 2012, Lorance, who had just taken over as a platoon leader, and his soldiers were on a foot patrol alongside Afghan soldiers when three men on a motorcycle approached the patrol, according to news reports and a website set up in Lorance's defense. Prosecutors said Lorance violated the military's rules of engagement when he ordered his soldiers to shoot the men on the motorcycle. Two of the men were killed and the third ran away. Lorance was convicted of two counts of murder and one count of attempted murder. The jury found him not guilty of making a false official statement.” [Army Times, [1/5/15](#)]

Lorance Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison At Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. “Clint Lorance was sentenced to 20 years of confinement in August 2013. He is confined at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.” [Army Times, [1/5/15](#)]

Parnell Sympathized With Lorance, Saying The Convicted Soldier's Situation Could Have Easily Been His Own. “As a combat veteran, I look at Lorance's situation and realize his fate might just as easily have been mine. I am Clint Lorance, just like thousands of other combat leaders who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Based on the standards used to prosecute Lorance, virtually any one of us could be in jail as a result of difficult decisions made in combat.” [Sean Parnell Op-Ed, Stars and Stripes, [1/27/15](#)]

Parnell Stated That He Was Not Certain That He Hadn't Made A “Wrong Call” While Commanding Troops In Afghanistan. “I can't say for certain I didn't make a wrong call while under combat strain; no one who's served under fire can. I know I was faced with tough decisions that required immediate judgments based on incomplete information, and I may have made mistakes.” [Sean Parnell Op-Ed, Stars and Stripes, [1/27/15](#)]

Parnell Described His Understating Of The Desire Of A Soldier Under His Command To Kill A Wounded Enemy Soldier In Violation Of The Rules Of Engagement. “In 2007, my men and I came under attack by

Taliban insurgents, one of whom was wounded and rolled down a hill, coming to a stop near our patrol vehicles. As the man lay dying, one of the specialists under my command — spiking with adrenaline, fear and anger — wanted to finish him off. While I understood his desire to take decisive action against an enemy combatant who had posed a serious threat to our lives, I would not allow him to kill the wounded man. That was the right decision.” [Sean Parnell Op-Ed, Stars and Stripes, [1/27/15](#)]

Parnell Wondered If He Too Would Have Ended Up In Prison If He Had Ordered A Soldier To Kill A Wounded Man. “While I understood his desire to take decisive action against an enemy combatant who had posed a serious threat to our lives, I would not allow him to kill the wounded man. That was the right decision. But I can also look back and see how it might have gone the other way if I had judged that man to be an immediate or future threat — and how I then might have found myself facing a military tribunal and potential imprisonment, just for seeking to keep my men safe. If I had made that decision, would I be in prison for 20 years?” [Sean Parnell Op-Ed, Stars and Stripes, [1/27/15](#)]

Parnell Wrote That The Military Justice System Had Failed Lorange. “The system failed Clint Lorange, but there may still be a chance to get it right. His case is being forwarded to the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals for review. His family and supporters should continue pressing for a fresh look at this case — because, if we are honest with ourselves, any one of us could be in his shoes. We are Clint Lorange, and we will always have his back.” [Sean Parnell Op-Ed, Stars and Stripes, [1/27/15](#)]

Stars And Stripes Was A Newspaper Operated By The Department Of Defense But Maintained Editorial Independence From The Pentagon. “Stars and Stripes is editorially independent of interference from outside its own editorial chain-of-command. It provides commercially available U.S. and world news and objective staff-produced stories relevant to the military community in a balanced, fair, and accurate manner. By keeping its audience informed, Stars and Stripes enhances military readiness and better enables U.S. military personnel and their families stationed overseas to exercise their responsibilities of citizenship.” [Stars and Stripes, accessed [3/18/20](#)]

On Hannity, Parnell Compared The Actions Of Lorange To Drone Strikes Ordered By President Obama

On Hannity, Parnell Compared The Actions Of Lorange To Drone Strikes Ordered By President Obama. “PARNELL: And let me ask you a question here, how is what Clint Lorange did on the battlefield any different than how President Obama evaluates and executes his drone program? He gets intelligence from the Joint Chiefs of Staff and National Security Adviser. He makes assessments of the battlefield and sometimes has to make a very difficult call as to whether or not engage the enemy on the battlefield.” [Fox News Network, Hannity, 1/29/15]

Parnell Said “Noncombatants Sometimes Lose Their Life” And That Soldiers Should Be Held To The Same Standard As President Obama. “PARNELL: Noncombatants oftentimes lose their life. So my point is we should hold our soldiers on the battlefield the same standard the president and his administration holds himself.” [Fox News Network, Hannity, 1/29/15]

Parnell Stated That He Did Not Believe The Afghan Men Killed By Lorange Were Innocent Actors. “PARNELL: And, oh, by the way, this entire conversation assumes that the people that Clint engaged on the battlefield were innocent, which I don't believe that they were. [Fox News Network, Hannity, 1/29/15]

2019: Clint Lorange Was Released From Prison As A Result Of A Pardon From Donald Trump

September 2019: Clint Lorange Was Granted A Pardon By Donald Trump And Released From Prison. “President Trump cleared three members of the armed services on Friday who have been accused or convicted of war crimes, overruling military leaders who had sought to punish them. All three have been championed by conservative lawmakers and commentators, who have portrayed them as war heroes unfairly prosecuted for actions taken in the heat and confusion of battle. In a statement released by the White House late Friday, Mr. Trump announced that he was ordering the full pardon of Clint Lorange, a former Army lieutenant, from the military

prison at Fort Leavenworth, where he is serving a 19-year sentence for the murder of two civilians.” [New York Times, [11/15/19](#)]

A Soldier Who Testified Against Clint Lorance Reiterated That There Was Not A “Doubt In My Mind” That Lorance Was A Murderer. “A soldier who testified against Clint Lorance still believes the former first lieutenant is guilty of murder despite being pardoned by President Trump. While on deployment to Afghanistan in 2012, Todd Fitzgerald witnessed Lorance order his platoon to fire at three unarmed men on a motorcycle, killing two. Fitzgerald testified against Lorance in a 2013 trial. Lorance was convicted and spent six years in prison until Trump pardoned him on Nov. 15. Fitzgerald remains convinced that Lorance is guilty, the former Army specialist told the Washington Examiner. ‘Yeah, without a doubt in my mind,’ Fitzgerald said, noting that he believes his former comrades are all ‘pretty much on the same page.’” [Washington Examiner, [11/27/19](#)]

PTSD

2012: Parnell Advocated For Mandatory Behavioral Health Center Sessions For Combat Squads

2012: Parnell Advocated For Mandatory Collective Behavioral Health Center Sessions For Combat Squads. “PARNELL: We train in garrison as a collective unit, and then we fight, bleed and die together in combat as a collective unit. And then when soldiers come home, it's like a bomb goes off, and everybody goes 20 different directions. I mean, it's contrary to all of our training. So what I think needs to happen is we need to make it mandatory, commanders at all levels need to make it mandatory for squads to go to behavioral health centers together so they can process these horrific -- like they can process combat together as a team. Just like how they've been trained.” [CNN, Erin Burnett Out Front, 3/14/12]

Parnell: “It’s Time To Reject The Myth Of The ‘Broken’ Military Veteran”

Parnell: “It’s Time To Reject The Myth Of The ‘Broken’ Military Veteran.” “My combat service was difficult and challenging. But I’m here to tell you that I was not ‘broken’ or ‘damaged’ by that experience. It may seem strange that I should feel compelled to declare that fact. But given the ways in which military veterans are routinely portrayed in media coverage and popular culture, we need to correct the common view that military service is psychologically devastating. [...] For too long it’s been assumed that veterans are damaged or victimized. We need to let people know that people who have faced combat also experience true growth—not in spite of the challenges of their service, but because of those challenges. The vast majority of veterans are stronger for what they have gone through. Our media and popular culture storytelling should reflect that. Let’s tell a new story about military veterans.” [The Federalist, Sean Parnell, [8/29/19](#)]

Veterans And Media

2015: Parnell Praised The Film “American Sniper” On Hannity

2015: Parnell Praised The Film “American Sniper” On Hannity. SEAN PARNELL, ‘OUTLAW PLATOON’ AUTHOR: Well, I mean, I had the honor and privilege of meeting Chris in 2012 when ‘American Sniper’ came out. I met him at a boot (ph) campaign charity shooting event. He had read ‘Outlaw Platoon’ and I had read ‘American Sniper.’ We both felt like we knew each other for a long time. And we hit it off. And he was just an incredible guy. But you know, ‘American Sniper,’ I think the important thing for people to realize and recognize is that it captures the totality of war, not just life on the battlefield for our troops. And for the most part, you know, our journey truly begins when we start coming home. And I think “American Sniper” captures that. And I think, more importantly, I think everybody that's watching this show tonight should seek to make ‘American Sniper’ the number one movie in the country because it's going to educate future Americans on what it's like to be

in Iraq and Afghanistan, and more importantly, it's going to show Americans the true heroes that fought there. And Chris Kyle's definitely one of those people." [Fox News Network, Hannity, 1/16/15]

Parnell Called The Movie “Not A Pro-War Film, It’s A Pro-Warrior Firm.” “‘American Sniper’ is not a pro-war film, it's a pro-warrior film. And every time the, you know, journalists or some of these coddled Hollywood types come out and criticize the film or criticize Chris or the warrior's journey home, it just makes it more difficult for guys that have served in combat to actually come home and live a normal life because it makes it more difficult for them to talk about their experience without being criticized for it.” [Fox News Network, Hannity, 1/23/15]

Appendix I – Personal Financial Disclosure

2019 – Federal Personal Financial Disclosure

Net Worth

2019: Parnell Had An Estimated Net Worth Between \$63,999 And \$13,502

2019: Parnell Had An Estimated Net Worth Between \$63,999 and \$13,502. [Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

Earned Income

2019: Parnell Reported \$467,331.34 In Earned Income

2019: Parnell Reported \$467,331.34 In Earned Income From A Variety Of Sources, Including Book Sales And Consulting. [Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

2019 Parnell Earned Income		
Source	Type	Amount
Hornfischer Literary Management	Royalties	\$16,235.11
Trident Media Group	Royalties	\$37,187.50
Writer's House, LLC	Advances on Book Publications	\$40,000.00
Fairway Ignite	Coach	\$5,853.00
Fairway Independent Mortgage	Consulting	\$335,174.35
One Blade	Appearances	\$11,881.38
Hart Energy	Appearances	\$30,000.00
	Total	\$476,331.34

[Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed [3/27/20](#)]

2018: Parnell Reported \$497,791 In Earned Income

2018: Parnell Reported \$497,791.32 In Earned Income From A Variety Of Sources, Including Book Sales And Consulting. [Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

2019 Parnell Earned Income		
Source	Type	Amount
Hornfischer Literary Management	Royalties	\$13,347.60
Trident Media Group	Royalties	\$87,500.00
Fairway Ignite	Coach	\$8,100.00
Fairway Independent Mortgage	Consulting	\$371,341.88
One Blade	Appearances	\$1,500.00
Lead From The Front, LLC	Appearances	\$2,000.00
Stansberry Research	Appearances	\$13,941.84
	Total	\$497,791.32

[Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed [3/27/20](#)]

Assets & Unearned Income

2019: Parnell Reported Between \$1,001 And \$2,500, In Unearned Income

2019: Parnell Reported Between \$1,001 And \$2,500 in Unearned Income. [Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

2019 Parnell Assets & "Unearned" Income							
SP/ DC /JT	Asset	Year-End Value		Type Of Income	Amount Of Income		Tx. > \$1,000
		Min	Max		Min	Max	
OT	Bitcoin <i>Description: Bitcoin Investment</i>	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	(Blank)	(Blank)	N/A
MF	Cornerstone Moderately Aggressive	\$15,001	\$50,000	None	(Blank)	(Blank)	N/A
BA	USAA Savings Account <i>Description: 2 Savings Accounts with USAA evidences by 1099-MISC for 2019.</i>	Undetermined	Undetermined	Interest	\$1,001	\$2,500	N/A
	Total:	\$16,002	\$65,000	Total:	\$1,001	\$2,500	N/A

[Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed [3/27/20](#)]

2018: Parnell Reported No Unearned Income

2018 Parnell Assets & "Unearned" Income							
SP/ DC /JT	Asset	Year-End Value		Type Of Income	Amount Of Income		Tx. > \$1,000
		Min	Max		Min	Max	
OT	Bitcoin <i>Description: Bitcoin Investment</i>	Unk.	Unk.	None	(Blank)	(Blank)	N/A
MF	Cornerstone Moderately Aggressive	Unk.	Unk.	None	(Blank)	(Blank)	N/A
BA	USAA Savings Account <i>Description: 2 Savings Accounts with USAA evidences by 1099-MISC for 2019.</i>	Unk.	Unk.	Interest	None	None	N/A
	Total:	Unk.	Unk.	Total:	None	None	

[Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed [3/27/20](#)]

Transactions

2019: Parnell Was Not Required To Report Transactions As A Non-Incumbent Member Of Congress.

2019: Parnell Was Not Required To Report Transactions As A Non-Incumbent Member Of Congress And Did Not Report Any. [Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

Liabilities

2019 Parnell Liabilities				
Owner	Creditor	Date Incurred	Type	Amount Of Liability
	Barclays American Airlines Credit Card	February 2020	Credit Card	\$15,001-\$50,000

[Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed [3/27/20](#)]

Positions

2019 Parnell Positions

Position	Name Of Organization
Independent Consultant	Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation

[Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

Agreements

2019: Parnell Did Not Disclose Any Agreements. [Parnell 2019 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filing ID #10031144, filed 3/27/20]

Appendix II – Campaign Finance

Items of Interest

- ✓ Parnell received a significant number of contributions from the Real Estate industry, suggesting a persistent connection to his work for the Fairway Mortgage Company.
- ✓ As of Q1 2020, over 18% of Parnell's contributions came from PACs.
- ✓ As of Q1 2020, Parnell has contributed \$11,200 to his own campaign. This was in the form of direct contributions, not loans. If Parnell's Personal Financial Disclosure is to be taken at face value, this represents a significant percentage of his net worth.
- ✓ As of Q1 2020, Parnell had received over \$36,000 from Republican leadership PACs.

Toplines

Parnell's Campaign Raised \$467,245.39 And Spent \$148,712.94

Parnell 2019 Congress Campaign Committee Funds									
Cycle	Total Receipts						Total Disbursements		
	Total	Indivs	Party Cmtes	Other Cmtes	Candidate Cntribtns	Loans	Total	Operating Expdts	Refunds
2020	\$467,245.39	\$371,467.39	\$0.00	\$84,578.00	\$11,200.00	\$0.00	\$148,712.94	\$137,627.94	\$5,625.00

[FEC Committee Candidate and Committee Viewer, accessed 4/24//20]

Parnell's Campaign Committee Received 80.34% Of His Contributions From Individual Contributors And 18.29% From PACs

Source Of Parnell Career Congressional Campaign Committee Funds		
Category	#	%
Individual Contributors	\$371,467	80.34%
PAC Contributors	\$84,578	18.29%
Self-Financing	\$11,200	2.42%
Other	-\$4,875	-1.05%

[OpenSecrets, accessed 4/24/20]

Parnell's Campaign Committee Received 100% Of His PAC Contributions From Ideological PACs And None From Labor

Source Of Parnell Career Congressional Campaign Committee PAC Contributions		
Category	#	%
Business PACs	\$0	0%
Labor PACs	\$0	0%
Ideological PACs	\$45,250	100%

[OpenSecrets, accessed 4/24/20]

Parnell Received \$36,250 From Republican Leadership PACS

Source Of Parnell Career Congressional Campaign Committee PAC Contributions		
PAC Name	Affiliate	Total Contribution
Majority Committee PAC	Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R, CA-23)	\$10,000
Jobs Opportunity and New Ideas PAC	Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA)	\$5,000
Relight America PAC	Ex. Rep. Keith Rothfus (R, PA-12)	\$5,000
Greater Tomorrow PAC	Rep. Glenn Thompson (R, PA-15)	\$2,500
Building Leadership & Inspiring New Enterprise PAC	Blaine Luetkemeyer (R, MO-03)	\$2,000
In the Arena PAC	Rep. French Hill (R, AR-02)	\$1,500
New Pioneers PAC	Rep. Greg Walden (R, OR-02)	\$1,000
CMR PAC	Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R, WA-05)	\$1,000
Buddy PAC	Rep. Buddy Carter (R, GA-01)	\$1,000
RVF PAC	State Senator Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA)	\$1,000
Razor PAC	Rep. Steve Womack (R, AR-03)	\$1,000
Building & Restoring the American Dream	Rep. Brad Wenstrup (R, OH-02)	\$1,000
Boots PAC	Rep. Markwayne Mullin (R, OK-02)	\$1,000
Belief In Life & Liberty	Rep. Bill Johnson (R, OH-06)	\$1,000
American Security PAC	Rep. Mike Rogers (R, AL-03)	\$1,000
RedwingMCPAC	Ex-Rep. Tim Murphy (R, PA-18)	\$500
Restoring Our Nation PAC	Rep. Ron Estes (R, KS-04)	\$500
Upstate SC PAC	Rep. William Timmons (R, SC-04)	\$250
	Total	\$36,250

 [FEC, accessed [4/29/20](#)]

Top Overall Industries

Parnell Career Top Contributors By Industry		
Rank	Industry	Total
1	Leadership PACs	\$37,250
2	Retirement	\$36,801
3	Real Estate	\$23,488
4	Printing and Publishing	\$11,725
5	Securities and Investment	\$11,300
6	Steel Production	\$8,425
7	General Contractors	\$7,850
8	GOP/Conservative PACs	\$6,000
9	Lawyers/Law Firms	\$4,980
10	Misc. Manufacturing and Distributing	\$4,575
11	Candidate Committees	\$4,500
12	Insurance	\$3,575
13	Hospitals/Nursing Homes	\$3,445
14	Mining	\$2,800
15	Commercial Banks	\$2,350
16	Misc. Business	\$2,215
17	Civil Servants/Public Officials	\$1,695
18	Health Professionals	\$1,700
19	Business Services	\$1,695
20	Education	\$811

 [Center for Responsive Politics, accessed [4/24/20](#)]

NOTE: According to the Center for Responsive Politics, "The organizations themselves did not donate, rather the money came from the organizations' PACs, their individual members or employees or owners, and those individuals' immediate families. Organization totals include subsidiaries and affiliates" [Center for Responsive Politics Top Contributors, accessed [3/21/17](#)]

Top Overall Sectors

Parnell Career Top Contributors By Sector			
Sector	Total	Individuals	PACs
Agribusiness	\$135		
Communications/Electronics	\$13,055		
Construction	\$7,925		
Energy/Natural Resources	\$3,500		
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	\$41,493		
Health	\$5,620		
Lawyers & Lobbyists	\$4,980		
Transportation	\$853		
Misc. Business	\$17,610		
Ideology/Single-Issue	\$47,750		
Other	\$39,887		

[Center for Responsive Politics, accessed [4/24/20](#)]

NOTE: According to the Center for Responsive Politics, “The organizations themselves did not donate, rather the money came from the organizations’ PACs, their individual members or employees or owners, and those individuals’ immediate families. Organization totals include subsidiaries and affiliates” [Center for Responsive Politics Top Contributors, accessed [3/21/17](#)]

Top Overall Contributors

Parnell Campaign Committee Top Contributors					
Contributor	State	Employer	Gross Contribution	Refunds	2020 Cycle Net Contributions
Mary Barbour	PA	Homemaker	\$11,200	\$2,800	\$8,400
Daniel Loeb	NY	Third Point, LLC	\$8,400	\$8,400	\$2,800
Rick Brown	PA	Lucas Systems, Inc.	\$8,400	\$2,800	\$5,600
Al Barbour	PA	Comcast	\$8,400	\$2,800	\$5,600
Scott Wagner	PA	KBS, Inc.	\$8,400	\$2,800	\$5,600
Tracy Wagner	PA	Self-Employed	\$8,400	\$2,800	\$5,600
Ruby Schaeffer	DE	Self-Employed	\$8,400	\$2,800	\$5,600
David E. Barendsfeld	PA	Retired	\$8,400	\$2,800	\$5,600
Owen Oesterling	PA	Self-Employed	\$7,200	\$2,200	\$5,000
Christopher F. Azur	PA	Trigen Systems	\$5,600	\$2,800	\$2,800
Keith Louiselle	PA	CDL Nuclear Technologies	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$2,000

[FEC Committee Candidate and Committee Viewer, accessed 4/24/20]