



Keith Pekau

Research Book

September 2022

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## Key Vulnerabilities

### Section I: Pekau Is An Extreme MAGA Republican

► **Pekau Is An Extreme MAGA Republican:** Keith Pekau is a far-right Republican who will bring the Trump agenda to Illinois – including banning abortion, toeing the NRA line on guns, and denying science on everything from climate change to COVID-19. Pekau – who has campaigned with far-right gubernatorial candidate Darren Bailey – was a Trump delegate to the 2020 Republican National Convention. Like Bailey, Pekau has promoted conspiracy theories about the 2020 election, even encouraging listeners to a conservative talk radio program to watch Dinesh D’Souza’s film “2,000 Mules,” a discredited documentary which purported to have evidence of massive voter fraud in the 2020 election. And Pekau’s similarities to Bailey and Trump don’t stop there. He is also an anti-choice extremist who supported overturning *Roe v. Wade* and allowing states to ban abortion without exceptions for rape, incest, or life of the mother. On guns, Pekau is in lockstep with the NRA and believes there is nothing the country can do to prevent tragedies like the mass shooting in Uvalde.

Pekau is also in touch with the most fringe wings of his party on science. As mayor of Orland Park, Pekau spread disinformation on COVID-19 to such an extent that one of his videos – in which he suggested that “natural immunity” was more effective at preventing COVID or getting hospitalized with it – was banned from YouTube. Pekau has also disputed the effectiveness of wearing masks to prevent COVID, telling Orland Park residents in 2020 that simply sneezing or coughing into your sleeve would accomplish the same effect as wearing a cloth mask in terms of preventing the spread of the deadly disease. Usurpingly, Pekau has refused to say whether or not he’s vaccinated. Pekau’s science denialism extends to climate change, too. He does not believe that humans are causing the earth to warm and has stated that it is the “ultimate arrogance to think that humans can stop the climate from changing.”

► **Pekau Is An Anti-Choice Extremist:** Pekau is a far-right, anti-choice conservative. He describes himself as “pro-life” and wants to ban abortion. Pekau agreed with the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, which ended federal protection for abortions even in the cases of rape, incest, and to protect the life of the mother. While Pekau claims that he personally believes in those exceptions, in practice, women are rarely able to take advantage of them. Reproductive rights advocates argue that the financial and legal hurdles a ban creates are so high that in many states, it will be as if the exceptions did not exist. Pekau also claims that he wants to make “adoption the preferred option” over abortion. (*Note: Pekau frequently tells a story about how he was adopted seven years prior to the Supreme Court’s decision in Roe V. Wade.*)

Pekau has made it clear that he would fight against any efforts to expand access to reproductive health care if elected to Congress. When asked if he supported a bill to codify *Roe v. Wade* in federal law, Pekau said he would not, and that it is “not up to Congress to decide.” Pekau has also said he would stand in the Biden Administration’s way if the president took steps to expand access to abortion through executive action. In a June 2022 Facebook post, Pekau described the Biden Administration’s efforts to allow abortion on military bases in states where the procedure is banned as “dangerous” and suggested he would fight against it in Congress, writing, “it won’t stop unless we elect leaders who can win when it matters.”

Pekau has also received the endorsement of an extremist anti-choice group which seeks to undo abortion protections in Illinois. The group, Illinois Federation for Right to Life, has backed “pro-life” bills in the state legislature to end taxpayer funding for reproductive health care, criminalize so-called “partial-birth” abortions, and enact a 20-week abortion ban. Another anti-choice group, Illinois Right to Life Action, gave Pekau one of the highest ratings it gives candidates for elected office, noting that Pekau is “fully pro-life,” with “exceptions for rape and incest.” (*Note: Illinois Right to Life Action rated Pekau on a “Voter Guide” it published prior to the June 28, 2022 primary. A “1” on the guide indicates that the candidate is “fully pro-life” and is the highest rating the group offers. Pekau received a “1#,” where the hashmark indicated that he was “fully pro-life” with exceptions for rape and incest. This is arguably the second highest rating a candidate can receive from the group.*)

► **Pekau Is A Far-Right Extremist On Guns Who “Toes The NRA Line” On Gun Control, Even Following The Mass Shooting In Uvalde:** Pekau’s positions on guns are outside the mainstream and in lockstep with the NRA. He opposes common-sense proposals to reduce crime and gun violence, like expanding background checks and creating red flag laws that would keep guns out of the hands of people in mental health crises. Instead, he follows the NRA’s extreme view that nothing can be done to stop mass shootings like the recent school shooting in Texas and the shooting in Highland Park.

Following the mass shooting Uvalde, Texas, the Chicago Tribune editorial board said Pekau “toes the NRA line” on gun control. In response to a question from the board about the tragedy, Pekau argued that nothing could have been done to prevent it: “If in fact there was no history, if he was completely law-abiding, what’s going to solve that particular problem - someone that just snapped?” Instead of supporting any policy measure that would address mass shootings, Pekau pivoted and deflected, using the tragedies in Uvalde and Buffalo to disparage State’s Attorney Kim Foxx. After doing nothing to address gun violence, Pekau said he was “so tired” of hearing politicians talk about guns rather than focusing on the criminals.

When asked about limiting access to assault weapons in a different interview, Pekau again toed the NRA line, stating that the country “did not need more gun laws.” Pekau is clearly opposed to any kind of common-sense reform, from universal background checks and keeping guns out of the hands of people in mental health crises to banning military-style assault weapons.

► **Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Would Vote Against Certifying Presidential Electoral Votes And Said The Issue Of January 6th Was “Complicated”:** Pekau dangerously entertained conspiracy theories about the Big Lie and the integrity of our elections. Pekau has dodged several easy answers regarding the process of election certification. In an election questionnaire, Pekau reportedly refused to answer whether he agreed with the Republican National Committee’s description of the January 6th insurrection at the U.S. Capitol as “ordinary citizens engaged in legitimate political discourse.” He also said he considered the insurrection “complicated.” He claimed that rioters who stormed the Capitol were not being given speedy and public trials: “Those that are accused have a right to a speedy and public trial as called for in the 6th Amendment which is clearly not happening over one year after the fact.” He also refused to answer whether he would vote against certifying presidential electoral votes. When asked if he thought there was fraud in the 2020 election, Pekau said there was likely fraud in every election.

In addition to equivocating on the results of the 2020 election, Pekau supported extreme “election safety measures.” He claimed election integrity was very important to him and said that ballots had been taken in the past. He supported mandatory voter ID, which would deprive millions of Americans of the right to vote. Pekau holds extreme and troubling views on election access and would join other Republicans in Congress to restrict voting access and perpetuate the Big Lie.

***Researcher’s Note:** Pekau’s response to questions from interviewers about the Big Lie and January 6<sup>th</sup> has varied depending on the forum. In one interview given with a mainstream press outlet, Pekau described the people who stormed the capitol as “idiots” and condemned their actions. In other contexts, such as conservative media appearances on shows like Diamond & Silk’s podcast, Pekau did not directly repudiate claims that the election was stolen, instead for example noting that there was fraud in every election.*

► **Pekau Denied Anthropogenic Climate Change, Despite A Consensus By Scientists And The General Public:** Showing complete disregard towards science, Pekau denies that climate change is caused by humans. In an election questionnaire, he said, “The climate has been changing since the beginning of time on planet earth... it is the ultimate arrogance to think that humans can stop the climate from changing.” A 2021 study found that 98.7 percent of scientists agreed that the Earth was getting warmer primarily due to human activity such as burning fossil fuels. Additionally, 80 percent of Americans agree that human activity contributes a great deal or plays some role in climate change, according to the Pew Charitable Trusts. Pekau’s views on climate change are dangerous and far outside the mainstream.

Perhaps the reason for Pekau's climate denialism was his affiliation with the American Petroleum Institute. In 2013, Pekau was a member of the American Petroleum Institute's "Vets4Energy" campaign. Pekau went on a lobbying trip to Washington, D.C. on issues such as increasing fracking, the Keystone XL pipeline, and repealing the renewable fuel standard. The American Petroleum Institute is one of America's most powerful trade organizations lobbying Congress on behalf of the oil and gas industry. The group was the subject of several lawsuits alleging that it was at the heart of a decades-long disinformation campaign to diminish the threat of climate change. The group worked with ExxonMobil and Koch Industries to ensure "climate change becomes a non-issue" by funding scientists and independent organizations to deny or underplay the climate crisis. Instead of supporting renewable energy, Pekau supported what he described as "clean coal." But clean coal is a myth cooked up by the fossil fuel industry: a 2018 Reuters report found that chemically treated coal polluted the atmosphere more than raw coal. Pekau's ties to the fossil fuel industry and his refusal to believe our country can slow climate change shows he cannot be trusted to deal with one of the largest existential threats to humanity.

**Pekau Ignored The Science And Put Politics Over People's Health And Safety With His Failed Leadership And Reckless COVID-19 Policies:** Keith Pekau should have seen the pandemic as a time to be a leader and help his community survive a crisis. Instead, he politicized the pandemic at every turn – and the people of Orland Park suffered because of it. Pekau stood against the state's COVID health and safety protocols on everything from quarantines and masking to vaccine requirements. The result: among the 18 municipalities in Cook County with over 40,000 people, Orland Park had the 5th highest rate of deaths.

Like other right-wing Republicans, Pekau politicized COVID-19 and repeatedly sought to cast doubt on ways to stop the spread of the disease like masking and vaccination. In a COVID update posted on the Village of Orland Park's YouTube page in July 2020, Pekau claimed that wearing cloth masks was ineffective for healthy people and there was no scientific evidence to support wearing them. He even suggested that people who are sick could go maskless and prevent the spread COVID by simply coughing or sneezing into their arm.

One of Pekau's attempts to spread misinformation about COVID even got a video he posted banned from YouTube. Pekau capitalized on the incident by sending fundraising emails claiming that YouTube was trying to ban "real information" from being spread. In February 2022, Pekau posted a video excerpt from a recent meeting of the Orland Park Board of Trustees in which he discussed a court order blocking vaccine mandates in Illinois. In the same video, Pekau went on to cast doubt on whether vaccines were effective, telling the people of Orland Park that those with natural immunity were less likely to catch the disease or be hospitalized with COVID than their vaccinated counterparts. After YouTube pulled the video for spreading misinformation, Pekau used the opportunity to raise money, sending an email in which he called on his supporters to donate to his campaign so he could continue promoting the same video online: "If you're as fired up about this as I am – invest \$50 in my campaign now. I've shared this video on my Facebook page and will use your contribution to share it with more people in our community."

As mayor of Orland Park, Pekau also wasted \$70,000 in taxpayer money on a frivolous, political lawsuit against Governor Pritzker over the state's COVID restrictions. After Pekau filed the case in federal court, the judge told him it would have a "negligible likelihood of success." Pekau's political stunt cost the village tens-of-thousands of dollars, but he defended the use of taxpayer money, telling a reporter, "I'd do it again."

Pekau's rush to reopen Orland Park in April 2020 was met with concern and criticism from citizens and the news media. Pekau announced that month that the village would move forward with a summer concert it had planned despite the unknowns and potential dangers of COVID-19. Pekau defended the move, stating that it would cost more to cancel the concert than to move forward with it. In an interview, a news anchor criticized Pekau for arguing the push to reopen was motivated by money, describing the decision as "wealth versus health," and telling Pekau "You're not really looking out for the people in your village."

Pekau's flouting of the state's COVID protocols even led to an investigation by the state police. In December 2020,

Pekau held a fundraiser with tickets as high as \$5,000 at a restaurant in Orland Park. The state police were called to the event because the gathering may have violated Illinois's COVID-19 restrictions. Pekau claimed the officer who responded to the tip left the fundraiser after finding that Pekau and his guests were "observing required safety precautions." But that claim appears to have been refuted by the state police, which said the incident was still under investigation several days later.

► **Pekau Is An Out Of Touch, Right-Wing Conservative Who Cares More About Cutting Taxes For The Wealthy Than Addressing Rising Costs For Families And Seniors:** The pandemic and supply-chain issues have exacerbated the rising costs that Illinois families have been experiencing for years. And those costs have only been made worse by politicians like Keith Pekau, who care more about their own political careers than keeping costs low for families. Pekau acts like he cares about working families and complains that costs are too high. But he opposed real solutions to make life more affordable for regular people across Illinois. Instead, he supports Republican Party orthodoxy – tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations, and no real help for the middle class. Pekau's love for tax cuts and cost savings don't apply to the middle class: as rising costs pinched families in Orland Park in 2021, Pekau actually raised their utility bills and their property taxes.

Pekau opposed major efforts by Democrats in Congress to help families keep more of their hard earned money, like the Inflation Reduction Act. The bill addresses some of the highest costs Americans face today – prescription drugs, health insurance, and medical bills. The IRA cut prescription drug costs, capped the cost of insulin for Medicare recipients, lowered health insurance premiums, and expanded health care coverage for tens-of-thousands of Illinoisans. The bill also invests in new clean energy tax credits which will lower energy costs for families and promote American energy independence.

Pekau certainly wants to lower costs for some people – just not for you. In an interview, Pekau said that the wealthiest one percent of Americans and corporations were overtaxed, and that he would cut their taxes if elected to Congress. He also opposed measures to make the wealthy pay more of their fair share, like raising capital gains taxes. Pekau claims he wants to lower taxes for everyone, but his record tells a different story. He has opposed measures to help working families, like expanding the Child Tax Credit, which passed as part of the American Rescue Plan. Democrats' Child Tax Credit expansion cut taxes for millions of families across the country and reduced child poverty by half. Pekau has certainly paid lip service to the costs families face, repeating Republican Party talking points about tax increases and rising utility costs on the campaign trail. But as prices skyrocketed in 2021, Pekau actually raised costs on families in Orland Park. In December 2021, Pekau voted raise water fees by 4.5 percent and voted in favor of increasing property taxes, too. Its clear Pekau cares more about cutting taxes for the rich than helping regular people get ahead.

► **Pekau Took The Side Of Big Pharma Over Middle Class Families And Seniors:** Keith Pekau has made it clear that he will put his own interests over regular people if elected to Congress. Take an issue like prescription drug pricing, which Democrats reformed through the Inflation Reduction Act. The bill lowered the cost of prescription drugs and capped the amount of money seniors on Medicare will have to pay for their pharmaceuticals. But Pekau opposed the bill – and you only need to look at his financial disclosures to see why. Pekau owned as much as \$80,000 in pharmaceutical and medical device company stock, including Johnson & Johnson, ABIOMED, and Dupont – companies which spent tens-of-millions of dollars opposing these same reforms. Seniors can't afford to have someone who would sell them out to make a quick buck like Keith Pekau.

► **Pekau Opposed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, Which Will Investment Billions In Fixing Illinois's Roads And Bridges While Transforming The State's Clean Energy Economy:** Pekau's opposition to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law shows that if he is elected to Congress, he'll do what's easy, not what's right. It's not hard to see why dozens of Republicans in Congress voted for the legislation, which will create good-paying jobs and help rebuild our country's crumbling roads and bridges. It has already brought at least \$5.2 billion to Illinois, including \$3.4 billion for infrastructure improvements, nearly \$200 million for clean water, and delivered affordable internet to nearly 400,000 across the state. It will also bring \$4.5 billion to improve public transit over

the next five years, invest tens-of-millions in clean energy, and help rebuild the thousands of bridges across the state that are in disrepair. But Pekau would have turned all that away to score political points and stay on the right side of far-right politicians like Donald Trump and other MAGA Republicans in the House, who threatened retribution against Republicans who dared to cross party lines and vote in the interests of their constituents.

► **Pekau Opposed Marijuana Legalization In Orland Park Despite It Generating Hundreds Of Millions In New Tax Revenue Across The State:** Keith Pekau’s extreme conservative views on social issues like marijuana legalization are out of touch with the people of Illinois. Pekau led the fight to ban recreational marijuana sales in Orland Park after the state legalized the drug – and even with all of the good legalization is doing in the state, he continues to oppose it. At the time of the vote, Pekau said that the tax revenue from legalization was “always less than expected,” telling the Chicago-Sun Times, “I don’t see any benefit to legalizing recreational marijuana.” But Pekau couldn’t have been more wrong: Illinois’s tax revenues from recreational marijuana increased by 50 percent to \$445.3 million in 2021, up from \$297.7 million a year prior. The amount of money going directly to local municipalities also increased by over 75 percent, from \$82.8 million to \$146.2 million.

At a time when crime is on the rise and opioids are ravaging Illinois’s communities, that money is going directly to programs that prevent crime and fight substance abuse. In 2021, the state set aside \$134 million in marijuana tax revenue to pay for programs helping communities damaged by the war on drugs – including parts of the new 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District – and to expand mental health and drug treatment initiatives. Of that, \$60 million is specifically going into drug treatment and prevention. That funding includes \$7 million to pay for doses of Narcan, which can help reverse drug opioid overdoses and save lives. Another \$3.5 million is geared toward crime prevention.

► **Pekau Is An Anti-LGBTQ Extremist Who Was Endorsed By A Hate Group:** Keith Pekau’s views are so far outside the mainstream that he is backed by a racist “hate group” that has a history of targeting LGBTQ people. The group, which has close ties to Darren Bailey, has used an anti-LGBTQ slur to describe Governor Pritzker, calling him a “groomer” for signing into law a sex education bill. The term is increasingly used by fringe, far-right groups. Equality Illinois spoke out against Pekau’s support from Awake Illinois, with a spokesperson stating, “No candidate or public official should ever engage with and encourage hate groups that target marginalized communities and people.”

## Section II: Pekau Is A Corrupt Politician

► **Corrupt: Pekau Was Investigated For Bid-Rigging And Using Taxpayer Money To Reward Donors And Business Partners:** Keith Pekau is a corrupt politician who is out to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. In 2019, then-Orland Park Village Manager Joseph La Margo hired the law firm Jones Day to investigate rumors of Pekau’s unethical behavior as mayor. The report revealed allegations that Pekau pressured other elected officials and village employees to steer village contracts toward donors and even companies that he had financial interests in. When Pekau learned of the investigation’s initial findings report, he tried to kill it – he pressured La Margo to resign, undermined the authority of the investigation, and even rolled back ethics rules that would have required him to disclose his conflicts of interests. (*Note: Pekau has vehemently denied these allegations and maintains that he is innocent of these accusations.*)

The Jones Day investigation unveiled allegations that Pekau was involved in rigging bids in Orland Park even before he became mayor. In 2012, before Pekau was elected, the village released a Request for Proposals on a tree removal project. Pekau’s landscaping company, Groundskeeper Landscape Care, initially submitted a bid with higher prices in certain categories of tree than other companies. Later, at the close of the RFP period, Pekau sent amended pricing to the Public Works Department and was awarded the contract. Jones Day wrote, “The fact that in the letter, [Pekau] lowered only those categories for which he previously was out-bid, suggests that there may have been some communications between the Operations Manager and [Pekau] after the close of the RFP period.” The

board approved the contract with the amended pricing, but the Village Finance Department mistakenly sent the contract with the original pricing, which was then signed by Pekau without an attempt to correct the error. According to Jones Day, “[Groundskeeper Landscape Care] was ultimately paid at the higher prices it originally submitted... which, in some categories, were higher than the prices submitted by other contractors.” Aside from the 2012 project, Groundskeeper submitted several quotes on smaller bids that were exactly \$25 lower than the next lowest bidder, to the point where it had become a department-wide joke. After Pekau was elected and sold his ownership stake in Groundskeeper, he continued to have an indirect financial interest in the company (by owning the land on which the company sat) and introduced the new owner to village officials to continue giving bids to the company.

Jones Day also unearthed allegations that, while he was mayor, Pekau pressured other villages officials to give a favorable contract to an insurance company. Not only was the owner of the company a major donor to Pekau, but Pekau also had a financial interest in it – his consulting firm did work for the company. Horton Insurance was the long-time provider of health insurance to village employees. In 2018, the village was considering seeking bids for its health insurance work. Pekau asked La Margo to attend a strategy meeting with representatives from Horton Insurance. After the meeting, Pekau allegedly said to La Margo, “You know, I don’t know if we need to go out on a bid for health insurance,” implying that Pekau wanted the village to award Horton a no-bid contract. La Margo later learned that Pekau’s consulting company had been paid about \$25,000 by Horton. Only after this information was revealed did Pekau agree to abstain from the decision on the health insurance contract, which was again awarded to Horton. In addition to Pekau’s consulting work for the company, Horton Insurance and its employees and associates contributed \$13,000 to Pekau’s political campaigns. In the years Pekau was mayor, Horton Insurance was paid over \$4.5 million by the Village.

Pekau used his power as mayor and a member of the Board of Trustees to obstruct the investigation by forcing La Margo out of office, replacing him with someone whose loyalty he later rewarded, and pushing a narrative that the investigation was unauthorized. After details of the investigation became known to Pekau, he forced La Margo to resign and appointed Joseph Mitchell to become interim village manager. Mitchell was tasked with continuing the Jones Day investigation. After Mitchell largely cleared Pekau of any wrongdoing, Pekau voted to promote Mitchell to a position that included a hefty pay increase. Pekau made several false claims about the investigation by La Margo, including that the investigation was unauthorized and a political attack. Both of these statements were factchecked to be false by news sources.

While he was under investigation, Pekau even rolled back ethics rules that would have required him to disclose his conflicts of interest. Pekau was under investigation from January through May of 2019. In May 2019, once he had enough sympathetic votes on the Village Board, he voted to repeal ethics rules that required him to disclose conflicts of interest and prohibited him from accepting gifts.

The scandal had severe impacts on Orland Park’s reputation. Village officials said that the investigation tarnished the name of the village and drained the pool of candidates for the village manager position to the point where the village had to hire a public relations firm and pay the group \$4,000 per month to clean up its image at taxpayer expense.

***Note:** La Margo later sued Pekau for defamation and violation of the separation agreement between him and the village. In the complaint, he alleged that Pekau’s false statements hurt his career and forced him to seek employment out of the state. As of September 2022, litigation for this case is still ongoing.*

► **Pay To Play: Pekau Wasted Taxpayer Dollars On Frivolous Lawsuits To Benefit One Of His Top Donors:** Pekau is a corrupt politician who wasted taxpayer dollars on frivolous lawsuits to benefit one of his top donors. From 2017 to 2021, Pekau accepted over \$22,000 from the law firm Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins and its employees. In that same time (the period in which Pekau was in office), the Village of Orland Park paid the firm over \$3 million. ***Note:** Klein Thorpe Jenkins relationship with the Village of Orland Park began prior to Pekau’s time as Mayor.*

The law firm served as the village attorneys for two key frivolous lawsuits which the village lost – costing taxpayers tens-of-thousands. In 2020, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Village of Orland Park filed a lawsuit against Governor Pritzker challenging the state’s restrictions on businesses. After the judge in the case said that the village would have “a negligible likelihood of success” in proving its claims, Pekau abruptly announced that the Village Board would drop the lawsuit. The total legal bill for the failed lawsuit was \$70,000, all going into Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins’ pockets. In another egregious lawsuit, Orland Park took Hope Covenant Church to court to prevent it from hosting a homeless shelter during the winter months. The village claimed the church was in violation of safety codes, but the church said it was not given sufficient time to address the concerns before the village filed the lawsuit. Orland Park residents opposed the lawsuit, and dozens attended a Village Board meeting in support of the shelter. Additionally, Orland Township Supervisor Paul O’Grady criticized the “overzealous” and “heavy-handed” litigation. Chicago Tribune columnist Ted Slowik made the point that Pekau’s hardline stance on the shelter was ruining the village’s reputation: “Do [Orland Park residents] want to live in a Village known as a place full of affluent snobs who are willing to sue in an effort to keep certain people out of their midst?” Despite Pekau downplaying the issue and denying that there even was a homelessness problem in Orland Park in the first place, the village capitulated and announced a settlement with the church. These two frivolous lawsuits make it clear that Pekau was wasting taxpayer money on unpopular lawsuits to shamelessly pad Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins’ retainer.

► **Pekau Used His Position As Mayor To Oust His Opponents And Further His Political Career:** On multiple occasions, Pekau proved he could not be trusted with power by using his position as mayor to oust his opponents and further his political career. In one instance, Scott Kaspar, Pekau’s primary opponent in the 2022 U.S. House of Representatives race, released an advertisement focusing on crime in Orland Park. Pekau said he was “appalled” by the advertisement and defended the work of the Orland Park Police Department. The Orland Park Board of Trustees voted to remove Kaspar from the Village’s Ethics Commission and Police Pension Fund Board, claiming he disparaged the village and the police department. Kaspar said the removal was retaliation and that Pekau abused his position as mayor to target his political opponents. In another instance, Pekau retaliated and forced Village Manager Joseph La Margo to resign after he launched an investigation into Pekau’s shady ethical practices as mayor. Further, Pekau allegedly violated the terms of La Margo’s separation agreement with the village by publicly disparaging him and making false claims about the investigation. This prompted La Margo to file a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village; the litigation was ongoing as of September 2022. It’s clear – Pekau has no

limits and would do whatever it takes to remain in power.

► **Pekau Appears To Have Repeatedly Violated Federal Campaign Finance Laws By Paying For Expenses For His Congressional Out Of State Campaign Funds:** Since filing his bid for Congress in November 2021, Pekau’s mayoral campaign account has spent \$37,572 in consulting fees and another campaign expenses. Federal campaign finance law prohibits candidates from transferring over \$2,000 from state and local campaign committees to a federal campaign committee. If any of these expenditures were in support of his campaign for Congress, Pekau could have reported up to \$2,000 in spending as in-kind contributions from his mayoral to his federal campaign committee. Of the \$37,572 Pekau’s mayoral campaign has spent after he announced his bid for Congress, approximately half of the money – \$18,690 – was spent on things like contributions to other campaign committees, ticket purchases, sponsorships, and other donations. The remaining \$18,882 represent expenditures on items like campaign consulting, food, polling, and advertising, showing strong evidence that Pekau may have been using these expenses in support of his congressional bid.

There is significant evidence that Pekau has been paying the bills for his consultants out of both his federal and local campaign committee accounts. On three occasions after Pekau announced his bid for Congress, Pekau’s congressional campaign committee and his mayoral campaign reported payments to the same vendors within three days of one another, suggesting he was using funds from his mayoral to pay bills for services rendered for his campaign for Congress. For example, his mayoral campaign paid \$400 to McPherson Public Affairs Group on March 4, 2022 for “consulting” just three days after paying the same firm \$3,900 for “campaign consulting” from

his federal committee. The same pattern appears in other payments to McPherson Public Affairs Group and another campaign consultant for Pekau, Cor Services. As of September 2022, state records indicate Pekau's mayoral campaign had paid both firms as recently as June of that year.

Pekau's mayoral campaign has made numerous other payments that suggest that he was using state campaign funds to pay his congressional bills. In the week running up to his December 10, 2021 campaign announcement, Pekau paid thousands of dollars from his mayoral funds to the same campaign consultants – McPherson Public Affairs Group and Cor Services – for advertising, polling, and consulting fees. Between December 1, 2021 and June 27, 2022, Pekau had paid the two consulting firms \$9,246 from his mayoral account. Pekau also paid other groups after he began running for Congress, including \$5,000 to Macallan Communications for “website” services on February 1, 2022.

► **Pekau Appears To Have Misrepresented His Business Interests On His Personal Financial Disclosure:**

Pekau appears to have failed to disclose that he held and sold a commercial rental property in 2021 on his financial disclosure, and failed to disclose any income he received from it prior to the sale. Pekau's personal financial disclosure indicates that he was the owner of Strike Eagle Properties, a corporation established in Illinois and dissolved in December 2021. In September 2021, Strike Eagle Properties sold a property at 13148 Maple Road for \$850,000. This address was the address for Groundskeeper Landscape Services, a company which he sold in 2019. Pekau leased the property to the person who bought the business in the intervening years.

House Ethics rules require that ownership interests in privately-held business entities that held real estate investments be disclosed as an asset if rental income from the property exceeded \$200 or if interest exceeded \$1,000. Any real estate interests must be disclosed in Schedule A, including the address of the property. It is evident that Pekau's commercial real estate interests qualified for such a disclosure, as he listed the income from Strike Eagle properties as \$4,370, above the \$200 threshold for disclosure. It is illegal to knowingly and willfully falsify the contents of a financial disclosure statement. If Pekau misrepresented his business interests on his personal financial disclosure, what else is he hiding?

► **After Pekau Campaigned On Lowering His Salary, He Raked In \$600,000 In His First Term As Mayor:**

Despite making hundreds of thousands a year in outside income, Pekau decided to take a mayoral salary, raking in \$600,000 in his first term as mayor. In his first campaign in 2017, Pekau campaigned heavily on the fact that he would lower the \$150,000 mayoral salary, criticizing his opponent for taking a higher salary. While he did vote to lower his own salary to \$40,000, it didn't apply until after his first term, allowing him to rake in \$600,000 in his first four years in office. Pekau could have declined the money or donated it back to taxpayers. But after he was elected, Pekau took the same salary, saying he would “earn” the \$150,000 a year. If that wasn't enough, Pekau voted against a further salary reduction from \$40,000 to \$30,00, despite earning over \$500,000 in outside income in 2022. Pekau pretends to be a champion for the taxpayers, but in reality, he proved to be no better than the people he criticized.

***Note:** Pekau disclosed income figures on his personal financial disclosure which may be inflated compared to his typical income. He disclosed \$555,020 in income for 2021, \$358,487 of which was likely from the sale of a commercial real estate property. Pekau disclosed earning a total of \$197,661 in the prior year.*

# Key Vulnerabilities

# **Section I: Pekau Is An Extreme MAGA Republican**

## Pekau Is An Extreme MAGA Republican

*Keith Pekau is a far-right Republican who will bring the Trump agenda to Illinois – including banning abortion, toeing the NRA line on guns, and denying science on everything from climate change to COVID-19. Pekau – who has campaigned with far-right gubernatorial candidate Darren Bailey – was a Trump delegate to the 2020 Republican National Convention. Like Bailey, Pekau has promoted conspiracy theories about the 2020 election, even encouraging listeners to a conservative talk radio program to watch Dinesh D’Souza’s film “2,000 Mules,” a discredited documentary which purported to have evidence of massive voter fraud in the 2020 election. And Pekau’s similarities to Bailey and Trump don’t stop there. He is also an anti-choice extremist who supported overturning Roe v. Wade and allowing states to ban abortion without exceptions for rape, incest, or life of the mother. On guns, Pekau is in lockstep with the NRA and believes there is nothing the country can do to prevent tragedies like the mass shooting in Uvalde.*

*Pekau is also in touch with the most fringe wings of his party on science. As mayor of Orland Park, Pekau spread disinformation on COVID to such an extent that one of his videos – in which he suggested that “natural immunity” was more effective at preventing COVID or getting hospitalized with it – was banned from YouTube. Pekau has also disputed the effectiveness of wearing masks to prevent COVID, telling Orland Park residents in 2020 that simply sneezing or coughing into your sleeve would accomplish the same effect as wearing a cloth mask in terms of preventing the spread of the deadly disease. Usurpingly, Pekau has refused to say whether or not he’s vaccinated. Pekau’s science denialism extends to climate change, too. He does not believe that humans are causing the earth to warm and has stated that it is the “ultimate arrogance to think that humans can stop the climate from changing.”*

## Pekau Has Campaigned Alongside Extreme Gubernatorial Candidate Darren Bailey

April 2022: Pekau Attended A Meet And Greet With Darren Bailey. [HappeningNext, [4/27/22](#)]

**YOU'RE INVITED**  
**MEET AND GREET**

SENATOR  
**DARREN BAILEY**  
REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

ATTORNEY  
**THOMAS DEVORE**  
REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

MAYOR OF ORLAND PARK  
**KEITH PEKAU**  
REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR U.S. HOUSE ILLINOIS DISTRICT 6

## **Pekau Was A Trump Delegate To The 2020 Republican National Convention And Who Has Peddled Conspiracy Theories About The Election**

**Pekau Was A Trump Delegate To The 2020 Republican National Convention.** The Washington Examiner reported, “What about Trump? After all, Pekau was a Trump delegate to the 2020 Republican National Convention and supports many of the former president’s policies. ‘Trump was our president for four years,’ he said. ‘But he’s not now.’” [Washington Examiner, [1/30/22](#)]

**When Asked If He Thought There Was Fraud In The 2020 Election, He Said There Was Likely Fraud In Every Election And That’s Why There Needed To Be Safeguards In Place Chosen By Each State.** According to an interview on the “Diamond and Silk” program on Lindell TV, “[Diamond and Silk hosts:] Right? Email just came in. And somebody wanted me to ask you, do you feel or do you think that there was any fraud in the 2020 Election? [Pekau:] I, to be honest, I think every election that we have, that somewhere, there’s fraudulent action, right? I mean, we just have too big of a country, it always happens. And that’s why we have to have the safeguards in place so that they don’t swing an election and impact an election. So, I think it always does happen. And we need to have those safeguards in place. And each to each state, each county, they need to they need to put the safeguards in place that work best for them. And some states do it better than others. And I think if you go back into history and things that we’ve you know, we’ve dug up, you know, back to certainly the Kennedy election, we know that there have been these issues that have come up, and they always and they come up every time and there’s a place to litigate them also. So, you know, we litigate those things, and we move forward and hopefully we come up with better systems to make elections again, And we want only people who are legally authorized to vote to vote and we want everyone to have access to vote. Everyone should have access to an ability to get to the polls, even people who can’t get there physically should have a way that they can vote. And I think we all agree on that. Just how exactly do we do that? I think those are those are questions for a legislative body to discuss the debate and come up with what’s best for them.” [YouTube, [18:41-20:02](#), 1/18/22]

## **Pekau Encouraged Listeners On A Conservative Radio Show To Go Watch A Showing Of “2,000 Mules” In Orland Park, Dinesh D’Souza’s “Documentary” Which Asserted False Claims That The 2020 Election Was Stolen**

**Pekau Encouraged Conservative Radio Listeners To Go To Watch Dinesh D’Souza’s 2,000 Mules When It Was Viewing At A Movie Theatre In Orland Park.** According to an interview with Keith Pekau on On Target Radio, “MODERATOR: ‘One of our listeners actually pointed out that 2000 mules is playing in Orland at Marcus Theatre. Go to Orland.’ PEKAU: “There ya go... eat, shop, spend money. All good.” [YouTube, On Target Radio, [48:15 – 48:30](#), 5/22/22]

**NPR: The Film “2,000 Mules” “Purports To Have ‘Smoking Gun’ Evidence Of Massive Voter Fraud In The 2020 Election.”** NPR reported, “A conservative ‘election integrity’ group called True The Vote has made multiple misleading or false claims about its work, NPR has found, including the suggestion that they helped solve the murder of an eight-year-old girl in Atlanta. The claims appear in a new pro-Trump film called ‘2,000 Mules,’ which purports to have ‘smoking gun’ evidence of massive voter fraud in the 2020 election in the form of digital device location tracking data. Former president Donald Trump has embraced the film, which has gained popularity on the political right, along with the claim about the murder case.” [NPR, [5/17/22](#)]

**Associated Press: 2,000 Mules “Uses A Flawed Analysis Of Cellphone Location Data And Ballot Drop Box Surveillance Footage To Cast Doubt On The Results Of The 2020 Presidential Election Nearly 18 Months**

**After It Ended.**” The Associated Press reported, “A film debuting in over 270 theaters across the United States this week uses a flawed analysis of cellphone location data and ballot drop box surveillance footage to cast doubt on the results of the 2020 presidential election nearly 18 months after it ended. Praised by former President Donald Trump as exposing ‘great election fraud,’ the movie, called ‘2000 Mules,’ paints an ominous picture suggesting Democrat-aligned ballot ‘mules’ were supposedly paid to illegally collect and drop off ballots in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.” [Associated Press, [5/8/22](#)]

## **Pekau Supports Banning Abortion**

**Pekau Said That He Was “Pro-Life.”** According to Keith Pekau on the Black and Right radio program, “So regarding the decision and the leak, that should never be leaked, and that should scare Americans if that was leaked like that. And I hope they find out whoever did it, and I hope there's punishments available. Number one period #2, I do think it's right to bring it back to the state level, right? This should be a state issue, So that flows into Chuck Schumer’s bill, it should not be a federal issue, it should be a state issue, up to the states and the courts decide, it's not up to Congress to decide in my opinion. And I think you asked my stance, I'm pro-life. I was adopted seven years before Roe V Wade. So the most loving act of my entire life was a 15 year old girl carrying me to term. And my parents adopted me and they were lower-middle class at best. They were poor. Today, you have to be rich to adopt now. So everything I'm going to do when I'm in Congress is try to see more adoptions, and make them more affordable and more prevalent, because children like me should have the opportunity to live and have a full life period and parents like mine should have the opportunity to have the joys of parenthood that so many others get to enjoy period and that's what I'd like to see.” [YouTube, Pekau – Black And Right (05.07.22), [26:12-27:32](#), 5/10/22]

## **Pekau Is A Right-Wing Extremist On Guns Who “Toes The NRA Line”**

**June 2022: “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau... Toes The NRA Line” On Gun Control Following The Mass Shooting At The Elementary School In Uvalde.** According to the Editorial Board of the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, toes the NRA line. Speaking about Salvador Ramos, the 18-year-old shooter in Uvalde, Pekau told us, ‘If in fact there was no history, if he was completely law-abiding, what’s going to solve that particular problem -- someone that just snapped?’” [Chicago Tribune, Editorial, 6/13/22]

## **Pekau Is A Climate Denier**

**Pekau Denied Anthropogenic Climate Change, Saying, “The Climate Has Been Changing Since The Beginning Of Time On Planet Earth... It Is The Ultimate Arrogance To Think That Humans Can Stop The Climate From Changing.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What is your position on climate change and what should be done about it? ‘The climate has been changing since the beginning of time on planet earth. We all agree that we want a clean environment and to live with the comforts that the modern world affords us. It is the ultimate arrogance to think that humans can stop the climate from changing.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## **Pekau Criticized Wearing A Mask To Stop COVID-19 And Said Sneezing Into Your Elbow Is Just As Effective As Wearing A Mask**

**July 2020: Pekau Claimed That There Were Zero Scientific Studies On The Effectiveness Of Cloth Masks, Adding, “Cloth Masks Also Do Not Do Anything If A Person Is Healthy.”** According to Pekau in a message to the residents of Orland Park, “Somehow, as I mentioned, the wearing of cloth masks have become the latest attempt to divide people and create a political issue. You hear things like you’re willing to kill people, you want people to die. This is absurd. Nobody I know wants to hurt anyone, and nobody wants people to die. The state of Illinois, IDPH, states that the CDC now recommends cloth face coverings in public settings when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas of significant community transmission. [...] First, according to our research and all the health experts I talk to, there are zero scientific studies on the effectiveness of cloth masks.

They are also not included in the pandemic training that the CDC created prior to the coronavirus. They talk about social distancing, they talk about other measures, but they do not talk about the wearing of cloth masks. Regarding the use of cloth masks, the WHO and the CDC agree that cloth masks do not protect the wearer from coronavirus, that's important to know. Cloth masks also do not do anything if a person is healthy. Cloth masks help stop the spread of the virus if someone who is sick coughs or sneezes. This can also be accomplished by covering your face with a cloth or into your elbow." [YouTube, Village of Orland Park, [10:52 – 15:00](#), 7/7/20]

**September 2021: Pekau Compared COVID To 9/11, Stating: “Rather Than The Sorrow And The Pain – I Prefer To Remember The Good That Came Out Of Those Terrible Events... We’re Being Divided Over A Silly Little Piece Of Cloth, Because People Are Afraid.”** According to Pekau at a 9/11 commemoration ceremony, “Rather than the sorrow and the pain – I prefer to remember the good that came out of those terrible events. America came together. Our differences were put aside, and we focused on the shared experiences of being an American. Democrats and Republicans worked together for the common good of all Americans. Think of how we’re behaving now. We’re being divided over a silly piece of cloth- because people are afraid. On 9/11 people were also afraid.” [YouTube, Village of Orland Park, [8:04 - 8:36](#), 9/12/21]

## **Pekau Refused To Answer If He Was Vaccinated Or If He Supported Vaccination**

**Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Was Vaccinated, Writing, “It Is Unfortunate When Interviewers Play Gotcha And Push An Agenda.”** According to an opinion article by Ted Slowik in the Lake County News-Sun, “Pekau refused to answer Bertrand’s question about whether the mayor was vaccinated. ‘It is unfortunate when interviewers play gotcha and push an agenda,’ Pekau wrote when posting the link.” [Lake County News-Sun, 9/17/21; Facebook, Keith Pekau, [9/14/21](#)]

**September 2021: Pekau Refused To Say If He Was Vaccinated Or If He Supported Vaccination.** According to a recording of Pekau’s interview with Steve Bertrand on WGN, “BERTRAND: ‘Are you vaccinated Mayor?’ PEKAU: ‘Really that’s nobody’s business.’ BERTRAND: ‘You’re right, that’s nobody’s business. But I think its germane to the conversation, I think it would help us understand...’ PEKAU: ‘It is not germane to the conversation. no one should be asked whether they’re vaccinated or not.’ BERTRAND: ‘Well but you’re going contrary to the Governor’s mandates, the health department orders, the state department of public – I think it would help us understand your mindset if we knew whether or not you supported vaccinations.’ PEKAU: ‘My mindset is very clear. These should not be mandated period. 94% of people over 65 have had at least one dose. Over 12, 78% of people over 12 have had at least one dose. Let’s get people the facts and let them decide whether to get vaccinated or not, based on their doctors.’” [WGN Radio, 2:20 – 3:17, [9/13/21](#)]

## **YouTube Removed A Video Pekau Uploaded Because It Contained Medical Disinformation**

*Note: The original video is available on Pekau’s website at [this](#) link.*

**Pekau Alleged In His Campaign Ad That A Video About “Mandatory Masking” In Schools Was Removed From YouTube For Disinformation.** According to a Facebook advertisement by Keith Pekau, “🚫🚫 This video was removed from YouTube for ‘disinformation.’ Please share and help us spread the word! 🚫🚫” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/10/22](#)]

 **Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored · Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

  This video was removed from YouTube for "disinformation."  
Please share and help us spread the word!  

After more than 100 COVID-19 related executive orders in two years, a Sangamon County Judge has issued a TRO against mandatory masks in schools, leaving COVID-19 mitigation decisions in the hands of local school districts - the way it should have been from day 1. District 230 and 135 have made masking optional. I hope that other schools will follow their lead.



Mandatory Masking for Our Students - TRO

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/10/22](#)]

**Pekau Sent A Fundraising Email Claiming YouTube Silenced Him For Posting A Video In Which He Criticized Mask Mandates.** [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/9/22](#)]

It looks like YouTube doesn't want you to see [this video](#). Last night I addressed the Village of Orland Park regarding a judge's ruling on Pritzker's unconstitutional Covid mandate. I explained my position on government mandates, and how it has remained unchanged over the past two years.

Apparently YouTube had a problem with this because they removed it:



YouTube told us: *"Our team has reviewed your content, and, unfortunately, we think it violates our medical misinformation policy."*

Where is the misinformation in that clip? Social media platforms like YouTube are overstepping their bounds here and are restricting people in our community to hear the real information being put out.

If you're as fired up about this as I am—[invest \\$50 in my campaign now](#). I've shared this video on my Facebook page and will use [your contribution to share it](#) with more people in our community. This isn't just about Orland Park, this is about how a social media platform is silencing our local leaders.

[Invest \\$50 to Help Share This Information](#)

[Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/9/22](#)]

**Pekau: "If You're As Fired Up About This As I Am – Invest \$50 In My Campaign Now. I've Shared This Video On My Facebook Page And Will Use Your Contribution To Share It With More People In Our Community."** [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/9/22](#)]

## **In The Video, Pekau Suggested That Getting Sick With COVID-19 And Acquiring Natural Immunity Was Better Than Getting Vaccinated**

**Pekau Suggested That Getting Sick With COVID-19 Was A Superior Method Of Immunization Than Getting Vaccinated.**" According to a video of Pekau at a meeting of the Village of Orland Park posted on his campaign website, "The CDC released a study that found a person with natural immunity from covid was between 2.6 to 2.9 times less likely than a vaccinated person to get a new infection of COVID. The CDC study also reported that a person with natural immunity 1.7 times less likely to be hospitalized than a vaccinated person." [Keith Pekau for Congress, [1:26 – 1:50](#), 2/7/22]

**Pekau Claimed A Study Found "That People With Natural Immunity Were 2.6 Times Less Likely To Get Infected With COVID And 1.7 Times Less Likely To Be Hospitalized Than A Vaccinated Person."** According to a video of Pekau at a meeting of the Village of Orland Park posted on his campaign website, "The CDC released a study that found a person with natural immunity from covid was between 2.6 to 2.9 times less likely than a vaccinated person to get a new infection of COVID. The CDC study also reported that a person with natural immunity 1.7 times less likely to be hospitalized than a vaccinated person." [Keith Pekau for Congress, [1:26 – 1:50](#), 2/7/22]

## **Pekau Is An Anti-Choice Extremist**

*Pekau is a far-right, anti-choice conservative. He describes himself as “pro-life” and wants to ban abortion. Pekau agreed with the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, which ended federal protection for abortions even in the cases of rape, incest, and to protect the life of the mother. While Pekau claims that he personally believes in those exceptions, in practice, women are rarely able to take advantage of them. Reproductive rights advocates argue that the financial and legal hurdles a ban creates are so high that in many states, it will be as if the exceptions did not exist. Pekau also claims that he wants to make “adoption the preferred option” over abortion. (**Note:** Pekau frequently tells a story about how he was adopted seven years prior to the Supreme Court’s decision in Roe V. Wade.)*

*Pekau has made it clear that he would fight against any efforts to expand access to reproductive health care if elected to Congress. When asked if he supported a bill to codify Roe v. Wade in federal law, Pekau said he would not, and that it is “not up to Congress to decide.” Pekau has also said he would stand in the Biden Administration’s way if the president took steps to expand access to abortion through executive action. In a June 2022 Facebook post, Pekau described the Biden Administration’s efforts to allow abortion on military bases in states where the procedure is banned as “dangerous” and suggested he would fight against it in Congress, writing, “it won’t stop unless we elect leaders who can win when it matters.”*

*Pekau has also received the endorsement of an extremist anti-choice group which seeks to undo abortion protections in Illinois. The group, Illinois Federation for Right to Life, has backed “pro-life” bills in the state legislature to end taxpayer funding for reproductive health care, criminalize so-called “partial-birth” abortions, and enact a 20-week abortion ban. Another anti-choice group, Illinois Right to Life Action, gave Pekau one of the highest ratings it gives candidates for elected office, noting that Pekau is “fully pro-life,” with “exceptions for rape and incest.” (**Note:** Illinois Right to Life Action rated Pekau on a “Voter Guide” it published prior to the June 28, 2022 primary. A “1” on the guide indicates that the candidate is “fully pro-life” and is the highest rating the group offers. Pekau received a “1#,” where the hashmark indicated that he was “fully pro-life” with exceptions for rape and incest. This is arguably the second highest rating a candidate can receive from the group.)*

### **Pekau Said That He Was Pro-Life And Wanted To Make Adoption “The Preferred Option”**

### **Pekau Said “I’m Pro-Life,” And That Abortion Laws “Should Be A State Issue”**

**Pekau Said That He Was “Pro-Life” And That Abortion Laws Should Be Up To The State, Not Up To Congress.** According to Keith Pekau on the Black and Right radio program, , “So regarding the decision and the leak, that should never be leaked, and that should scare Americans if that was leaked like that. And I hope they find out whoever did it, and I hope there's punishments available. Number one period #2, I do think it's right to bring it back to the state level, right? This should be a state issue, So that flows into Chuck Schumer’s bill, it should not be a federal issue, it should be a state issue, up to the states and the courts decide, it's not up to Congress to decide in my opinion. And I think you asked my stance, I'm pro-life. I was adopted seven years before Roe V Wade. So the most loving act of my entire life was a 15 year old girl carrying me to term. And my parents adopted me and they were lower-middle class at best. They were poor. Today, you have to be rich to adopt now. So everything I'm going to do when I'm in Congress is try to see more adoptions, and make them more affordable and more prevalent, because children like me should have the opportunity to live and have a full life period and parents like mine should have the opportunity to have the joys of parenthood that so many others get to enjoy period and that's what I'd like to see.” [YouTube, Pekau – Black And Right (05.07.22), [26:12-27:32](#), 5/10/22]

## **Pekau, When Asked About Overturning Roe v. Wade, Said He Wanted To Make “Adoption The Preferred Option”**

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**Pekau, When Asked About His Position On Abortion, Said He Would Work To Make Adoption The Preferred Option.** According to the Shaw Local News Network, “What do candidates in the Kane County area running for election for federal office have to say about abortion? Before Politico’s report of a draft opinion that suggested the U.S. Supreme Court will overturn the 1973 case Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion nationwide, we asked all candidates running for Congress this question on abortion. Should pregnant women have the right to get an abortion? [...] Keith Pekau: ‘Because the US Supreme Court provides the prevailing ruling on abortions, let’s focus on doing everything we can to make abortion as rare an occurrence as possible. I was adopted 7 years before Roe V. Wade and the most loving act of my life was a 15-year-old girl carrying me to term. The second most loving act was the adoption of two giving and loving parents who were at best lower middle class. Today, it is far too expensive and cumbersome to adopt a child. ‘I want to work on making the process of making adoption the preferred option, make it easier and more affordable so that the average American can afford to make that choice.’” [Shaw Local News Network, 5/3/22]

**Pekau When Asked About Overturning Roe v. Wade: “Let’s Focus On Doing Everything We Can To Make Abortion As Rare An Occurrence As Possible... I Want To Work On Making The Process Of Making Adoption The Preferred Option.”** According to the Shaw Local News Network, “What do candidates in the Kane County area running for election for federal office have to say about abortion? Before Politico’s report of a draft opinion that suggested the U.S. Supreme Court will overturn the 1973 case Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion nationwide, we asked all candidates running for Congress this question on abortion. Should pregnant women have the right to get an abortion? [...] Keith Pekau: ‘Because the US Supreme Court provides the prevailing ruling on abortions, let’s focus on doing everything we can to make abortion as rare an occurrence as possible. I was adopted 7 years before Roe V. Wade and the most loving act of my life was a 15-year-old girl carrying me to term. The second most loving act was the adoption of two giving and loving parents who were at best lower middle class. Today, it is far too expensive and cumbersome to adopt a child. ‘I want to work on making the process of making adoption the preferred option, make it easier and more affordable so that the average American can afford to make that choice.’” [Shaw Local News Network, 5/3/22]

## **Pekau Supports Abortion Bans And Agreed With The Supreme Court’s Decision To End Constitutional Protections For Abortion – Even In The Case Of Rape, Incest, And Life Of The Mother**

### **Pekau Supports An Abortion Ban With Narrow Exceptions For Rape, Incest, And Saving The Life Of The Mother...**

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**Pekau Said There Should Be Exceptions For Abortion When There Was Endangerment To The Mother’s Life And For Rape And Incest.** According to Keith Pekau on the Black And Right radio program, “I think there's exceptions for mother's health when it's in danger which is the toughest decision of family ever make and rape and incest.” [YouTube, Pekau – Black And Right (05.07.22), [27:38-27:48](#), 5/22/22]

### **...But Pekau’s Narrow “Exceptions” To His Abortion Ban Are Not Actual Exceptions In States Where Those Exceptions Are Law**

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**POLITICO – HEADLINE: “In States That Allow Abortion For Rape And Incest, Finding A Doctor May Prove Impossible.”** [Politico, [6/27/22](#)]

**POLITICO: “Abortion Rights Advocates Warn That So Few People Will Be Able To Take Advantage Of The Exceptions That It Will Be As If They Didn’t Exist.”** POLITICO reported, “A survey released by the Pew

Research Center in May found that 56 percent of Republicans and 83 percent of Democrats believe abortion should be legal if the pregnancy results from rape. But abortion rights advocates warn that so few people will be able to take advantage of the exceptions that it will be as if they didn't exist." [Politico, [6/27/22](#)]

**POLITICO Reported That In States Which Ban Abortion – But Have Exceptions For Rape And Incest – The Financial And Legal Hurdles For Providing Abortion Is Too High.** POLITICO reported, “Clinics and abortion funds in Idaho, Mississippi, North Dakota and Wyoming — four states that have rape or incest exceptions in their abortion bans — told POLITICO that while the law may allow people to terminate their pregnancy in those instances, it will likely be easier to get patients across state lines for an abortion than try to clear the hurdles associated with obtaining one legally in their home state. ‘In theory, [exemptions] sound great, but in practicality, it seems impossible,’ said Tammi Kromenaker, director of the Red River Women’s Clinic in Fargo, N.D. ‘There’s no way my doctor would say yes to that. She would just say, ‘Let’s throw all the money and resources at this person. Let’s get them somewhere else where it’s legal.’” Clinics planning to move their operations across state lines might leave patients in their states with no providers willing to offer abortions in cases of rape and incest. Willing providers, like Anthony, may be dissuaded for fear of prosecution. And patients might not want to go through with the abortion if their state requires them or their provider to report the rape or incest to police, as is the case in Idaho, Utah and Mississippi.” [Politico, [6/27/22](#)]

## **Pekau Supported Overturning Roe v. Wade, Which Ended Constitutional Protections For Abortion – Even In The Case Of Rape, Incest, And To Protect The Life Of The Mother**

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### ***Pekau: Abortion Rights “Should Be A State Issue”***

**Pekau Said That He Was Pro-Life And That Abortion Laws Should Be Up To The State, Not Up To Congress.** According to Keith Pekau on the Black And Right radio program, , “So regarding the decision in the leak, that should never be leaked, and that should scare Americans if that was leaked like that. And I hope they find out whoever did it, and I hope there's punishments available. Number one period #2, I do think it's right to bring it back to the state level, right? This should be a state issue, So that flows into Chuck Schumer’s bill, it should not be a federal issue, it should be a state issue, up to the states and the courts decide, it's not up to Congress to decide in my opinion. And I think you asked my stance, I'm pro-life. I was adopted seven years before Roe V Wade. So the most loving act of my entire life was a 15 year old girl carrying me to term. And my parents adopted me and they were lower-middle class at best. They were poor. Today, you have to be rich to adopt now. So everything I'm going to do when I'm in Congress is try to see more adoptions, and make them more affordable and more prevalent, because children like me should have the opportunity to live and have a full life period and parents like mine should have the opportunity to have the joys of parenthood that so many others get to enjoy period and that's what I'd like to see.” [YouTube, Pekau – Black And Right (05.07.22), [26:12-27:32](#), 5/10/22]

### **Pekau On Abortion Rights: “It Should Be A State Issue, Up To The States And The Courts Decide.”**

According to Keith Pekau on the Black And Right radio program, “So regarding the decision in the leak, that should never be leaked, and that should scare Americans if that was leaked like that. And I hope they find out whoever did it, and I hope there's punishments available. Number one period #2, I do think it's right to bring it back to the state level, right? This should be a state issue, So that flows into Chuck Schumer’s bill, it should not be a federal issue, it should be a state issue, up to the states and the courts decide, it's not up to Congress to decide in my opinion. And I think you asked my stance, I'm pro-life. I was adopted seven years before Roe V Wade. So the most loving act of my entire life was a 15 year old girl carrying me to term. And my parents adopted me and they were lower-middle class at best. They were poor. Today, you have to be rich to adopt now. So everything I'm going to do when I'm in Congress is try to see more adoptions, and make them more affordable and more prevalent, because children like me should have the opportunity to live and have a full life period and parents like mine should have the opportunity to have the joys of parenthood that so many others get to enjoy period and that's what I'd like to see.” [YouTube, Pekau – Black And Right (05.07.22), [26:12-27:32](#), 5/10/22]

**Justices Breyer, Sotomayor, And Kagan Wrote In Their Dissent To Dobbs That The Decision Opened The Door To A Nationwide Ban On Abortion “From The Moment Of Conception And Without Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.”** PBS reported, “Justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan — the diminished liberal wing of the court — were in dissent. ‘With sorrow—for this Court, but more, for the many millions of American women who have today lost a fundamental constitutional protection—we dissent,’ they wrote, warning that abortion opponents now could pursue a nationwide ban ‘from the moment of conception and without exceptions for rape or incest.’ [PBS, [6/24/22](#)]

## **Pekau Has Made Clear He Would Oppose Any Efforts To Expand Abortion Rights Or Access In Congress**

### **Pekau Said He Would Not Support Legislation To Codify Roe, Saying It Is “Not Up To Congress”**

**Pekau Said He Opposed Legislation In Congress To Codify Roe, Saying That Abortion Rights “Should Be A State Issue... It’s Not Up To Congress To Decide.”** According to Keith Pekau on the Black And Right radio program, “So regarding the decision and the leak, that should never be leaked, and that should scare Americans if that was leaked like that. And I hope they find out whoever did it, and I hope there's punishments available. Number one period #2, I do think it's right to bring it back to the state level, right? This should be a state issue, So that flows into Chuck Schumer’s bill, it should not be a federal issue, it should be a state issue, up to the states and the courts decide, it's not up to Congress to decide in my opinion. And I think you asked my stance, I'm pro-life. I was adopted seven years before Roe V Wade. So the most loving act of my entire life was a 15 year old girl carrying me to term. And my parents adopted me and they were lower-middle class at best. They were poor. Today, you have to be rich to adopt now. So everything I'm going to do when I'm in Congress is try to see more adoptions, and make them more affordable and more prevalent, because children like me should have the opportunity to live and have a full life period and parents like mine should have the opportunity to have the joys of parenthood that so many others get to enjoy period and that's what I'd like to see.” [YouTube, Pekau – Black And Right (05.07.22), [26:12-27:32](#), 5/10/22]

### **Pekau Opposed The Biden Administration’s Efforts To Expand Abortion Services In States With Abortion Bans, Describing It As “Dangerous” And That He Would Stop It If Elected To Congress**

**In A Facebook Post, Pekau Said President Biden’s Request For The Pentagon To Provide Abortion Services In States Outlawing Abortion Was “Dangerous” And That It “Won’t Stop Unless We Elect Leaders Who Can Win When It Matters.”** According to a Facebook post by Keith Pekau, “American values are under threat. Just a couple of days ago, we learned that the president is deliberately ignoring the Supreme Court’s ruling on Roe v. Wade and asking the Pentagon to provide abortion resources to states outlawing abortion. This is dangerous, and it won’t stop unless we elect leaders who can win when it matters. I have shown during my first term as Orland Park mayor that I’m someone who gets stuff done for you, and I’m running for Congress to show the rest of the country the leadership it deserves.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/27/22](#)]

 **Keith Pekau**  
June 27 · 🌐

American values are under threat. Just a couple of days ago, we learned that the president is deliberately ignoring the Supreme Court's ruling on Roe v. Wade and asking the Pentagon to provide abortion resources to states outlawing abortion. This is dangerous, and it won't stop unless we elect leaders who can win when it matters. I have shown during my first term as Orland Park mayor that I'm someone who gets stuff done for you, and I'm running for Congress to show the rest of the country the leadership it deserves.




KEITHPEKAU.COM  
Voter Information - Keith Pekau

[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/27/22](#)]

## Pekau Was Endorsed By An Extremist Anti-Choice Group

### The Illinois Federation For Right To Life PAC Endorsed Pekau In The 2022 Primary

Pekau Was Endorsed By The Illinois Federation For Right To Life PAC In The 2022 Primary. [Illinois Federation for Right to Life PAC, accessed [8/11/22](#)]



**Illinois Federation for Right to Life PAC Endorsements  
2022 Primary Election  
Voting takes place Tuesday, June 28th**

**Key:** E: Endorsed  
ME: Multiple Endorsed

Congressional			
District	Candidate	Party	Endorsed
2	Shane Cultra	R	E
5	Tommy Hanson	R	E
6	Keith Pekau	R	ME
6	Scott R. Kaspar	R	ME
8	Phillip Wood	R	E
11	Mark Carroll	R	E
12	Mike Bost	R	E
13	Regan Deering	R	E
14	James T. Marter	R	ME
14	Jack Lombardi	R	ME
15	Mary Miller	R	E
16	Darin LaHood	R	E
17	Esther Joy King	R	E

[Illinois Federation for Right to Life PAC, accessed [8/11/22](#)]

### ***The Illinois Federation For Right To Life Supported Legislation That Would Restrict Access To Abortion And Criminalize So-Called “Partial-Birth” Abortion***

**The Illinois Federation For Right To Life Supported Legislation To End Taxpayer Funding For Abortion Services In The State.** According to the “Legislation” section of the Illinois Federation for Right to Life website, the group highlighted “pro-life bills” including, “HB 783 would repeal legislation requiring taxpayer funding of abortion.” [Illinois Federation for Right To Life, Legislation, [8/2/22](#); Illinois Legislature, HB 783, accessed [8/11/22](#)]

**The Illinois Federation For Right To Life Supported Legislation To Implement A 20 Week Abortion Ban In Illinois.** According to the “Legislation” section of the Illinois Federation for Right to Life website, the group highlighted “pro-life bills” including, “HB 791 would amend the 2019 Reproductive Health Act to prohibit abortion after 20 weeks except in the case of a medical emergency.” [Illinois Federation for Right To Life, Legislation, [8/2/22](#); Illinois Legislature, HB 791, accessed [8/11/22](#)]


**The Illinois Federation For Right To Life Supported Legislation To Ban And Criminalize “Partial-Birth Abortion” In Illinois.** According to the “Legislation” section of the Illinois Federation for Right to Life website, the group highlighted “pro-life bills” including, “The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act (HB 827) would hold abortionists criminally guilty of a Class 4 felony if they complete a partial-birth abortion that isn’t medically necessary. It would also allow grandparents to sue abortionists for completing a partial-birth abortion on their daughter if she is a minor, and the grandparents did not consent to the abortion. Pregnant mothers would never be held criminally responsible for partial-birth abortions under this act.” [Illinois Federation for Right To Life, Legislation, [8/2/22](#); Illinois Legislature, HB 827, accessed [8/11/22](#)]

### **Illinois Right To Life Action Gave Pekau One Of Its Highest Ratings In A Primary Voter Guide, Indicating That He Is “Fully Pro-Life” With A “Rape And Incest Exception”**

**Illinois Right To Life Action Was The State’s Largest Anti-Choice Lobbying Group.** According to Illinois Right To Life Action’s Mission Statement, “Illinois Right to Life Action is the state’s go-to organization for pro-

life lobbying and information on defeating pro-abortion bills. We are highly trusted by pro-life political leaders and citizens alike to be their life-affirming voice in the Illinois General Assembly. It is our aim to promote a culture of life in Illinois by transforming the culture in Springfield to one less threatening and more open to protecting the most vulnerable members of our state.” [Illinois Right To Life Action, Mission, accessed [8/11/22](#)]

**June 2022: Illinois Right To Life Action Revised Its Rating To Give Pekau The Rating “Fully Pro-Life” With A “Rape And Incest Exception.”** [Illinois Right To Life Action, Illinois Primary Election Information, [6/23/22](#)]



## Illinois Right To Life Action

### June 28, 2022, Illinois Primary Election Information

Candidates have been surveyed and rated by Illinois Right To Life Action (IRLA) with respect to pro-life issues (abortion, assisted suicide, embryonic stem cell research and related issues). This was done through **websites, surveys, public statements, and/or previous and current voting records**. The ratings are to the left of the listing and represent the following:

<p><b>1 = Fully Pro-Life</b></p> <p><b>2 = Not in full support of all Pro-Life issues</b></p> <p><b>* = An asterisk indicates incumbent.</b></p> <p><b>U = Unknown (Did not complete a survey, or a current survey, or we do not have enough information to enable IRLA to rate properly.)</b></p> <p><b>X = Does not have a Pro-Life position, but we do not have enough information to enable IRLA to give a number rating.</b></p>	<p><b>3 = Will not support most Pro-life issues</b></p> <p><b>4 = Totally opposed to Pro-Life issues</b></p> <p><b># = Rape and Incest Exception</b></p>
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When choosing a Republican ballot select from the candidates with a **red (R)** behind their name.  
When choosing a Democratic ballot select from the candidates with a **blue (D)** behind their name.

**THIS SHEET MAY BE TAKEN INTO THE VOTING BOOTH.**

6/23/2022

<p><b>Governor/Lt. Governor</b> <i>(Ratings apply to Governor/Lt. Governor Candidates)</i></p> <p><b>Rating</b></p> <p>1/1 - DARREN BAILEY (R)/STEPHANIE TRUSSELL (R)</p> <p>1/U - GARY RABINE (R)/AARON DEL MAR (R)</p> <p>1/U - MAX SOLOMON (R)/LATASHA H. FIELDS (R)</p> <p>1#/U - JESSE SULLIVAN (R)/KATHLEEN MURPHY (R)</p> <p>4/4 - JB PRITZKER (D)*/ JULIANA STRATTON (D) *</p> <p>U/1 - RICHARD C. IRVIN (R)/AVERY BOURNE (R)</p> <p>U/U - BEVERLY MILES (D)/KARLA SHAW (D)</p> <p>U/U - PAUL SCHIMPF (R)/CAROLYN SCHOFIELD (R)</p> <p><b>Attorney General</b></p> <p><b>Rating</b></p> <p>1 - DAVID SHESTOKAS (R)</p> <p>4 - KWAME RAOUL (D) *</p> <p>U - THOMAS G. DeVORE (R)</p> <p>U - STEVE KIM (R)</p> <p><b>Secretary of State</b></p> <p><b>Rating</b></p> <p>1 - DAN BRADY (R)</p> <p>4 - ALEXI GIANNOULIAS (D)</p> <p>4 - ANNA M. VALENCIA (D)</p> <p>U - JOHN C. MILHISER (R)</p> <p>U - DAVID H. MOORE (D)</p> <p>U - SIDNEY MOORE (D)</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b></p> <p><b>Rating</b></p> <p>1 - TOM DEMMER (R)</p> <p>4 - MICHAEL W. FRERICHS (D) *</p>	<p><b>Comptroller</b></p> <p><b>Rating</b></p> <p>4 - SUSANA A. MENDOZA (D) *</p> <p>U - SHANNON L. TERESI (R)</p> <p><b>U. S. Senate</b></p> <p><b>Rating</b></p> <p>1 - CASEY CHLEBEK (R)</p> <p>1 - PEGGY HUBBARD (R)</p> <p>1 - KATHY SALVI (R)</p> <p>2 - ANTHONY W. WILLIAMS (R)</p> <p>4 - TAMMY DUCKWORTH (D) *</p> <p>U - MATTHEW 'MATT' DUBIEL (R)</p> <p>U - ROBERT 'BOBBY' PITON (R)</p> <p>U - JIMMY LEE TILLMAN II (R)</p> <p><b>U. S. Congress</b></p> <p><b>District - Rating</b></p> <p>1st - 1 - CHRIS BUTLER (D)</p> <p>1st - 1 - ERIC CARLSON (R)</p> <p>1st - 1 - GENO YOUNG (R)</p> <p>1st - 4 - JACQUELINE 'JACQU' COLLINS (D)</p> <p>1st - X - KIRBY BIRGANS (D)</p> <p>1st - X - JAHMAL COLE (D)</p> <p>1st - X - KARIN NORINGTON-REAVES (D)</p> <p>1st - U - STEVEN DEJOIE (D)</p> <p>1st - U - PAT DOWELL (D)</p> <p>1st - U - CASSANDRA GOODRUM (D)</p> <p>1st - U - JONATHAN L. JACKSON (D)</p> <p>1st - U - MARCUS LEWIS (D)</p> <p>1st - U - AMEENA MATTHEWS (D)</p> <p>1st - U - NYKEA PIPPION MCGRUFF (D)</p>	<p>1st - U - ROBERT A. PALMER (D)</p> <p>1st - U - JEFFERY T REGNIER (R)</p> <p>1st - U - TERRE LAYNG ROSNER (D)</p> <p>1st - U - JONATHAN T. SWAIN (D)</p> <p>1st - U - MICHAEL A. THOMPSON JR. (D)</p> <p>1st - U - PHILANISE WHITE (R)</p> <p>1st - U - CHARISE A. WILLIAMS (D)</p> <p>2nd - 1 - SHANE CULTRA (R)</p> <p>2nd - 1 - THOMAS LYNCH (R)</p> <p>2nd - 1 - ASHLEY RAMOS (R)</p> <p>2nd - 4 - ROBIN KELLY (D) *</p> <p>3rd - 4 - DELIA RAMIREZ (D) *</p> <p>3rd - X - IYMEN H CHEHADE (D)</p> <p>3rd - X - GILBERT 'GIL' VILLEGAS (D)</p> <p>3rd - U - JUAN ENRIQUE AGUIRRE (D)</p> <p>3rd - U - JUSTIN BURAU (R)</p> <p>4th - 2 - JAMES FALAKOS (R)</p> <p>4th - 4 - JESUS 'CHUY' GARCIA (D) *</p> <p>5th - 1 - TOMMY HANSON (R)</p> <p>5th - 1 - MALGORZATA MCGONIGAL (R)</p> <p>5th - 4 - MIKE QUIGLEY (D) *</p> <p>6th - 1 - SCOTT R. KASPAR (R)</p> <p>6th - 1# - NIKI CONFORTI (R)</p> <p>6th - 1# - KEITH PEKAU (R)</p> <p>6th - 4 - SEAN CASTEN (D) *</p> <p>6th - 4 - MARIE NEWMAN (D) *</p> <p>6th - U - ROBERT 'ROB' CRUZ (R)</p> <p>6th - U - GARY GRASSO (R)</p> <p>6th - U - CHARLES M. HUGHES (D)</p> <p>6th - U - CATHERINE A. O'SHEA (R)</p> <p>7th - 4 - DANNY K. DAVIS (D) *</p> <p>7th - X - KINA COLLINS (D)</p> <p>7th - U - DENARVIS C. MENDENHALL (D)</p>
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## **Pekau “Toes The NRA Line” On Gun Control Following The Mass Shooting In Uvalde**

*Pekau’s positions on guns are outside the mainstream and in lockstep with the NRA. He opposes common-sense proposals to reduce crime and gun violence, like expanding background checks and creating red flag laws that would keep guns out of the hands of people in mental health crises. Instead, he follows the NRA’s extreme view that nothing can be done to stop mass shootings like the recent school shooting in Texas and the shooting in Highland Park.*

*Following the mass shooting Uvalde, Texas, the Chicago Tribune editorial board said Pekau “toes the NRA line” on gun control. In response to a question from the board about the tragedy, Pekau argued that nothing could have been done to prevent it: “If in fact there was no history, if he was completely law-abiding, what’s going to solve that particular problem - someone that just snapped?” Instead of supporting any policy measure that would address mass shootings, Pekau pivoted and deflected, using the tragedies in Uvalde and Buffalo to disparage State’s Attorney Kim Foxx. After doing nothing to address gun violence, Pekau said he was “so tired” of hearing politicians talk about guns rather than focusing on the criminals.*

*When asked about limiting access to assault weapons in a different interview, Pekau again toed the NRA line, stating that the country “did not need more gun laws.” Pekau is clearly opposed to any kind of common-sense reform, from universal background checks and keeping guns out of the hands of people in mental health crises to banning military-style assault weapons.*

### **The Chicago Tribune Editorial Board Said Pekau “Toes The NRA Line” On Gun Control Following The Mass Shooting In Uvalde**

**Chicago Tribune: “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau... Toes The NRA Line” On Gun Control Following The Mass Shooting At The Elementary School In Uvalde.** According to the Editorial Board of the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, toes the NRA line. Speaking about Salvador Ramos, the 18-year-old shooter in Uvalde, Pekau told us, ‘If in fact there was no history, if he was completely law-abiding, what’s going to solve that particular problem -- someone that just snapped?’” [Chicago Tribune, Editorial, 6/13/22]

**June 2022: In Response To The 18-Year-Old Uvalde Shooter Salvador Ramos, Pekau Said, “If In Fact There Was No History, If He Was Completely Law-Abiding, What’s Going To Solve That Particular Problem – Someone That Just Snapped?”** According to the Editorial Board of the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, toes the NRA line. Speaking about Salvador Ramos, the 18-year-old shooter in Uvalde, Pekau told us, ‘If in fact there was no history, if he was completely law-abiding, what’s going to solve that particular problem -- someone that just snapped?’” [Chicago Tribune, Editorial, 6/13/22]

### **When Asked About Civilian Access To Military Style Weaponry, Pekau Said, “We Do Not Need More Gun Laws”**

**April 2022: Pekau Maintained, “I Am Pro-Second Amendment. [...] We Have Gun Laws Currently That Place Limits On The Second Amendment But They Are Inadequately Enforced And The Focus Should Be On Criminals Not The Tools They Use.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Are there any limits to the Second Amendment? ‘I am pro-second amendment. Violent offenders should not be allowed to possess firearms, and we should work harder to take criminals who violate existing gun-laws off the streets, just as we do in Orland Park, even when Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx puts these violent criminals right back onto our streets. We have gun laws currently that place limits on the Second Amendment, but they are inadequately enforced and the focus should be on criminals not the tools they use.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

- **April 2022: Pekau Asserted, “We Do Not Need More Gun Laws,” When Asked About Civilian Access To Military Style Weaponry Or Restrictions On Gun Purchases.** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Do you support any restrictions on gun purchases or other stricter gun control measures including citizens’ access to military style weaponry? ‘We do not need more gun laws, we need to enforce the laws that currently exist. The focus should be on criminals not on the tools and/or law abiding citizens.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## **Pekau Deflected From Talking About Mass Shootings And Used The Tragedies In Uvalde And Buffalo To Disparage State’s Attorney Kim Foxx**

**June 2022: In Response To The Buffalo And Uvalde Shootings, Pekau Questioned Recent Shootings In Chicago And Blamed State’s Attorney Kim Foxx For “[Exacerbating] The Situation.”** According to an op-ed written by Keith Pekau for Center Square: Illinois, “I think I speak for almost everyone when I say I was shocked and horrified at the evil and horrific crimes perpetrated in both Buffalo and Uvalde the last few weeks. But how is it, I wonder, that we can stand united against such an atrocity, yet so many politicians ignore the ongoing violence in cities like Chicago. In a tragic event the other week locally, a teenager was senselessly shot dead, and Chicago Police say it was another teenager who pulled the trigger. It’s heartbreaking and gut-wrenching anytime someone takes a life, but it’s somehow worse when the victim and perpetrator are both kids. The victim lost his life, but the kid who pulled the trigger lost his future. Why is violence so pervasive in the City of Chicago that even kids are taking each other’s lives? It’s a question I wish I could answer. While I can’t tell you why every violent act occurs, I can tell you what exacerbates the situation. We have a Cook County State’s Attorney who, time and again, lets hardened criminals walk free in the name of social justice. When a violent offender gets off the hook, they feel invincible. You know who also sees when Kim Foxx lets violent offenders walk free? Kids.” [Center Square: Illinois, 6/16/22]

**Pekau Said He Was “So Tired” Of Hearing Politicians Talking About Guns Rather Than Focusing On The Criminals.** According to Keith Pekau in an interview for Newsmax, “I get so tired of hearing politicians talk about guns, guns, guns, every criminal we’re taking off the street. They have illegal guns. It is illegal for felons to have weapons. But let’s focus on the criminals. And that’s what we do here in Orland Park and this year alone we’ve taken over 30 criminals off the streets before they’ve committed a crime because we’ve identified them through traffic stops and other means that they’ve and they’ve had weapons on them that they are not allowed to carry and it is illegal for them to carry. It’s not a weapon issue. It’s a criminal issue.” [YouTube, Newsmax, [2:04-2:36](#), 4/14/22]

**Pekau Said That Crime Was Not About Guns But Violence, And That Leaders In Chicago Repeatedly Put Violent Criminals Back On The Street.** According to Keith Pekau in an interview for Wake Up America, “Well, everybody wants to make it about guns. It’s about violence. Criminals are violent. This is it. Let’s make it about what it is. It’s these are criminals that are doing this. And in this particular case, it looks like you know crossfire between, you know several individuals and here in the Chicagoland area. We had several cases where people are caught in that but it’s not their gun that shot the person so they say they’ve just released them and see their mutual combatants. Are you kidding me? You keep your putting violent criminals back up on the street?” [YouTube, Wake Up America, [3:30-4:00](#), 4/6/22]

## **Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Would Vote Against Certifying Presidential Electoral Votes And Said The Issue Of January 6th Was “Complicated”**

*Pekau dangerously entertained conspiracy theories about the Big Lie and the integrity of our elections. Pekau has dodged several easy answers regarding the process of election certification. In an election questionnaire, Pekau reportedly refused to answer whether he agreed with the Republican National Committee’s description of the January 6th insurrection at the U.S. Capitol as “ordinary citizens engaged in legitimate political discourse.” He also said he considered the insurrection “complicated.” He claimed that rioters who stormed the Capitol were not being given speedy and public trials: “Those that are accused have a right to a speedy and public trial as called for in the 6th Amendment which is clearly not happening over one year after the fact.” He also refused to answer whether he would vote against certifying presidential electoral votes. When asked if he thought there was fraud in the 2020 election, Pekau said there was likely fraud in every election.*

*In addition to equivocating on the results of the 2020 election, Pekau supported extreme “election safety measures.” He claimed election integrity was very important to him and said that ballots had been taken in the past. He supported mandatory voter ID, which would deprive millions of Americans of the right to vote. Pekau holds extreme and troubling views on election access and would join other Republicans in Congress to restrict voting access and perpetuate the Big Lie.*

**Researcher’s Note:** *Pekau’s response to questions from interviewers about the Big Lie and January 6<sup>th</sup> has varied depending on the forum. In one interview given with a mainstream press outlet, Pekau described the people who stormed the capitol as “idiots” and condemned their actions. In other contexts, such as conservative media appearances on shows like Diamond & Silk’s podcast, Pekau did not directly repudiate claims that the election was stolen, instead for example noting that there was fraud in every election.*

## **Pekau Considered The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection To Be “Complicated” And Refused To Answer Whether He Agreed With RNC Talking Points About The Riot**

### **Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Agreed With The RNC’s Description Of The Insurrection As “Ordinary Citizens Engaged In Legitimate Political Discourse”**

**Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Agreed With The Republican National Committee’s Description Of The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection At The U.S. Capitol As “Ordinary Citizens Engaged In Legitimate Political Discourse.”** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “Of the more than 20 Republicans running for Congress in the North, Northwest and Western suburbs, just four said they agree with the Republican National Committee’s description of last year’s deadly riot at the U.S. Capitol as ‘ordinary citizens engaged in legitimate political discourse.’ Only one candidate outright rejected the RNC’s characterization. Five candidates denounced the rioters but wouldn’t say if they agreed or disagreed with the RNC’s statement. Others refused to answer questions about the historic event or couldn’t be reached. [...] Sixth District candidate Keith Pekau of Orland Park wouldn’t say whether he agreed or disagreed. The issue is complicated, he said. Regardless, the violence at the Capitol angered Pekau. ‘The idiots who stormed the Capitol, acted violently and broke the law deserve to be prosecuted for their actions,’ he said.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 2/20/22]

### **Pekau Considered The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection To Be “Complicated”**

**February 2022: Pekau Considered The January 6th Capitol Riot To Be Complicated.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “The controversial line appeared in a Feb. 4 RNC resolution censuring U.S. Reps. Adam

Kinzinger of Channahon and Liz Cheney of Wyoming for serving on the House committee investigating the violence that occurred Jan. 6, 2021, as Congress met to certify Joe Biden’s presidential victory over Donald Trump. GOP Chair Ronna McDaniel subsequently condemned the Capitol violence in a column for townhall.com and on Twitter. [...] Sixth District candidate Keith Pekau of Orland Park wouldn’t say whether he agreed or disagreed. The issue is complicated, he said. Regardless, the violence at the Capitol angered Pekau. ‘The idiots who stormed the Capitol, acted violently and broke the law deserve to be prosecuted for their actions,’ he said.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 2/20/22]

## **Pekau Claimed That Rioters Who Stormed The Capitol Were Not Being Given Speedy And Public Trials**

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**April 2022: Pekau’s Repeated His Stance That “The People Who Stormed The Capitol Acted Violently And Broke The Law Deserve To Be Prosecuted For Their Actions” And “Have Right To Speedy And Public Trial.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What is your position on the Jan. 6, 2021 riot at the U.S. Capitol? ‘The people who stormed the Capitol acted violently and broke the law deserve to be prosecuted for their actions. Additionally, those that are accused have a right to speedy and public trial as called for in the 6th Amendment which is clearly not happening over one year after the fact.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## **Pekau Encouraged Listeners On A Conservative Radio Show To Go Watch A Showing Of “2,000 Mules” In Orland Park, Dinesh D’Souza’s “Documentary” Which Asserted False Claims That The 2020 Election Was Stolen**

**Pekau Encouraged Conservative Radio Listeners To Go To Watch Dinesh D’Souza’s 2,000 Mules When It Was Viewing At A Movie Theatre In Orland Park.** According to an interview with Keith Pekau on On Target Radio, “MODERATOR: ‘One of our listeners actually pointed out that 2000 mules is playing in Orland at Marcus Theatre. Go to Orland.’ PEKAU: “There ya go... eat, shop, spend money. All good.” [YouTube, On Target Radio, [48:15 – 48:30](#), 5/22/22]

**NPR: The Film “2,000 Mules” “Purports To Have ‘Smoking Gun’ Evidence Of Massive Voter Fraud In The 2020 Election.”** NPR reported, “A conservative ‘election integrity’ group called True The Vote has made multiple misleading or false claims about its work, NPR has found, including the suggestion that they helped solve the murder of an eight-year-old girl in Atlanta. The claims appear in a new pro-Trump film called ‘2,000 Mules,’ which purports to have ‘smoking gun’ evidence of massive voter fraud in the 2020 election in the form of digital device location tracking data. Former president Donald Trump has embraced the film, which has gained popularity on the political right, along with the claim about the murder case.” [NPR, [5/17/22](#)]

**Associated Press: 2,000 Mules “Uses A Flawed Analysis Of Cellphone Location Data And Ballot Drop Box Surveillance Footage To Cast Doubt On The Results Of The 2020 Presidential Election Nearly 18 Months After It Ended.”** The Associated Press reported, “A film debuting in over 270 theaters across the United States this week uses a flawed analysis of cellphone location data and ballot drop box surveillance footage to cast doubt on the results of the 2020 presidential election nearly 18 months after it ended. Praised by former President Donald Trump as exposing ‘great election fraud,’ the movie, called ‘2000 Mules,’ paints an ominous picture suggesting Democrat-aligned ballot ‘mules’ were supposedly paid to illegally collect and drop off ballots in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.” [Associated Press, [5/8/22](#)]

## **Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Would Ever Vote Against Certifying Presidential Electoral Votes As A Member Of Congress**

**Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Would Vote Against Certifying Presidential Electoral Votes.**

According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Would you, as a member of Congress, ever vote against certifying presidential electoral votes submitted by states’ official voting authorities? ‘I can’t answer this hypothetical question.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## **When Asked If He Thought There Was Fraud In The 2020 Election, Pekau Said There Was Likely Fraud In Every Election**

**When Asked If He Thought There Was Fraud In The 2020 Election, He Said There Was Likely Fraud In Every Election And That’s Why There Needed To Be Safeguards In Place Chosen By Each State.** According to an interview on the “Diamond and Silk” program on Lindell TV, “[Diamond and Silk hosts:] Right? Email just came in. And somebody wanted me to ask you, do you feel or do you think that there was any fraud in the 2020 Election? [Pekau:] I, to be honest, I think every election that we have, that somewhere, there’s fraudulent action, right? I mean, we just have too big of a country, it always happens. And that’s why we have to have the safeguards in place so that they don’t swing an election and impact an election. So, I think it always does happen. And we need to have those safeguards in place. And each to each state, each county, they need to they need to put the safeguards in place that work best for them. And some states do it better than others. And I think if you go back into history and things that we’ve you know, we’ve dug up, you know, back to certainly the Kennedy election, we know that there have been these issues that have come up, and they always and they come up every time and there’s a place to litigate them also. So, you know, we litigate those things, and we move forward and hopefully we come up with better systems to make elections again, And we want only people who are legally authorized to vote to vote and we want everyone to have access to vote. Everyone should have access to an ability to get to the polls, even people who can’t get there physically should have a way that they can vote. And I think we all agree on that. Just how exactly do we do that? I think those are those are questions for a legislative body to discuss the debate and come up with what’s best for them.” [YouTube, [18:41-20:02](#), 1/18/22]

**February 2022: Pekau Said People Could Agree That We Wanted Legal People Voting And That There Needs To Be A Legislative Body Making Election Rules Rather Than One Person.** According to Keith Pekau in an interview for Brave TV , “And we want it to be a legal person voting, and we want people to have access to voting. I don’t think anyone disagrees with any of that. Then there’s two extremes of that position. One is we’re going to let everyone vote anyone can show up, we’re gonna let them vote, we’re not going to track it, we’re not gonna do anything. And there’s there are people we know that believe that there are other people that are well, you have to be it’s almost you have to be fingerprinted. You have to have someone identify who you are. Okay? Those are extreme positions. [...] There’s fraud in every election, because people do bad things. It’s just you can’t not have it because there’s people involved and there will be people that are nefarious, that do things wrong, the overwhelming majority of people don’t do that. They want fair elections. So you’re trying to do everything you can and agree on both sides, what are the things that we have to put in place to start to make sure that our elections have integrity, we know that 80% of the country agrees with voter ID laws, for example, right, but we don’t, but we don’t have them in most states, but some states do. Here in Illinois, we have mail in ballots, and there was a check and balance system to make sure that you had to ask for it, you had to sign your signature, you check your signature you get back. So there’s a very expansive check and balance system, which made it harder to defraud that system. Well, what happened in the last election is by executive order, not by legislative action or discussion, but by executive order. We mailed ballots, applications that everybody now that you’ve just broken that chain of the ways that we have to make sure there’s integrity, and now things get out of control, then you have boxes where people can go stuffed them all in a box and then collect them at one time. Right. So all of these things that weren’t really agreed upon. So I think when one person puts those rules in, then you start to lose some of that. And that’s where people lose trust is when rules are just made at the last second that change the rules.” [YouTube, Brave TV, [19:46-21:57](#), 2/2/22]

## **Pekau Supported Extreme “Election Safety” Measures, Including Mandatory Voter ID, Which Would Deprive Millions Of Americans Of The Right To Vote**

**January 2022: Pekau Said That Election Integrity Was Very Important And That Ballots Had Been Taken In The Past.** According to an interview on the “Diamond and Silk” program on Lindell TV, “[Diamond and Silk hosts:] The election is not called that night is called days after the election. We just feel some kind of way. You know, when you when you get elected as Congressman, what would you do about election integrity? [Pekau:] Well first and foremost, it’s a state issue, right? Each state should have their own elections shouldn’t be a federal issue. Number one, and we should look at the states that do it well, and other states should model that that’s kind of how the Constitution is laid out so that we learn from other states. So we should do that. Clearly. Election integrity is very important. And what you and you know, we hear you know, about conspiracies we hear about the ballots being taken, and we know that it’s happened in the past. Right. But here’s what I think we all agree, I think we all agree on this. We should have one person one vote, that, that it should be citizens that vote. legal citizens, right legal citizens should Vote and that we want everyone to have access to voting that is legally able to vote. I think those principles are really simple. And we all agree upon them. Now let’s talk about how do we ensure that that happens, and what happened in the last election? The big because we do talk about those things, right. And we legislate those things. And there are different perspectives. There’s the perspective of, hey, I want everyone to have access, so I’m not willing to control how they vote, right. That’s one way for one’s perspective. On the other side, the other perspective on the other side is, okay, we need to identify you need a fingerprint, you need someone identify, you know, someone else there to identify That’s going too far on the other side, right.” [YouTube, [913-10:38](#), 1/18/22]

### **Pekau Supported Mandatory Voter ID**

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**April 2022: Pekau Considered ID-Required Voting To Be A State Issue, Saying, “I Support States Handling This As They See Fit With Their Constituents.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Should voters be required to show an ID to vote? ‘This is a state issue and I support states handling this as they see fit with their constituents.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

- **June 2022: Pekau Stated, “We Need To Make It Easier To Vote And Harder To Cheat,” And Said That IDs Should Be Mandatory To Vote.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “Pekau said he wants every eligible voter to have easy access to voting. ‘We need to make it easier to vote and harder to cheat,’ he said. ‘I want every voter to know their vote is sacred.’ Pekau also said IDs should be mandatory for voting.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 6/18/22]

### ***Mandatory Voter ID Would Deprive Millions Of Americans Of The Right To Vote***

**The American Civil Liberties Union Explained That Mandatory Voter ID Policies Would Deprive Millions Of Americans Who Lack Government-Issued Identification Of The Right To Vote.** According to the American Civil Liberties Union, “Voter ID laws deprive many voters of their right to vote, reduce participation, and stand in direct opposition to our country’s trend of including more Americans in the democratic process. Many Americans do not have one of the forms of identification states acceptable for voting. These voters are disproportionately low-income, racial and ethnic minorities, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Such voters more frequently have difficulty obtaining ID, because they cannot afford or cannot obtain the underlying documents that are a prerequisite to obtaining government-issued photo ID card. [...] Millions of Americans Lack ID. 11% of U.S. citizens – or more than 21 million Americans – do not have government-issued photo identification. Obtaining ID Costs Money. Even if ID is offered for free, voters must incur numerous costs (such as paying for birth certificates) to apply for a government-issued ID. Underlying documents required to obtain ID cost money, a significant

expense for lower-income Americans. The combined cost of document fees, travel expenses and waiting time are estimated to range from \$75 to \$175.” [American Civil Liberties Union, Fact Sheet, accessed [9/6/22](#)]

**Mandatory Voter ID Laws Are Discriminatory, Disproportionately Affecting Minorities, Veterans, And The Elderly.** According to the American Civil Liberties Union, “Voter ID laws deprive many voters of their right to vote, reduce participation, and stand in direct opposition to our country’s trend of including more Americans in the democratic process. Many Americans do not have one of the forms of identification states acceptable for voting. These voters are disproportionately low-income, racial and ethnic minorities, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Such voters more frequently have difficulty obtaining ID, because they cannot afford or cannot obtain the underlying documents that are a prerequisite to obtaining government-issued photo ID card. [...] Minority voters disproportionately lack ID. Nationally, up to 25% of African-American citizens of voting age lack government-issued photo ID, compared to only 8% of whites. States exclude forms of ID in a discriminatory manner. Texas allows concealed weapons permits for voting, but does not accept student ID cards. Until its voter ID law was struck down, North Carolina prohibited public assistance IDs and state employee ID cards, which are disproportionately held by Black voters. And until recently, Wisconsin permitted active duty military ID cards, but prohibited Veterans Affairs ID cards for voting.” [American Civil Liberties Union, Fact Sheet, accessed [9/6/22](#)]

## **Pekau Denied Anthropogenic Climate Change, Despite A Consensus By Scientists And The General Public**

*Showing complete disregard towards science, Pekau denies that climate change is caused by humans. In an election questionnaire, he said, “The climate has been changing since the beginning of time on planet earth... it is the ultimate arrogance to think that humans can stop the climate from changing.” A 2021 study found that 98.7 percent of scientists agreed that the Earth was getting warmer primarily due to human activity such as burning fossil fuels. Additionally, 80 percent of Americans agree that human activity contributes a great deal or plays some role in climate change, according to the Pew Charitable Trusts. Pekau’s views on climate change are dangerous and far outside the mainstream.*

*Perhaps the reason for Pekau’s climate denialism was his affiliation with the American Petroleum Institute. In 2013, Pekau was a member of the American Petroleum Institute’s “Vets4Energy” campaign. Pekau went on a lobbying trip to Washington, D.C. on issues such as increasing fracking, the Keystone XL pipeline, and repealing the renewable fuel standard. The American Petroleum Institute is one of America’s most powerful trade organizations lobbying Congress on behalf of the oil and gas industry. The group was the subject of several lawsuits alleging that it was at the heart of a decades-long disinformation campaign to diminish the threat of climate change. The group worked with ExxonMobil and Koch Industries to ensure “climate change becomes a non-issue” by funding scientists and independent organizations to deny or underplay the climate crisis. Instead of supporting renewable energy, Pekau supported what he described as “clean coal.” But clean coal is a myth cooked up by the fossil fuel industry: a 2018 Reuters report found that chemically treated coal polluted the atmosphere more than raw coal. Pekau’s ties to the fossil fuel industry and his refusal to believe our country can slow climate change shows he cannot be trusted to deal with one of the largest existential threats to humanity.*

### **Pekau Denied Anthropogenic Climate Change, Saying, “The Climate Has Been Changing Since The Beginning Of Time On Planet Earth”**

**Pekau Denied Anthropogenic Climate Change, Saying, “The Climate Has Been Changing Since The Beginning Of Time On Planet Earth... It Is The Ultimate Arrogance To Think That Humans Can Stop The Climate From Changing.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What is your position on climate change and what should be done about it? ‘The climate has been changing since the beginning of time on planet earth. We all agree that we want a clean environment and to live with the comforts that the modern world affords us. It is the ultimate arrogance to think that humans can stop the climate from changing.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

### **Almost All Scientists And Most Americans Agreed That The Earth Was Getting Warmer Due To Human Activity Such As Burning Fossil Fuels**

**A 2021 Study Found That 98.7 Percent Of Scientists Agreed That The Earth Was Getting Warmer Primarily Due To Human Activity Such As Burning Fossil Fuels.** According to a study published in *Environmental Research Letters*, “We find that agreement on anthropogenic global warming is high (91% to 100%) and generally increases with expertise. Out of a group of 153 independently confirmed climate experts, 98.7% of those scientists indicated that the Earth is getting warmer mostly because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels. Among those with the highest level of expertise (independently confirmed climate experts who each published 20+ peer reviewed papers on climate change between 2015 and 2019) there was 100% agreement that the Earth is warming mostly because of human activity.” [Environmental Research Letters, Volume 16 No. 10, [10/20/21](#)]

**2019: 80 Percent Of Americans Said Human Activity Contributes A Great Deal Or Some Role In Climate Change.** According to the Pew Research Center, “Overall, about half of Americans (49%) say human activity contributes a great deal to climate change, and another 30% say human actions have some role in climate change.

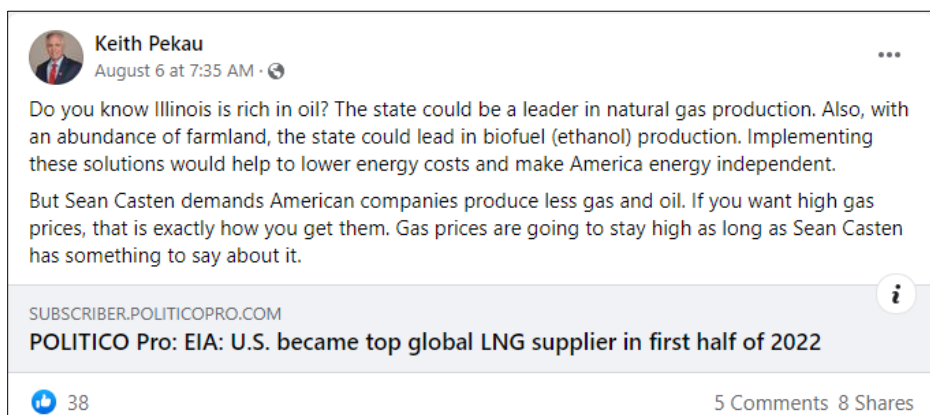
Two-in-ten (20%) believe human activity plays not too much or no role at all in climate change.” [Pew Research Center, [11/25/19](#)]

## **Pekau Was In The Pocket Of Energy Companies And Affiliated With The American Petroleum Institute**

### **Pekau Supported The Continuing Use Of Fossil Fuels, Including “Clean Coal,” Which Was Found To Pollute The Atmosphere More Than Raw Coal**

**April 2022: When Asked About And How To Address Climate Change, Pekau Encouraged “Clean Coal,” Saying “There Are... Technologies That Allow Us To Utilize Coal In An Environmentally Friendly Way.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, ““However, as we identify environmental challenges, I think humans have the ingenuity and engineering know how to respond to them. For example, there are clean coal technologies that allow us to utilize coal in an environmentally friendly way. Additionally, trucks can be easily modified to run on compressed natural gas (CNG) that is much cleaner than diesel. Many companies have converted their fleets. Why has the US not invested in CNG filling stations throughout our interstates so that semi-trucks could do the same.” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**Pekau Stated That “Illinois Is Rich In Oil” And That “[Illinois] Could Be A Leader In Natural Gas Production.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “Do you know Illinois is rich in oil? The state could be a leader in natural gas production. Also, with an abundance of farmland, the state could lead in biofuel (ethanol) production. Implementing these solutions would help to lower energy costs and make America energy independent. But Sean Casten demands American companies produce less gas and oil. If you want high gas prices, that is exactly how you get them. Gas prices are going to stay high as long as Sean Casten has something to say about it.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/6/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/6/22](#)]

### ***A Reuters Analysis Found That Chemically Treated Refined Coal Polluted The Atmosphere More Than Raw Coal***

**A Reuters Analysis Found That Chemically Treated Refined Coal Polluted The Atmosphere More Than Raw Coal.** According to Reuters, “Champions of coal say the superabundant fossil fuel can be made environmentally friendlier by refining it with chemicals – a ‘clean coal’ technology backed by a billion dollars in U.S. government tax subsidies annually. But refined coal has a dirty secret. It regularly fails to deliver on its environmental promises, as electric giant Duke Energy Corp found. Duke began using refined coal at two of its North Carolina power plants in August 2012. The decision let the company tap a lucrative federal subsidy designed

to help the American coal industry reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides – also known as NOx, the main contributor to smog and acid rain – along with other pollutants. In nearly three years of burning the treated coal, the Duke power plants collected several million dollars in federal subsidies. But the plants also pumped out more NOx, not less, according to data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency analyzed by Reuters.” [Reuters, [12/3/18](#)]

## **Pekau Was A Member Of The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy Campaign**

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**Pekau Was A Member Of The American Petroleum Institute’s “Vets4Energy” Campaign.** According to a press release by the American Petroleum Institute, “The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy campaign returns to the nation’s capital this week. Twenty-six veterans are meeting members of Congress and staff to discuss why burgeoning North American energy resources are vital to improving our national security. ‘There are so many exciting opportunities for the U.S. to become a global leader in energy, but many lawmakers continue to ignore them,’ said retired Major General Duane Jones. ‘We need to make sure Congress doesn’t lose sight of this game changing opportunity to produce more North American energy which will strengthen our national security.’ The veterans of Vets4Energy have fought in every U.S. war or engagement since Vietnam and believe that energy security is vital to keeping Americans safe. ‘Greater U.S. security means reducing our dependence on oil from unfriendly parts of the world,’ said retired Captain Keith Pekau. ‘We can do this easily by strengthening our energy ties with Canada and by tapping more of our own abundant resources.’” [American Petroleum Institute, Press Release, 7/10/13]

**July 2013: On A Lobbying Trip To Washington DC On Behalf Of The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy Campaign, Pekau Stated, “Greater U.S. Security Means Reducing Our Dependence On Oil From Unfriendly Parts Of The World... By Tapping More Of Our Own Abundant Resources.”** According to a press release from the American Petroleum Institute, “The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy campaign returns to the nation’s capital this week. Twenty-six veterans are meeting members of Congress and staff to discuss why burgeoning North American energy resources are vital to improving our national security. [...] The veterans of Vets4Energy have fought in every U.S. war or engagement since Vietnam and believe that energy security is vital to keeping Americans safe. ‘Greater U.S. security means reducing our dependence on oil from unfriendly parts of the world,’ said retired Captain Keith Pekau. ‘We can do this easily by strengthening our energy ties with Canada and by tapping more of our own abundant resources.’” [American Petroleum Institute, Press Release, 7/10/13]

**As A Member Of The Vets4Energy Campaign, Pekau Lobbied Congress On Issues Including Fracking, The Keystone XL Pipeline, And Repealing The Renewable Fuel Standard.** According to a press release by the American Petroleum Institute, “The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy campaign returns to the nation’s capital this week. Twenty-six veterans are meeting members of Congress and staff to discuss why burgeoning North American energy resources are vital to improving our national security. [...] ‘Greater U.S. security means reducing our dependence on oil from unfriendly parts of the world,’ said retired Captain Keith Pekau. ‘We can do this easily by strengthening our energy ties with Canada and by tapping more of our own abundant resources.’ The war heroes are meeting with Senate and House members to promote an all of the above energy policy, including hydraulic fracturing, approving the Keystone XL pipeline, allowing greater access to domestic oil and natural gas resources, and repealing the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and ensuring our military is not prohibited from using oil derived from Canadian oil sands.” [American Petroleum Institute, Press Release, 7/10/13]

## **The American Petroleum Institute Is One Of America’s Most Powerful Trade Organizations & Coordinated Efforts To Stall Climate Legislation**

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**The American Petroleum Institute Is One Of America’s Most Powerful Trade Organizations And Lobbies Congress On Behalf Of The Oil And Gas Industry.** According to the Guardian, “Shell issued a separate report revealing that its single largest donation to political lobby groups last year was made to the American Petroleum Institute, one of the US’s most powerful trade organizations, which drives the oil industry’s relationship with Congress. [...] Shell donated more than \$10m to API last year alone. And it’s not just Shell. Most other oil

conglomerates are also major funders, including ExxonMobil, Chevron and BP, although they have not made their contributions public. The deep financial ties underscore API's power and influence across the oil and gas industry, and what politicians describe as the trade group's defining role in setting major obstacles to new climate policies and legislation." [The Guardian, [7/19/21](#)]

**The American Petroleum Institute Was The Subject Of Several Lawsuits Alleging The Group Was At The Heart Of A Decades-Long Disinformation Campaign To Diminish The Threat Of Climate Change.**

According to the Guardian, "API is also fighting a growing number of lawsuits, led by the state of Minnesota, alleging that the trade group was at the heart of a decades-long 'disinformation campaign' on behalf of big oil to deny the threat from fossil fuels. But despite threats to API's lasting influence, Whitehouse argues the trade organization represents the true face of the industry. Instead of using its considerable power to push for environmentally friendly energy laws, API is still lobbying to stall progress with the oil industry's blessing. 'Their political effort at this point is purely negative, purely against serious climate legislation. And many of them continue to fund the fraudulent climate denialists that have been their mouthpieces for a decade or more,' Whitehouse said." [The Guardian, [7/19/21](#)]

**After Countries Signed The Kyoto Protocol, The American Petroleum Institute Worked With ExxonMobil And Koch Industries To Ensure That "Climate Change Becomes A Non-Issue."**

According to the Guardian, "In many cases, API was prepared to carry out the dirty work that individual companies did not want to be held responsible for. In 1998, after countries signed the Kyoto Protocol to help curb carbon emissions, API drew up a multimillion-dollar disinformation campaign to ensure that 'climate change becomes a non-issue.' The plan said 'victory will be achieved' when 'recognition of uncertainties become part of the 'conventional wisdom.'" Much of this is the basis of several lawsuits against API. The first was filed last year by the Minnesota attorney general, Keith Ellison, who accuses the group of working alongside ExxonMobil and Koch Industries to lie about the scale of the climate crisis. The suit alleges that 'previously unknown internal documents' show that API and the others well understood the dangers for decades but 'engaged in a public-relations campaign that was not only false, but also highly effective' to undermine climate science." [The Guardian, [7/19/21](#)]

**The American Petroleum Institute Funded Scientists To Deny Or Underplay Climate Changes And Gave Millions To Organizations Such As The Cato Institute And The George C. Marshall Institute To Deny The Climate Crisis.**

According to the Guardian, "The lawsuits allege that API funded scientists known to deny or underplay climate changes, and gave millions of dollars to ostensibly independent organizations, such as the Cato Institute and the George C Marshall Institute, which denied or downplayed the growing environmental crisis. 'API has been a member of at least five organizations that have promoted disinformation about fossil-fuel products to consumers,' Ellison alleges in Minnesota's lawsuit. 'These front groups were formed to provide climate disinformation and advocacy from a seemingly objective source, when, in fact, they were financed and controlled by ExxonMobil and other sellers of fossil-fuel products.'" [The Guardian, [7/19/21](#)]

## **Pekau Ignored The Science And Put Politics Over People's Health And Safety With His Failed Leadership And Reckless COVID-19 Policies**

*Keith Pekau should have seen the pandemic as a time to be a leader and help his community survive a crisis. Instead, he politicized the pandemic at every turn – and the people of Orland Park suffered because of it. Pekau stood against the state's COVID health and safety protocols on everything from quarantines and masking to vaccine requirements. The result: among the 18 municipalities in Cook County with over 40,000 people, Orland Park had the 5th highest rate of deaths.*

*Like other right-wing Republicans, Pekau politicized COVID-19 and repeatedly sought to cast doubt on ways to stop the spread of the disease like masking and vaccination. In a COVID update posted on the Village of Orland Park's YouTube page in July 2020, Pekau claimed that wearing cloth masks was ineffective for healthy people and there was no scientific evidence to support wearing them. He even suggested that people who are sick could go maskless and prevent the spread COVID by simply coughing or sneezing into their arm.*

*One of Pekau's attempts to spread misinformation about COVID even got a video he posted banned from YouTube. Pekau capitalized on the incident by sending fundraising emails claiming that YouTube was trying to ban "real information" from being spread. In February 2022, Pekau posted a video excerpt from a recent meeting of the Orland Park Board of Trustees in which he discussed a court order blocking vaccine mandates in Illinois. In the same video, Pekau went on to cast doubt on whether vaccines were effective, telling the people of Orland Park that those with natural immunity were less likely to catch the disease or be hospitalized with COVID than their vaccinated counterparts. After YouTube pulled the video for spreading misinformation, Pekau used the opportunity to raise money, sending an email in which he called on his supporters to donate to his campaign so he could continue promoting the same video online: "If you're as fired up about this as I am – invest \$50 in my campaign now. I've shared this video on my Facebook page and will use your contribution to share it with more people in our community."*

*As mayor of Orland Park, Pekau also wasted \$70,000 in taxpayer money on a frivolous, political lawsuit against Governor Pritzker over the state's COVID restrictions. After Pekau filed the case in federal court, the judge told him it would have a "negligible likelihood of success." Pekau's political stunt cost the village tens-of-thousands of dollars, but he defended the use of taxpayer money, telling a reporter, "I'd do it again."*

*Pekau's rush to reopen Orland Park in April 2020 was met with concern and criticism from citizens and the news media. Pekau announced that month that the village would move forward with a summer concert it had planned despite the unknowns and potential dangers of COVID-19. Pekau defended the move, stating that it would cost more to cancel the concert than to move forward with it. In an interview, a news anchor criticized Pekau for arguing the push to reopen was motivated by money, describing the decision as "wealth versus health," and telling Pekau "You're not really looking out for the people in your village."*

*Pekau's flouting of the state's COVID protocols even led to an investigation by the state police. In December 2020, Pekau held a fundraiser with tickets as high as \$5,000 at a restaurant in Orland Park. The state police were called to the event because the gathering may have violated Illinois's COVID-19 restrictions. Pekau claimed the officer who responded to the tip left the fundraiser after finding that Pekau and his guests were "observing required safety precautions." But that claim appears to have been refuted by the state police, which said the incident was still under investigation several days later.*

### **Keith Pekau's COVID Policies Led Orland Park To Have One Of The Highest Death Rates In Cook County Among Major Municipalities**

**Orland Park Had The 5<sup>th</sup> Highest Rate Of COVID-19 Deaths In Cook County Among Municipalities With Over 40,000 People.** [Cook County Medical Examiner, accessed [9/1/22](#); U.S. Census Bureau, accessed [9/1/22](#)]

**Orland Park COVID-19 Deaths Per Capita Compared To Other Major Municipalities In Cook County, As Of September 2022**

City/Village	2020 Population	COVID-19 Deaths	Death Rate Per 1000	Rank
Chicago	2,746,388	7,391	2.69	8
Cicero	85,268	247	2.90	6
Schaumburg	78,723	118	1.50	14
Evanston	78,110	136	1.74	11
Arlington Heights	77,676	186	2.39	9
Palatine	67,908	92	1.35	16
Skokie	67,824	214	3.16	3
Des Plaines	60,675	302	4.98	1
<b>Orland Park</b>	<b>58,703</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>2.91</b>	<b>5</b>
Oak Lawn	58,362	284	4.87	2
Berwyn	57,250	162	2.83	7
Mount Prospect	56,852	94	1.65	12
Tinley Park	55,971	108	1.93	10
Oak Park	54,583	79	1.45	15
Hoffman Estates	52,530	81	1.54	13
Glenview	48,705	143	2.94	4
Buffalo Grove	43,212	43	1.00	17
Bartlett	41,105	37	0.90	18

[Cook County Medical Examiner, accessed [9/1/22](#); U.S. Census Bureau, accessed [9/1/22](#)]

**Pekau Refused To Enforce Masking Or Vaccine Requirements In Orland Park**

**Pekau Refused To Enforce Mask Mandates Or Vaccine Requirements In Orland Park.** WGN Radio reported, “The Mayor of Orland Park, Keith Pekau, joins Steve Bertrand on Chicago’s Afternoon News to discuss why he opposes any effort by Gov. JB Pritzker to mandate masks or vaccines in public.” [WGN Radio, [9/13/21](#)]

**Pekau Refused To Enforce Cook County’s Vaccination Requirements.** Patch Orland Park reported, “Orland Park mayor and Republican congressman hopeful Keith Pekau told Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle in a letter he would not enforce the county’s new proof of COVID-19 vaccination mandate come next month.” [Patch Orland Park, [12/23/21](#)]

**Pekau Criticized Wearing A Mask To Stop COVID-19 And Said Sneezing Into Your Elbow Is Just As Effective As Wearing A Mask**

**July 2020: Pekau Claimed That There Were Zero Scientific Studies On The Effectiveness Of Cloth Masks, Adding, “Cloth Masks Also Do Not Do Anything If A Person Is Healthy.”** According to Pekau in a message to the residents of Orland Park, “Somehow, as I mentioned, the wearing of cloth masks have become the latest attempt to divide people and create a political issue. You hear things like you’re willing to kill people, you want people to die. This is absurd. Nobody I know wants to hurt anyone, and nobody wants people to die. The state of Illinois, IDPH, states that the CDC now recommends cloth face coverings in public settings when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas of significant community transmission. [...] First, according to our research and all the health experts I talk to, there are zero scientific studies on the effectiveness of cloth masks.

They are also not included in the pandemic training that the CDC created prior to the coronavirus. They talk about social distancing, they talk about other measures, but they do not talk about the wearing of cloth masks. Regarding the use of cloth masks, the WHO and the CDC agree that cloth masks do not protect the wearer from coronavirus, that's important to know. Cloth masks also do not do anything if a person is healthy. Cloth masks help stop the spread of the virus if someone who is sick coughs or sneezes. This can also be accomplished by covering your face with a cloth or into your elbow." [YouTube, Village of Orland Park, [10:52 – 15:00](#), 7/7/20]

**September 2021: Pekau Compared COVID To 9/11, Stating: “Rather Than The Sorrow And The Pain – I Prefer To Remember The Good That Came Out Of Those Terrible Events... We’re Being Divided Over A Silly Little Piece Of Cloth, Because People Are Afraid.”** According to Pekau at a 9/11 commemoration ceremony, “Rather than the sorrow and the pain – I prefer to remember the good that came out of those terrible events. America came together. Our differences were put aside, and we focused on the shared experiences of being an American. Democrats and Republicans worked together for the common good of all Americans. Think of how we’re behaving now. We’re being divided over a silly piece of cloth- because people are afraid. On 9/11 people were also afraid.” [YouTube, Village of Orland Park, [8:04 - 8:36](#), 9/12/21]

## **Pekau Refused To Answer If He Was Vaccinated Or If He Supported Vaccination**

**Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Was Vaccinated, Writing, “It Is Unfortunate When Interviewers Play Gotcha And Push An Agenda.”** According to an opinion article by Ted Slowik in the Lake County News-Sun, “Pekau refused to answer Bertrand’s question about whether the mayor was vaccinated. ‘It is unfortunate when interviewers play gotcha and push an agenda,’ Pekau wrote when posting the link.” [Lake County News-Sun, 9/17/21; Facebook, Keith Pekau, [9/14/21](#)]

**September 2021: Pekau Refused To Say If He Was Vaccinated Or If He Supported Vaccination.** According to a recording of Pekau’s interview with Steve Bertrand on WGN, “BERTRAND: ‘Are you vaccinated Mayor?’ PEKAU: ‘Really that’s nobody’s business.’ BERTRAND: ‘You’re right, that’s nobody’s business. But I think its germane to the conversation, I think it would help us understand...’ PEKAU: ‘It is not germane to the conversation. no one should be asked whether they’re vaccinated or not.’ BERTRAND: ‘Well but you’re going contrary to the Governor’s mandates, the health department orders, the state department of public – I think it would help us understand your mindset if we knew whether or not you supported vaccinations.’ PEKAU: ‘My mindset is very clear. These should not be mandated period. 94% of people over 65 have had at least one dose. Over 12, 78% of people over 12 have had at least one dose. Let’s get people the facts and let them decide whether to get vaccinated or not, based on their doctors.’” [WGN Radio, 2:20 – 3:17, [9/13/21](#)]

## **YouTube Removed A Video Pekau Uploaded Because It Contained Medical Disinformation**

***Note:** The original video is available on Pekau’s website at [this](#) link.*

**Pekau Alleged In His Campaign Ad That A Video About “Mandatory Masking” In Schools Was Removed From YouTube For Disinformation.** According to a Facebook advertisement by Pekau for Congress, “🚫🚫 This video was removed from YouTube for ‘disinformation.’ Please share and help us spread the word! 🚫🚫” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/10/22](#)]

 **Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored · Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

🔔🔔 This video was removed from YouTube for "disinformation."  
Please share and help us spread the word! 🔔🔔

After more than 100 COVID-19 related executive orders in two years, a Sangamon County Judge has issued a TRO against mandatory masks in schools, leaving COVID-19 mitigation decisions in the hands of local school districts - the way it should have been from day 1. District 230 and 135 have made masking optional. I hope that other schools will follow their lead.



Mandatory Masking for Our Students - TRO

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/10/22](#)]

**Pekau Sent A Fundraising Email Claiming YouTube Silenced Him For Posting A Video In Which He Criticized Mask Mandates.** [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/9/22](#)]

It looks like YouTube doesn't want you to see [this video](#). Last night I addressed the Village of Orland Park regarding a judge's ruling on Pritzker's unconstitutional Covid mandate. I explained my position on government mandates, and how it has remained unchanged over the past two years.

Apparently YouTube had a problem with this because they removed it:



YouTube told us: *"Our team has reviewed your content, and, unfortunately, we think it violates our medical misinformation policy."*

Where is the misinformation in that clip? Social media platforms like YouTube are overstepping their bounds here and are restricting people in our community to hear the real information being put out.

If you're as fired up about this as I am—[invest \\$50 in my campaign now](#). I've shared this video on my Facebook page and will use [your contribution to share it](#) with more people in our community. This isn't just about Orland Park, this is about how a social media platform is silencing our local leaders.

[Invest \\$50 to Help Share This Information](#)

[Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/9/22](#)]

**Pekau: "If You're As Fired Up About This As I Am – Invest \$50 In My Campaign Now. I've Shared This Video On My Facebook Page And Will Use Your Contribution To Share It With More People In Our Community."** [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/9/22](#)]

## **In The Video, Pekau Suggested That Getting Sick With COVID-19 And Acquiring Natural Immunity Was Better Than Getting Vaccinated**

**Pekau Suggested That Getting Sick With COVID-19 Was A Superior Method Of Immunization Than Getting Vaccinated.**" According to a video of Pekau at a meeting of the Village of Orland Park posted on his campaign website, "The CDC released a study that found a person with natural immunity from covid was between 2.6 to 2.9 times less likely than a vaccinated person to get a new infection of COVID. The CDC study also reported that a person with natural immunity 1.7 times less likely to be hospitalized than a vaccinated person." [Keith Pekau for Congress, [1:26 – 1:50](#), 2/7/22]

**Pekau Claimed A Study Found "That People With Natural Immunity Were 2.6 Times Less Likely To Get Infected With COVID And 1.7 Times Less Likely To Be Hospitalized Than A Vaccinated Person."** According to a video of Pekau at a meeting of the Village of Orland Park posted on his campaign website, "The CDC released a study that found a person with natural immunity from covid was between 2.6 to 2.9 times less likely than a vaccinated person to get a new infection of COVID. The CDC study also reported that a person with natural immunity 1.7 times less likely to be hospitalized than a vaccinated person." [Keith Pekau for Congress, [1:26 – 1:50](#), 2/7/22]

## **Pekau Wasted Taxpayer Money On A Political Stunt To Challenge**

## Pritzker's COVID-19 Policies

**June 2020: Orland Park Filed A Federal Lawsuit Against Governor Pritzker, Challenging Restrictions Put In Place During The Coronavirus Pandemic.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park has dropped a federal lawsuit against Gov. J.B. Pritzker challenging restrictions put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to court filings. The village and other plaintiffs in the case had filed the complaint in mid-June, and last month told the judge overseeing the case it planned to file an amended lawsuit by this Thursday. The short document filed Tuesday did not give an explanation why the village decided to voluntarily dismiss the lawsuit. Mayor Keith Pekau said Thursday that the Village Board decided in a closed session following Monday’s meeting to drop the case, but defended the village’s use of taxpayer money to pursue the litigation.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**The Judge In The Case Said That The Village Would Have “A Negligible Likelihood Of Success” In Pressing Their Claims.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The lawsuit argued, in part, that Pritzker had ‘failed to prove by clear and convincing evidence that public health is significantly endangered without’ restrictions on businesses and residents. In an Aug. 1 ruling in the lawsuit, Wood denied a motion by the village seeking a temporary restraining order as well as a preliminary injunction to overturn a series of executive orders issued by the governor. Wood ruled the village and other plaintiffs failed to show they have been unduly harmed by the governor’s order and would have ‘a negligible likelihood of success’ in pressing their claims. Pekau said that the village’s early September motion indicating it planned to file an amended lawsuit was a way of giving village officials more time to ponder its options. ‘We were trying to see what was happening out there,’ he said.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**October 2020: Pekau Announced That The Village Board Decided To Drop A Federal Lawsuit Challenging Governor Pritzker’s COVID-19 Restrictions After A Closed Session, But “Defended The Village’s Use Of Taxpayer Money To Pursue The Litigation.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park has dropped a federal lawsuit against Gov. J.B. Pritzker challenging restrictions put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to court filings. The village and other plaintiffs in the case had filed the complaint in mid-June, and last month told the judge overseeing the case it planned to file an amended lawsuit by this Thursday. [...] Mayor Keith Pekau said Thursday that the Village Board decided in a closed session following Monday’s meeting to drop the case but defended the village’s use of taxpayer money to pursue the litigation. [...] Pekau said that the village’s early September motion indicating it planned to file an amended lawsuit was a way of giving village officials more time to ponder its options.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**Pekau Responded, “I’d Do It Again” To A Reporter Who Asked If He Regretted Filing The Lawsuit.** Yahoo News reported, “When asked if the village regrets the lawsuit being filed in the first place, Pekau said ‘absolutely not,’ adding that the village has been fully opened since July 20. ‘Our businesses had opened sooner because of the pressure that was put on the governor, and it was our lawsuit [along with] others that caused that to happen,’ Pekau said. ‘The amount of economic activity we’ve had has probably saved many of our businesses... the sales tax and taxes that we’ve generated from being open sooner are much greater than anything we spent on a lawsuit. So I’d do it again if there was a similar circumstance, based on the information we had at the time. I don’t regret it at all and I don’t regret dragging it.’” [Yahoo News, [10/9/20](#)]

## The Total Legal Bill For The Failed Lawsuit Was \$70,000

**The Total Legal Bill For The Failed Lawsuit Was \$70,000.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The mayor said he did not know how much the lawsuit cost the village, but that he believed the complaint put pressure on the governor to relax restrictions on businesses, which allowed Orland Park businesses to reopen. He said he believed the sales tax revenue flowing into village coffers would more than offset the legal expenses. ‘The money was well worth it because everything opened up,’ Pekau said. Trustee Dan Calandriello, who was opposed from the start to the litigation, said the consensus during Monday’s closed-door session was drop the matter. ‘The feeling was it was time to finish this thing,’ he said. Calandriello, who is an attorney, said he believes the total legal bill for Orland

Park will be about \$70,000 and was critical of the expense at a time when municipal revenues have been affected due to the pandemic. ‘At the end of the day this was not productive,’ he said.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

## **April 2020: Pekau’s Decision To Allow Concerts In Orland Park Caused A Backlash From Residents, With One News Anchor Telling Him “You’re Not Really Looking Out For The People In Your Village”**

**April 2020: Orland Park Announced A Lineup Of Concerts For Summer 2020, Which Caused Blowback From Citizens Concerned About The Pandemic.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “As warmer weather approaches and with outdoor events such as festivals and farmers markets on the horizon, some south suburbs are proceeding cautiously, with some activities being delayed or canceled outright due to COVID-19 concerns. Orland Park, however, is all in, announcing a lineup of concerts for this summer, with the village's mayor subjected to blowback on social media for the decision. Some residents have supported the decision and others chided officials to trying to jump back into normal patterns too soon.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/23/20]

**April 2020: Pekau Explained That The Decision To Not Cancel Planned Concerts Was Made To Save Orland Park Over \$100,000 Due To Contractual Obligations.** According to Pekau in an appearance on WGN News, “Thank you very much for having me on tonight, but as decisions go, this was a pretty easy one. The way the contracts are written, if we were to cancel those contracts today, it would cost us \$214,000. We’d have to pay it out. If we continue with the planning for the concerts, and for some reason, they end up being canceled a week before, or two weeks before, because of COVID-19, we don’t have to pay the bands or the acts. We’re only out on the marketing - we’re only out 70,000.” The news anchor then stated, “Some would call this wealth vs. health... You’re not really looking out for the people in your village.” Pekau responded, “Well, I think 90 days from now, we will have different information, and if the circumstances on the ground at that time means we have to cancel the concert, then we’ll cancel the concert.” [YouTube, WGN News, [0:12 – 1:50](#), 4/23/20]

**A News Anchor Described That Pekau’s Decision To Go Forward With The Concerts As “Wealth Vs. Health” And Said To Pekau: “You’re Not Really Looking Out For The People In Your Village.”** According to Pekau in an appearance on WGN News, “Thank you very much for having me on tonight, but as decisions go, this was a pretty easy one. The way the contracts are written, if we were to cancel those contracts today, it would cost us \$214,000. We’d have to pay it out. If we continue with the planning for the concerts, and for some reason, they end up being canceled a week before, or two weeks before, because of COVID-19, we don’t have to pay the bands or the acts. We’re only out on the marketing - we’re only out 70,000.” The news anchor then stated, “Some would call this wealth vs. health... You’re not really looking out for the people in your village.” Pekau responded, “Well, I think 90 days from now, we will have different information, and if the circumstances on the ground at that time means we have to cancel the concert, then we’ll cancel the concert.” [YouTube, WGN News, [0:12 – 1:50](#), 4/23/20]

- **In Response To A News Anchor’s Claim That Some Would Call His Decision “Wealth Vs. Health,” Pekau Stated, “Well, I Think 90 Days From Now, We Will Have Different Information.”** According to Pekau in an appearance on WGN News, “Thank you very much for having me on tonight, but as decisions go, this was a pretty easy one. The way the contracts are written, if we were to cancel those contracts today, it would cost us \$214,000. We’d have to pay it out. If we continue with the planning for the concerts, and for some reason, they end up being canceled a week before, or two weeks before, because of COVID-19, we don’t have to pay the bands or the acts. We’re only out on the marketing - we’re only out 70,000.” The news anchor then stated, “Some would call this wealth vs. health... You’re not really looking out for the people in your village.” Pekau responded, “Well, I think 90 days from now, we will have different information, and if the circumstances on the ground at that time means we have to cancel the concert, then we’ll cancel the concert.” [YouTube, WGN News, [0:12 – 1:50](#), 4/23/20]

## **Pekau Was Investigated For Breaking The Rules And Holding A**

## Fundraiser That Violated The State's COVID-19 Restrictions

**December 2020: The Illinois State Police Confirmed That An Investigator Attended Pekau's Fundraising Event To Determine Whether The Fundraiser Violated Illinois Covid-19 Restrictions.** According to Patch Orland Park, "The Illinois State Police confirmed on Friday an announcement made by Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau in his political newsletter that his People Over Politics fundraiser at Papa Joe's Restaurant was attended by an ISP investigator. The fundraiser at Papa Joe's, 14459 S. LaGrange Road, was held on Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020 from 6 PM until 9 PM. Tickets were \$100-a-person, with higher sponsorships of up to \$5,000. In his political campaign newsletter, Pekau claimed the visit was sparked by a 'tip' from an unknown person that the fundraiser may have violated Illinois COVID-19 restrictions, which the ISP confirmed was the purpose of the officer's attendance." [Patch Orland Park, [12/19/20](#)]

**Pekau Claimed The Police Officer Left The Event After Observing That They Were "Observing Required Safety Precautions."** According to Patch Orland Park, "In his political campaign newsletter, Pekau claimed the visit was sparked by a 'tip' from an unknown person that the fundraiser may have violated Illinois COVID-19 restrictions, which the ISP confirmed was the purpose of the officer's attendance. 'We had an extra visitor the other night, the Illinois State Police that were responding to a tip. I wonder who that tip was from? He observed that we were following the required safety precautions and left us to continue with our event,' Pekau wrote. 'The reason—our event was a prime example of how we can gather together in person to support local businesses as long we do so safely. Choice and making our own decisions are some of the beauties of a democracy—if we are safe and follow protocols, there is no reason our businesses or residents need to be restricted. Like I've said from the beginning, if you choose to go out in public, just do the right thing and follow all safety guidelines like we were able to do at Papa Joe's.'" [Patch Orland Park, [12/19/20](#)]

**Contrary To Pekau's Statement, An Illinois State Police Spokesperson Said The Investigation Was Still Ongoing.** According to Patch Orland Park, "Pekau wrote. 'The reason—our event was a prime example of how we can gather together in person to support local businesses as long we do so safely. Choice and making our own decisions are some of the beauties of a democracy—if we are safe and follow protocols, there is no reason our businesses or residents need to be restricted. Like I've said from the beginning, if you choose to go out in public, just do the right thing and follow all safety guidelines like we were able to do at Papa Joe's.' But a spokesperson for the ISP Friday said the investigation is not concluded and is set for further investigation and that a violation of the state's COVID-19 restrictions is a Class A misdemeanor fine consistent with any other Class A misdemeanor, with fines of up to \$2500 determined by the court. 'The Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) can confirm that we were called to investigate a Papa Joes Restaurant in Orland Park. The ISP DCI has received approximately 185 complaints from local law enforcement, departments of public health, Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Liquor Control Commission, and other law enforcement and prosecution partners and has handled approximately 28 Office of Constituent Affairs complaints from our citizens across the state,' said Deputy Chief of Public Information Delia Garcia." [Patch Orland Park, [12/19/20](#)]

## **Pekau Is An Out Of Touch, Right-Wing Conservative Who Cares More About Cutting Taxes For The Wealthy Than Addressing Rising Costs For Families And Seniors**

*The pandemic and supply-chain issues have exacerbated the rising costs that Illinois families have been experiencing for years. And those costs have only been made worse by politicians like Keith Pekau, who care more about their own political careers than keeping costs low for families. Pekau acts like he cares about working families and complains that costs are too high. But he opposed real solutions to make life more affordable for regular people across Illinois. Instead, he supports Republican Party orthodoxy – tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations, and no real help for the middle class. Pekau’s love for tax cuts and cost savings don’t apply to the middle class: as rising costs pinched families in Orland Park in 2021, Pekau actually raised their utility bills and their property taxes.*

*Pekau opposed major efforts by Democrats in Congress to help families keep more of their hard earned money, like the Inflation Reduction Act. The bill addresses some of the highest costs Americans face today – prescription drugs, health insurance, and medical bills. The IRA cut prescription drug costs, capped the cost of insulin for Medicare recipients, lowered health insurance premiums, and expanded health care coverage for tens-of-thousands of Illinoisans. The bill also invests in new clean energy tax credits which will lower energy costs for families and promote American energy independence.*

*Pekau certainly wants to lower costs for some people – just not for you. In an interview, Pekau said that the wealthiest one percent of Americans and corporations were overtaxed, and that he would cut their taxes if elected to Congress. He also opposed measures to make the wealthy pay more of their fair share, like raising capital gains taxes. Pekau claims he wants to lower taxes for everyone, but his record tells a different story. He has opposed measures to help working families, like expanding the Child Tax Credit, which passed as part of the American Rescue Plan. Democrats’ Child Tax Credit expansion cut taxes for millions of families across the country and reduced child poverty by half. Pekau has certainly paid lip service to the costs families face, repeating Republican Party talking points about tax increases and rising utility costs on the campaign trail. But as prices skyrocketed in 2021, Pekau actually raised costs on families in Orland Park. In December 2021, Pekau voted raise water fees by 4.5 percent and voted in favor of increasing property taxes, too. Its clear Pekau cares more about cutting taxes for the rich than helping regular people get ahead.*

### **Pekau Opposed The Child Tax Credit Expansion – Which Cut Taxes For Working Families And Slashed Child Poverty In Half – While Supporting Tax Cuts For The Wealthy**

#### **Pekau Opposed Democrats’ Expansion Of The Child Tax Credit, Which Cut Child Poverty In Half And Provided Tax Relief To Working Class Families**

**Pekau Claimed That The Expansion Of The Child Tax Credit Was “A Government Handout For Those Unwilling To Work.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “What is your position re-establishing the Child Tax Credit at \$3,500 per child as set in the American Rescue Plan? We need to make the Child Tax Credit work for working families and the economy again. The adjustments Democrats made further exacerbated the job shortage for businesses as it eliminated the long-standing requirement for earnings, which turned bipartisan tax relief for working families into a government handout for those unwilling to work. This ends up hurting the people who need help most because it ends up costing jobs which results in higher prices and further inflation.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

## **The Expansion Of The Child Tax Credit Lifted 3.7 Million Children Out Of Poverty By December 2021.**

According to the Brookings Institute, “The 2021 temporary expansion of the child tax credit (CTC) was unprecedented in its reach, lifting 3.7 million children out of poverty as of December 2021. It provided families with up to \$3,600 for every child in the household under the age of six, and up to \$3,000 for every child between the ages of 6 and 17.” [Brookings Institute, [4/13/22](#)]

## **Pekau Said He Supported Tax Cuts For Big Corporations And The Wealthiest Americans**

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**When Asked If Corporations Pay Enough Taxes, Pekau Replied, “We All Pay Enough Taxes.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “Do you believe that corporations pay enough in taxes? We all pay enough taxes. Would you support increases or decreases in the amount of taxes corporations pay? Why? We need to lower taxes on all Americans, and that includes our over-taxed businesses. Do the rich, defined as the wealthiest 1%, pay enough in taxes? Again, I believe we all pay enough taxes. Federal revenues are 71% higher today than in 2010. Washington has a spending problem, not a revenue problem. Would you support changes in the tax code that would increase or decrease their tax burden? Why? The tax code needs to be simplified, and we owe it to working families to provide certainty and relief whenever possible. We also need to act immediately to cut wasteful spending and bring inflation down. Also, as previously pointed out, everyone needs to have their tax burden decreased.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

**When Asked If He Would Support Increases In The Amount Of Taxes Corporations Pay, Pekau Replied, “We Need To Lower Taxes On All Americans, And That Includes Our Over-Taxed Businesses.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “Do you believe that corporations pay enough in taxes? We all pay enough taxes. Would you support increases or decreases in the amount of taxes corporations pay? Why? We need to lower taxes on all Americans, and that includes our over-taxed businesses. Do the rich, defined as the wealthiest 1%, pay enough in taxes? Again, I believe we all pay enough taxes. Federal revenues are 71% higher today than in 2010. Washington has a spending problem, not a revenue problem. Would you support changes in the tax code that would increase or decrease their tax burden? Why? The tax code needs to be simplified, and we owe it to working families to provide certainty and relief whenever possible. We also need to act immediately to cut wasteful spending and bring inflation down. Also, as previously pointed out, everyone needs to have their tax burden decreased.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

**When Asked If The Wealthiest 1% Pay Enough In Taxes, Pekau Replied, “Again, I Believe We All Pay Enough Taxes.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “Do you believe that corporations pay enough in taxes? We all pay enough taxes. Would you support increases or decreases in the amount of taxes corporations pay? Why? We need to lower taxes on all Americans, and that includes our over-taxed businesses. Do the rich, defined as the wealthiest 1%, pay enough in taxes? Again, I believe we all pay enough taxes. Federal revenues are 71% higher today than in 2010. Washington has a spending problem, not a revenue problem. Would you support changes in the tax code that would increase or decrease their tax burden? Why? The tax code needs to be simplified, and we owe it to working families to provide certainty and relief whenever possible. We also need to act immediately to cut wasteful spending and bring inflation down. Also, as previously pointed out, everyone needs to have their tax burden decreased.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

**When Asked If He Would Support Changes In The Tax Code To Increase Or Decrease The 1%’s Tax Burden, Pekau Replied, “Also, As Previously Pointed Out, Everyone Needs To Have Their Tax Burden Decreased.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “Do you believe that corporations pay enough in taxes? We all pay enough taxes. Would you support increases or decreases in the amount of taxes corporations pay? Why? We need to lower taxes on all Americans, and that includes our over-taxed businesses. Do the rich, defined as the wealthiest 1%, pay enough in taxes? Again, I believe we all pay enough taxes. Federal revenues are 71% higher today than in 2010. Washington has a spending problem, not a revenue problem. Would you support changes in the tax code that would increase or decrease their tax burden? Why? The tax code needs to be simplified, and we owe it to working families to provide certainty and relief whenever possible. We also need to act immediately to cut

wasteful spending and bring inflation down. Also, as previously pointed out, everyone needs to have their tax burden decreased.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

**When Asked If He Supported Raising Taxes On Capital Gains And Dividends, Pekau Responded, “No, I Do Not Support Raising Any Taxes.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “Do you support raising taxes on capital gains and dividends? Why? No, I do not support raising any taxes. Increasing these taxes reduces economic activity and reduces the amount of revenue the federal government receives. Additionally, if we increase taxes on capital gains and dividends, we hurt everyone who has a retirement account or is trying to invest their hard-earned money to keep up with the added cost of inflation. We must lower taxes for hard-working Americans.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

## **Pekau Also Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Which Ensures Big Corporations And The Wealthy Are Paying Their Fair Share**

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**The Inflation Reduction Act Created A 15 Percent Corporate Minimum Tax “Aimed At Companies That Earn Over \$1 Billion A Year.”** CNBC reported, “After more than a year of debate over costs, taxes, tax credits and regulations, President Joe Biden finally signed his sweeping tax, health and climate bill into law — albeit a significantly reduced version of the \$1.75 trillion Build Back Better plan he was pushing for last year. The president signed the newly renamed Inflation Reduction Act into law flanked by Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y.; Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W. Va.; and Reps. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C. and Kathy Castor, D-Fl. [...] The new law includes a \$369 billion investment in climate and energy policies, \$64 billion to extend a policy under the Affordable Care Act to reduce health insurance costs, and a 15% corporate minimum tax aimed at companies that earn more than \$1 billion a year.” [CNBC, [8/16/22](#)]

**The Inflation Reduction Act Gave The Treasury Department Funding To Hire More Agents And Improve IT Systems To Help “Crack Down On High-Income And Corporate Tax Evaders.”** ABC News reported, “Treasury Department rejects GOP claims on new IRS agents Auditors will enforce tax laws on high-income earners, not the middle class. [...] The Internal Revenue Service does not plan to use the nearly \$80 billion it’s set to receive in funding from the Inflation Reduction Act to hire 87,000 new agents in order to target middle class Americans, a Treasury Department official told ABC News and documents verify, rejecting a claim widely circulated by Republican lawmakers and right-wing media personalities. [...] ‘The resources to modernize the IRS will be used to improve taxpayer services—from answering the phones to improving IT systems—and to crack down on high-income and corporate tax evaders who cost the American people hundreds of billions of dollars each year. The majority of new employees will replace the standard level of staff departures over the next few years,’ Treasury Department spokesperson Julia Krieger said in a statement.” [ABC, [8/18/22](#)]

## **Pekau Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Which Will Help Combat Rising Costs By Cutting The Prices Of Prescription Drugs, Reducing Health Care Premiums, And Lowering Energy Costs**

**Pekau Claimed That The Inflation Reduction Act Would Hurt Americans, Claiming The Act Was “Replete With Socialist Boondoggles And Corporate Welfare.”** According to a press release from the Keith Pekau For Congress campaign, “Today Sean Casten and Nancy Pelosi passed Joe Biden’s ‘Inflation and Recession Act,’ which inflicts higher taxes on small businesses, adds 87,000 more IRS agents and will increase inflation especially on health care and drug prices. This bill will hurt Americans while we are in a recession. Casten’s opponent in IL-06, Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, issued the following statement on the vote: ‘The Casten-Pelosi-Biden version of Build Back Better will hurt the American people. This ‘Don’t Say Inflation or Recession Act’ will not reduce inflation, the budget deficit or the world’s temperature. Far from ‘looking out for the little guy,’ the bill is replete with socialist boondoggles and corporate welfare. Sean Casten’s vote today was a cruel one. Families are skipping meals, delaying retirement, and eating up their credit lines just to pay for daily essentials, yet Sean Casten just raised taxes on them. [...] Casten voted to raise taxes on small businesses so he could protect federally subsidized

corporations (like his own businesses). He unleashes 87,000 new IRS agents on American taxpayers, targeting families, farmers, and small businesses. Under this bill, nearly a quarter of a trillion dollars in Green New Deal subsidies go to the wealthy and to companies just like the one Sean Casten and his father own.” [Keith Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [8/12/22](#)]

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## **The Inflation Reduction Act Will Lower Prescription Drug Costs**

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**The Inflation Reduction Act Allowed Medicare To Negotiate Drug Prices.** CNBC reported, “Medicare is poised to renegotiate the prices of some of its most expensive drugs through a historic expansion of its power, which could reduce costs for many seniors as well as federal spending on its prescription drug plan. The changes are tucked inside a massive spending-and-tax bill in Congress that includes \$433 billion in investments in health-care and clean energy. House Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act on Friday in a 220 to 207 vote along party lines, ending a tortured legislative process that took more than a year.” [CNBC, [8/12/22](#)]

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## **The Inflation Reduction Act Lowered Health Insurance Premiums And Expanded Coverage For Tens-Of-Thousands Of Illinoisans**

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**The Inflation Reduction Act Would Lower Health Insurance Premiums And Allow Tens Of Thousands Of Illinoisans To Gain Coverage.** According to a White House Fact Sheet, “President Biden promised to build on the Affordable Care Act by making premium tax credits more generous and lowering health care premiums for working families. The American Rescue Plan (ARP) kept that commitment by improving premium tax credits, and helped the U.S. reach its lowest uninsured rate in history. But those improvements were set to expire at the end of 2022. The Act continues those critical improvements through 2025, preventing premium spikes this January. Continuing these ACA improvements means: Saving Hundreds of Thousands of Illinoisans about \$930 per Year. About 323,000 Illinoisans with Marketplace coverage are saving an average of about \$930 annually from the ARP subsidies that the Inflation Reduction Act would continue. Those savings increase to thousands of dollars per year for some middle-income older people who would otherwise face very high premium burdens. [...] Allowing Tens of Thousands of Illinoisans to Gain Coverage. About 66,000 more Illinoisans will have health insurance next year compared to without the Inflation Reduction Act, according to HHS projections.” [Office of the President of the United States, Fact Sheet, [8/18/22](#)]

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## **The Inflation Reduction Act Promoted Energy Independence And Will Lead To Lower Energy Prices**

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**Bipartisan Policy Center: The Inflation Reduction Act Included Clean Energy Tax Credits That Would Increase Energy Production At Home And Lower Energy Prices.** According to the Bipartisan Policy Center, “Many of the energy and climate provisions in the IRA have enjoyed bipartisan support and match our previous recommendations. Clean energy provisions in the bill would accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies, reduce global emissions, lower energy prices, help export American innovation, strengthen our economy and build a reliable and affordable energy sector. Clean energy tax credits and other provisions included in the bill would increase energy production at home and accelerate energy innovation abroad. Additionally, by investing in disadvantaged communities, prioritizing projects that reutilize retired fossil fuel infrastructure and employ displaced workers, and including incentives for climate-smart agricultural practices, the IRA would make meaningful progress towards a fair, equitable, and economic clean energy transition.” [Bipartisan Policy Center, [8/4/22](#)]

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## **The Inflation Reduction Act Cut The Deficit By \$300 Billion**

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**The Inflation Reduction Act Lowered The Deficit.** According to National Public Radio, “The House gave final congressional approval on Friday to a spending bill which would attempt to tackle climate change, the high cost of prescription drugs and lower the deficit by roughly \$300 billion. It was passed without any Republican support and

now goes to President Biden for his signature. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., called it a ‘glorious day,’ adding, ‘We sent to the president's desk a monumental bill that will be truly for the people.’ Senate Democrats revived the bill, a year in the making, with a furious few final weeks of negotiations mainly between Sen. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., and Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia. Its final major hurdle was a marathon voting session last weekend in the Senate.” [National Public Radio, [8/7/22](#)]

## **Pekau Complains About The Rising Costs Of Utilities And High Taxes – But He Voted To Raise Water Fees And Property Taxes In Orland Park During A Period Of High Inflation**

**Pekau: “With The Highest Inflation Since 1980... Gas, Groceries, Utilities, And Even Eating At Restaurants Costs More Now.”** [YouTube, Keith Pekau, [0:42 – 0:50](#), 7/30/22]

**Pekau Said Casten “Raised Taxes” On Families When He Voted For The Inflation Reduction Act.** According to a press release from Keith Pekau for Congress, “Today Sean Casten and Nancy Pelosi passed Joe Biden’s ‘Inflation and Recession Act,’ which inflicts higher taxes on small businesses, adds 87,000 more IRS agents and will increase inflation especially on health care and drug prices. This bill will hurt Americans while we are in a recession. [...] ‘Sean Casten’s vote today was a cruel one. Families are skipping meals, delaying retirement, and eating up their credit lines just to pay for daily essentials, yet Sean Casten just raised taxes on them.’ [Keith Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [8/12/22](#)]

## **December 2021: Pekau Voted To Raise Water Sewer Rates By 4.5 Percent**

**December 2021: Pekau Voted To Raise Water And Sewer Rates By 4.5 Percent.** [Meeting Minutes, Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, [12/20/21](#)]

### **2021-0898 An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Chapter 3 Of The Orland Park Village Code To Establish New Water and Sewer Rates**

The Village most recently conducted a water and sewer rate study in 2015, which recommended 5% rate adjustments each year through 2020. A new rate study is underway and will be completed in 2022

The 2022 budget calls for a 4.5% inflationary rate increase. This ordinance will increase water and sewer rates by 4.5% effective in January 2022.

President Pekau had comments. (refer to audio)

I move to adopt Ordinance 5675, entitled: An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Chapter 3 Of The Orland Park Village Code To Establish New Water and Sewer Rates

**A motion was made by Trustee Riordan, seconded by Trustee Healy, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Healy, Trustee Nelson Katsenes, Trustee Milani, Trustee Kampas, Trustee Riordan, Trustee Radaszewski, and Village President Pekau

**Nay:** 0

## **December 2021: Pekau Voted To Raise Property Taxes**

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**Note:** *Pekau claims Orland Park’s property tax rates have been cut by 30% since he came into office. The truth is that while the property tax rate has declined, the property tax levy was relatively flat throughout his time in office – and he actually voted to raise the levy in December 2021.*

**2020 – Chicago Tribune: “Orland Park’s Annual Property Tax Levy Has Been Unchanged For At Least The Past Eight Years, With The Levy Approved Last Year For This Fiscal Year Seeking \$13.42 Million In Property Tax Revenue.”** The Chicago Tribune reported, “The actual levy will be approved sometime next month, along with the budget for the new fiscal year, but what the board unanimously agreed to commits the village to a tax levy of no more than \$13.3 million. Orland Park’s annual property tax levy has been unchanged for at least the past eight years, with the levy approved last year for this fiscal year seeking \$13.42 million in property tax revenue.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/18/20]

**FY2021: The Orland Park Property Tax Levy Was \$13,033,536.** According to the FY2021 Orland Park Budget, “Since 2012, the Village’s overall property tax levy amount has remained flat at \$13.425 million. Earlier this year, the Village Board directed staff to reduce the overall property tax levy as part of the proposed fiscal year 2021 budget. This direction was made as a result of the financial burdens many residents are facing because of the economic challenges stemming from the pandemic. The proposed fiscal year 2021 budget reduces the overall property tax levy to \$13,033,536, a reduction of \$391,982. As a result of this 2.92% tax levy decrease, the tax rate is anticipated to decrease by 6.92% (based on a 1.05% equalized assessed valuation increase) from the Village’s previous tax rate. [Village of Orland Park, FY2021 – 2022, accessed [8/24/22](#)]

**December 2021: Pekau Voted In Favor Of Raising The Orland Park Property Tax Levy To \$13,604,255.** According to meeting minutes for a Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees meeting on December 20, 2021, Keith Pekau voted in favor of the motion to “adopt Ordinance 5677, entitled: An Ordinance Providing For The Levying, Assessment And Collection Of Taxes For The Current Fiscal Year Of The Village Of Orland Park, Cook And Will Counties, Illinois with Exhibit 1 as presented at the December 20, 2021, Truth in Taxation Hearing for a total Village Levy of \$13,604,255 and a Library Levy of \$7,103,603, for a total levy of \$20,707,858.” The motion passed 7-0. [Village of Orland Park, Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, 2021-0887, [12/20/21](#)]

I move to adopt Ordinance 5677, entitled: An Ordinance Providing For The Levying, Assessment And Collection Of Taxes For The Current Fiscal Year Of The Village Of Orland Park, Cook And Will Counties, Illinois with Exhibit 1 as presented at the December 20, 2021, Truth in Taxation Hearing for a total Village Levy of \$13,604,255 and a Library Levy of \$7,103,603, for a total levy of \$20,707,858.

**A motion was made by Trustee Riordan, seconded by Trustee Radaszewski, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Healy, Trustee Nelson Katsenes, Trustee Milani, Trustee Kampas, Trustee Riordan, Trustee Radaszewski, and Village President Pekau

**Nay:** 0

[Village of Orland Park, Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, 2021-0887, [12/20/21](#)]

## Keith Pekau Took The Side Of Big Pharma Over Middle Class Families And Seniors

*Keith Pekau has made it clear that he will put his own interests over regular people if elected to Congress. Take an issue like prescription drug pricing, which Democrats reformed through the Inflation Reduction Act. The bill lowered the cost of prescription drugs and capped the amount of money seniors on Medicare will have to pay for their pharmaceuticals. But Pekau opposed the bill – and you only need to look at his financial disclosures to see why. Pekau owned as much as \$80,000 in pharmaceutical and medical device company stock, including Johnson & Johnson, ABIOMED, and Dupont – companies which spent tens-of-millions of dollars opposing these same reforms. Seniors can't afford to have someone who would sell them out to make a quick buck like Keith Pekau.*

### After Owning Stock In Pharmaceutical Companies, Pekau Took The Side Of Big Pharma By Opposing The Inflation Reduction Act

#### Pekau Held Stock In Pharmaceutical And Medical Device Companies

**Pekau Held Stock In Pharmaceutical And Medical Device Companies Johnson & Johnson, ABIOMED, And DuPont.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

Pekau Assets And Unearned Income 2022					
Asset	Owner	Value of Asset	Income Type	Income (Current Year to Filing)	Income (Preceding Year)
Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) [ST]	JT	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Dividends	\$1 - \$200	\$1 - \$200
ABIOMED, Inc. (ABMD) [ST]		\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
DuPont de Nemours, Inc. (DD) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$17,003 - \$80,000</b>		<b>\$1 - \$200</b>	<b>\$1 - \$200</b>

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

### Pekau Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Which He Said Was “Replete With Socialist Boondoggles And Corporate Welfare”

**Pekau Claimed That The Inflation Reduction Act Would Hurt Americans, Claiming The Act Was “Replete With Socialist Boondoggles And Corporate Welfare.”** According to a press release from the Keith Pekau For Congress campaign, “Today Sean Casten and Nancy Pelosi passed Joe Biden’s ‘Inflation and Recession Act,’ which inflicts higher taxes on small businesses, adds 87,000 more IRS agents and will increase inflation especially on health care and drug prices. This bill will hurt Americans while we are in a recession. Casten’s opponent in IL-06, Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, issued the following statement on the vote: ‘The Casten-Pelosi-Biden version of Build Back Better will hurt the American people. This ‘Don’t Say Inflation or Recession Act’ will not reduce inflation, the budget deficit or the world’s temperature. Far from ‘looking out for the little guy,’ the bill is replete with socialist boondoggles and corporate welfare. Sean Casten’s vote today was a cruel one. Families are skipping meals, delaying retirement, and eating up their credit lines just to pay for daily essentials, yet Sean Casten just raised taxes on them. [...] Casten voted to raise taxes on small businesses so he could protect federally subsidized corporations (like his own businesses). He unleashes 87,000 new IRS agents on American taxpayers, targeting families, farmers, and small businesses. Under this bill, nearly a quarter of a trillion dollars in Green New Deal

subsidies go to the wealthy and to companies just like the one Sean Casten and his father own.” [Keith Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [8/12/22](#)]

## **The Inflation Reduction Act Included A Number Of Provisions To Lower The Cost Of Prescriptions For Seniors And Medicare Patients**

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**The Inflation Reduction Act Allowed Medicare To Negotiate Drug Prices.** CNBC reported, “Medicare is poised to renegotiate the prices of some of its most expensive drugs through a historic expansion of its power, which could reduce costs for many seniors as well as federal spending on its prescription drug plan. The changes are tucked inside a massive spending-and-tax bill in Congress that includes \$433 billion in investments in health-care and clean energy. House Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act on Friday in a 220 to 207 vote along party lines, ending a tortured legislative process that took more than a year.” [CNBC, [8/12/22](#)]

**The Inflation Reduction Act Placed A \$35 Monthly Cap On Insulin Prices For Medicare Patients.** According to CNBC, “A new legislative package signed into law by President Joe Biden on Tuesday is a big win for Medicare patients who struggle to cover the cost of insulin to manage their diabetes. [...] The bill limits insulin copays to \$35 per month for Medicare Part D beneficiaries starting in 2023. Notably, seniors covered by Medicare also have a \$2,000 annual out-of-pocket cap on Part D prescription drugs starting in 2025. Medicare will also now have the ability to negotiate the costs of certain prescription drugs.” [CNBC, [8/16/22](#)]

**The Inflation Reduction Act Placed A \$2,000 Annual Out-Of-Pocket Cap On Part D Prescription Drugs For Seniors Covered By Medicare.** According to CNBC, “A new legislative package signed into law by President Joe Biden on Tuesday is a big win for Medicare patients who struggle to cover the cost of insulin to manage their diabetes. [...] The bill limits insulin copays to \$35 per month for Medicare Part D beneficiaries starting in 2023. Notably, seniors covered by Medicare also have a \$2,000 annual out-of-pocket cap on Part D prescription drugs starting in 2025. Medicare will also now have the ability to negotiate the costs of certain prescription drugs.” [CNBC, [8/16/22](#)]

## **PhRMA And Other Allied Groups Spent Tens-Of-Millions Of Dollars Opposing The Inflation Reduction Act’s Drug Pricing Reforms**

**Kaiser Health News: “In The Past 12 Months, PhRMA And Closely Allied Groups Spent At Least \$57 Million — \$19 Million Of It Since July — On TV, Cable, Radio, And Social Media Ads Opposing Price Negotiations, According To Monitoring By The Advocacy Group Patients For Affordable Drugs.”** Kaiser Health News reported, “In the past 12 months, PhRMA and closely allied groups spent at least \$57 million — \$19 million of it since July — on TV, cable, radio, and social media ads opposing price negotiations, according to monitoring by the advocacy group Patients for Affordable Drugs. PhRMA spent over \$100 million this year to unleash a massive team of 1,500 lobbyists on Capitol Hill.” [Kaiser Health News, [8/12/22](#)]

**Kaiser Health News: “PhRMA Spent Over \$100 Million This Year To Unleash A Massive Team Of 1,500 Lobbyists On Capitol Hill.”** Kaiser Health News reported, “In the past 12 months, PhRMA and closely allied groups spent at least \$57 million — \$19 million of it since July — on TV, cable, radio, and social media ads opposing price negotiations, according to monitoring by the advocacy group Patients for Affordable Drugs. PhRMA spent over \$100 million this year to unleash a massive team of 1,500 lobbyists on Capitol Hill.” [Kaiser Health News, [8/12/22](#)]

## **Pekau Opposed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, Which Will Invest Billions In Fixing Illinois's Roads And Bridges While Transforming The State's Clean Energy Economy**

*Pekau's opposition to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law shows that if he is elected to Congress, he'll do what's easy, not what's right. It's not hard to see why dozens of Republicans in Congress voted for the legislation, which will create good-paying jobs and help rebuild our country's crumbling roads and bridges. It has already brought at least \$5.2 billion to Illinois, including \$3.4 billion for infrastructure improvements, nearly \$200 million for clean water, and delivered affordable internet to nearly 400,000 across the state. It will also bring \$4.5 billion to improve public transit over the next five years, invest tens-of-millions in clean energy, and help rebuild the thousands of bridges across the state that are in disrepair. But Pekau would have turned all that away to score political points and stay on the right side of far-right politicians like Donald Trump and other MAGA Republicans in the House, who threatened retribution against Republicans who dared to cross party lines and vote in the interests of their constituents.*

### **Pekau Opposed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

**November 2021: When Asked About The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Pekau Said He Would Have Voted Against The Bill.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, "Asked about recent House votes, Pekau said he would have voted against the infrastructure bill Biden signed into law last week. He also would have not supported Biden's 'Build Back Better' climate change and social spending measure passed several days ago, facing an uncertain fate in the Senate. Newman and Casten were champions of the infrastructure bill, and Pekau's lack of support for it could emerge as an issue." [Chicago Sun-Times, 11/22/21]

### **Casten Voted In Favor Of Passing The Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act And Was Described As A "Champion" Of The Bill**

**November 2021: Casten Was Described In The Chicago Sun-Times As Being A "Champion" Of Biden's Infrastructure Bill.** The Chicago Sun-Times reported, "Asked about recent House votes, Pekau said he would have voted against the infrastructure bill Biden signed into law last week. He also would have not supported Biden's 'Build Back Better' climate change and social spending measure passed several days ago, facing an uncertain fate in the Senate. Newman and Casten were champions of the infrastructure bill, and Pekau's lack of support for it could emerge as an issue." [Chicago Sun-Times, 11/22/21]

**November 2021: Casten Voted In Favor Of Concurring With The Senate Amendments And Passing The Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act.** According to VoteSmart, on November 5, 2021, Casten voted in favor of concurring with the Senate amendments and passing H.R. 3684, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The bill "addresses provisions related to federal-aid highway, transit, highway safety, motor carrier, research, hazardous materials, and rail programs of the Department of Transportation (DOT)." It passed the House on a vote of 228 to 206 and was signed into law on November 15, 2021. [VoteSmart, Sean Casten's Voting Records – National Key Votes, accessed [1/25/22](#); VoteSmart, H.R. 3684, [11/15/21](#)]

### **The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Will Invest Billions In Illinois's Economy**

**As Of July 2022, The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Committed At Least \$5.2 Billion In Infrastructure Funding For Illinois, Including Clean Water And Energy And Affordable Internet**

**The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Allocated \$3.4 Billion For Infrastructure Improvements To Illinois In 2022 Alone.** According to a fact sheet about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law released by the White House, “The Biden-Harris Administration has hit the ground running to implement the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and it is already delivering results for the people of Illinois. To date, \$5.2 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Illinois with over 100 specific projects identified for funding. This year alone, Illinois will receive more than \$3.4 billion for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and over \$288 million for clean water. And, as of today, approximately 391,700 households across the state are receiving affordable internet due to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.” [White House, Fact Sheet, [8/2/22](#)]

**The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Allocated \$288 Million For Clean Water Illinois In 2022 Alone.** According to a fact sheet about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law released by the White House, “The Biden-Harris Administration has hit the ground running to implement the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and it is already delivering results for the people of Illinois. To date, \$5.2 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Illinois with over 100 specific projects identified for funding. This year alone, Illinois will receive more than \$3.4 billion for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and over \$288 million for clean water. And, as of today, approximately 391,700 households across the state are receiving affordable internet due to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.” [White House, Fact Sheet, [8/2/22](#)]

**The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Provided Nearly 400,000 Households Across Illinois With Affordable Internet.** According to a fact sheet about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law released by the White House, “The Biden-Harris Administration has hit the ground running to implement the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and it is already delivering results for the people of Illinois. To date, \$5.2 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Illinois with over 100 specific projects identified for funding. This year alone, Illinois will receive more than \$3.4 billion for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and over \$288 million for clean water. And, as of today, approximately 391,700 households across the state are receiving affordable internet due to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.” [White House, Fact Sheet, [8/2/22](#)]

**The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Allocated \$164 Million To Illinois For Clean Energy Improvements.** According to a fact sheet about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law released by the White House, “Clean Energy & Power: Power outages cost the U.S. economy more than \$70 billion annually. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a historic investment to upgrade our power infrastructure by making the grid more resilient and building thousands of miles of new transmission lines to deliver clean, affordable electricity. The law also makes a historic investment in clean energy technologies like advanced nuclear, clean hydrogen, and carbon capture, as well as a historic \$3.5 billion investment in weatherization to improve energy efficiency of homes and lower energy costs for impacted households by an average of \$372 per year. • Announced funding to date: To date, approximately \$156 million has been allocated to Illinois in 2022 for weatherization and \$8 million to help prevent outages and make the power grid more resilient in 2022. Additional grid funding will be made available in the coming months.” [White House, Fact Sheet, [8/2/22](#)]

## **President Trump And MAGA House Republicans Threatened Retribution Against Republicans Who Voted For The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

**November 2021: 19 Senate Republicans Voted In Favor Of The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.** [NPR, [8/10/21](#)]

**November 2021: 13 House Republicans Voted In Favor Of The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.** [CNN, [9/11/21](#)]

**Former President Trump Criticized House Republicans Who Voted For The Infrastructure Bill, “Questioning Why They Would Give President Joe Biden A Win When He’s Struggling In The Polls.”** CNN reported, “Former President Donald Trump privately criticized on Monday night the 13 Republicans who voted to

pass the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill, questioning why they would give President Joe Biden a win when he's struggling in the polls, according to a GOP source. His comments came a day after he publicly lambasted the House and Senate Republicans who voted for the legislation, including Senate GOP Leader Mitch McConnell. 'Very sad that the RINOs in the House and Senate gave Biden and Democrats a victory on the 'Non-Infrastructure' Bill,' said Trump in a statement on Sunday. 'All Republicans who voted for Democrat longevity should be ashamed of themselves, in particular Mitch McConnell, for granting a two month stay which allowed the Democrats time to work things out at our Country's, and the Republican Party's, expense!' Some conservative House Republicans have also discussed retaliating against their colleagues by booting them from their committee spots, although that effort faces little chance of succeeding." [CNN, [9/11/21](#)]

**Trump: "All Republicans Who Voted For Democrat Longevity Should Be Ashamed Of Themselves."** CNN reported, "Former President Donald Trump privately criticized on Monday night the 13 Republicans who voted to pass the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill, questioning why they would give President Joe Biden a win when he's struggling in the polls, according to a GOP source. His comments came a day after he publicly lambasted the House and Senate Republicans who voted for the legislation, including Senate GOP Leader Mitch McConnell. 'Very sad that the RINOs in the House and Senate gave Biden and Democrats a victory on the 'Non-Infrastructure' Bill,' said Trump in a statement on Sunday. 'All Republicans who voted for Democrat longevity should be ashamed of themselves, in particular Mitch McConnell, for granting a two month stay which allowed the Democrats time to work things out at our Country's, and the Republican Party's, expense!' Some conservative House Republicans have also discussed retaliating against their colleagues by booting them from their committee spots, although that effort faces little chance of succeeding." [CNN, [9/11/21](#)]

**CNN: "Some Conservative House Republicans Have Also Discussed Retaliating Against Their Colleagues By Booting Them From Their Committee Spots, Although That Effort Faces Little Chance Of Succeeding."** CNN reported, "Former President Donald Trump privately criticized on Monday night the 13 Republicans who voted to pass the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill, questioning why they would give President Joe Biden a win when he's struggling in the polls, according to a GOP source. His comments came a day after he publicly lambasted the House and Senate Republicans who voted for the legislation, including Senate GOP Leader Mitch McConnell. 'Very sad that the RINOs in the House and Senate gave Biden and Democrats a victory on the 'Non-Infrastructure' Bill,' said Trump in a statement on Sunday. 'All Republicans who voted for Democrat longevity should be ashamed of themselves, in particular Mitch McConnell, for granting a two month stay which allowed the Democrats time to work things out at our Country's, and the Republican Party's, expense!' Some conservative House Republicans have also discussed retaliating against their colleagues by booting them from their committee spots, although that effort faces little chance of succeeding." [CNN, [9/11/21](#)]

## **Pekau Opposed Marijuana Legalization And Banned Sales In Orland Park, Despite It Generating Hundreds Of Millions To Pay For Substance Abuse And Crime Prevention**

*Keith Pekau's extreme conservative views on social issues like marijuana legalization are out of touch with the people of Illinois. Pekau led the fight to ban recreational marijuana sales in Orland Park after the state legalized the drug – and even with all of the good legalization is doing in the state, he continues to oppose it. At the time of the vote, Pekau said that the tax revenue from legalization was “always less than expected,” telling the Chicago-Sun Times, “I don't see any benefit to legalizing recreational marijuana.” But Pekau couldn't have been more wrong: Illinois's tax revenues from recreational marijuana increased by 50 percent to \$445.3 million in 2021, up from \$297.7 million a year prior. The amount of money going directly to local municipalities also increased by over 75 percent, from \$82.8 million to \$146.2 million.*

*At a time when crime is on the rise and opioids are ravaging Illinois's communities, that money is going directly to programs that prevent crime and fight substance abuse. In 2021, the state set aside \$134 million in marijuana tax revenue to pay for programs helping communities damaged by the war on drugs – including parts of the new 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District – and to expand mental health and drug treatment initiatives. Of that, \$60 million is specifically going into drug treatment and prevention. That funding includes \$7 million to pay for doses of Narcan, which can help reverse drug opioid overdoses and save lives. Another \$3.5 million is geared toward crime prevention.*

## **Pekau Opposed Marijuana Legalization In Illinois And Even Banned Sales Of It In Orland Park**

**October 2019: In A Unanimous Vote Alongside Board Members, Pekau Voted Against The Sale Of Recreational Marijuana In The Village.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “The vote was passed Monday, citing ‘the importance of sustaining Orland Park's family values and public safety.’ The Orland Park Village Board voted unanimously Monday to ban the sale of recreational marijuana within the southwest suburb's village limits.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 10/12/19]

**Pekau: “It Was Wrong For The State Of Illinois [To Legalize Marijuana].”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Illinois, along with many states across the country, have legalized marijuana making it legal for people to buy and use it. Marijuana, however, is still illegal at the federal level. Do you support legalizing marijuana nationally? Why or why not? ‘No. The last thing we need is to legalize another recreational drug which leads to other societal problems. In my opinion, it was wrong for the State of Illinois to do so.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**April 2022: Pekau Opposed Marijuana Legalization, Insisting That “The Last Thing We Need Is To Legalize Another Recreational Drug Which Leads To Other Societal Problems.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Illinois, along with many states across the country, have legalized marijuana making it legal for people to buy and use it. Marijuana, however, is still illegal at the federal level. Do you support legalizing marijuana nationally? Why or why not? ‘No. The last thing we need is to legalize another recreational drug which leads to other societal problems. In my opinion, it was wrong for the State of Illinois to do so.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## **Pekau Said He Saw No Benefits To Marijuana Legalization And Claimed It Would Raise Little Revenue**

**Pekau Opposed Legalizing Marijuana, Saying, “We Don't Need Another Mind Altering Drug.”** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “The vote was passed Monday, citing ‘the importance of sustaining Orland Park's family values and public safety. The Orland Park Village Board voted unanimously Monday to ban the sale of recreational

marijuana within the southwest suburb's village limits. The vote was passed in anticipation of the impending statewide legalization of weed in 2020, citing 'the importance of sustaining Orland Park's family values and public safety,' according to a release from the Village of Orland Park. 'I'm against legalizing it (marijuana) and always have been. Drug use has and continues to damage our society. In my opinion we don't need another mind altering drug,' stated Mayor Keith Pekau." [Chicago Sun-Times, 10/12/19]

**Pekau: "I Don't See Any Benefits To Legalizing Recreational Marijuana. Tax Money Is Always Less Than Expected."** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, "The Orland Park Village Board voted unanimously Monday to ban the sale of recreational marijuana within the southwest suburb's village limits. The vote was passed in anticipation of the impending statewide legalization of weed in 2020, citing 'the importance of sustaining Orland Park's family values and public safety,' according to a release from the Village of Orland Park. 'I'm against legalizing it (marijuana) and always have been. Drug use has and continues to damage our society. In my opinion we don't need another mind altering drug,' stated Mayor Keith Pekau. [...] 'I don't see any benefits to legalizing recreational marijuana. Tax money is always less than expected and the social costs will be higher than the revenue generated,' Pekau said. Pekau said he is open to revisiting the issue, but would be unlikely to change his opinion." [Chicago Sun-Times, 10/12/19]

## **Marijuana Tax Revenue Raised Hundreds-Of-Millions Of Dollars For Illinois**

**CBS News: "Cannabis Sales Are Up In Illinois As The State Received Nearly \$450 Million In Tax Revenue From \$1.5 Billion In Recreational Marijuana Sales."** CBS News reported, "Cannabis sales are up in Illinois as the state received nearly \$450 million in tax revenue from \$1.5 billion in recreational marijuana sales. According to Governor JB Pritzker, the amount of taxes collected from recreational marijuana sales went from \$297.7 million in fiscal year 2021 to \$445.3 million this year, an increase of 50% from the same time last year. Overall, recreational pot sales also went up 50%, going from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion. [...] Cannabis sales are up in Illinois as the state received nearly \$450 million in tax revenue from \$1.5 billion in recreational marijuana sales. [...] The money going to local municipalities also went up from 2021 by more than 75% from \$82.8 million to \$146.2 million." [CBS News, [7/25/22](#)]

**CBS News: "The Amount Of Taxes Collected From Recreational Marijuana Sales Went From \$297.7 Million In Fiscal Year 2021 To \$445.3 Million This Year, An Increase Of 50% From The Same Time Last Year."** CBS News reported, "Cannabis sales are up in Illinois as the state received nearly \$450 million in tax revenue from \$1.5 billion in recreational marijuana sales. According to Governor JB Pritzker, the amount of taxes collected from recreational marijuana sales went from \$297.7 million in fiscal year 2021 to \$445.3 million this year, an increase of 50% from the same time last year. Overall, recreational pot sales also went up 50%, going from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion. [...] Cannabis sales are up in Illinois as the state received nearly \$450 million in tax revenue from \$1.5 billion in recreational marijuana sales. [...] The money going to local municipalities also went up from 2021 by more than 75% from \$82.8 million to \$146.2 million." [CBS News, [7/25/22](#)]

**CBS News: Money From Cannabis Sales "Going To Local Municipalities Also Went Up From 2021 By More Than 75% From \$82.8 Million To \$146.2 Million."** CBS News reported, "Cannabis sales are up in Illinois as the state received nearly \$450 million in tax revenue from \$1.5 billion in recreational marijuana sales. According to Governor JB Pritzker, the amount of taxes collected from recreational marijuana sales went from \$297.7 million in fiscal year 2021 to \$445.3 million this year, an increase of 50% from the same time last year. Overall, recreational pot sales also went up 50%, going from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion. [...] Cannabis sales are up in Illinois as the state received nearly \$450 million in tax revenue from \$1.5 billion in recreational marijuana sales. [...] The money going to local municipalities also went up from 2021 by more than 75% from \$82.8 million to \$146.2 million." [CBS News, [7/25/22](#)]

## **The Revenue From Recreational Marijuana Sales Will Invest In Communities Harmed By The War On Drugs And Fund Substance**

## Abuse Programming And Crime Prevention

**Chicago Sun-Times: “\$134.1 Million Is Financing Two Programs Aimed At Investing In Communities Hardest Hit By The Drug War And Funding Mental Health And Drug Treatment Initiatives.”** The Chicago Sun-Times reported, “Perhaps most notably, \$134.1 million is financing two programs aimed at investing in communities hardest hit by the drug war and funding mental health and drug treatment initiatives. A similar amount has been deposited into the state’s general revenue and budget stabilization funds. And more than \$60 million more has been used to cover administrative costs, fund local governments, facilitate the sweeping cannabis expungement process, finance a public education campaign on substance abuse and research the impact of cannabis legalization.” [Chicago Sun-Times, [12/7/21](#)]

**July 2021: Illinois Granted \$3.5 Million In Crime Prevention Grants, Which Were Funded By Cannabis Sales.** According to a press release from the Illinois Criminal Justice Regulation Authority, “Using revenue generated from adult-use cannabis sales, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) today announced 21 grants totaling \$3.5 million to organizations offering young people and emerging adults (ages 10 to 25) pro-social activities that may reduce violence and victimization or provide increased street intervention this summer. Grant awards will support three months of programming, from July 1 to September 30.” [Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, [7/16/21](#)]

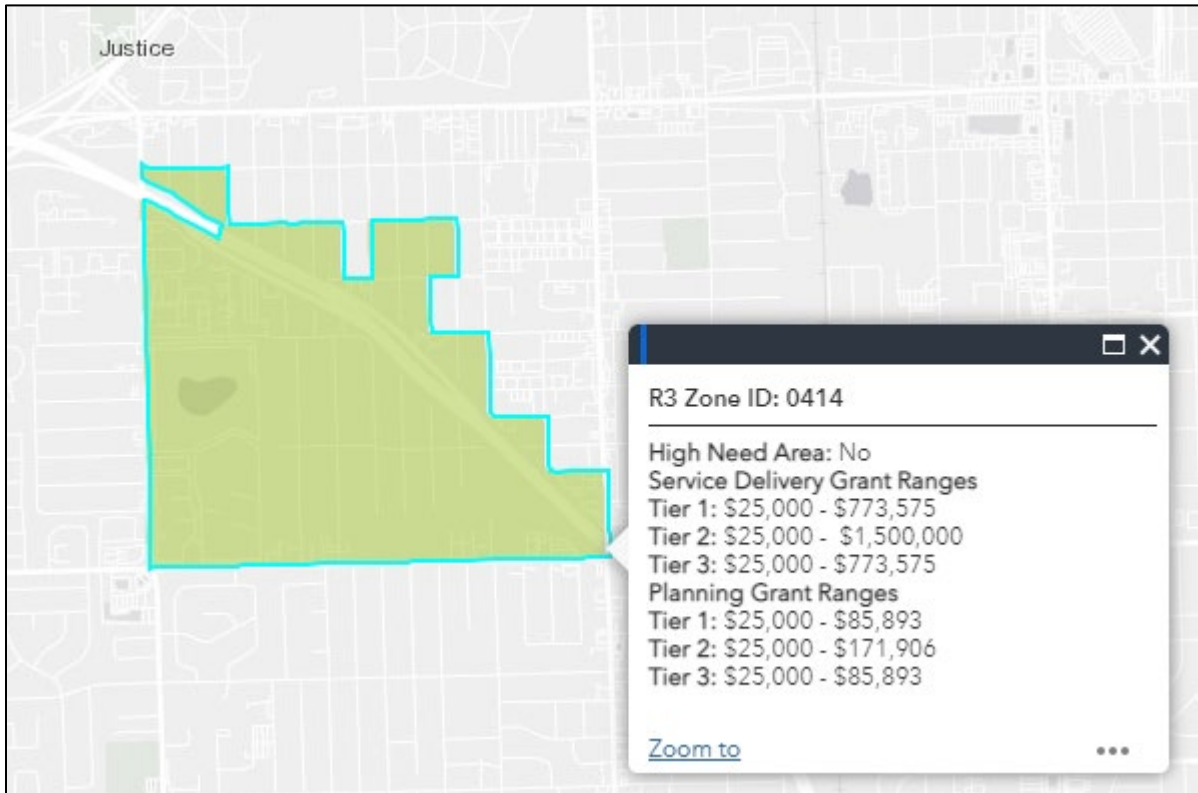
**Chicago Sun-Times: “Another 20% Of The Cannabis Excise Taxes And Fees Is Being Funneled Into Substance Abuse And Prevention Efforts And Mental Health Concerns. The Flood Of Nearly \$60 Million In Additional Resources So Far Comes As The Country’s Opioid Crisis Rages On.”** The Chicago Sun-Times reported, “Another 20% of the cannabis excise taxes and fees is being funneled into substance abuse and prevention efforts and mental health concerns. The flood of nearly \$60 million in additional resources so far comes as the country’s opioid crisis rages on and as many Illinoisans grapple with mental health issues amid the pandemic. [...] Of that money, at least \$18 million has been sent to a range of contractors. The largest payment — \$7 million — went to the manufacturer of Narcan, a naloxone nasal spray used to treat opioid overdoses.” [Chicago Sun-Times, [12/7/21](#)]

## Part Of The Sixth Congressional District Is Eligible For Funding Through The Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Initiative

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**Chicago Sun-Times: “The Restore, Reinvest And Renew Program Gets A Quarter Of The Excise Taxes And Fees... And Serves As A Cornerstone Of Pritzker’s Plan To Use Cannabis Legalization To Create Social Equity And Advance Restorative Justice Efforts.”** Chicago Sun-Times reported, “The Restore, Reinvest and Renew program gets a quarter of the excise taxes and fees after administrative and expungement costs are covered and serves as a cornerstone of Pritzker’s plan to use cannabis legalization to create social equity and advance restorative justice efforts.” [Chicago Sun-Times, [12/7/21](#)]

**Part Of The Village of Justice In The New Sixth Congressional District Is Eligible For Funding Through The Restore, Reinvest, And Renew Initiative.** According to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Census Tract 8206.05 in Cook County, Illinois is eligible for grant aid via the Restore, Reinvest, and Renew initiative. According to Dave’s Redistricting, this census district is within the new Illinois 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. [Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, R3 Eligibility – Table, accessed [9/1/22](#); Dave’s Redistricting, accessed [9/1/22](#)]



[Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, R3 Eligibility – Table, accessed [9/1/22](#); Dave’s Redistricting, accessed [9/1/22](#)]

## Keith Pekau's Congressional Bid Is Backed By A Hate Group

*Keith Pekau's views are so far outside the mainstream that he is backed by a racist "hate group" that has a history of targeting LGBTQ people. The group, which has close ties to Darren Bailey, has used an anti-LGBTQ slur to describe Governor Pritzker, calling him a "groomer" for signing into law a sex education bill. The term is increasingly used by fringe, far-right groups. Equality Illinois spoke out against Pekau's support from Awake Illinois, with a spokesperson stating, "No candidate or public official should ever engage with and encourage hate groups that target marginalized communities and people."*

### **Pekau Received An Award From A Group Called "Awake Illinois," Which Was Described By Equality Illinois As A "Hate Group"**

**Patch: "Awake Illinois... Dubbed Pekau A 'Warrior' Who Is 'Effecting Positive Change In Their Communities And Throughout The State.'** Patch.com reported, "'Awake Illinois' in March recognized Pekau with an Advancing Freedom honor, noting 'his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic,' reports Shaw Local. Pekau was a vocal opponent to mask mandates and vaccines, even as the Covid-19 pandemic was in its early days. The group dubbed Pekau a 'warrior' who is 'effecting positive change in their communities and throughout the state.'" [Patch.com, [8/8/22](#)]

### **Equality Illinois Described Awake Illinois As A "Hate Group"**

**Equality Illinois Called Awake Illinois A "Hate Group."** Patch.com reported, "Awake Illinois believes public school sex-education standards are 'perverse.' The group also has made transphobic remarks on social media. Pekau's acceptance of the award drew criticism from Equality Illinois, a group that advocates for LGBTQ rights. 'No candidate or public official should ever engage with and encourage hate groups that target marginalized communities and people,' Communications Director Myles Brady Davis told Shaw Local. 'Those are not Illinois values.'" [Patch.com, [8/8/22](#)]

**Equality Illinois Spokesperson Myles Brady Davis: "No Candidate Or Public Official Should Ever Engage With And Encourage Hate Groups That Target Marginalized Communities And People."** Patch.com reported, "Awake Illinois believes public school sex-education standards are 'perverse.' The group also has made transphobic remarks on social media. Pekau's acceptance of the award drew criticism from Equality Illinois, a group that advocates for LGBTQ rights. 'No candidate or public official should ever engage with and encourage hate groups that target marginalized communities and people,' Communications Director Myles Brady Davis told Shaw Local. 'Those are not Illinois values.'" [Patch.com, [8/8/22](#)]

### **Awake Illinois Used An Anti-LGBTQ+ Slur To Describe Governor Pritzker, Describing Him As A "Groomer"**

**Chicago Reader: "Awake Illinois... Called Governor J.B. Pritzker A 'Groomer,' A Term Increasingly Used As An Anti-LGBTQ+ Slur By The Far Right."** The Chicago Reader reported, "Last month, former Chicago Public Schools CEO and second-time mayoral candidate Paul Vallas spoke at a fundraiser for Awake Illinois, a group that has been criticized for its transphobic and homophobic rhetoric. The group hosted a fundraiser in Naperville about school choice in June, and Vallas was a featured panelist. In addition to promoting school choice, the nonprofit has opposed COVID safety protocols in schools, and the teaching of what it calls 'critical race theory.' Last month, the group called Governor J.B. Pritzker a 'groomer,' a term increasingly used as an anti-LGBTQ+ slur by the far right, after he signed a sex-ed bill." [Chicago Reader, [7/29/22](#)]

### **Gubernatorial Candidate Darren Bailey Had Ties To Awake Illinois**

**2022: Darren Bailey Said He “Stood Beside” Awake Illinois “Completely” And That “Our Way Of Life Is Under Attack.”** The Times-Record reported, “Awake Illinois, a right-leaning political organization focused on education, is attracting some candidates for office in Illinois to sign a pledge promising support for, among other things, school choice, requiring schools to provide parents with annual reports about schools’ curriculum and prohibiting schools from teaching about consent, sexual orientation or gender identity. ‘Not only do we stand beside you completely, I look forward to working with you once elected as governor to work to begin to rescind the nonsense,’ said gubernatorial candidate state Sen. Darren Bailey, R-Xenia, at a virtual event hosted by Awake Illinois on Sunday. [...] ‘Our way of life is under attack,’ said Bailey in that virtual event with the group’s president and founder, Shannon Adcock. Joe DeBose, a spokesperson for the Bailey campaign, said Bailey’s efforts on parents-rights issues and sex education are not yet set in stone, though he has agreed to work with groups like Awake 430 | P a g e Illinois in the future. ‘This is all a work in progress,’ he said. ‘Senator Bailey believes in teaching age-appropriate materials and allowing local school boards to make those decisions with parental input.’” [Times-Record, 5/4/22]

# **Section II: Pekau Is A Corrupt Politician**

## **Corrupt: Pekau Was Investigated For Bid-Rigging And Using Taxpayer Money To Reward Donors And Business Partners**

*Keith Pekau is a corrupt politician who is out to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. In 2019, then-Orland Park Village Manager Joseph La Margo hired the law firm Jones Day to investigate rumors of Pekau's unethical behavior as mayor. The report revealed allegations that Pekau pressured other elected officials and village employees to steer village contracts toward donors and even companies that he had financial interests in. When Pekau learned of the investigation's initial findings report, he tried to kill it – he pressured La Margo to resign, undermined the authority of the investigation, and even rolled back ethics rules that would have required him to disclose his conflicts of interests. (**Note:** Pekau has vehemently denied these allegations and maintains that he is innocent of these accusations.)*

*The Jones Day investigation unveiled allegations that Pekau was involved in rigging bids in Orland Park even before he became mayor. In 2012, before Pekau was elected, the village released a Request for Proposals on a tree removal project. Pekau's landscaping company, Groundskeeper Landscape Care, initially submitted a bid with higher prices in certain categories of tree than other companies. Later, at the close of the RFP period, Pekau sent amended pricing to the Public Works Department and was awarded the contract. Jones Day wrote, "The fact that in the letter, [Pekau] lowered only those categories for which he previously was out-bid, suggests that there may have been some communications between the Operations Manager and [Pekau] after the close of the RFP period." The Board approved the contract with the amended pricing, but the Village Finance Department mistakenly sent the contract with the original pricing, which was then signed by Pekau without an attempt to correct the error. According to Jones Day, "[Groundskeeper Landscape Care] was ultimately paid at the higher prices it originally submitted...which, in some categories, were higher than the prices submitted by other contractors." Aside from the 2012 project, Groundskeeper submitted several quotes on smaller bids that were exactly \$25 lower than the next lowest bidder, to the point where it had become a department-wide joke. After Pekau was elected and sold his ownership stake in Groundskeeper, he continued to have an indirect financial interest in the company (by owning the land on which the company sat) and introduced the new owner to village officials to continue giving bids to the company.*

*Jones Day also unearthed allegations that, while he was mayor, Pekau pressured other villages officials to give a favorable contract to an insurance company. Not only was the owner of the company a major donor to Pekau, but Pekau also had a financial interest in it – his consulting firm did work for the company. Horton Insurance was the long-time provider of health insurance to village employees. In 2018, the village was considering seeking bids for its health insurance work. Pekau asked La Margo to attend a strategy meeting with representatives from Horton Insurance. After the meeting, Pekau allegedly said to La Margo, "You know, I don't know if we need to go out on a bid for health insurance," implying that Pekau wanted the village to award Horton a no-bid contract. La Margo later learned that Pekau's consulting company had been paid about \$25,000 by Horton. Only after this information was revealed did Pekau agree to abstain from the decision on the health insurance contract, which was again awarded to Horton. In addition to Pekau's consulting work for the company, Horton Insurance and its employees and associates contributed \$13,000 to Pekau's political campaigns. In the years Pekau was mayor, Horton Insurance was paid over \$4.5 million by the Village.*

*Pekau used his power as mayor and a member of the Board of Trustees to obstruct the investigation by forcing La Margo out of office, replacing him with someone whose loyalty he later rewarded, and pushing a narrative that the investigation was unauthorized. After details of the investigation became known to Pekau, he forced La Margo to resign and appointed Joseph Mitchell to become interim village manager. Mitchell was tasked with continuing the Jones Day investigation. After Mitchell largely cleared Pekau of any wrongdoing, Pekau voted to promote Mitchell to a position that included a hefty pay increase. Pekau made several false claims about the investigation by La Margo, including that the investigation was unauthorized and a political attack. Both of these statements were factchecked to be false by news sources.*

*While he was under investigation, Pekau even rolled back ethics rules that would have required him to disclose his*

conflicts of interest. Pekau was under investigation from January through May of 2019. In May 2019, once he had enough sympathetic votes on the Village Board, he voted to repeal ethics rules that required him to disclose conflicts of interest and prohibited him from accepting gifts.

The scandal had severe impacts on Orland Park's reputation. Village officials said that the investigation tarnished the name of the village and drained the pool of candidates for the village manager position to the point where the village had to hire a public relations firm and pay the group \$4,000 per month to clean up its image at taxpayer expense.

**Note:** La Margo later sued Pekau for defamation and violation of the separation agreement between him and the village. In the complaint, he alleged that Pekau's false statements hurt his career and forced him to seek employment out of the state. As of September 2022, litigation for this case is still ongoing.

## **January 2019: Joseph La Margo, Then-Village Manager Of Orland Park, Hired Law Firm Jones Day To Investigate Pekau For Bidding Irregularities**

**Researcher's note:** The Jones Day report cited below does not identify anyone involved in the investigation outright. However, the internal report identifies most of the parties involved. For reference, "Village Manager" refers to La Margo, "Village Official A" refers to Pekau, "Company A" refers to Groundskeeper Landscape Care, and "Insurance Company A" refers to Horton Insurance.

## **January 2019: La Margo Hired Jones Day To Conduct A Review Of Issues Involving Village Contractors And Related Bidding Processes**

**January 2019: The Village Of Orland Park Retained Jones Day To Conduct A Review Of Issues Concerning Two Village Contractors And Related Bidding Processes.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "In January 2019, the Village of Orland Park (the 'Village') retained Jones Day to conduct a privileged review of certain issues concerning two Village contractors and related bidding processes. Specifically, the Village Manager learned in December 2018 that an employee in the Public Works Department reported to his superior that two landscaping companies – referred to herein as 'Company A' and 'Company B' – were regularly submitting bids or proposals for work at amounts just below (e.g., \$25 under) the next highest bidder." [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **Jones Day Investigated Irregularities Related To A 2012 Tree Removal Project**

**The Jones Day Report Investigated Irregularities Related To A 2012 Tree Removal Project.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "On September 10, 2012, the Village issued a Request for Proposals ('RFP') for tree removal, tree stumping, and restoration services in preparation for dealing with damage caused by an EAB infestation (the 'EAB Project'). At the time, the Village estimated that it would need between 600 and 1,000 trees removed each year. Jones Day interviewed the employee in the Public Works Department who was among those who reviewed the competing bids for the EAB Project. According to this employee, the Public Works Department held a staff meeting after the RFP period expired to discuss the bids. The Public Works employees explained that during this meeting, the participants decided they should recommend that the Village award the contract to Company A. Although Company A had higher prices for certain categories of trees, the Public Works staff thought that most of the trees in the Village that were subject to removal were in the 12-18" diameter range, and Company A offered the most competitive pricing in those categories. It is not clear when the Public Works Department held this meeting, though under standard practice in the Village, the Public Works Department would have received – and thus met to discuss – the proposals very soon after the close of the RFP period." [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## ***Pekau's Company Initially Submitted A Bid With Higher Prices In Certain Categories Of Tree Than Other Companies***

**Pekau's Company Initially Submitted A Bid With Higher Prices For Certain Categories Of Trees.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "On September 10, 2012, the Village issued a Request for Proposals ('RFP') for tree removal, tree stumping, and restoration services in preparation for dealing with damage caused by an EAB infestation (the 'EAB Project'). At the time, the Village estimated that it would need between 600 and 1,000 trees removed each year. Jones Day interviewed the employee in the Public Works Department who was among those who reviewed the competing bids for the EAB Project. According to this employee, the Public Works Department held a staff meeting after the RFP period expired to discuss the bids. The Public Works employees explained that during this meeting, the participants decided they should recommend that the Village award the contract to Company A. Although Company A had higher prices for certain categories of trees, the Public Works staff thought that most of the trees in the Village that were subject to removal were in the 12-18" diameter range, and Company A offered the most competitive pricing in those categories. It is not clear when the Public Works Department held this meeting, though under standard practice in the Village, the Public Works Department would have received – and thus met to discuss – the proposals very soon after the close of the RFP period." [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**The Orland Park Public Works Department Decided To Recommend Groundskeeper For The Bid Anyway, Because They Thought Most Of The Trees Were In The Category Groundskeeper Priced The Most Competitively.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "On September 10, 2012, the Village issued a Request for Proposals ('RFP') for tree removal, tree stumping, and restoration services in preparation for dealing with damage caused by an EAB infestation (the 'EAB Project'). At the time, the Village estimated that it would need between 600 and 1,000 trees removed each year. Jones Day interviewed the employee in the Public Works Department who was among those who reviewed the competing bids for the EAB Project. According to this employee, the Public Works Department held a staff meeting after the RFP period expired to discuss the bids. The Public Works employees explained that during this meeting, the participants decided they should recommend that the Village award the contract to Company A. Although Company A had higher prices for certain categories of trees, the Public Works staff thought that most of the trees in the Village that were subject to removal were in the 12-18" diameter range, and Company A offered the most competitive pricing in those categories. It is not clear when the Public Works Department held this meeting, though under standard practice in the Village, the Public Works Department would have received – and thus met to discuss – the proposals very soon after the close of the RFP period." [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **At The Close Of The RFP Period, Pekau Sent Amended Pricing To The Public Works Department And Was Awarded The Contract**

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**At The Close Of The RFP Period, Pekau Sent Amended Pricing To The Operations Manager For The Public Works Department.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "Whether before or after this meeting, on October 5, 2012, which was three days after the close of the RFP period, Village Official A, then owner of Company A, sent a letter to the Operations Manager for the Public Works Department, with amended pricing for three tree removal categories – the same three categories for which Company A's original pricing was higher than the next lowest bid. [...] Although Village Official A's letter did not reference a conversation with the Operations Manager or anyone else in the Public Works Department, the fact that in the letter, Village Official A lowered only those categories for which he previously was out-bid, suggests that there may have been some communications between the Operations Manager and Village Official A after the close of the RFP period." [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**The Amended Pricing Lowered Only The Categories For Which Groundskeeper Was Outbid.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "Whether before or after this meeting, on October 5, 2012, which was three days after the close of the RFP period, Village Official A, then owner of Company A, sent a letter to the

Operations Manager for the Public Works Department, with amended pricing for three tree removal categories – the same three categories for which Company A’s original pricing was higher than the next lowest bid. [...] Although Village Official A’s letter did not reference a conversation with the Operations Manager or anyone else in the Public Works Department, the fact that in the letter, Village Official A lowered only those categories for which he previously was out-bid, suggests that there may have been some communications between the Operations Manager and Village Official A after the close of the RFP period.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

### ***Jones Day: “There May Have Been Some Communications Between The Operations Manager And [Pekau] After The Close Of The RFP Period”***

**Jones Day: “The Fact That In The Letter, [Pekau] Lowered Only Those Categories For Which He Previously Was Out-Bid, Suggests That There May Have Been Some Communications Between The Operations Manager And [Pekau] After The Close Of The RFP Period.”** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “Whether before or after this meeting, on October 5, 2012, which was three days after the close of the RFP period, Village Official A, then owner of Company A, sent a letter to the Operations Manager for the Public Works Department, with amended pricing for three tree removal categories – the same three categories for which Company A’s original pricing was higher than the next lowest bid. [...] Although Village Official A’s letter did not reference a conversation with the Operations Manager or anyone else in the Public Works Department, the fact that in the letter, Village Official A lowered only those categories for which he previously was out-bid, suggests that there may have been some communications between the Operations Manager and Village Official A after the close of the RFP period.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

### **The Board Approved The Contract With The Amended Pricing...**

**November 2012: The Board Approved The Three-Year Contract With Groundskeeper With The Amended Pricing.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “On November 5, 2012, the Board approved the three-year contract with Company A ‘for an amount not to exceed the Board approved annual budget amount.’ [...] The agenda item and minutes from the Board meeting did not include information about Company A’s revision to its pricing and only reflected the most recent and lowest bid. After receiving the Board approval, an employee in the Finance Department drafted the Village contract with Company A, which, consistent with standard practice, this employee based on the information contained (1) in the Board agenda item and (2) the original documentation submitted in response to the RFP. Because the Board’s agenda item indicated only that the contract was ‘not to exceed the Board approved annual budget amount,’ this employee incorrectly referred to the original bid submitted by Company A for pricing information. Thus, in the contract the Village sent to Village Official A on November 15, 2012, the pricing information included the original unit price per tree rather than the revised price submitted by Village Official A after the close of the RFP period that formed the basis for the committee’s recommendation and the Board’s ultimate approval of the contract. Village Official A signed the contract on November 19, 2012, and the Village received in back on November 20, 2012. The investigative record developed to date does not establish whether he reviewed the contract.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

### **...But The Village Finance Department Mistakenly Sent The Contract With The Original Pricing, Which Was Then Signed By Pekau**

**An Employee In The Finance Department Mistakenly Referred To The Original Bid Submitted By Groundskeeper Landscaping For Pricing Information And Sent The Contract With The Original Unit Price Per Tree Rather Than The Revised Price Used By The Board To Award The Contract.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “On November 5, 2012, the Board approved the three-year contract with Company A ‘for an amount not to exceed the Board approved annual budget amount.’ [...] The agenda item and minutes from the Board meeting did not include information about Company A’s revision to its pricing and only reflected the most recent and lowest bid. After receiving the Board approval, an employee in the Finance Department drafted the Village contract with Company A, which, consistent with standard practice, this employee

based on the information contained (1) in the Board agenda item and (2) the original documentation submitted in response to the RFP. Because the Board's agenda item indicated only that the contract was 'not to exceed the Board approved annual budget amount,' this employee incorrectly referred to the original bid submitted by Company A for pricing information. Thus, in the contract the Village sent to Village Official A on November 15, 2012, the pricing information included the original unit price per tree rather than the revised price submitted by Village Official A after the close of the RFP period that formed the basis for the committee's recommendation and the Board's ultimate approval of the contract. Village Official A signed the contract on November 19, 2012, and the Village received in back on November 20, 2012. The investigative record developed to date does not establish whether he reviewed the contract." [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**Pekau Signed The Contract That Had The Mistaken Pricing Information Without Attempting To Contact The Village.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "Thus, in the contract the Village sent to Village Official A on November 15, 2012, the pricing information included the original unit price per tree rather than the revised price submitted by Village Official A after the close of the RFP period that formed the basis for the committee's recommendation and the Board's ultimate approval of the contract. Village Official A signed the contract on November 19, 2012, and the Village received in back on November 20, 2012. The investigative record developed to date does not establish whether he reviewed the contract. There is no indication that Village Official A communicated with, or sought to communicate with, the Village after receiving this contract containing the original price information in an attempt to correct that information, nor is there an indication that anyone in the Public Works Department recognized or corrected the error. Thus, Company A was ultimately paid at the higher prices it originally submitted for the EAB Project, which in some categories, were higher than the prices submitted by other contractors. Although employees interviewed about this issue could not explain why Village Official A submitted the revised pricing to the Operations Manager after the close of the RFP period or why the issue was not corrected at the time the contract was executed, there is a general sense among these employees that 'things just didn't add up.' Neither Village Official A nor the Operations Manager were interviewed during this initial phase of the Investigation." [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**Jones Day: "Thus, [Groundskeeper Landscaping] Was Ultimately Paid At The Higher Prices It Originally Submitted... Which, In Some Categories, Were Higher Than The Prices Submitted By Other Contractors."** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "Thus, in the contract the Village sent to Village Official A on November 15, 2012, the pricing information included the original unit price per tree rather than the revised price submitted by Village Official A after the close of the RFP period that formed the basis for the committee's recommendation and the Board's ultimate approval of the contract. Village Official A signed the contract on November 19, 2012, and the Village received in back on November 20, 2012. The investigative record developed to date does not establish whether he reviewed the contract. There is no indication that Village Official A communicated with, or sought to communicate with, the Village after receiving this contract containing the original price information in an attempt to correct that information, nor is there an indication that anyone in the Public Works Department recognized or corrected the error. Thus, Company A was ultimately paid at the higher prices it originally submitted for the EAB Project, which in some categories, were higher than the prices submitted by other contractors. Although employees interviewed about this issue could not explain why Village Official A submitted the revised pricing to the Operations Manager after the close of the RFP period or why the issue was not corrected at the time the contract was executed, there is a general sense among these employees that 'things just didn't add up.' Neither Village Official A nor the Operations Manager were interviewed during this initial phase of the Investigation." [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **Besides The 2012 Project, Groundskeeper Submitted Quotes On Smaller Bids That, Suspiciously, Were Exactly \$25 Lower Than The Next Lowest Bidder**

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**In Smaller Projects That Did Not Require A Formal Bid Process, A Public Works Employee Recalled That On More Than One Occasion, Groundskeeper Landscaping Submitted Quotes That Were Exactly \$25 Lower Than The Next Lowest Bidder.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, "In addition to

the issues identified in relation to the EAB Project, other information learned during the course of the initial employee interviews raised further questions regarding quotes or proposals submitted by Company A for other, smaller Village projects handled directly by the Public Works Department. In particular, the Public Works employee explained that for smaller projects that did not require a formal RFP or bid process or formal approval from the Board, the Public Works Department would seek three quotes from potential contractors who could perform the work. This employee recalled that one two or three occasions, Company A submitted quotes that were exactly \$25 lower than the next lowest bidder. When asked about the context surrounding these submissions from Company A, the Public Works employee said that he did not know if someone was providing Village Official A with information about the other bids, and he has not had any conversation with anyone else in which he learned that information was being shared with Company A. This employee said he never discussed with his supervisors why Company A was consistently winning these contracts, but it became somewhat of a joke around the Department that Company A just happened to be coming in \$25 lower than the next lowest bidder.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**The Employee Explained That It Had Become Somewhat Of A Joke Around The Department That Groundskeeper Just Happened To Be Coming In \$25 Lower Than The Next Lowest Bidder.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “In addition to the issues identified in relation to the EAB Project, other information learned during the course of the initial employee interviews raised further questions regarding quotes or proposals submitted by Company A for other, smaller Village projects handled directly by the Public Works Department. In particular, the Public Works employee explained that for smaller projects that did not require a formal RFP or bid process or formal approval from the Board, the Public Works Department would seek three quotes from potential contractors who could perform the work. This employee recalled that one two or three occasions, Company A submitted quotes that were exactly \$25 lower than the next lowest bidder. When asked about the context surrounding these submissions from Company A, the Public Works employee said that he did not know if someone was providing Village Official A with information about the other bids, and he has not had any conversation with anyone else in which he learned that information was being shared with Company A. This employee said he never discussed with his supervisors why Company A was consistently winning these contracts, but it became somewhat of a joke around the Department that Company A just happened to be coming in \$25 lower than the next lowest bidder.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **After Pekau Was Elected And Sold His Ownership Stake In Groundskeeper, He Continued To Have An Indirect Financial Interest In The Company And Introduced The New Owner To Village Officials**

**Once Pekau Was Elected, He Sold His Ownership Interest In Groundskeeper.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “As has been publicly disclosed, once Village Official A was elected to his current position, he sold his ownership interest in Company A.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**While Pekau Sold His Ownership Interest In The Company, He Noted That He Owned The Land On Which The Company Operated, Which Was Described As An “Indirect Financial Interest.”** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “As has been publicly disclosed, once Village Official A was elected to his current position, he sold his ownership interest in Company A. [...] Village Official A noted that he continues to own the land on which Company A operates. The meeting was short, lasting less than a half hour in total. None of the Public Works employees felt pressured to give work to Company A, but one felt that the meeting needed to be reported given Village Official A’s comment that he still has an indirect financial interest in Company A.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**In Early 2019, Pekau Reached Out To The Operations Manager To Introduce The New Owner Of Groundskeeper To City Officials.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “As has been publicly disclosed, once Village Official A was elected to his current position, he sold his ownership interest in Company A. While Jones Day was conducting its investigation, however, the Village Manager was informed that

Village Official A had ‘introduced’ the Public Work Department employees responsible for choosing third-party vendors to the new owner of Company A. [...] Based on the interviews of the three Public Works employees, Jones Day learned that in late January or early February, 2019, Village Official A reached out to the new Operations Manager of Public Works to request a meeting, during which Village Official A intended to introduce the Operations Manager to the new owner of Company A. The new Operations Manager agreed to the meeting and brought the other employees responsible for third party vendor decisions. Each agreed that they understood the introduction was for the purpose of potentially including Company A in future estimate RFPs.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **Jones Day Concluded That, Although It Did Not Have Enough Information To Conclusively Prove Any Clear Violations Of Law, The Issues Relating To Groundskeeper “Raise[d] Questions”**

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**Jones Day Concluded That, Although They Did Not Have Enough Information To Conclusively Prove Any Clear Violations Of Law, The Issues Relating To Groundskeeper And Horton Insurance “Raise[d] Questions.”** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “The issues relating to Company A and Insurance Company A, as described above, raise questions. At present, the investigative record is insufficient to conclusively establish that there were any clear violations of existing law or policy in connection with the bidding processes involving those contractors. This is due in part to Jones Day’s incomplete knowledge regarding the events described above, but it also results from gaps in the Village’s own ethics and purchasing policies.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **Jones Day: As Mayor, Pekau Allegedly Pressured Village Officials To Give A Favorable Contract To A Major Donor In Whom He Had A Financial Interest**

## **Pekau Had A Commercial Relationship With Horton Insurance, The Long-Time Provider Of Health Insurance To Village Employees**

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**Pekau Had A Commercial Relationship With Horton Insurance; His Consulting Firm Did Work For The Insurance Company.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “During the course of conversations with the Village Manager regarding Village Official A’s ownership interest in Company A, Jones Day also learned that Village Official A has a commercial relationship with Insurance Company A, another long-time Village contractor. As described below, Village Official A does consulting work for Insurance Company A.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**Horton Insurance Was The Long-Time Provider Of Health Insurance To Village Employees.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “During the course of conversations with the Village Manager regarding Village Official A’s ownership interest in Company A, Jones Day also learned that Village Official A has a commercial relationship with Insurance Company A, another long-time Village contractor. When Jones Day asked the Village Manager how he had learned about Village Official A’s relationship with Insurance Company A, he explained that in 2018, the Village was considering seeking bids for its health insurance work because it had not done so in a number of years. In February 2018, Village Official A asked the Village Manager to attend a meeting with him that also included a number of representatives from Insurance Company A.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **2018: After The Village Considered Seeking Bids For Health Insurance, Pekau Pressured La Margo To Award Horton A No-Bid Contract**

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**In 2018, The Village Was Considering Seeking Bids For Its Health Insurance Work Because It Had Not**

**Done So In A Number Of Years.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “When Jones Day asked the Village Manager how he had learned about Village Official A’s relationship with Insurance Company A, he explained that in 2018, the Village was considering seeking bids for its health insurance work because it had not done so in a number of years. In February 2018, Village Official A asked the Village Manager to attend a meeting with him that also included a number of representatives from Insurance Company A.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**February 2018: Pekau Asked La Margo To Attend A Strategy Meeting With Representatives From Horton Insurance.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “When Jones Day asked the Village Manager how he had learned about Village Official A’s relationship with Insurance Company A, he explained that in 2018, the Village was considering seeking bids for its health insurance work because it had not done so in a number of years. In February 2018, Village Official A asked the Village Manager to attend a meeting with him that also included a number of representatives from Insurance Company A. The Village Manager described the meeting as a sort of strategy session in which the participants talked about ways to save the Village money. As the Village Manager and Village Official A were leaving the meeting, Village Official A said, ‘you know, I don’t know if we need to go out on bid for health insurance.’” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**As La Margo And Pekau Left The Meeting With Horton Insurance, Pekau Reportedly Said, “You Know, I Don’t Know If We Need To Go Out On A Bid For Health Insurance.”** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “When Jones Day asked the Village Manager how he had learned about Village Official A’s relationship with Insurance Company A, he explained that in 2018, the Village was considering seeking bids for its health insurance work because it had not done so in a number of years. In February 2018, Village Official A asked the Village Manager to attend a meeting with him that also included a number of representatives from Insurance Company A. The Village Manager described the meeting as a sort of strategy session in which the participants talked about ways to save the Village money. As the Village Manager and Village Official A were leaving the meeting, Village Official A said, ‘you know, I don’t know if we need to go out on bid for health insurance.’ In response, the Village Manager explained that one of the reasons the Village planned to go through a bidding process was because Village Official A had previously criticized the Village for not seeking bids on certain contracts. The Village Manager also acknowledged that it is good practice to conduct an RFP process every so often, if nothing else to force existing contractors to ‘sharpen their pencils.’” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **Only After The Financial Conflict Had Been Revealed Did Pekau Agree To Abstain From The Vote On The Health Insurance Contract, Which Was Again Awarded To Horton**

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**After The Meeting, La Margo Learned That Pekau’s Consulting Company Had A Contract With Horton Insurance And Had Been Paid About \$25,000 To Date.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “Shortly before the proposals for the health insurance contract were to be presented to the committee, however, the Village Manager learned that Village Official A’s consulting company might have a contract with Insurance Company A. The Village Manager does not recall where he learned this information, but when he reported the information, a number of Board members asked the Village Manager to call the CEO and Chairman of the Board at Insurance Company A about the contract, which the Village Manager did. During that call, the existence of the contract with Village Official A’s consulting company was confirmed, but it was explained that Village Official A’s partner was doing most, though not all, of the work. It was estimated that the work on the contract was about a third of the way complete and that Village Official A’s company had been paid about \$25,000 to date. Village Official A ultimately abstained from the decision on the health insurance contract, which was again awarded to Insurance Company A.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**After This Information Was Revealed, Pekau Agreed To Abstain From The Decision On The Health Insurance Contract, Which Was Again Awarded To Horton Insurance.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “Shortly before the proposals for the health insurance contract were to be presented to the

committee, however, the Village Manager learned that Village Official A’s consulting company might have a contract with Insurance Company A. The Village Manager does not recall where he learned this information, but when he reported the information, a number of Board members asked the Village Manager to call the CEO and Chairman of the Board at Insurance Company A about the contract, which the Village Manager did. During that call, the existence of the contract with Village Official A’s consulting company was confirmed, but it was explained that Village Official A’s partner was doing most, though not all, of the work. It was estimated that the work on the contract was about a third of the way complete and that Village Official A’s company had been paid about \$25,000 to date. Village Official A ultimately abstained from the decision on the health insurance contract, which was again awarded to Insurance Company A.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **Horton Insurance And Its Employees & Associates Contributed \$13,000 To Pekau’s Political Campaigns**

**Horton Insurance And Its Employees & Associates Contributed \$13,000 To Pekau’s Political Campaigns.** [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

<b>Contributions From Horton Insurance To Pekau</b>				
<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	CEO	5/17/2021	1200
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	CEO	9/25/2018	1000
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	CEO	10/9/2019	1000
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	CEO	10/25/2017	1000
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	CEO	8/28/2020	750
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	CEO	8/19/2021	700
Shaheen Paul	Horton Insurance	Sales	2/28/2021	500
Shaheen Paul	Horton Insurance	Sales	3/11/2021	500
HORTON, DEBORAH	HOMEMAKER	HOMEMAKER	11/22/2021	2900
HORTON, GLENN	HORTON INSURANCE	CHAIRMAN	11/22/2021	2900
WOJCIK, MICHAEL	THE HORTON GROUP	SALES CONSULTANT	4/8/2022	500
SHAHEEN, PAUL	THE HORTON GROUP	VP SALES	6/15/2022	500
SHAHEEN, PAUL	THE HORTON GROUP	VP SALES	12/27/2021	50
SHAHEEN, PAUL	THE HORTON GROUP	VP SALES	3/23/2022	50
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$13,550</b>

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

## **2017 – 2022: The Village Of Orland Park Paid Horton Insurance Over \$4.5 Million**

**2017 – 2022: The Village Of Orland Park Paid Horton Insurance Over \$4.5 Million.** [Village of Orland Park, Accounts Payable, accessed [8/22/22](#); Village of Orland Park, Treasurer’s Report, accessed [8/29/21](#)]

<b>Payments From Orland Park To Horton Insurance</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2022	\$37,068.00

2021	\$966,150.77
2020	\$882,808.60
2019	\$899,560.24
2018	\$878,961.69
2017	\$961,425.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,625,974.40</b>

[Village of Orland Park, Accounts Payable, accessed [8/22/22](#); Village of Orland Park, Treasurer’s Report, accessed [8/29/21](#)]

## **Jones Day Concluded That, Although They Did Not Have Enough Information To Conclusively Prove Any Clear Violations Of Law, The Issues Relating To Horton Insurance “Raise[d] Questions”**

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**Jones Day Concluded That, Although They Did Not Have Enough Information To Conclusively Prove Any Clear Violations Of Law, The Issues Relating To Groundskeeper And Horton Insurance “Raise[d] Questions.”** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “The issues relating to Company A and Insurance Company A, as described above, raise questions. At present, the investigative record is insufficient to conclusively establish that there were any clear violations of existing law or policy in connection with the bidding processes involving those contractors. This is due in part to Jones Day’s incomplete knowledge regarding the events described above, but it also results from gaps in the Village’s own ethics and purchasing policies.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

## **Pekau Used His Power As Mayor And Village Board Member To Obstruct The Ethics Investigation**

### **After La Margo Commenced The Investigation, Pekau Forced Him To Resign**

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**After La Margo Commenced The Investigation, Pekau Forced Him To Resign.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village — specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, [7/27/21](#)]

**La Margo Alleged That He Was Forced To Resign, Causing Him To Be Unable To Participate In The Village’s Retirement Program.** According to the Complaint, “Two days after the municipal election, on April 4, 2019 Plaintiff was called into Defendant Pekau’s office and forced to resign. Defendant Pekau’s requirement that Plaintiff resign caused him to be unable to participate in the Village’s early retirement program. Plaintiff was one year from retirement when he was forced to resign.” [Complaint, La Margo v. Village of Orland Park et al, Case No.: 2020L004136, Cook County Circuit Court, filed [4/10/20](#)]

## **The Village's Replacement For La Margo, Who Was Tasked With Internally Investigating, Found No Wrongdoing And Was Subsequently Promoted**

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**Orland Park Replaced La Margo With Joseph Mitchell, Giving Him The Position Of Interim Village Manager.** According to Patch Orland Park, “A second review of the cases, this one opened in response to the Jones Day report, concurred with the findings that no laws were broken. It was conducted by Joseph Mitchell, Orland’s interim assistant village manager. He said he found that Pekau had no conflicts of interest with the village and that he, too, recommended strengthening the village’s ethics and purchasing policies.” [Patch Orland Park, [5/29/19](#)]

### ***May 2019: Mitchell Was Tasked With Continuing Jones Day’s Investigation Into Pekau***

**May 2019: The Interim Village Manager Was Tasked With Continuing Jones Day’s Investigation Into Pekau.** According to the Orland Park Internal Ethics Report, “On 05/08/2019, in the afternoon hours, the Public Works Director, John Ingram arrived at the Village Hall and requested a meeting with myself and Dubelbeis to provide an overview of current Public Works projects and the events surrounding allegations of misconduct involving Pekau, initiated by La Margo and being conducted by an outside law firm. Ingram advised that he was interviewed by the outside law firm pertaining to an incident whereupon Pekau introduced the new owner of Groundskeeper to Public Works staff in late January or early February of 2019.” [Orland Park Internal Ethics Report, [5/26/19](#)]

**An Interim Orland Park Village Manager Conducted An Internal Investigation And Additionally Found No Irregularities.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper. Pekau complained about La Margo initiating the investigation into the bidding and the landscaping company, which Pekau had sold to a longtime employee, according to the Daily Southtown. Later, an interim Orland Park village manager conducted an internal investigation and concluded there were no irregularities.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

### ***Mitchell Said Pekau Had No Conflicts Of Interest And That No Laws Were Broken***

**Mitchell Said No Laws Were Broken And That Pekau Had No Conflicts Of Interest With The Village.** According to Patch Orland Park, “A second review of the cases, this one opened in response to the Jones Day report, concurred with the findings that no laws were broken. It was conducted by Joseph Mitchell, Orland’s interim assistant village manager. He said he found that Pekau had no conflicts of interest with the village and that he, too, recommended strengthening the village’s ethics and purchasing policies. The two reports were made public in a news conference Wednesday afternoon with Pekau and acting village manager Tom Dubelbeis, who said they wanted to bring the reports ‘to light.’” [Patch Orland Park, 5/29/19]

### ***2020: Pekau Voted To Promote Mitchell And Give Him A \$25,000 Pay Raise***

**2020: Pekau And The Board Unanimously Voted To Promote Mitchell.** According to Richard Free Press, “A familiar face is officially taking the reins as the new chief of police in the Village of Orland Park. The Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees voted 7-0 Tuesday, Sept. 8, to approve the appointment of Joseph Mitchell to the role of chief of police — removing the interim tag that Mitchell had since former Chief Tim McCarthy retired earlier this summer. After Mitchell was sworn in during the Village Board meeting, Mayor Keith Pekau said it was his ‘great pleasure’ to call Mitchell the new chief of police.” [Richard Free Press, [9/9/20](#)]

**Mitchell’s Promotion Included A \$25,000 Pay Raise.** [Salaries, Village of Orland Park, accessed [9/1/22](#)]

Joseph Mitchell Salary Increase, 2020-2021			
Year	Name	Annual Salary	Total Salary & Benefits
2020	Joseph Mitchell	\$146,589.00	\$172,385.00
2021	Joseph Mitchell	\$169,000.00	\$147,468.80

[Salaries, Village of Orland Park, accessed [9/1/22](#)]

## **Pekau Denied The Allegations And Made Several False Claims About The Contents Of The Report**

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**Pekau Denied The Allegations Made In The Report And Called The Jones Day Report “A Purely Political Attack” Orchestrated By La Margo.** According to Patch Orland Park, “At the conference, Pekau denied the allegations made against him and his former business, calling the Jones Day report ‘a purely political attack’ orchestrated by La Margo. ‘This investigation was unethical, potentially illegal and according to the trustees, solely approved by Joe LaMargo, an unelected village employee who does not have such authority,’ he said. Pekau said the investigation was held ‘in secret’ and that no trustees knew about it. He accused La Margo of spending unauthorized money on the review, adding that the \$46,000 Jones Day billed is a waste of taxpayer money. ‘Anyone with reasonable judgement would have recognized in minutes that these allegations were unfounded but they were investigated because this was political,’ Pekau said.” [Patch Orland Park, 5/29/19]

**Patch Orland Park Reported That Pekau Made Several False Claims About The Investigation, Including Claims That The Investigation Was Done In Secret, Was Unethical, And Was Potentially Illegal.** According to Patch Orland Park, “Pekau made the following claims in email, a news conference and a public meeting. They are copied verbatim. Patch linked to source documentation where available. [...] Claim: We are also aware that the investigation was done in secret. The investigation was not done in secret. According to the reports, email records and interviews, the people who were told about the investigation include: La Margo; attorneys James Roche, Dennis Walsh and Kenneth Friker; trustees Carole Ruzich, Patricia Gira, Michael Carroll, Jim Dodge, Kathleen Fenton and Daniel Calandriello; former Assistant Village Manager John Keating; and the seven employees interviewed as part of the investigation. As part of this, Pekau indicates that he should have been told because he was the mayor. However, ICMA, the leading association of professional city and county managers and other employees who serve local governments, disagrees. [...] Claim: This investigation was unethical, potentially illegal and according to the Trustees, solely approved by Joe LaMargo, an Unelected Village Employee who does not have such authority. According to a spokeswoman from the Illinois attorney general's office, a village manager typically has the authority to conduct investigations. Perego, of ICMA, said village managers are ethically bound to look into allegations of wrongdoing. ‘When a manager gets a valid complaint by a whistleblower or staff or member of the public, and there is enough information or data to document or support the claim,’ she said, ‘then the ethical obligation is to consider the allegation valid and open whatever is an appropriate course of review.’ In addition, Trustees Dodge, Fenton and Ruzich told La Margo to proceed, and all three village attorneys who were notified about the investigation indicated it should continue.” [Patch Orland Park, 6/18/19]

## **While He Was Under Investigation, Pekau Rolled Back Ethics Rules That Would Have Required Him To Disclose Conflicts Of Interest**

## **Pekau Was Under Investigation For Allegations Of Bid Rigging And Other Unethical Conduct From January 2019 To May 2019**

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**Pekau Was Under Investigation For Allegations Of Bid Rigging And Other Unethical Conduct From January 2019 To May 2019.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “In January 2019, the Village of Orland Park (the ‘Village’) retained Jones Day to conduct a privileged review of certain issues concerning two Village contractors and related bidding processes.” According to the internal investigation

conducted by the Interim Village Manager, “On 5/9/2019, I received the Jones Day report that was addressed to La Margo on March 25, 2019. After a careful review of the report, it was determined that the Jones Day investigation was incomplete with one of the four separate allegations not having a conclusion of fact as to the validity of the complaint.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#); Village of Orland Park, Internal Ethics Review, [5/26/19](#)]

## **May 2019: Pekau Repealed An Ethics Ordinance That Would Have Required Public Officials To Disclose Conflicts Of Interest, Among Other Things**

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**May 2019: Pekau Moved To Repeal An Ethics Ordinance Passed Just A Month Earlier After His Preferred Slate Of Candidates Was Elected To The Village Board Of Trustees.** According to Patch Orland Park, “Mayor Keith Pekau will be asking a new board tonight to repeal an ethics ordinance trustees passed last month, one that he opposed. He was the only one to vote against the measure. He will be doing it at a meeting where three newly elected trustees from a slate he founded will be sworn in, a move that could swing his proposal in his favor. That has left other board members questioning Pekau's motives for scheduling the vote during a meeting traditionally reserved for ceremony and welcoming, one that typically is light on official business.” [Patch Orland Park, [5/6/19](#)]

- **Pekau Was The Only Board Member To Initially Vote Against The Ethics Ordinance.** According to Patch Orland Park, “Mayor Keith Pekau will be asking a new board tonight to repeal an ethics ordinance trustees passed last month, one that he opposed. He was the only one to vote against the measure. He will be doing it at a meeting where three newly elected trustees from a slate he founded will be sworn in, a move that could swing his proposal in his favor. That has left other board members questioning Pekau's motives for scheduling the vote during a meeting traditionally reserved for ceremony and welcoming, one that typically is light on official business.” [Patch Orland Park, [5/6/19](#)]

**May 2019: The Board Of Trustees Repealed The Set Of Ethics Rules In A Vote Split Along Party Lines.** According to Patch Orland Park, “Orland Park’s trustees repealed a set of ethics rules Monday night it had approved only one month ago in a swift political move orchestrated by Mayor Keith Pekau is his first display of newfound political power on the board. In a vote split along party lines, the board voted to send the newly reworked ordinance back to the drawing the board. It will be reviewed by a newly formed committee who will determine whether the same rules should apply to elected officials, appointed officials and employees. It will also review penalties and whistleblower protections for staff.” [Patch Orland Park, [5/6/19](#)]

**The Ethics Ordinance Required That Village Officials Fill Out Disclosure Forms Listing Conflicts Of Interest And Prohibited Officials From Accepting Gratuities And Gifts, Using Village Information To Support Their Private Interests, And Hiring Employees With “Close” Relationships To Other Elected Officials.** According to Patch Orland Park, “Modeled on the code Tinley Park officials use, Orland's version required that village officials fill out disclosure forms that list real estate or business interests that could pose conflicts of interest in their roles as representatives of the village. It prohibits officials from accepting gratuities and gifts, using village information to support their private interests and hiring employees with ‘close’ relationships to other elected officials or supervisory staff. It includes a code of conduct for anyone representing the village, creates a process for filing complaints and sets fines for offenders.” [Patch Orland Park, [5/6/19](#)]

**Pekau Opposed The Ethics Ordinance Because It Was Too Vague And Could Be Used As A Political Weapon.** According to Patch Orland Park, “Pekau opposed it at the time because he said it was too vague and could be used as a political weapon by trustees running for office. He said he asked for the repeal Monday because 17 volunteer, appointed members of planning and economic advisory boards sent letters threatening to quit if the ordinance was not repealed. The commissioners argued that the process was too onerous or an invasion in their private lives. Pekau redacted the names on each of the letters. He also made the proposal on the first night his slate of candidates took office after the April 2 election. Swearing-in meetings traditionally are ceremonial or celebratory, and boards typically reserve pet political projects for other meeting agendas.” [Patch Orland Park,

## **Village Officials Said The Scandal Tarnished Orland Park's Reputation And Drained The Pool Of Candidates For Future Village Positions**

### **Village Officials Said That The Bidding Scandals Tarnished Orland Park's Reputation And Drained The Pool Of Candidates For The Village Manager Position**

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**Village Officials Said That The Bidding Scandals Tarnished Orland Park's Reputation And Drained The Pool Of Candidates For The Village Manager Position.** According to Patch Orland Park, "Recent bidding scandals appear to have tarnished Orland's reputation and are draining the candidate pool for a new village manager, officials said. And judging by actions of the village's trustees and attorney Monday night, they don't appear to be going away soon. [...] The issues appear to have stalled the recruiting of a new village manager. One trustee called for a thorough review of the village's entire bidding process. And the controversial release of executive-session meeting minutes was stalled Monday after Pekau promised to distribute them." [Patch Orland Park, 6/17/19]

**Interim Village Manager Tom Dubelbeis: "Some Of The Headlines The Village Has Made Over The Past Few Months Have Not Been Conducive For Highly Qualified Candidates."** According to Patch Orland Park, "Interim Village Manager Tom Dubelbeis told the board at the regularly scheduled meeting Monday that the hiring of his replacement had been delayed for weeks because the village had not received enough resumes. Trustee Jim Dodge asked why. 'I think some of the headlines the village has made over the past few months have not been conducive for highly qualified candidates for the Village of Orland Park,' he said. Dubelbeis was referring to stories local media reported about the village's bidding irregularities. Candidates for the top-staff job often shy away from municipalities beset by controversial investigations, highly politicized issues or other evidence of brewing problems." [Patch Orland Park, 6/17/19]

### **The Village's Reputation Got So Bad, Village Officials Hired A PR Firm At \$4,000 A Month To Clean Up Its Image**

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**August 2019: The Village Of Orland Park Hired Reputation Partners Communications, A Chicago-Based Public Relations Firm, To Pitch Orland Park As An Ideal Place To Live.** According to Patch Orland Park, "The Village of Orland Park says it has a public relations problem and it's hiring a firm to help improve it. The board hired Reputation Partners Communications, a Chicago-based public relations firm, to develop a media relations and communications strategy focused on pitching Orland Park as an ideal place to live. 'In recent years, some of the media coverage for the Village of Orland Park hasn't reflected well on the village,' firm representatives wrote in their proposal to the board. 'Too much of the coverage has focused on various political issues, rather than the innate advantages of living in the village, its many positive attributes and the significant progress that's been made toward the Village of Orland Park's economy and infrastructure.'" [Patch Orland Park, 8/5/19]

**Reputation Partners: "In Recent Years, Some Of The Media Coverage For The Village Of Orland Park Hasn't Reflected Well On The Village ... Too Much Of The Coverage Has Focused On Various Political Issues."** According to Patch Orland Park, "The Village of Orland Park says it has a public relations problem and it's hiring a firm to help improve it. The board hired Reputation Partners Communications, a Chicago-based public relations firm, to develop a media relations and communications strategy focused on pitching Orland Park as an ideal place to live. 'In recent years, some of the media coverage for the Village of Orland Park hasn't reflected well on the village,' firm representatives wrote in their proposal to the board. 'Too much of the coverage has focused on various political issues, rather than the innate advantages of living in the village, its many positive attributes and the significant progress that's been made toward the Village of Orland Park's economy and infrastructure.'" [Patch Orland Park, 8/5/19]

**April 2020: The Village Of Orland Park Board Of Trustees Approved A Contract Retaining Professional Public Relations Services With Reputation Partners Through December 31, 2020.** [Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [4/6/20](#)]

**2020-0277 Professional Public Relations Services - Contract Extension**

I move to approve retaining professional public relations services with Reputation Partners for a not to exceed amount of \$48,000.00 for services thru December 31, 2020.

**This matter was APPROVED on the Consent Agenda.**

[Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [4/6/20](#)]

**The Contract Approved By The Board Included A Retainer For \$4,000 Per Month Plus Additional Charges For Out-Of-Pocket Expenses.** According to the engagement letter from Reputation Partners, “Billable services for the 2020 engagement commence on January 1, 2020 and will run through December 31, 2020. As noted in the proposal, the budget for this engagement is \$4,000 per month. Out-of-pocket expenses (travel, research costs, etc.) will be billed at cost as those costs are incurred.” [Engagement Letter, Reputation Partners, [3/6/20](#)]

**2020: La Margo Filed A Defamation & Breach Of Contract Lawsuit Against Pekau And The Village**

**After La Margo Commenced The Investigation, Pekau Forced Him To Resign**

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**After La Margo Commenced The Investigation, Pekau Forced Him To Resign.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, [7/27/21](#)]

**La Margo Alleged That He Was Forced To Resign, Causing Him To Be Unable To Participate In The Village’s Retirement Program.** According to the Complaint, “Two days after the municipal election, on April 4, 2019 Plaintiff was called into Defendant Pekau’s office and forced to resign. Defendant Pekau’s requirement that Plaintiff resign caused him to be unable to participate in the Village’s early retirement program. Plaintiff was one year from retirement when he was forced to resign.” [Complaint, La Margo v. Village of Orland Park et al, Case No.: 2020L004136, Cook County Circuit Court, filed [4/10/20](#)]

## **2020: La Margo Filed A Defamation Lawsuit Against Pekau And The Village Of Orland Park**

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### **2020: Joseph La Margo Filed A Defamation Lawsuit Against Pekau And The Village Of Orland Park, Alleging That The Terms Of A Separation Agreement He Entered Into With The Village Was Violated.**

According to the Chicago Tribune, “The Niles Village Board on July 27 was expected to confirm Mayor George Alpogianis’ appointment of Joseph S. La Margo as the village’s top administrator overseeing day-to-day operations. [...] Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**Pekau Allegedly Made False Statements About La Margo During A May 2019 Press Conference And In A Blog Post.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “According to the lawsuit, Pekau made false and ‘disparaging statements’ about La Margo during a May 2019 press conference and in a blog post. The statements included untrue claims that La Margo leaked information about the bidding investigation, conducted it for political reasons, and engaged in misconduct, the lawsuit says. La Margo this week declined to comment on the lawsuit, saying it is ongoing. He did say that Orland Park is a ‘great community’ and believes ‘a lot of good things’ were accomplished there during his time with the village.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

- **The Statements Included Claims That La Margo Leaked Information About The Bidding Investigation, Conducted It For Political Reasons, And Engaged In Misconduct.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “According to the lawsuit, Pekau made false and ‘disparaging statements’ about La Margo during a May 2019 press conference and in a blog post. The statements included untrue claims that La Margo leaked information about the bidding investigation, conducted it for political reasons, and engaged in misconduct, the lawsuit says. La Margo this week declined to comment on the lawsuit, saying it is ongoing. He did say that Orland Park is a ‘great community’ and believes ‘a lot of good things’ were accomplished there during his time with the village.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**La Margo Alleged That An Orland Park Resident Sent A Letter To La Margo’s Subsequent Employer Repeating The Lies That Pekau Had Spread About Him.** According to the Complaint, “Defendants’ public comments encouraged citizens to repeat the comments and attempt to interfere with Plaintiff’s ability to gain subsequent employment. On or about November 3, 2019, an Orland Park resident sent a letter to Plaintiff’s subsequent employer repeating the false statements published by Defendants claiming that Plaintiff ‘CANNOT be trusted’ and claiming ‘he was asked to [leave] Orland Park because of his unethical conduct.” [Complaint, La Margo v. Village of Orland Park et al, Case No.: 2020L004136, Cook County Circuit Court, filed [4/10/20](#)]

**La Margo Said That The Allegations Pekau Made Against Him Caused Him To Seek Employment Outside Illinois.** According to the Complaint, “Defendants’ public comments encouraged citizens to repeat the comments and attempt to interfere with Plaintiff’s ability to gain subsequent employment. On or about November 3, 2019, an Orland Park resident sent a letter to Plaintiff’s subsequent employer repeating the false statements published by Defendants claiming that Plaintiff ‘CANNOT be trusted’ and claiming ‘he was asked to [leave] Orland Park because of his unethical conduct.” [Complaint, La Margo v. Village of Orland Park et al, Case No.: 2020L004136, Cook County Circuit Court, filed [4/10/20](#)]

## Pay To Play: Pekau Wasted Taxpayer Dollars On Frivolous Lawsuits To Benefit One Of His Top Donors

*Pekau is a corrupt politician who wasted taxpayer dollars on frivolous lawsuits to benefit one of his top donors. From 2017 to 2021, Pekau accepted over \$22,000 from the law firm Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins and its employees. In that same time (the period in which Pekau was in office), the Village of Orland Park paid the firm over \$3 million. **Note:** Klein Thorpe Jenkins relationship with the Village of Orland Park began prior to Pekau’s time as Mayor.*

*The law firm served as the village attorneys for two key frivolous lawsuits which the village lost – costing taxpayers tens-of-thousands. In 2020, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Village of Orland Park filed a lawsuit against Governor Pritzker challenging the state’s restrictions on businesses. After the judge in the case said that the village would have “a negligible likelihood of success” in proving its claims, Pekau abruptly announced that the Village Board would drop the lawsuit. The total legal bill for the failed lawsuit was \$70,000, all going into Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins’ pockets. In another egregious lawsuit, Orland Park took Hope Covenant Church to court to prevent it from hosting a homeless shelter during the winter months. The village claimed the church was in violation of safety codes, but the church said it was not given sufficient time to address the concerns before the village filed the lawsuit. Orland Park residents opposed the lawsuit, and dozens attended a Village Board meeting in support of the shelter. Additionally, Orland Township Supervisor Paul O’Grady criticized the “overzealous” and “heavy-handed” litigation. Chicago Tribune columnist Ted Slowik made the point that Pekau’s hardline stance on the shelter was ruining the village’s reputation: “Do [Orland Park residents] want to live in a Village known as a place full of affluent snobs who are willing to sue in an effort to keep certain people out of their midst?” Despite Pekau downplaying the issue and denying that there even was a homelessness problem in Orland Park in the first place, the village capitulated and announced a settlement with the church. These two frivolous lawsuits make it clear that Pekau was wasting taxpayer money on unpopular lawsuits to shamelessly pad Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins’ retainer.*

### 2017 – 2021: Pekau Accepted \$22,000 From Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins And Its Employees

**2017 – 2021: Pekau Accepted \$20,000 In Contributions From Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins.** [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins Contributions To Pekau			
Candidate/Committee	Contributor	Date	Amount
Keith Pekau For Mayor	Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	5/9/2017	\$2,500.00
Keith Pekau For Mayor	Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	5/15/2019	\$5,000.00
Keith Pekau For Mayor	Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	9/6/2019	\$1,000.00
Keith Pekau For Mayor	Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	8/23/2020	\$5,000.00
Keith Pekau For Mayor	Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	12/2/2020	\$1,000.00
Keith Pekau For Mayor	Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	3/5/2021	\$2,500.00
Keith Pekau For Mayor	Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	5/1/2021	\$2,500.00
Keith Pekau For Mayor	Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	8/21/2021	\$2,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$20,000.00</b>

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

**2022: Pekau Accepted \$2,650 From Employees At Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Many Of Whom Contributed On The Same Day.** [Federal Election Commission, Pekau for Congress, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

**Contributions From Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins Employees To Pekau**

Candidate/Committee	Contributor	Employer	Occupation	Date	Amount
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	WALSH, DENNIS	KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS, LTD	ATTORNEY	3/28/2022	500
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	FEROLO, JAMES	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	ATTORNEY	3/28/2022	250
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	JURUSIK, MICHAEL	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	ATTORNEY	3/28/2022	250
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	MALINE, LANCE	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	ATTORNEY	3/28/2022	250
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	JURUSIK, MICHAEL	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	ATTORNEY	3/28/2022	250
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	MELODY, THOMAS	KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS, LTD	ATTORNEY	3/28/2022	250
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	UHLER, SCOTT	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	ATTORNEY	3/29/2022	250
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	JABLECKI, HOWARD	KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS	ATTORNEY	3/29/2022	150
PEKAU FOR CONGRESS	WALSH, DENNIS	KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS, LTD	ATTORNEY	4/30/2022	500
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$2,650</b>

[Federal Election Commission, Pekau for Congress, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

**2017 – 2022: The Village Of Orland Park Paid Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins Over \$3 Million After Pekau Was Elected**

**2017 – 2022: The Village Of Orland Park Paid Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins Over \$3 Million After Pekau Was Elected.** [Village of Orland Park, Accounts Payable, accessed [8/22/22](#)]

**Village Of Orland Park Accounts Payable, Klein Thorpe & Jenkins, April 2017 – August 2022**

Vendor	Date	Purpose	Amount
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/10/2017	General Legal Fees	\$47,445.28
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/10/2017	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$189.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/10/2017	Development Legal Fees	\$6,506.90
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/11/2017	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$145.07
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/13/2017	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$204.19
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/13/2017	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$113.45
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/21/2017	General Legal Fees	\$51,044.11
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/21/2017	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,008.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/21/2017	Development Legal Fees	\$2,362.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/21/2017	General Legal Fees	\$37,363.13
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/21/2017	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,240.00

Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/21/2017	Development Legal Fees	\$4,344.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/13/2017	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$883.38
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/28/2017	General Legal Fees	\$52,156.77
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/28/2017	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$3,736.30
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/28/2017	Development Legal Fees	\$6,682.30
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/23/2017	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$125.37
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/28/2017	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$154.23
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/17/2017	General Legal Fees	\$35,533.40
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/17/2017	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,571.90
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/17/2017	Development Legal Fees	\$2,951.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/26/2017	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$185.01
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/5/2017	General Legal Fees	\$37,256.91
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/5/2017	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$525.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/5/2017	Development Legal Fees	\$2,263.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/18/2018	General Legal Fees	\$50,130.37
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/18/2018	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$6,006.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/18/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$5,850.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/22/2018	General Legal Fees	\$37,963.52
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/22/2018	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$308.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/22/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$1,431.60
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	2/13/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$68.57
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	2/13/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$68.57
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/17/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$2,687.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/26/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$83.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/27/2018	General Legal Fees	\$58,095.30
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/27/2018	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$774.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/27/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$3,929.98
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/24/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$86.40
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/29/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$283.58
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/8/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$840.56
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/12/2018	General Legal Fees	\$45,453.49
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/12/2018	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,511.70
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/12/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$3,748.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/14/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$87.11
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/9/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$68.80
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/10/2018	General Legal Fees	\$47,637.71
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/10/2018	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$107.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/10/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$2,237.20
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/17/2018	General Legal Fees	\$41,073.39
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/17/2018	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$64.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/22/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$172.62
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/22/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$13.71
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/23/2018	Court reporter attendance fees and transcript	\$394.95
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/7/2018	General Legal Fees	\$45,559.23
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/7/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$6,625.38

Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/11/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$189.10
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/3/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$276.62
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/15/2018	General Legal Fees	\$53,473.10
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/15/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$5,263.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/15/2018	General Legal Fees	\$57,904.88
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/15/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$3,031.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/26/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$117.81
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/13/2018	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$335.68
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/26/2018	General Legal Fees	\$41,599.23
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/26/2018	Development Legal Fees	\$3,090.60
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/8/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$192.54
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/31/2019	General Legal Fees	\$43,609.94
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/31/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$860.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/31/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$3,851.10
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	2/6/2019	General Legal Fees	\$41,785.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	2/6/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$279.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	2/6/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$1,217.20
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	2/12/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$13.44
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/20/2019	General Legal Fees	\$46,164.58
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/20/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$748.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/20/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$836.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/20/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$19.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/20/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$202.92
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/2/2019	General Legal Fees	\$44,248.01
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/2/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,056.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/2/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$1,122.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/12/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$441.52
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/13/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$107.13
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/15/2019	General Legal Fees	\$45,183.21
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/15/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,970.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/15/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$1,980.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/3/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$72.24
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/8/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$129.86
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/15/2019	General Legal Fees	\$37,197.52
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/15/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$2,728.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/15/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$2,706.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/16/2019	General Legal Fees	\$59,922.21
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/16/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$3,520.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/16/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$3,168.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/21/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$263.60
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/21/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$9.75
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/11/2019	General Legal Fees	\$43,305.36
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/11/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$2,816.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/11/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$3,058.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/11/2019	General Legal Fees	\$54,387.78

Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/11/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,408.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/11/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$2,882.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/11/2019	General Legal Fees	\$54,680.49
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/11/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$5,538.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/15/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$86.36
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/11/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$117.62
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/12/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$16.17
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/6/2019	General Legal Fees	\$54,338.60
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/6/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$154.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/6/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$6,006.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/12/2019	General Legal Fees	\$65,111.79
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/12/2019	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$110.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/12/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$2,095.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/18/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$155.11
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$36.87
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$561.93
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2019	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$588.49
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2019	General Legal Fees	\$40,785.11
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2019	Development Legal Fees	\$3,408.40
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/8/2020	General Legal Fees	\$66,359.84
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/8/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$652.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/8/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$3,296.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/24/2020	General Legal Fees	\$68,533.08
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/24/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$135.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/24/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$2,665.28
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/26/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$561.80
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/13/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$1,201.88
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/22/2020	General Legal Fees	\$88,751.85
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/22/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$315.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/22/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$4,575.70
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/22/2020	Legal Services - Speedway	\$412.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/21/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$366.55
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/5/2020	General Legal Fees	\$71,610.97
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/5/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$3,327.60
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/5/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$2,599.60
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/30/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$69.62
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/14/2020	General Legal Fees	\$96,404.47
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/14/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$1,935.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/31/2020	General Legal Fees	\$189.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/7/2020	General Legal Fees	\$80,010.97
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/7/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$2,530.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/17/2020	General Legal Fees	\$66,002.98
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/17/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$585.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/17/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$6,795.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/23/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$440.06

Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/5/2020	General Legal Fees	\$46,329.39
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/5/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$636.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/5/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$4,257.85
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/15/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$42.84
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/5/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$48.62
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/11/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$102.85
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/15/2020	General Legal Fees	\$73,863.63
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/15/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,517.90
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/15/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$725.20
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/15/2020	Legal Services - Breckenridge	\$3,575.80
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$133.13
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	General Legal Fees	\$57,713.34
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,484.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$3,121.40
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Breckenridge	\$117.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$1,254.59
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$255.09
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$84.23
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	General Legal Fees	\$61,389.02
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$765.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Development Legal Fees	\$2,800.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/31/2020	Legal Services - Breckenridge	\$286.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/29/2021	General Legal Services	\$62,010.36
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/29/2021	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,292.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/29/2021	Development Legal Fees	\$3,922.90
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/29/2021	Legal Services - Breckenridge	\$352.70
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/30/2021	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$164.74
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	3/30/2021	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$385.81
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/13/2021	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$317.89
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/13/2021	General Legal Services	\$58,962.14
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/13/2021	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$7,394.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/13/2021	Development Legal Fees	\$1,230.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/20/2021	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$766.34
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/17/2021	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$762.91
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/17/2021	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$27.17
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/26/2021	General Legal Services	\$59,423.80
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/26/2021	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$5,670.90
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/26/2021	Development Legal Fees	\$3,021.63
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	5/26/2021	Legal Services - Breckenridge	\$1,490.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/18/2021	General Legal Services - April	\$51,852.87
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/18/2021	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$773.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/18/2021	Development Legal Fees	\$3,321.30
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/18/2021	Breckenridge - April	\$321.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/18/2021	Legal Services - PTAB Appeal Interventions	\$63.54
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/23/2021	General Legal Services	\$49,805.49

Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/23/2021	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$744.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/23/2021	Development Legal Fees	\$2,205.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/23/2021	Legal Services 2021	\$47.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/22/2021	General Legal Services	\$55,540.32
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/22/2021	Development Legal Fees	\$1,782.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	8/22/2021	Breckridge	\$399.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/30/2021	General Legal Services	\$138.94
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	9/30/2021	General Legal Services	\$57,875.24
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/15/2021	Complete Appraisal Report Macy's Orland Square	\$448.57
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/22/2021	General Legal Services	\$144.24
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/29/2021	General Legal Services	\$58,290.32
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/29/2021	Main Street Triangle Legal Services	\$1,658.70
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/29/2021	Development Legal Fees	\$4,236.79
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	10/29/2021	Legal Services 2021 Breckenridge	\$1,057.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/20/2021	General Legal Services	\$250.17
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/24/2021	General Legal Services	\$69,578.84
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/24/2021	Development Legal Fees	\$2,542.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/24/2021	METRA	\$360.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	11/24/2021	BRECKRIDGE	\$399.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	12/18/2021	General Legal Services	\$289.94
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/14/2022	General Legal Services	\$64,532.09
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/14/2022	Development Legal Fees	\$4,190.15
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/17/2022	Legal Services - PTAR Appeal Interventions	\$156.67
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	1/27/2022	General Legal Services	\$121.79
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/17/2022	Legal Services	\$1,701.20
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/17/2022	Legal Services	63,017.59
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/17/2022	Legal Services	\$1,223.40
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/17/2022	Legal Services	\$424.60
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	4/17/2022	Legal Services	\$8.34
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/15/2022	Legal Services	\$1,607.82
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/15/2022	Legal Services	\$4,195.67
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/15/2022	Legal Services	\$77,216.70
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	6/15/2022	Legal Services	\$1,103.80
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/1/2022	Legal Services	\$462.23
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/1/2022	Legal Services	\$382.50
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/1/2022	Legal Services	\$68,836.45
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/27/2022	May Statement	\$5,532.87
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/27/2022	May Statement	\$68,954.23
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/27/2022	May Statement	\$90.00
Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	7/30/2022	Matter ID #S 4225-120, 4225-138, 4225-155	\$1,182.86
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$3,278,985.46</b>

[Village of Orland Park, Accounts Payable, accessed [8/22/22](#)]

**Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins Was The Law Firm Listed On Two Key Frivolous Lawsuits Which The Village Lost – Costing Taxpayers Tens-Of-Thousands Of Dollars**

**Months After Filing A Complaint Against Gov. Pritzker, The Village Abruptly Withdrew The Lawsuit, Costing Tens-Of-Thousands Of Dollars**

***Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins Represented Orland Park In The Lawsuit Against Pritzker***

**Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins Represented Orland Park In The Lawsuit Against Pritzker.** [Attorneys, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Village Of Orland Park et al v. Pritzker, Case No.: 1:20-cv-03528, filed 6/16/20]

Village Of Orland Park  
*an Illinois home rule municipal corporation*

represented by **Lance C. Malina**  
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Fax: Active  
Email: lcmalina@ktjnet.com  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Howard C. Jablecki**  
Klein, Thorpe And Jenkins, Ltd.  
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**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

[Attorneys, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Village Of Orland Park et al v. Pritzker, Case No.: 1:20-cv-03528, filed 6/16/20]

**June 2020: Orland Park Filed A Federal Lawsuit Against Governor Pritzker, Challenging Restrictions Put In Place During The Coronavirus Pandemic.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park has dropped a federal lawsuit against Gov. J.B. Pritzker challenging restrictions put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to court filings. The village and other plaintiffs in the case had filed the complaint in mid-June, and last month told the judge overseeing the case it planned to file an amended lawsuit by this Thursday. The short document filed Tuesday did not give an explanation why the village decided to voluntarily dismiss the lawsuit. Mayor Keith Pekau said Thursday that the Village Board decided in a closed session following Monday’s meeting to drop the case, but defended the village’s use of taxpayer money to pursue the litigation.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**The Judge In The Case Said That The Village Would Have “A Negligible Likelihood Of Success” In Pressing Their Claims.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The lawsuit argued, in part, that Pritzker had ‘failed to prove by

clear and convincing evidence that public health is significantly endangered without' restrictions on businesses and residents. In an Aug. 1 ruling in the lawsuit, Wood denied a motion by the village seeking a temporary restraining order as well as a preliminary injunction to overturn a series of executive orders issued by the governor. Wood ruled the village and other plaintiffs failed to show they have been unduly harmed by the governor's order and would have 'a negligible likelihood of success' in pressing their claims. Pekau said that the village's early September motion indicating it planned to file an amended lawsuit was a way of giving village officials more time to ponder its options. 'We were trying to see what was happening out there,' he said." [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**October 2020: Pekau Announced That The Village Board Decided To Drop A Federal Lawsuit Challenging Governor Pritzker's COVID-19 Restrictions After A Closed Session, But "Defended The Village's Use Of Taxpayer Money To Pursue The Litigation."** According to the Chicago Tribune, "Orland Park has dropped a federal lawsuit against Gov. J.B. Pritzker challenging restrictions put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to court filings. The village and other plaintiffs in the case had filed the complaint in mid-June, and last month told the judge overseeing the case it planned to file an amended lawsuit by this Thursday. [...] Mayor Keith Pekau said Thursday that the Village Board decided in a closed session following Monday's meeting to drop the case but defended the village's use of taxpayer money to pursue the litigation. [...] Pekau said that the village's early September motion indicating it planned to file an amended lawsuit was a way of giving village officials more time to ponder its options." [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**Pekau Responded, "I'd Do It Again" To A Reporter Who Asked If He Regretted Filing The Lawsuit.** Yahoo News reported, "When asked if the village regrets the lawsuit being filed in the first place, Pekau said 'absolutely not,' adding that the village has been fully opened since July 20. 'Our businesses had opened sooner because of the pressure that was put on the governor, and it was our lawsuit [along with] others that caused that to happen,' Pekau said. 'The amount of economic activity we've had has probably saved many of our businesses... the sales tax and taxes that we've generated from being open sooner are much greater than anything we spent on a lawsuit. So I'd do it again if there was a similar circumstance, based on the information we had at the time. I don't regret it at all and I don't regret dragging it.'" [Yahoo News, [10/9/20](#)]

### ***The Total Legal Bill For The Failed Lawsuit Was \$70,000***

**The Total Legal Bill For The Failed Lawsuit Was \$70,000.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "The mayor said he did not know how much the lawsuit cost the village, but that he believed the complaint put pressure on the governor to relax restrictions on businesses, which allowed Orland Park businesses to reopen. He said he believed the sales tax revenue flowing into village coffers would more than offset the legal expenses. 'The money was well worth it because everything opened up,' Pekau said. Trustee Dan Calandriello, who was opposed from the start to the litigation, said the consensus during Monday's closed-door session was drop the matter. 'The feeling was it was time to finish this thing,' he said. Calandriello, who is an attorney, said he believes the total legal bill for Orland Park will be about \$70,000 and was critical of the expense at a time when municipal revenues have been affected due to the pandemic. 'At the end of the day this was not productive,' he said." [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

### **November 2019: Orland Park Took A Church To Court To Prevent Hope Covenant Church From Hosting A Homeless Shelter To Help The Needy During Cold Months**

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#### ***November 2019: Orland Park Filed A Lawsuit Against Hope Covenant Church Asking A Judge To Close A Homeless Shelter Run By The Church***

**November 2019: The Village Of Orland Park Filed A Lawsuit Against Hope Covenant Church Asking A Judge To Close A Homeless Shelter Run By The Church.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "A homeless shelter in the basement of an Orland Park church will apparently continue to operate, at least for the time being, despite a lawsuit filed by the village seeking to close it. Attorneys for Orland Park were in court Friday morning asking a judge to close the shelter, which has operated for a little more than a month at Hope Covenant Church,

arguing in a lawsuit that the facility ‘constitutes an ongoing threat to public health and safety.’ No ruling on closing the shelter was made by the judge at the hearing, according to Jon Fogel, Hope Covenant’s pastor.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/8/19]

**The Shelter Served 50 People Per Week During The Cold Winter Months.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Attorneys for Orland Park were in court Friday morning asking a judge to close the shelter, which has operated for a little more than a month at Hope Covenant Church, arguing in a lawsuit that the facility ‘constitutes an ongoing threat to public health and safety.’ [...] Fogel said that about 50 people have been staying weekly at the shelter, and that he was ‘thrilled’ the shelter would, for the near term, be allowed to continue to operate. [...] The church and BEDS Plus had arranged to house the homeless on Tuesdays at the church through April. BEDS Plus is a southwest suburban agency that operates overnight shelters and an array of services and safety nets, according to the group.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/8/19]

**The Suit Called For The Shelter To Be Closed And Sought Fines Against The Church For At Least \$1,000.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Attorneys for the village were asking a Cook County Circuit Court judge Friday to approve a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction against the church to close the shelter while the lawsuit proceeds. The lawsuit seeks fines against the church of at least \$1,000. The lawsuit requires the church to submit building plans showing how the building will be modified to comply with the code requirements. In order to maintain the shelter, Hope Covenant would also be required to apply for an amendment to the village’s land development code and obtain a special use permit, reflecting the lower level’s residential use, according to the lawsuit. That would require a public hearing and approval by the Village Board.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/8/19]

### ***The Village Claimed The Church Was In Violation Of Safety Codes, But The Church Said They Were Not Given Sufficient Time To Address The Concerns Before The Lawsuit Was Filed***

**The Village Claimed That They Found Health And Safety Code Violations.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Attorneys for Orland Park were in court Friday morning asking a judge to close the shelter, which has operated for a little more than a month at Hope Covenant Church, arguing in a lawsuit that the facility ‘constitutes an ongoing threat to public health and safety.’ [...] The lawsuit, filed Thursday, comes after village officials on Wednesday said they had found more than two dozen health and safety codes at the church and asked the shelter be closed until the alleged violations are addressed. Orland Park outlined the alleged violations in a letter Wednesday to the church.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/8/19]

**The Pastor Of The Church, Jon Fogel, Said The Alleged Violations Were Easily Corrected And That The Church Was “Willing To Work With The Village” To Address Any Shortcomings.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park said it had notified the church Wednesday of the alleged code violations, which include insufficient fire and carbon monoxide protections in the shelter area and a lack of code-compliant exits. Fogel said Friday he believed many of the alleged violations were easily corrected, such as buying and installing additional smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and that the church was ‘willing to work with the village’ to address any shortcomings. [...] Fogel said the church hadn’t been given sufficient time to try to address the supposed code issues before the village filed the lawsuit. ‘They (Orland Park) filed less than one business day after we received the letter, which was the first time we learned there were any issues with our building at all,’ Fogel said. ‘They gave essentially less than 24 hours to fix any issues.’” [Chicago Tribune, 11/8/19]

**Fogel Said That The Church Was Not Given Sufficient Time To Address The Code Issues Before The Village Filed The Lawsuit, Saying They Had Less Than 24 Hours To Fix The Issues.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park said it had notified the church Wednesday of the alleged code violations, which include insufficient fire and carbon monoxide protections in the shelter area and a lack of code-compliant exits. Fogel said Friday he believed many of the alleged violations were easily corrected, such as buying and installing additional smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and that the church was ‘willing to work with the village’ to address any shortcomings. [...] Fogel said the church hadn’t been given sufficient time to try to address the supposed code issues before the village filed the lawsuit. ‘They (Orland Park) filed less than one business day after we received the

letter, which was the first time we learned there were any issues with our building at all,' Fogel said. 'They gave essentially less than 24 hours to fix any issues.'" [Chicago Tribune, 11/8/19]

## ***Village Officials Claimed They First Became Aware Of The Homeless Shelter In October, But Fogel Said That The Church Laid Out Their Proposal To The Village Board In Early August***

**Village Officials Claimed They First Became Aware Of The Homeless Shelter In October, But Fogel Said That The Church Laid Out Their Proposal To The Village Board In Early August.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "Village officials contend they first became aware of the shelter in early October and made an inspection of the church, 14401 West Ave., on Oct. 18. According to Jon Fogel, Hope Covenant's pastor, the church initially informed village officials in April about the church's intent to work with BEDS Plus, and laid out their proposal at a Village Board meeting in early August." [Chicago Tribune, 11/19/19]

**Pekau Recognized Pastor Fogel At The Board Meeting, Heard His Plans Of The Shelter And Did Not Raise Any Concerns Or Objections Before Agreeing To File The Lawsuit.** According to the SuburbanChicagoLand blog, "Maybe Mayor Pekau was dozing off while a member of the Orland Park public was addressing the board meeting that evening. Pekau, in fact, recognized Fogel (mispronouncing his name) and gave him the floor. Fogel detailed the urgency to help Orland Park's needy and his plans to open the homeless shelter and he urged the village to help the church. Pekau casually thanked Fogel for his presentation and then without any comments or expression of concern about a homeless shelter being opened in Orland Park, went on to recognize the next member of the public, whom he probably ignored, too. Pekau had a choice to listen to Fogel, a resident of Orland Park, or ignore him. Pekau also had the choice to work with the church to help the homeless or to waste taxpayer money and take the matter to the courts. Why not? Pekau doesn't pay for the legal expenses. The taxpayers do." [SuburbanChicagoLand, Blog, [11/19/19](#)]

## ***Orland Park Residents Largely Opposed The Lawsuit, And Dozens Attended A Village Board Meeting In Support Of The Shelter***

**HEADLINE: "Orland Park Not Budging On Homeless Shelter Lawsuit Despite Outcry From Residents."** [Chicago Tribune, 11/19/19]

**Dozens Of Residents Attended The Village Board Meeting In Support Of The Shelter, And No Resident At The Meeting Spoke Against The Shelter.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "Dozens of residents attended the board meeting, with none speaking against the shelter, which the church began operating early last month in conjunction with BEDS Plus. One resident said the village was 'acting in an impractical manner' in blocking the shelter, while another said there needs to be a 'spirit of facilitation and encouragement' on the part of officials." [Chicago Tribune, 11/19/19]

**Fogel Said He Believed "The Vast Majority Of People" Were Supportive Of The Shelter.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "Fogel said in recent days the church has received donations of food, personal care items and money meant to assist it in housing the homeless, and the pastor said he believes 'the vast majority of people' are supportive of the shelter. 'The outpouring of support has been far and away greater than any negativity we have seen,' he said." [Chicago Tribune, 11/12/19]

- **Fogel: "The Outpouring Of Support Has Been Far And Away Greater Than Any Negativity We Have Seen."** According to the Chicago Tribune, "Fogel said in recent days the church has received donations of food, personal care items and money meant to assist it in housing the homeless, and the pastor said he believes 'the vast majority of people' are supportive of the shelter. 'The outpouring of support has been far and away greater than any negativity we have seen,' he said." [Chicago Tribune, 11/12/19]

## ***Some Village Officials And Trustees Supported The Shelter And Criticized The***

## ***City For Turning To Expensive Litigation As A First Resort Instead Of Working With The Church***

**One Trustee Said That Although He Initially Supported The Decision To File The Lawsuit, He Visited The Shelter And Said He “Did Not Perceive A Whole Helluva Lot Of Risk.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Following residents’ comments, Trustee James Dodge said that although he initially supported the decision by the board to file the lawsuit, a visit last week to the shelter changed his view. Noting the fire alarm and fire suppression systems, the trustee said he ‘did not perceive a whole helluva lot of risk’ to people staying at the church. Dodge said he wanted ‘to see us (officials) try to find a compromise.’” [Chicago Tribune, 11/19/19]

**In Response To The Lawsuit Against The Church, Orland Township Supervisor Paul O’Grady Criticized “Overzealous” And “Heavy-Handed” Tactics By Village Officials.** With January-like temperatures gripping the area, a homeless shelter operating in the basement of an Orland Park church was expected to welcome overnight guests Tuesday as a village lawsuit seeking to close the facility continues. Meanwhile, Orland Township Supervisor Paul O’Grady took to social media to criticize what he termed ‘overzealous’ and ‘heavy-handed’ tactics by village officials in Orland Park.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/12/19]

**O’Grady Criticized Orland Park Officials For Turning To “Expensive Litigation As A First Resort And Not A Last Resort.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “In a posting Monday, O’Grady chided Orland Park officials for turning to ‘expensive litigation as a first resort and not a last resort’ in dealing with the shelter. [...] O’Grady, a lawyer, said Tuesday ‘a measured hand’ should have been used, with the village working with the church to ‘try to find common ground.’” [Chicago Tribune, 11/12/19]

## ***Chicago Tribune Columnist Ted Slowik Made The Point That Pekau’s Hardline Stance On The Shelter Was Ruining The Village’s Reputation***

**OPINION HEADLINE: “Orland Park’s Hardball Stance Against A Church Homeless Shelter Paints The Village As A Stereotypical ‘Bad Guy.’”** [Chicago Tribune, Column, 11/19/19]

**Chicago Tribune Columnist Ted Slowik Made The Point That Pekau’s Stance On The Homeless Shelter Was Causing The Village To Have A Bad Reputation.** According to columnist Ted Slowik in the Chicago Tribune, “The village of Orland Park is fighting Hope Covenant Church in a court of law over the church’s new homeless shelter. [...] Many people learning about the dispute through news reports and social media are forming the impression that the village is the ‘bad guy’ in this story and the church is the ‘good guy.’ This should concern the nearly 59,000 residents of Orland Park. Do they want their town to develop a reputation as a place that bullies churches that try to help the less fortunate members of their community? Do they want to live in a village known as a place full of affluent snobs who are willing to sue in an effort to keep certain people out of their midst? Because like it or not, that’s the perception of Orland Park that a lot of people are forming as this dispute lingers.” [Chicago Tribune, Column 11/19/19]

**Slowik: “Do [Orland Park Residents] Want To Live In A Village Known As A Place Full Of Affluent Snobs Who Are Willing To Sue In An Effort To Keep Certain People Out Of Their Midst?”** According to columnist Ted Slowik in the Chicago Tribune, “The village of Orland Park is fighting Hope Covenant Church in a court of law over the church’s new homeless shelter. [...] Many people learning about the dispute through news reports and social media are forming the impression that the village is the ‘bad guy’ in this story and the church is the ‘good guy.’ This should concern the nearly 59,000 residents of Orland Park. Do they want their town to develop a reputation as a place that bullies churches that try to help the less fortunate members of their community? Do they want to live in a village known as a place full of affluent snobs who are willing to sue in an effort to keep certain people out of their midst? Because like it or not, that’s the perception of Orland Park that a lot of people are forming as this dispute lingers.” [Chicago Tribune, Column 11/19/19]

## ***In Response To The Criticism, Pekau Was Defensive And Initially Said There***

## ***Would Be “No Compromising”***

**In Response To Orland Park Residents Voicing Their Support For The Homeless Shelter, Pekau Said There Would Be “No Compromising.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park residents at a meeting Monday voiced their support for a homeless shelter operating one night a week in a church basement, criticizing village officials for heading to court rather than trying to reach a compromise with church officials. Village Board members, for the most part, reiterated the village’s position that the shelter being operated at Hope Covenant Church is in violation of numerous building and safety codes. Mayor Keith Pekau said there would be ‘no compromising on health and safety issues’ and that village ‘ordinances and zoning processes must be followed by everyone.’” [Chicago Tribune, 11/19/19]

**Pekau Responded Defensively To O’Grady’s Criticisms, Accusing The Supervisor Of Playing Politics.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Pekau said O’Grady had not contacted him or the village’s manager or sought documents regarding the village’s issues concerning the shelter and accused the supervisor of playing politics. ‘Courtesy would be to call (village officials) to find out what’s going on,’ the mayor said.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/12/19]

## ***Pekau Denied There Was Even A Homelessness Problem In Orland Park***

**Pekau Denied There Was A Homelessness Problem In Orland Park To Necessitate A Shelter.** According to Patch Orland Park, “The pastor and mayor are also at odds on whether or not there is an actual homeless problem in Orland Park at all. Fogel said ‘we don’t have a high accessibility to the homeless population because Orland is not a walkable community, but they are here’ in a Patch article reporting on the shelter’s opening last month, adding that a number of homeless individuals had shown up to the church on a frequent basis even before the shelter opened. ‘It’s certainly a nationwide problem and a metro Chicago problem, but there’s not a homeless problem in Orland Park that I know of,’ the mayor said. ‘I only know of one homeless individual who is often seen in Orland Park. I personally have not observed the problem here.’ [Patch Orland Park, [11/8/19](#)]

**Pekau: “I Personally Have Not Observed [Homelessness] Here.”** According to Patch Orland Park, “The pastor and mayor are also at odds on whether or not there is an actual homeless problem in Orland Park at all. Fogel said ‘we don’t have a high accessibility to the homeless population because Orland is not a walkable community, but they are here’ in a Patch article reporting on the shelter’s opening last month, adding that a number of homeless individuals had shown up to the church on a frequent basis even before the shelter opened. ‘It’s certainly a nationwide problem and a metro Chicago problem, but there’s not a homeless problem in Orland Park that I know of,’ the mayor said. ‘I only know of one homeless individual who is often seen in Orland Park. I personally have not observed the problem here.’ [Patch Orland Park, [11/8/19](#)]

**Fogel Explained That There Were Homeless People In The Village.** According to Patch Orland Park, “The pastor and mayor are also at odds on whether or not there is an actual homeless problem in Orland Park at all. Fogel said ‘we don’t have a high accessibility to the homeless population because Orland is not a walkable community, but they are here’ in a Patch article reporting on the shelter’s opening last month, adding that a number of homeless individuals had shown up to the church on a frequent basis even before the shelter opened. ‘It’s certainly a nationwide problem and a metro Chicago problem, but there’s not a homeless problem in Orland Park that I know of,’ the mayor said. ‘I only know of one homeless individual who is often seen in Orland Park. I personally have not observed the problem here.’ [Patch Orland Park, [11/8/19](#)]

**The Shelter Served 50 People Per Week During The Cold Winter Months.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Attorneys for Orland Park were in court Friday morning asking a judge to close the shelter, which has operated for a little more than a month at Hope Covenant Church, arguing in a lawsuit that the facility ‘constitutes an ongoing threat to public health and safety.’ [...] Fogel said that about 50 people have been staying weekly at the shelter, and that he was ‘thrilled’ the shelter would, for the near term, be allowed to continue to operate. [...] The church and BEDS Plus had arranged to house the homeless on Tuesdays at the church through April. BEDS Plus is a southwest

suburban agency that operates overnight shelters and an array of services and safety nets, according to the group.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/8/19]

### ***After The Public Outcry Over The Lawsuit, The Village Capitulated And Announced A Settlement With The Church***

**After Dozens Of Residents Attended A Village Board Meeting To Criticize The Board For Filing The Lawsuit, The Village Announced They Reached A Tentative Settlement With The Church To Allow The Shelter To Operate While The Church Addressed The Code Issues.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park and Hope Covenant Church said Monday they’ve reached a tentative agreement under which a homeless shelter operating at the church will be allowed to stay open while Hope Covenant addresses building and safety code issues. The settlement, which Orland Park trustees are scheduled to vote on at a special meeting Wednesday, would also resolve a lawsuit filed earlier this month by the village seeking to close the shelter, according to Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau. [...] The move comes after dozens of people attended a Nov. 18 Village Board meeting, where village officials were criticized for filing the lawsuit and throwing up other roadblocks to thwart the operation of the shelter.” [Chicago Tribune, 11/25/19]

## **Pekau Used His Position As Mayor To Oust His Opponents And Further His Political Career**

*On multiple occasions, Pekau proved he could not be trusted with power by using his position as mayor to oust his opponents and further his political career. In one instance, Scott Kaspar, Pekau's primary opponent in the 2022 U.S. House of Representatives race, released an advertisement focusing on crime in Orland Park. Pekau said he was "appalled" by the advertisement and defended the work of the Orland Park Police Department. The Orland Park Board of Trustees voted to remove Kaspar from the Village's Ethics Commission and Police Pension Fund Board, claiming he disparaged the village and the police department. Kaspar said the removal was retaliation and that Pekau abused his position as mayor to target his political opponents. In another instance, Pekau retaliated and forced Village Manager Joseph La Margo to resign after he launched an investigation into Pekau's shady ethical practices as mayor. Further, Pekau allegedly violated the terms of La Margo's separation agreement with the village by publicly disparaging him and making false claims about the investigation. This prompted La Margo to file a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village; the litigation was ongoing as of September 2022. It's clear – Pekau has no limits and would do whatever it takes to remain in power.*

### **After His Primary Opponent Scott Kaspar Released A Campaign Advertisement Targeting Pekau, The Orland Park Board Of Trustees Voted To Remove Kaspar From Key Village Positions**

#### **March 2022: Scott Kaspar, Pekau's Primary Opponent, Released An Advertisement Focusing On Crime In Orland Park**

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**March 2022: Scott Kaspar, An Orland Park Resident Running In The GOP Primary For The 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Released A Campaign Advertisement Focusing On Crime In Orland Park.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, "A Republican running for Illinois' 6th Congressional District seat is irate about allegations a competitor has made in a new campaign advertisement. Candidate Keith Pekau, who's also Orland Park's mayor, said he's 'appalled' by GOP rival Scott Kaspar's brief commercial, which focuses on crime in the Southwest suburb. Kaspar lives in Orland Park, too. In the 38-second video released Monday, a narrator alleges crime is 'out of control' in the village as a photo of an Orland Park police vehicle, a succession of news headlines and crime-related social media posts zip by." [Chicago Daily Herald, 3/26/22]

#### **Pekau Said He Was "Appalled" By The Advertisement And Defended The Work Of The Orland Park Police Department**

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**Pekau Said He Was "Appalled" By The Advertisement And Defended The Work Of The Orland Park Police Department.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, "A Republican running for Illinois' 6th Congressional District seat is irate about allegations a competitor has made in a new campaign advertisement. Candidate Keith Pekau, who's also Orland Park's mayor, said he's 'appalled' by GOP rival Scott Kaspar's brief commercial, which focuses on crime in the Southwest suburb. [...] Pekau, Orland Park's mayor since 2017, insisted crimes involving people or property in town are at a 27-year low, and his campaign provided departmental data supporting that claim. Pekau defended the work of the department and outgoing Chief Joseph Mitchell, who is taking a job in a different community. 'I will not stand for attacks on our police department,' Pekau said in an emailed statement. 'Attacking our police department's performance and our (chief's) integrity for personal and political gain is as distasteful as it is unacceptable.'" [Chicago Daily Herald, 3/26/22]

- **Pekau: "I Will Not Stand For Attacks On Our Police Department."** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, "A Republican running for Illinois' 6th Congressional District seat is irate about allegations a competitor has made in a new campaign advertisement. Candidate Keith Pekau, who's also Orland Park's mayor, said he's 'appalled' by GOP rival Scott Kaspar's brief commercial, which focuses on crime in the

Southwest suburb. [...] Pekau, Orland Park's mayor since 2017, insisted crimes involving people or property in town are at a 27-year low, and his campaign provided departmental data supporting that claim. Pekau defended the work of the department and outgoing Chief Joseph Mitchell, who is taking a job in a different community. 'I will not stand for attacks on our police department,' Pekau said in an emailed statement. 'Attacking our police department's performance and our (chief's) integrity for personal and political gain is as distasteful as it is unacceptable.'" [Chicago Daily Herald, 3/26/22]

## **April 2022: The Orland Park Board Of Trustees Voted To Remove Kaspar From The Village's Ethics Commission And Police Pension Fund Board**

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### **April 2022: The Orland Park Trustees Voted To Remove Kaspar From The Village's Ethics Commission And Police Pension Fund Board Claiming He Disparaged The Village And The Police Department.**

According to the Chicago Daily Herald, "Trustees on Monday voted to recommend Pekau remove Kaspar from the panels. Kaspar's terms with both groups had been set to expire in June. On Tuesday, Kaspar revealed he resigned from the pension fund board the night before in an email to the group's chairman. He wouldn't provide a copy of the email. In an email to Village Manager George Koczwara, Orland Park Trustee Cynthia Nelson Katsenes said Kaspar should be removed from both groups because he 'publicly attacked and disparaged' the village and police department." [Chicago Daily Herald, 4/6/22]

## **Kaspar Claimed The Removal Was Retaliation And That Pekau Abused His Position As Mayor To Target His Political Opponents**

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**Kaspar Claimed The Removal Was Retaliation And That Pekau Abused His Position As Mayor To Target His Political Opponents.** According to the Beacon-News, "Orland Park trustees want to remove a political opponent of Mayor Keith Pekau from the village's Ethics Commission and Police Pension Fund Board for what they say are attacks that disparaged the village and particularly the Police Department. Formal action on removing Scott Kaspar from the two appointed positions is expected to come at the April 18 Village Board meeting. Kaspar is one of six people vying for the Republican nomination in the new 6th Congressional District. Pekau is also a candidate in the June 28 primary and abstained from the discussion and preliminary vote at Monday's committee of the whole meeting. Kaspar on Tuesday accused the mayor of 'weaponizing and abusing his position as Mayor to target political opponents.'" [Beacon-News, 4/5/22]

## **After Village Manager Joseph La Margo Investigated Pekau's Shady Ethical Conduct, Pekau Forced Him To Resign And Publicly Disparaged Him, Prompting A Defamation Lawsuit**

## **2019: La Margo Hired A Law Firm To Investigate Pekau's Shady Ethical Conduct**

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**Joseph La Margo Was The Village Manager Of Orland Park From 2017 To 2019.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making 'disparaging' comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village's bidding process, but

said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**2019: La Margo Hired Jones Day To Investigate Irregularities In The Bidding Process Involving The Landscaping Company Formerly Owned By Pekau.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

## **After La Margo Commenced The Investigation, Pekau Forced Him To Resign**

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**After La Margo Commenced The Investigation, Pekau Forced Him To Resign.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**La Margo Alleged That He Was Forced To Resign, Causing Him To Be Unable To Participate In The Village’s Retirement Program.** According to the Complaint, “Two days after the municipal election, on April 4, 2019 Plaintiff was called into Defendant Pekau’s office and forced to resign. Defendant Pekau’s requirement that Plaintiff resign caused him to be unable to participate in the Village’s early retirement program. Plaintiff was one year from retirement when he was forced to resign.” [Complaint, La Margo v. Village of Orland Park et al, Case No.: 2020L004136, Cook County Circuit Court, filed [4/10/20](#)]

## **2020: La Margo Filed A Defamation Lawsuit Against Pekau And The Village Of Orland Park**

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**2020: Joseph La Margo Filed A Defamation Lawsuit Against Pekau And The Village Of Orland Park, Alleging That The Terms Of A Separation Agreement He Entered Into With The Village Was Violated.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The Niles Village Board on July 27 was expected to confirm Mayor George Alpigianis’ appointment of Joseph S. La Margo as the village’s top administrator overseeing day-to-day operations. [...] Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones

Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village's bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper." [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**Pekau Allegedly Made False Statements About La Margo During A May 2019 Press Conference And In A Blog Post.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "According to the lawsuit, Pekau made false and 'disparaging statements' about La Margo during a May 2019 press conference and in a blog post. The statements included untrue claims that La Margo leaked information about the bidding investigation, conducted it for political reasons, and engaged in misconduct, the lawsuit says. La Margo this week declined to comment on the lawsuit, saying it is ongoing. He did say that Orland Park is a 'great community' and believes 'a lot of good things' were accomplished there during his time with the village." [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

- **The Statements Included Claims That La Margo Leaked Information About The Bidding Investigation, Conducted It For Political Reasons, And Engaged In Misconduct.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "According to the lawsuit, Pekau made false and 'disparaging statements' about La Margo during a May 2019 press conference and in a blog post. The statements included untrue claims that La Margo leaked information about the bidding investigation, conducted it for political reasons, and engaged in misconduct, the lawsuit says. La Margo this week declined to comment on the lawsuit, saying it is ongoing. He did say that Orland Park is a 'great community' and believes 'a lot of good things' were accomplished there during his time with the village." [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**La Margo Alleged That An Orland Park Resident Sent A Letter To La Margo's Subsequent Employer Repeating The Lies That Pekau Had Spread About Him.** According to the Complaint, "Defendants' public comments encouraged citizens to repeat the comments and attempt to interfere with Plaintiff's ability to gain subsequent employment. On or about November 3, 2019, an Orland Park resident sent a letter to Plaintiff's subsequent employer repeating the false statements published by Defendants claiming that Plaintiff 'CANNOT be trusted' and claiming 'he was asked to [leave] Orland Park because of his unethical conduct.'" [Complaint, La Margo v. Village of Orland Park et al, Case No.: 2020L004136, Cook County Circuit Court, filed [4/10/20](#)]

**La Margo Said That The Allegations Pekau Made Against Him Caused Him To Seek Employment Outside Illinois.** According to the Complaint, "Defendants' public comments encouraged citizens to repeat the comments and attempt to interfere with Plaintiff's ability to gain subsequent employment. On or about November 3, 2019, an Orland Park resident sent a letter to Plaintiff's subsequent employer repeating the false statements published by Defendants claiming that Plaintiff 'CANNOT be trusted' and claiming 'he was asked to [leave] Orland Park because of his unethical conduct.'" [Complaint, La Margo v. Village of Orland Park et al, Case No.: 2020L004136, Cook County Circuit Court, filed [4/10/20](#)]

## **Pekau Appears To Have Repeatedly Violated Federal Campaign Finance Laws By Paying For Expenses For His Congressional Out Of State Campaign Funds**

*Since filing his bid for Congress in November 2021, Pekau's mayoral campaign account has spent \$37,572 in consulting fees and another campaign expenses. Federal campaign finance law prohibits candidates from transferring over \$2,000 from state and local campaign committees to a federal campaign committee. If any of these expenditures were in support of his campaign for Congress, Pekau could have reported up to \$2,000 in spending as in-kind contributions from his mayoral to his federal campaign committee. Of the \$37,572 Pekau's mayoral campaign has spent after he announced his bid for Congress, approximately half of the money – \$18,690 – was spent on things like contributions to other campaign committees, ticket purchases, sponsorships, and other donations. The remaining \$18,882 represent expenditures on items like campaign consulting, food, polling, and advertising, showing strong evidence that Pekau may have been using these expenses in support of his congressional bid.*

*There is significant evidence that Pekau has been paying the bills for his consultants out of both his federal and local campaign committee accounts. On three occasions after Pekau announced his bid for Congress, Pekau's congressional campaign committee and his mayoral campaign reported payments to the same vendors within three days of one another, suggesting he was using funds from his mayoral to pay bills for services rendered for his campaign for Congress. For example, his mayoral campaign paid \$400 to McPherson Public Affairs Group on March 4, 2022 for "consulting" just three days after paying the same firm \$3,900 for "campaign consulting" from his federal committee. The same pattern appears in other payments to McPherson Public Affairs Group and another campaign consultant for Pekau, Cor Services. As of September 2022, state records indicate Pekau's mayoral campaign had paid both firms as recently as June of that year.*

*Pekau's mayoral campaign has made numerous other payments that suggest that he was using state campaign funds to pay his congressional bills. In the week running up to his December 10, 2021 campaign announcement, Pekau paid thousands of dollars from his mayoral funds to the same campaign consultants – McPherson Public Affairs Group and Cor Services – for advertising, polling, and consulting fees. Between December 1, 2021 and June 27, 2022, Pekau had paid the two consulting firms \$9,246 from his mayoral account. Pekau also paid other groups after he began running for Congress, including \$5,000 to Macallan Communications for "website" services on February 1, 2022.*

### **November 2021: Pekau Filed To Run For Congress**

**November 15, 2021: Pekau For Congress Filed A Statement Of Organization With The Federal Election Commission.** According to the Federal Election Commission, Pekau For Congress filed FEC Form 1 "Statement of Organization" on November 15, 2021. [Federal Election Commission, [11/15/21](#)]

### **December 2021: Pekau Formally Announced His Campaign For Congress**

**December 10, 2021: Pekau Announced His Campaign For Congress.** According to a press release from Pekau For Congress, "December 10, 2021: Mayor Keith Pekau Announces Campaign for Congress. Local Leader, Decorated Veteran, and Successful Small Businessman Vows to Put People over Politics in Taking on Extreme Washington Politicians Keith Pekau announced his run for Illinois' 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District at Alexander Equipment in Lisle. Pekau's message was clear—he's waged a winning battle against radical politicians in Orland Park, and he'll take that same fight to the halls of Congress." [Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [12/10/21](#)]

### **Federal Campaigns Can Accept Up To \$2,000 Per Year In**

## Contributions From Candidate Committees, Including In-Kinds

**According To The Federal Election Commission, In-Kind Contributions To Federal Campaigns “Count Against The Contribution Limit As A Gift Of Money Does.** According to the Federal Election Commission, “The value of an in-kind contribution—the usual and normal charge—counts against the contribution limit as a gift of money does. Additionally, like any other contribution, in-kind contributions count against the contributor’s limit for the next election, unless they are otherwise designated.” [Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/19/22](#)]

**A Federal Candidate Committee Is Limited To Receiving \$2,000 Per Election From A Candidate Committee.** According to the Federal Election Commission, a candidate committee can receive no more than \$2,000 from a candidate committee per election. [Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/19/22](#)]

		Recipient				
		Candidate committee	PAC† (SSF and nonconnected)	Party committee: state/district/local	Party committee: national	Additional national party committee accounts‡
<b>Donor</b>	Individual	\$2,900* per election	\$5,000 per year	\$10,000 per year (combined)	\$36,500* per year	\$109,500* per account, per year
	Candidate committee	\$2,000 per election	\$5,000 per year	Unlimited transfers	Unlimited transfers	
	PAC: multicandidate	\$5,000 per election	\$5,000 per year	\$5,000 per year (combined)	\$15,000 per year	\$45,000 per account, per year
	PAC: nonmulticandidate	\$2,900* per election	\$5,000 per year	\$10,000 per year (combined)	\$36,500* per year	\$109,500* per account, per year
	Party committee: state/district/local	\$5,000 per election (combined)	\$5,000 per year (combined)	Unlimited transfers	Unlimited transfers	
	Party committee: national	\$5,000 per election**	\$5,000 per year	Unlimited transfers	Unlimited transfers	

[Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/19/22](#)]

## Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign Spent Over \$37,000 After He Filed To Run For Congress

**Pekau Spent \$37,572.26 From His Mayoral Campaign Account Since He Filed His Congressional Campaign.** According to Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau recorded \$37,572.26 in disbursements from his mayoral campaign account from December 17, 2021 to June 27, 2022. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Election Commission, [11/15/21](#)]

Recipient	Description	Date	Amount
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	12/1/2021	\$ 1,000.00
Cor Services	Advertising -- Magazine	12/5/2021	\$ 480.55
Cor Services	Telephone polling	12/7/2021	\$ 2,400.00
Illinois State Republican Party	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	12/17/2021	\$ 1,000.00

Ozinga for Illinois	Ticket Purchase	1/17/2022	\$ 250.00
Suncom TV	Media -- Production	1/17/2022	\$ 400.00
Bergman For Congress	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/31/2022	\$ 500.00
Citizens for Nelson Katsenes	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/31/2022	\$ 5,000.00
Citizens For Jack Bergman	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	2/1/2022	\$ 500.00
Cor Services	Consulting	2/1/2022	\$ 750.00
Macallan Communications	Website	2/1/2022	\$ 5,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	2/1/2022	\$ 500.00
Cor Services	Consulting	3/4/2022	\$ 786.16
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	3/4/2022	\$ 400.00
D230 Foundation	Donation	3/5/2022	\$ 1,000.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Food	3/29/2022	\$ 760.35
US Postal Service	Postage	4/1/2022	\$ 174.00
United Southland Republican Women	Sponsorship	4/2/2022	\$ 40.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	4/3/2022	\$ 400.00
United Southland Republican Women	Sponsorship	4/3/2022	\$ 250.00
Citizens for Nelson Katsenes	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	4/5/2022	\$ 2,500.00
Cor Services	Consulting	4/13/2022	\$ 786.16
US Postal Service	Postage	4/15/2022	\$ 348.00
Breakthrough Ideas	Sponsorship	4/24/2022	\$ 750.00
Disabled Patriots Fund	Sponsorship	4/24/2022	\$ 900.00
Orland Park Gridiron Classic	Ad book	4/24/2022	\$ 465.00
Cor Services	Consulting	5/13/2022	\$ 854.77
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	5/13/2022	\$ 350.00
US Postal Service	Postage	5/26/2022	\$ 2,668.00
US Postal Service	Postage	6/6/2022	\$ 1,740.00
Citizens for Nelson Katsenes	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	6/10/2022	\$ 3,000.00
Cor Services	Consulting	6/10/2022	\$ 786.13
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	6/10/2022	\$ 300.00
Heine's MCCarthy's Catering	Food	6/26/2022	\$ 200.00
Village of Orland Park	Sponsorship	6/26/2022	\$ 3,000.00
Cor Services	Consulting	6/27/2022	\$ 833.14
			\$ 37,572.26

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

**Pekau Regularly Paid Two Consultants – Cor Services And McPherson Public Affairs Group – Out Of Both His Federal Campaign Committee And His Mayoral Campaign Committee Around The Same Time**

**March 2022: Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign And Congressional Campaign Made Payments To McPherson Public Affairs Group.** According to the Illinois State Board of Elections and the Federal Elections Commission, Pekau for Congress paid \$3,900 on March 1, 2022 for campaign consulting to McPherson Public Affairs Group. Keith for Mayor paid \$400 on March 4, 2022 for consulting to McPherson Public Affairs Group. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Elections Commission, Keith Pekau for Congress, Disbursements, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

### Pekau Combination Campaign Expenditures

Beneficiary	Description	Date	Amount	Account
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	3/1/2022	\$ 3,900.00	House
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	3/4/2022	\$ 400.00	Mayor

Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Elections Commission, Keith Pekau for Congress, Disbursements, accessed [8/2/22](#)

#### **April 2022: Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign And Congressional Campaign Made Payments To COR Services.**

According to the Illinois State Board of Elections and the Federal Elections Commission, Pekau for Congress paid \$38,343.38 on April 12, 2022 for campaign management to COR Services. Keith for Mayor paid \$786.16 on April 13, 2022 for consulting to COR Services. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Elections Commission, Keith Pekau for Congress, Disbursements, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

### Pekau Combination Campaign Expenditures

Beneficiary	Description	Date	Amount	Account
COR SERVICES	CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT	4/12/2022	\$ 38,343.38	House
Cor Services	Consulting	4/13/2022	\$ 786.16	Mayor

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Elections Commission, Keith Pekau for Congress, Disbursements, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

#### **June 2022: Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign And Congressional Campaign Made Payments To McPherson Public Affairs Group.**

According to the Illinois State Board of Elections and the Federal Elections Commission, Pekau for Congress paid \$4,000 on June 9, 2022 for campaign consulting to McPherson Public Affairs Group. Pekau for Congress also paid \$5,000 on June 9, 2022 for campaign consulting to McPherson Public Affairs Group. Keith for Mayor paid \$300 on June 10, 2022 for consulting to McPherson Public Affairs Group. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Elections Commission, Keith Pekau for Congress, Disbursements, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

### Pekau Combination Campaign Expenditures

Beneficiary	Description	Date	Amount	Account
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	6/9/2022	\$ 4,000.00	House
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	6/9/2022	\$ 5,000.00	House
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	6/10/2022	\$ 300.00	Mayor

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Elections Commission, Keith Pekau for Congress, Disbursements, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

### **Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign Spent Thousands Of Dollars On Polling, Consulting, And Advertising Around The Time That He Began Running For Congress**

**December 1, 2021 – December 7, 2021: Pekau Spent \$3,880.55 On Consulting, Advertising, And Telephone Polling From His Mayoral Account.** According to the Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau recorded \$3,880.55 in disbursements from his mayoral account after November 15, 2021. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Election Commission, [11/15/21](#)]

## Pekau Mayoral Campaign Expenditures After Filing For Congress And Leading Up To His Announcement

Recipient	Description	Date	Amount
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	12/1/2021	\$ 1,000.00
Cor Services	Advertising -- Magazine	12/5/2021	\$ 480.55
Cor Services	Telephone polling	12/7/2021	\$ 2,400.00
Total			\$ 3,880.55

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#); Federal Elections Commission, Keith Pekau for Congress, Disbursements, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

**December 10, 2021: Pekau Announced His Campaign For Congress On December 10, 2021.** According to a press release from Pekau For Congress, “December 10, 2021: Mayor Keith Pekau Announces Campaign for Congress. Local Leader, Decorated Veteran, and Successful Small Businessman Vows to Put People over Politics in Taking on Extreme Washington Politicians Keith Pekau announced his run for Illinois’ 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District at Alexander Equipment in Lisle. Pekau’s message was clear—he’s waged a winning battle against radical politicians in Orland Park, and he’ll take that same fight to the halls of Congress.” [Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [12/10/21](#)]

## Approximately Half Of The Money Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign Has Spent Has Gone Toward Expenses That Appear Likely To Be In Support Of His Congressional Campaign

**Pekau’s State Campaign Committee Paid Macallan Communications \$5,000 For “Website” After He Filed To Run For Congress.** According to Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau’s mayoral campaign committee paid \$5,000 to Macallan Communications for “website” on February 1, 2021. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

**Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign Spent \$12,126.91 On Two Different Consulting Firms After He Began Running For Congress.** According to Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau’s mayoral campaign disbursed \$9,246.36 for various consulting fees to McPherson Public Affairs Group and Cor Services after November 15, 2021. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

## Pekau Mayoral Campaign Expenditures To McPherson Public Affairs And Cor Services After He Filed To Run For Congress

Recipient	Description	Date	Amount
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	12/1/2021	\$ 1,000.00
Cor Services	Advertising -- Magazine	12/5/2021	\$ 480.55
Cor Services	Telephone polling	12/7/2021	\$ 2,400.00
Cor Services	Consulting	1/7/2022	\$ 1,500.00
Cor Services	Consulting	2/1/2022	\$ 750.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	2/1/2022	\$ 500.00
Cor Services	Consulting	3/4/2022	\$ 786.16
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	3/4/2022	\$ 400.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	4/3/2022	\$ 400.00
Cor Services	Consulting	4/13/2022	\$ 786.16
Cor Services	Consulting	5/13/2022	\$ 854.77
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	5/13/2022	\$ 350.00

Cor Services	Consulting	6/10/2022	\$ 786.13
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	6/10/2022	\$ 300.00
Cor Services	Consulting	6/27/2022	\$ 833.14

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

**Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign Spent \$6,755.35 On Miscellaneous Items Including Advertising, Media Production, Food, And Postage After He Began Running For Congress.** According to Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau’s mayoral campaign disbursed \$6,755.35 for miscellaneous items including food, advertising, postage, and media after November 15, 2021. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

<b>Pekau Mayoral Expenditures On Food, Website, Polling, And Postage After He Filed To Run For Congress</b>			
<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Suncom TV	Media -- Production	1/17/2022	\$ 400.00
Orland Park Gridiron Classic	Ad book	4/24/2022	\$ 465.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Food	3/29/2022	\$ 760.35
Heine's MCarthy's Catering	Food	6/26/2022	\$ 200.00
US Postal Service	Postage	4/1/2022	\$ 174.00
US Postal Service	Postage	4/15/2022	\$ 348.00
US Postal Service	Postage	5/26/2022	\$ 2,668.00
US Postal Service	Postage	6/6/2022	\$ 1,740.00
			\$ 6,755.35

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

**Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign Spent \$18,690 On Contributions To Other Candidates And Sponsorships After He Began Running For Congress**

**Pekau’s Mayoral Campaign Spent \$18,690 In Contributions To Other Candidates Or Sponsorships After He Began Running For Congress.** According to Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau’s mayoral campaign disbursed \$18,690 for candidate contributions or sponsorships after 11/15/2021. [Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

<b>Pekau Mayoral Campaign Expenditures To Other Candidates Or For Sponsorships After He Filed To Run For Congress</b>			
<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Illinois State Republican Party	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	12/17/2021	\$ 1,000.00
Ozinga for Illinois	Ticket Purchase	1/17/2022	\$ 250.00
Bergman For Congress	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/31/2022	\$ 500.00
Citizens for Nelson Katsenes	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/31/2022	\$ 5,000.00
Citizens For Jack Bergman	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	2/1/2022	\$ 500.00
D230 Foundation	Donation	3/5/2022	\$ 1,000.00
United Southland Republican Women	Sponsorship	4/2/2022	\$ 40.00
United Southland Republican Women	Sponsorship	4/3/2022	\$ 250.00

Citizens for Nelson Katsenes	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	4/5/2022	\$ 2,500.00
Breakthrough Ideas	Sponsorship	4/24/2022	\$ 750.00
Disabled Patriots Fund	Sponsorship	4/24/2022	\$ 900.00
Citizens for Nelson Katsenes	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	6/10/2022	\$ 3,000.00
Village of Orland Park	Sponsorship	6/26/2022	\$ 3,000.00
			\$ 18,690.00

[Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau for Mayor, accessed [8/2/22](#)]

## **Pekau Misrepresented His Business Interests On His Personal Financial Disclosure**

*Pekau appears to have failed to disclose that he held and sold a commercial rental property in 2021 on his financial disclosure, and failed to disclose any income he received from it prior to the sale. Pekau's personal financial disclosure indicates that he was the owner of Strike Eagle Properties, a corporation established in Illinois and dissolved in December 2021. In September 2021, Strike Eagle Properties sold a property at 13148 Maple Road for \$850,000. This address was the address for Groundskeeper Landscape Services, a company which he sold in 2019. Pekau leased the property to the person who bought the business in the intervening years.*

*House Ethics rules require that ownership interests in privately-held business entities that held real estate investments be disclosed as an asset if rental income from the property exceeded \$200 or if interest exceeded \$1,000. Any real estate interests must be disclosed in Schedule A, including the address of the property. It is evident that Pekau's commercial real estate interests qualified for such a disclosure, as he listed the income from Strike Eagle properties as \$4,370, above the \$200 threshold for disclosure. It is illegal to knowingly and willfully falsify the contents of a financial disclosure statement. If Pekau misrepresented his business interests on his personal financial disclosure, what else is he hiding?*

### **Pekau Disclosed That He Was The Owner Of Strike Eagle Properties, A Corporation Established In Illinois And Dissolved In December 2021**

#### **Pekau Disclosed That He Was The Owner Of Strike Eagle Properties**

**Pekau's Revised Schedule C Included Income From The Village Of Orland Park, North Palos School District #117, Three Point Consulting, Fahrenheit Consulting, And Strike Eagle Properties.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Amendment, Keith Pekau, filed [6/13/22](#)]

<b>Pekau Revised Earned Income</b>			
<b>Source</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Amount Current Year</b>	<b>Amount Preceding Year</b>
Village of Orland Park	Salary	\$83,827	\$153,000
North Palos School District #117	Spouse Salary	\$48,397	\$41,914
Three Point Consulting	Consulting Fees	\$3,263	N/A
Fahrenheit Consulting	Salary	\$61,046	(\$1,623)
Strike Eagle Properties	Owner	\$358,487	\$4,370
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$555,020</b>	<b>\$197,661</b>

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Amendment, Keith Pekau, filed [6/13/22](#)]

#### **Strike Eagle Properties Was An Illinois-Based Corporation Dissolved In December 2021**

**Strike Eagle Properties Was An Illinois-Based Corporation That Was Dissolved In December 2021.** [Corporation Filing, Office of the Illinois Secretary of State, accessed [8/31/22](#)]

## Corporation File Detail Report

File Number	63317217
Entity Name	STRIKE EAGLE PROPERTIES, INC.
Status	DISSOLVED
Voluntary Dissolution on Tuesday, 14 December 2021	

Entity Information	
Entity Type	CORPORATION
Type of Corp	DOMESTIC BCA
Incorporation Date (Domestic)	Tuesday, 20 January 2004
State	ILLINOIS
Duration Date	PERPETUAL

[Corporation Filing, Office of the Illinois Secretary of State, accessed [8/31/22](#)]

## February 2019: Pekau Sold Groundskeeper Landscape Services To A Longtime Employee But Continued To Own The Land On Which The Company Operated

**February 2019: Pekau Sold Groundskeeper Landscape Services To A Longtime Employee.** The Chicago Tribune reported, “Pekau, at the news conference, said GroundsKeeper began doing work for Orland Park in late 2003 and continued to do business with the village up until Pekau’s election as mayor in 2017. Pekau said he sold the company this past February to a longtime employee.” [Chicago Tribune, [5/30/19](#)]

**Pekau Told Public Works Employees He Had An Indirect Interest In Groundskeeper Landscape Services.** According to the Ethics Review conducted by Jones Day, “Based on the interviews of the three Public Works employees, Jones Day learned that in late January or early February, 2019, Village Official A reached out to the new Operations Manager of Public Works to request a meeting, during which Village Official A intended to introduce the Operations Manager to the new owner of Company A. [...] All three employees provided a consistent account of the meeting, which took place at the Public Works Department approximately six weeks before the writing of this preliminary report. [...] Village Official A did not expressly ask the Public Works employees to steer work to the Company A or otherwise appear to urge the employees to hire Company A. Instead, Village Official A noted that Company A, if considered for work, would need to have a low estimate and provide good service. Village Official A noted that he would recuse himself from ‘votes’ in which Company A is being considered for work. Finally, Village Official A noted that he continues to own the land on which Company A operates. The meeting was short, lasting less than a half hour in total. None of the Public Works employees felt pressured to give work to Company A, but one felt that the meeting needed to be reported given Village Official A’s comment that he still has an indirect financial interest in Company A.” [Jones Day, Orland Park Ethics Review Preliminary Report, [3/25/19](#)]

**Researcher’s note:** *The Jones Day report cited above does not identify anyone involved in the investigation outright. However, the internal report identifies most of the parties involved. For reference, “Village Manager” refers to La Margo, “Village Official A” refers to Pekau, “Company A” refers to Groundskeeper Landscape Services, and “Insurance Company A” refers to Horton Insurance.*

## September 2021: Strike Eagle Properties Sold The Property At 13148 Maple Road For \$850,000

September 2021: Strike Eagle Properties Sold The Property At 13148 Maple Road. [Will County Recorder of Deeds, 13148 Maple, [9/15/21](#)]

<p><b>R2021102708</b>            9/17/2021 11:45:30 AM            WARRANTY DEED            9/15/2021  <a href="#">Purchase more information and the image for this document</a></p>	<p><b>Parties</b></p> <p><b>Party 1:</b>            STRIKE EAGLE PROPERTIES INC</p> <p><b>Party 2:</b>            FAYES 4.2 LLC</p>	<p><b>Legals</b></p> <p>13148 ROUTE 6, MOKENA, IL 60448            13148 MAPLE RD, MOKENA, IL 60448            15-08-02-100-012-0000            Q:NW S:2 T:35 R:11</p>	<p><b>Additional</b></p> <p><b>Associated Documents:</b>            P2021102708</p> <p><b>Consideration:</b>            \$850,000.00</p>
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[Will County Recorder of Deeds, 13148 Maple, [9/15/21](#)]

## 13148 Maple Road [13148 US-6] Was The Address Of Groundskeeper Landscape Services

13148 Maple Road (Also Known As 13148 US-6) Was The Address Of Groundskeeper Landscape Services. [Groundskeeper Landscape Services, Contact, accessed [8/29/22](#)]

**Contact Groundskeeper Landscape Services**  
 13204 U.S. 6, Mokena, IL 60448  
 (708) 301-7441  
 (815) 463-0588  
 (630) 320-3500

[Groundskeeper Landscape Services, Contact, accessed [8/29/22](#)]

## Pekau Listed Neither The Sale Of The Property Nor The Fact That He Held The Asset On His Personal Financial Disclosures

2022: Pekau Disclosed Assets Ranging From \$180,026 To \$775,000. [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

Pekau Assets And Unearned Income 2022					
Asset	Owner	Value of Asset	Income Type	Income (Current Year to Filing)	Income (Preceding Year)
American Century Mid Cap [MF]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Janus enterprise Class 1 [MF]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Vanguard 500 Index [MF]		\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		

Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) [ST]	JT	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Dividends	\$1 - \$200	\$1 - \$200
JP Morgan Chase & Co. (JPM) [ST]	JT	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Dividends	\$201 - \$1,000	
Bright Start [5P] (Location: IL)		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity 500 Index [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Contra Fund [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Equity Fund [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity extended market [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Growth Company [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Mid Cap Stock [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity New Market [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Select Healthcare [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Select Software [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity small cap Discovery [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Small Cap Growth [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity ST TR BD IDX [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Total Bond [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Value Discovery [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
ABIOMED, Inc. (ABMD) [ST]		\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
DuPont de Nemours, Inc. (DD) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Gates Industrial Corporation plc Ordinary Shares (GTES) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Lockheed Martin Corporation (LMT) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Microsoft Corporation (MSFT) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Verizon Communications Inc. (VZ) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$180,026 – \$775,000</b>			

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Transactions Of Unearned Assets.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

## **House Ethics Rules Require That The Disclosure Of The Sale Of A Property Should Be Reported If It Generated Income In The Previous Calendar Year**

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**House Ethics Rules Require That Ownership Interests In Privately-Held Business Entities Must Be Disclosed If The Company Was Formed To Hold Investments.** According to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics Financial Disclosure Statements Instruction Guide, “The manner in which you disclose ownership interests in a privately-held company depends on whether the company is actively engaged in a trade or business or was formed to hold investments (typically real estate). [...] To disclose an ownership interest in a privately-held company that was formed for the purpose of holding investments, you must disclose each asset held by the company in which your interest (or that of your spouse or dependent child) had a period-end value of more than \$1,000 or generated more than \$200 in income during the reporting period. Limited partnerships and limited liability companies are frequently formed for the purpose of holding real estate. If, for example, you are a partner in a limited partnership that owns five rental properties, you must separately disclose each property in which your interest exceeded \$1,000 or your rental income derived from that property exceeded \$200.” [U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics, Financial Disclosure Statements Instruction Guide, [Calendar Year 2020](#)]

- **House Ethics Committee: “If, For Example, You Are A Partner In A Limited Partnership That Owns Five Rental Properties, You Must Separately Disclose Each Property In Which Your Interest Exceeded \$1,000 Or Your Rental Income Derived From That Property Exceeded \$200.”** According to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics Financial Disclosure Statements Instruction Guide, “The manner in which you disclose ownership interests in a privately-held company depends on whether the company is actively engaged in a trade or business or was formed to hold investments (typically real estate). [...] To disclose an ownership interest in a privately-held company that was formed for the purpose of holding investments, you must disclose each asset held by the company in which your interest (or that of your spouse or dependent child) had a period-end value of more than \$1,000 or generated more than \$200 in income during the reporting period. Limited partnerships and limited liability companies are frequently formed for the purpose of holding real estate. If, for example, you are a partner in a limited partnership that owns five rental properties, you must separately disclose each property in which your interest exceeded \$1,000 or your rental income derived from that property exceeded \$200.” [U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics, Financial Disclosure Statements Instruction Guide, [Calendar Year 2020](#)]

**Interests In A Company Established For The Purposes Of Holding Real Estate Must Be Disclosed In Schedule A, Including A Brief Description Of Each Individual Property Held By The Company.** According to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics Financial Disclosure Statements Instruction Guide, “As discussed previously on page 21, if you own an interest in a partnership or limited liability company established for the purpose of holding real estate, you must provide in Block A the name of the company as well as a brief description of each individual property held by the company. For example, ‘Tysons Limited Partnership, owning Tysons Shopping Center, Tysons Corner, VA.’” [U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics, Financial Disclosure Statements Instruction Guide, [Calendar Year 2020](#)]

## **It Is Illegal To Knowingly And Willfully Falsify Information On A Personal Financial Disclosure**

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**The House Ethics Rules State That It Is Illegal To Knowingly And Willfully Falsify Information On A Personal Financial Disclosure.** According to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics Financial Disclosure Statements Instruction Guide, “Each individual is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the information contained in the individual’s FD Statement or PTR, even if someone else prepared, or assisted in preparing all, or part of it. The EIGA provides that the Attorney General may pursue either civil or criminal penalties against an individual who knowingly and willfully falsifies a Statement or fails to file a Statement required by the EIGA. The maximum civil penalty is \$62,313. The maximum criminal penalty is up to one year in prison and a fine of up to \$62,313.” [U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics, Financial Disclosure



## After Pekau Campaigned On Lowering His Salary, He Raked In \$600,000 In His First Term As Mayor

*Despite making hundreds of thousands a year in outside income, Pekau decided to take a mayoral salary, raking in \$600,000 in his first term as mayor. In his first campaign in 2017, Pekau campaigned heavily on the fact that he would lower the \$150,000 mayoral salary, criticizing his opponent for taking a higher salary. While he did vote to lower his own salary to \$40,000, it didn't apply until after his first term, allowing him to rake in \$600,000 in his first four years in office. Pekau could have declined the money or donated it back to taxpayers. But after he was elected, Pekau took the same salary, saying he would "earn" the \$150,000 a year. If that wasn't enough, Pekau voted against a further salary reduction from \$40,000 to \$30,00, despite earning over \$500,000 in outside income in 2022. Pekau pretends to be a champion for the taxpayers, but in reality, he proved to be no better than the people he criticized.*

**Note:** Pekau disclosed income figures on his personal financial disclosure which may be inflated compared to his typical income. He disclosed \$555,020 in income for 2021, \$358,487 of which was likely from the sale of a commercial real estate property. Pekau disclosed earning a total of \$197,661 in the prior year.

### Pekau Campaigned On Lowering The \$150,000 Mayoral Salary

#### Pekau Criticized His Opponent, Dan McLaughlin, For Raising His Salary

**Pekau Supported Term Limits On The Municipal Level And Criticized Village Leaders For Making The Mayor's Job A Full-Time Post With A Higher Salary.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "Dan McLaughlin is seeking his seventh term as mayor of the southwest suburb in a race against Keith Pekau, who favors term limits and criticized village leaders for making the mayor's job a full-time post with a higher salary." [Chicago Tribune, 4/2/17]

**April 2017: Pekau Criticized His Opponent, Dan McLaughlin, For The Village Board's Decision To Raise The Mayoral Salary – And Thus, McLaughlin's Pension.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, "In southwest suburban Orland Park, Mayor Dan McLaughlin - in office since 1993 - faces off against business owner Keith Pekau in a race that's seen \$200,000 in campaign ads and mailers to oust the incumbent by the Dan Profit led-Liberty Principles PAC. Gov. Bruce Rauner is one of the three top contributors to the political action committee, which ran a multitude of ads last year to support Republicans in legislative races. But Rauner political aides note Rauner hasn't given to the PAC since June 2016, and that his money is not going to fund the municipal election. [...] But he's under fire by some for the village board's decision last year to up the mayoral salary from \$40,000 to \$150,000, thus upping his pension - while making the position full-time. McLaughlin abstained from the vote. The move to expand the mayor's duties was made in lieu of hiring an additional assistant village manager and economic development director." [Chicago Sun-Times, 4/4/17]

### ...But After He Was Elected, Pekau Took The \$150,000 Salary, Raking In \$600,000 During His First Term In Office

#### Pekau Accepted The Higher Salary After He Was Elected

**2017: After He Was Elected, Pekau Said He Would Accept The \$150,000 Per Year Salary.** According to Patch Orland Park, "Orland Park Mayor-elect Keith Pekau will accept the heightened \$150,000 a year mayoral salary after he is sworn into office next month and said in an interview with The Regional News that it will be up to him to 'earn' the salary that was put in place by trustees who fully expected it to go to current Mayor Dan McLaughlin. 'I will earn the \$150,000. I never said anything different. However, I am not vested in the pension system and I will

not be taking a pension,' Pekau told The Regional News in an interview published this week." [Patch Orland Park, [4/27/17](#)]

## **A Vote To Lower Pekau's Salary Didn't Apply Until After His First Term, Allowing Him To Rake In \$600,000 In His First Term**

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**March 2019: The Orland Park Village Board Of Trustees Voted To Lower The Mayor's Salary From \$150,000 To \$40,000 Per Year, To Be Implemented In April 2021.** [Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [3/4/19](#)]

Board of Trustees	Meeting Minutes	March 4, 2019
<p>I move to pass Ordinance Number 5390 as amended, entitled: <b>AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT OF THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK, COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS</b></p>		
<p><b>A motion was made by Trustee Dodge, seconded by Trustee Calandriello, that this matter be PASSED. The motion carried by the following vote:</b></p>		
<p><b>Aye:</b> 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, and Village President Pekau</p>		
<p><b>Nay:</b> 0</p>		
<p><b>Absent:</b> 1 - Trustee Carroll</p>		

WHEREAS, as part of that evaluation, the Board of Trustees has determined that the current professional staffing levels of the Village, eliminates the need for the Village President to devote his/her working hours to be the equivalent to those of a full-time Village employee at a current annual expense to Village taxpayers in the amount of \$150,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees finds that it is in the best interests of the Village and its residents to have the professional staff of the Village of Orland Park engage in promoting and facilitating the economic development of the Village and to assist local businesses, organizations and individuals with creating and establishing economic development plans and promoting the Village to new purposeful opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees finds that it is in the best financial interests of the Village of Orland Park, its residents and taxpayers to reduce the Village President's compensation effective in April, 2021; and

WHEREAS, it is the expectation of the Village Board of Trustees that the Village President will devote his/her working hours annually equivalent to those of a part-time Village employee.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Ordained by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1:

The Village President of the Village of Orland Park elected in the year 2021 and thereafter shall receive the sum of \$40,000.00 per year as compensation for service as Village President and

[Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [3/4/19](#)]

**Pekau Voted Against A Further Salary Reduction From \$40,000 To \$30,000, Despite Earning Over \$500,000 Per Year**

**Pekau Voted “No” On An Amendment That Would Have Lowered The Mayor’s Salary From \$40,000 To Around \$30,000**

November 2020: Pekau Voted “No” On An Amendment That Would Lower The Mayor’s Salary From \$40,000 To Around \$30,000. [Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [11/2/20](#)]

Trustee Dodge made a motion to amend the rate of pay for the Office of the Mayor to \$30,376. It was seconded by Trustee Fenton. (refer to audio)

Trustee Katsenes had questions. (refer to audio)

President Pekau responded to Trustee Katsenes. (refer to audio)

Trustees Dodge, Fenton and Calandriello voted "AYE" on the amendment to the Mayor's salary. Trustees Healy, Katsenes, Milani and President Pekau voted "NAY". The amendment failed. (refer to audio)

[Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [11/2/20](#)]

## **2022: Pekau Made Over \$500,000**

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**Pekau's Revised Schedule C Included Income From The Village Of Orland Park, North Palos School District #117, Three Point Consulting, Fahrenheit Consulting, And Strike Eagle Properties.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Amendment, Keith Pekau, filed [6/13/22](#)]

<b>Pekau Revised Earned Income</b>			
<b>Source</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Amount Current Year</b>	<b>Amount Preceding Year</b>
Village of Orland Park	Salary	\$83,827	\$153,000
North Palos School District #117	Spouse Salary	\$48,397	\$41,914
Three Point Consulting	Consulting Fees	\$3,263	N/A
Fahrenheit Consulting	Salary	\$61,046	(\$1,623)
Strike Eagle Properties	Owner	\$358,487	\$4,370
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$555,020</b>	<b>\$197,661</b>

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Amendment, Keith Pekau, filed [6/13/22](#)]

# Background & Reference

# Biography

## Education

**Pekau Graduated From Carl Sandburg High School.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “After graduating from Carl Sandburg High School and getting a bachelor's degree in engineering from Arizona State University, he flew F-15s, a twin-engine fighter jet, during 9 years in the Air Force. Pekau owned and operated a business consulting firm for approximately six years before venturing into his current line of work.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/3/13]

**Pekau Graduated From Arizona State University With A Bachelor's Degree In Engineering.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “After graduating from Carl Sandburg High School and getting a bachelor's degree in engineering from Arizona State University, he flew F-15s, a twin-engine fighter jet, during 9 years in the Air Force. Pekau owned and operated a business consulting firm for approximately six years before venturing into his current line of work.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/3/13]

**Pekau Graduated From Duke University With A Master's In Business Administration.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park resident Keith Pekau may be an arborist and a landscape designer now, but in 2003 he was a Duke University graduate with experience as a business consultant looking to move into something more tangible. Applying what he'd learned acquiring his MBA, Pekau researched existing companies and eventually purchased a four-person tree-trimming operation. He renamed it, added landscaping and expanded into an 18-employee, full-service enterprise that operates year-round.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/3/13]

## Military Service

**Pekau Was A Captain In The Military.** According to a press release by the American Petroleum Institute, “The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy campaign returns to the nation's capital this week. Twenty-six veterans are meeting members of Congress and staff to discuss why burgeoning North American energy resources are vital to improving our national security. ‘There are so many exciting opportunities for the U.S. to become a global leader in energy, but many lawmakers continue to ignore them,’ said retired Major General Duane Jones. ‘We need to make sure Congress doesn't lose sight of this game changing opportunity to produce more North American energy which will strengthen our national security.’ The veterans of Vets4Energy have fought in every U.S. war or engagement since Vietnam and believe that energy security is vital to keeping Americans safe. ‘Greater U.S. security means reducing our dependence on oil from unfriendly parts of the world,’ said retired Captain Keith Pekau. ‘We can do this easily by strengthening our energy ties with Canada and by tapping more of our own abundant resources.’” [American Petroleum Institute, Press Release, 7/10/13]

**Pekau Spent Nine Years In The Air Force, Flying F-15s.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “After graduating from Carl Sandburg High School and getting a bachelor's degree in engineering from Arizona State University, he flew F-15s, a twin-engine fighter jet, during 9 years in the Air Force. Pekau owned and operated a business consulting firm for approximately six years before venturing into his current line of work.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/3/13]

**Pekau Joined The US Airforce In 1989, Having Served “As An Instructor Weapons System Officer In The F-15E” And Flown “Combat Missions In Iraq, Serving In Operations Desert Storm And Southern Watch.”** According to Keith Pekau for Congress, “Keith is a decorated combat veteran with an exemplary service record, was Honorably Discharged, and has been endorsed by many fellow veterans. Below, you can see how he has served. Keith Pekau Joined the US Air Force in 1989 Serving people and his community has always been a driving motivation for Pekau. As a decorated combat veteran, Pekau served in the Air Force as an Instructor Weapons System Officer in the F-15E. He has over 1,500 hours of flight time, including 45 combat sorties and 150 combat hours over Southern Iraq. Keith flew combat missions in Iraq, serving in Operations Desert Storm and Southern Watch.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/14/22](#)]

**Pekau Deployed In 1992, 1993, And 1998 To Saudi Arabia During Operations Desert Storm And Southern Watch.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “Pekau received his undergrad degree from Arizona State University in 1988 – his major was aerospace engineering – and then joined the Air Force. He was a weapons system instructor deploying in 1992, 1993 and 1998 to Saudi Arabia during Operations Desert Storm and Southern Watch. After nine years, Pekau, by then a captain, left the Air Force, along the way picking up an MBA from Duke University.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 11/22/21]

**Pekau Was Honorably Discharged In 1998.** [Keith Pekau For Congress, accessed [7/14/22](#)]

CAUTION: NOT TO BE USED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT RECORD. SAFEGUARD IT.

ANY ALTERATIONS IN SHADED AREAS RENDER FORM VOID

### CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE DUTY

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle) <b>PEKAU KEITH IRWIN</b>		2. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH <b>AIR FORCE - REG AF</b>		3. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]	
4.a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK <b>CAPT</b>	4.b. PAY GRADE <b>03</b>	5. DATE OF BIRTH (YYMMDD) <b>660410</b>		6. RESERVE OBLIG. TERM. DATE Year NA   Month NA   Day NA	
7.a. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE DUTY <b>PHOENIX AZ</b>			7.b. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY (City and state, or complete address if known) <b>PHOENIX AZ</b>		
8.a. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND <b>4 OSS (ACC)</b>			8.b. STATION WHERE SEPARATED <b>SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB NC</b>		

9. COMMAND TO WHICH TRANSFERRED <b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>	10. SGLI COVERAGE <input type="checkbox"/> None Amount: \$ 200,000
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11. PRIMARY SPECIALTY (List number, title and years and months in specialty. List additional specialty numbers and titles involving periods of one or more years.)  <b>T012F3F - F-15E FORMAL TRAINING INSTRUCTOR - WEAPONS SYSTEMS OFFICER - 08 YEARS 11 MONTHS</b>	12. RECORD OF SERVICE			
	a. Date Entered AD This Period	1989	SEP	28
	b. Separation Date This Period	1998	SEP	25
	c. Net Active Service This Period	08	11	28
	d. Total Prior Active Service	00	03	05
	e. Total Prior Inactive Service	00	00	00
	f. Foreign Service	00	06	15
	g. Sea Service	00	00	00
	h. Effective Date of Pay Grade	1993	SEP	28

13. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED (All periods of service)  
**AIR FORCE (AF) COMMENDATION MEDAL W/1 BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER (OLC), AIR MEDAL, AERIAL ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL W/3 OLC, SOUTHWEST ASIA SERVICE MEDAL W/1 BRONZE SERVICE STAR, AF OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD W/3 OLC, (SEE REMARKS)**

14. MILITARY EDUCATION (Course title, number of weeks, and month and year completed)  
**SURVIVAL TRAINING CRSE, 2 WKS, AUG 90; WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING CRSE, 1 WK, AUG 90; TACTICAL LEAD-IN TRAINING CRSE, 7 WKS, OCT 90; USAF OPERATIONAL TRAINING CRSE, 8 MONTHS, JUN 91; SQUADRON OFFICER SCHOOL, 7 WKS, APR 95.**

15.a. MEMBER CONTRIBUTED TO POST-VIETNAM ERA VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	Yes	No	15.b. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR EQUIVALENT	Yes	No	16. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID
		X		X		4.5

17. MEMBER WAS PROVIDED COMPLETE DENTAL EXAMINATION AND ALL APPROPRIATE DENTAL SERVICES AND TREATMENT WITHIN 90 DAYS PRIOR TO SEPARATION  Yes  No

18. REMARKS  
**ITEM #13 CON'T: SMALL ARMS EXPERT MARKSMANSHIP RIBBON/PISTOL, KUWAIT LIBERATION MEDAL (KUWAIT), AF LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD RIBBON W/1 OLC, AF TRAINING RIBBON, NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL. MEMBER HAS COMPLETED FIRST FULL TERM OF SERVICE. REISSUED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CORRECTIONS: 16 DECEMBER 1998. \* \* \* \* \* NOTHING FOLLOWS \* \* \* \* \***

Data herein are subject to computer matching within DoD or with other agencies for verification purposes and determining eligibility or compliance for Federal benefits.

19.a. MAILING ADDRESS AFTER SEPARATION (Include Zip Code) [REDACTED]	19.b. NEAREST RELATIVE (Name and address - include Zip Code) [REDACTED]
---	--

20. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4 BE SENT TO DIR. OF VET AFFAIRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	22. OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN (Typed name, grade, title and signature) <b>DONALD R. MEREDITH GS-6</b> RETIREMENT OPERATIONS SECTION
---	---

21. SIGNATURE OF MEMBER BEING SEPARATED  
**MEMBER NOT AVAILABLE TO SIGN**

SPECIAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (For use by authorized agencies only)			
23. TYPE OF SEPARATION <b>DISCHARGE</b>	24. CHARACTER OF SERVICE (Include upgrades) <b>HONORABLE</b>		
25. SEPARATION AUTHORITY <b>AFI 36-3207</b>	26. SEPARATION CODE <b>FBK</b>	27. REENTRY CODE <b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>	
28. NARRATIVE REASON FOR SEPARATION <b>COMPLETION OF REQUIRED ACTIVE SERVICE</b>			30. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4 initials
29. DATES OF TIME LOST DURING THIS PERIOD <b>NONE</b>			

I. RATEE IDENTIFICATION DATA		
1. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) <b>PEKAU, KEITH, I.</b>	2. SSAN [REDACTED]	3. CURRENT GRADE <b>CAPTAIN</b>
4. DAFSC <b>K12F3F</b>	5. DUTY TITLE OR TITLE OF ADDITIONAL DUTY <b>Instructor, Weapons System Officer</b>	
II. TYPE OF REPORT (Check appropriate block in Part A.) (Complete Part B as required.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET (Complete Part B, Items 1 and 2 only) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LETTER OF EVALUATION (Complete Part B, Items 1 thru 4.) <input type="checkbox"/> AF ADVISOR REVIEW (Complete Part B, Items 1 and 2 only)		
1. FROM <b>5 Mar 98</b>	2. THRU <b>23 Apr 98</b>	3. REPORT IS <input type="checkbox"/> MANDATORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPTIONAL
4. REASON FOR REPORT	<input type="checkbox"/> CRD 60 OR MORE DAYS SUPERVISION	IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL DUTY
	<input type="checkbox"/> CRD LESS THAN 60 DAYS SUPERVISION	PIPELINE STUDENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> TDY 60 OR MORE DAYS SUPERVISION	GEOGRAPHIC SEPARATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TDY LESS THAN 60 DAYS SUPERVISION	OTHER - EXPLAIN IN SECTION III
III. COMMENTS		
<p>- Captain Pekau exemplifies the highest standards of the military core value--SERVICE BEFORE SELF!</p> <p>-- Volunteered for a 45 day rotation to Saudi Arabia, under austere conditions with the 335th Fighter Squadron--speaks volumes for his dedication and devotion to duty</p> <p>- World-class performer! Highly experienced Instructor Weapons System Operator (IWSO) who executes the most challenging missions with unmatched excellence, and inspires others to do the same</p> <p>-- Absolutely top-notch Instructor; instructs over 25 combat-ready aircrew in F-15E tactical air-to-air and air-to-ground employment capabilities; outstanding briefer and combat tactician</p> <p>-- Package Commander for 4 multinational Defensive Counter Air and armed reconnaissance combat missions over Southern Iraq supporting Operation Southern Watch (OSW); flew 12 sorties</p> <p>--- Unflappable; a phenomenal 100% hit rate on simulated strike missions against real-world Iraqi targets</p> <p>--- Imposed United Nations (UN) mandate at OSW--maintained regional stability by enforcing UN resolutions while exposed to potentially hostile surface-to-air threats</p> <p>--- Prepared to employ lethal force to minimize loss of life and to protect UN levied "No Fly" zone</p> <p>--- Trusted to guide the squadrons most inexperienced pilots on several missions over Southern Iraq</p> <p>-- Chief, Mission Planning Cell team--orchestrated the planning, deconfliction and coordination of several highly complex multinational strike/reconnaissance packages involving permissive U-2 flights over Iraq</p> <p>--- Briefed 4404th Operations Group Commander on these missions</p> <p>- Rapidly became the resident expert on Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) procedures utilizing the F-15E</p> <p>-- Always ready to execute demanding CSAR missions to any location in the South West Asia area of responsibility from 30 minute alert postures</p> <p>- Trusted by the senior wing leadership; representative of the Operations Group Commander and responsible for the safe and smooth execution of the 4404th Wing (P) daily flying operation</p> <p>-- Controlled the safe operation of over 60 multinational combat aircraft as Supervisor of Flying at OSW</p> <p>- Key contributor in 335th Fighter Squadron deployment of 18 aircraft and personnel to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, for Operation Southern Watch; his participation in our 45 day deployment resolved a potential manning crisis and allowed for greater flexibility in sortie scheduling</p> <p>- Captain Pekau's talents and contributions to the 335th Fighter Squadron over the period of this 45 day deployment has without question, improved this unit's combat capability; his involvement guaranteed success--a superb performance! Send me more officers like Capt Pekau...I will take him with me anywhere, anytime...he's the best!</p>		
IV. EVALUATOR IDENTIFICATION DATA		
1. NAME, GRADE, BRANCH OF SERVICE, ORGANIZATION, COMMAND, LOCATION <b>[REDACTED], Lt Col, USAF 335th Fighter Squadron (ACC) Seymour Johnson AFB NC</b>	2. DUTY TITLE <b>Operations Officer</b>	3. DATE <b>16 April 1998</b>
	4. SSAN [REDACTED]	5. SIGNATURE [REDACTED]

AF FORM 77, AUG 82 (EF 16FEB93)

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

SUPPLEMENTAL EVALUATION SHEET

**COMPANY GRADE OFFICER PERFORMANCE REPORT**

<b>I. RATEE IDENTIFICATION DATA</b> <i>(Read AFI 36-2402 carefully before filling in any item)</i>			
1. NAME <i>(Last, First, Middle Initial)</i> <b>PEKAU, KEITH I.</b>	2. SSN [REDACTED]	3. GRADE <b>CAPTAIN</b>	4. DAFSC <b>T12F3F</b>
5. PERIOD OF REPORT From: <b>11 Apr 96</b> Thru: <b>28 Jun 97</b>		6. NO. DAYS SUPERVISION <b>120</b>	7. REASON FOR REPORT <b>Annual</b>
8. ORGANIZATION, COMMAND, LOCATION <b>4th Operations Support Squadron (ACC), Seymour Johnson AFB NC</b>			9. PAS CODE <b>SM1CFCLY</b>

**II. UNIT MISSION DESCRIPTION**  
Provides operational support, air traffic control, airfield and weather services, intelligence, weapons, tactics, training, maintenance coordination, and mission planning capabilities for four F-15E squadrons, a KC-135 squadron, and associated staff functions. Coordinates worldwide contingency operations involving fighter and tanker requirements.

**III. JOB DESCRIPTION**  
1. DUTY TITLE:  
**CHIEF, F-15E FORMAL TRAINING/F-15E INSTRUCTOR WEAPON SYSTEMS OFFICER (IWSO)**  
2. KEY DUTIES, TASKS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Responsible for the aircrew training management of two operational and two Formal Training Unit (FTU) squadrons. Prepares and leads the Training Review Panel (TRP) for the 4th Operations Group (OG) Commander. Prepares and briefs the 4 OG Commander on all aircrew manning issues. F-15E FTU Instructor: briefs and instructs students in employment of the F-15E from basic fighter maneuvers to complex night scenarios, combining air refueling, adversary aircraft, electronic warfare assets, and precision guided munitions. Upgrade Instructor: member of select cadre that upgrades other F-15E aircrews in how to teach student pilots and WSOs the complexities of F-15E employment.

**IV. IMPACT ON MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT**

- Standout instructor consistently singled out by squadron commander to set the standard for other aircrews
- Top choice to author the flying briefing guides used by squadron aircrew everyday
- Skillful manager who quickly became a valuable asset upon arrival to the 4 OSS Training Shop
- Coordinated a new exercise aircrew aid with exercise planners; improved combat training procedures
- Streamlined crew resource management training flow; enabled all wing aircrew to receive vital training
- 4 OG Commander's point man for aircrew manning management and assignments
- Quickly coordinated the wing's aircrew manning process with Air Force and ACC personnel offices; resulted in operational aircrew manning to combat ready levels and correct FTU instructor flow
- Developed an assignment data base for over 200 aircrew members; invaluable assignment tool

V. PERFORMANCE FACTORS	DOES NOT MEET STANDARDS	MEETS STANDARDS
1. <b>Job Knowledge</b> Has knowledge required to perform duties effectively. Strives to improve knowledge.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. <b>Leadership Skills</b> Sets and enforces standards. Works well with others. Fosters teamwork. Displays initiative. Self-confident.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. <b>Professional Qualities</b> Exhibits loyalty, discipline, dedication, integrity, honesty, and officership. Adheres to Air Force standards. Accepts personal responsibility. Is fair and objective.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. <b>Organizational Skills</b> Demonstrates ability to plan, coordinate, schedule effectively, and uses resources effectively and efficiently. Meets suspenses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. <b>Judgement and Decisions</b> Makes timely and accurate decisions. Emphasizes logic in decision making. Retains composure in stressful situations. Recognizes opportunities. Requires minimal supervision.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. <b>Communication Skills</b> Listens, speaks, and writes effectively.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>VI. RATER OVERALL ASSESSMENT</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Captain Pekau's drive and leadership by example have produced excellence in every endeavor he has undertaken in the 4 OSS Training Shop--significantly impacted the shop's ability to accomplish its mission</li> <li>-- Outstanding job leading the TRP; Keith's accurate and succinct review of the wing's aircrew training programs drew distinct praise from all four fighter squadron commanders and the 4 OG Commander</li> <li>-- Quickly became the wing's aircrew manning expert; squadron commanders rely on his accurate forecast</li> <li>- His superb aviation skills routinely result in his selection ahead of peers for increased responsibility</li> <li>-- Among small group of instructors selected to deploy to the Weapons School to hone combat flying skills</li> <li>-- Selected to brief the US Navy on F-15E capabilities; a much improved joint air tasking order resulted</li> <li>- Forward thinking officer who combines drive with talent to produce results--a top choice for ISS!</li> </ul>			
Last performance feedback was accomplished on: <u>28 Feb 97</u> (consistent with the direction in AFI 36-2402.) <i>(If not accomplished, state the reason)</i>			
NAME, GRADE, BR OF SVC, ORGN, COMD & LOCATION <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del> , Lt Col, USAF 4th Operations Support Squadron (ACC) Seymour Johnson AFB NC		DUTY TITLE Current Operations Flight Commander	DATE 14 Jul 97
		SSN	SIGNATURE
<b>VII. ADDITIONAL RATER OVERALL ASSESSMENT</b>			
		CONCUR	NONCONCUR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Keith is a true innovator who possesses the problem solving and management skills to get any task done; this is why he was chosen from among his peers to lead the aircrew training effort for 200 aviators</li> <li>- Significantly aided the 4 OG Commander in keeping aircrew manning healthy for four fighter squadrons</li> <li>-- His praised computer program instantly provides a first look grasp of wing fighter aircrew manning</li> <li>- Whether leading the 4 OG's TRP or F-15E students, he exemplifies leadership--ISS is a must for him!</li> </ul>			
NAME, GRADE, BR OF SVC, ORGN, COMD & LOCATION <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del> , Lt Col, USAF 4th Operations Support Squadron (ACC) Seymour Johnson AFB NC		DUTY TITLE Commander	DATE 14 Jul 97
		SSN	SIGNATURE
<b>VIII. REVIEWER</b>			
		CONCUR	NONCONCUR
NAME, GRADE, BR OF SVC, ORGN, COMD & LOCATION		DUTY TITLE	DATE
		SSN	SIGNATURE
<b>Instructions</b>			
<p><b>All:</b> Recommendations must be based on performance and the potential based on that performance. Promotion recommendations are prohibited. Do not comment on completion of or enrollment in PME, advanced education, previous or anticipated promotion recommendations on AF Form 709, OER indorsement levels, family activities, marital status, race, sex, ethnic origin, age, or religion.</p> <p><b>Rater:</b> Focus your evaluation in Section IV on what the officer did, how well he or she did it and how the officer contributed to mission accomplishment. Write in concise "bullet" format. Your comments in Section VI may include recommendations for augmentation or assignment.</p> <p><b>Additional Rater:</b> Carefully review the rater's evaluation to ensure it is accurate, unbiased and uninflated. If you disagree, you may ask the rater to review his or her evaluation. You may not direct a change in the evaluation. If you still disagree with the rater, mark "NON-CONCUR" and explain. You may include recommendations for augmentation or assignment.</p> <p><b>Reviewer:</b> Carefully review the rater's and additional rater's ratings and comments. If their evaluations are accurate, unbiased and uninflated, mark the form "CONCUR" and sign the form. If you disagree with previous evaluators, you may ask them to review their evaluations. You may not direct them to change their appraisals. If you still disagree with the additional rater, mark "NONCONCUR" and explain in Section VIII. Do not use "NONCONCUR" simply to provide comments on the report.</p>			
<b>IX. ACQUISITION EXAMINER/AIR FORCE ADVISOR</b> <i>(Indicate applicable review by marking the appropriate box(es).)</i>		<b>ACQUISITION EXAMINER</b> <i>(If applicable)</i>	<b>AIR FORCE ADVISOR</b> <i>(If applicable)</i>
NAME, GRADE, BR OF SVC, ORGN, COMD & LOCATION		SIGNATURE	DATE

<b>I. IDENTIFICATION DATA</b> (Read AFR 36-10 carefully before filling in any item)			
1. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) Pekau, Keith I.	2. SSAN [REDACTED]	3. GRADE Captain	4. DAFSC 12F3F
5. ORGANIZATION, COMMAND, AND LOCATION 550 FS (AETC), Luke AFB AZ			
6. PERIOD OF REPORT FROM: 13 Mar 95   THRU: 28 Apr 95		7. LENGTH OF COURSE 7 Weeks	8. REASON FOR REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> ANNUAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> DIRECTED
9. NAME AND LOCATION OF SCHOOL OR INSTITUTION Squadron Officer School Maxwell AFB AL (AETC)			
10. NAME OR TITLE OF COURSE Squadron Officer School (Resident Course) - PDS Code Q			
<b>II. REPORT DATA</b> (Complete as applicable for final report)			
1. AFSC/AERO RATING/DEGREE AWARDED		2. <input type="checkbox"/> COURSE NOT COMPLETED (List reason in Item 4 below)	
3. <b>DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES (List criteria in Item 4 below) <input type="checkbox"/> NO DG PROGRAM	
4. DG AWARD CRITERIA/COURSE NONCOMPLETION REASON  Top 7.1 percent.			
<b>III. COMMENTS</b> (Mandatory)			
ACADEMIC/TRAINING ACCOMPLISHMENTS Captain Pekau was the number one graduate in the class of 648 students. Captain Pekau excelled in all evaluated areas of the course: leadership performance, academics, briefing, and writing. For his performance, Captain Pekau was awarded the Commandant's Trophy.			
PROFESSIONAL QUALITIES (Bearing, appearance, conduct, fitness) An outstanding role model and leader, Captain Pekau led his flight to success throughout the SOS program. A major factor in the cohesion of his flight, he organized activities, resolved conflicts, and used outstanding interpersonal skills to mold 13 individuals into a cohesive team. He provided the organization for the flight's academic program, enabling flightmates to efficiently learn course material. An outstanding communicator, he displayed exceptional briefing and writing skills. Captain Pekau's superior problem-solving abilities resulted in him becoming the rallying point for his teammates. His quick decisions and leadership enabled his flight to reach its goals. An extraordinary officer, leader, communicator, and motivator. Captain Pekau was a positive force in every area of the SOS program.			
OTHER COMMENTS (Optional)			
<b>IV. EVALUATOR</b>			
NAME, GRADE, BR OF SVC, ORGN, COMD, LOCATION [REDACTED], Colonel, USAF SOS, Maxwell AFB AL (AETC)		DUTY TITLE Commandant SSAN [REDACTED]	DATE 28 Apr 95 SIGNATURE [REDACTED]

AF FORM 475, AUG 83 (EF 16FEB93)

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

EDUCATION/TRAINING REPORT

I. IDENTIFICATION DATA (Read AFR 36-10 carefully before filling in any item)			
1. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) PEKAU, KEITH I.	2. SSAN ██████████	3. GRADE 2D LT	4. DAFSC 0007
5. ORGANIZATION, COMMAND, AND LOCATION 455th Flying Training Squadron (ATC), Mather AFB CA			
6. PERIOD OF REPORT FROM: 28 SEP 89 THRU: 17 JUL 90		7. LENGTH OF COURSE 36 WEEKS	8. REASON FOR REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> ANNUAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> DIRECTED
9. NAME AND LOCATION OF SCHOOL OR INSTITUTION 323d Flying Training Wing (ATC), Mather AFB CA			
10. NAME OR TITLE OF COURSE Navigator Core Training S-V8N-C (15 Weeks); SUNT Bomber, Fighter N-V6A-A (21 Weeks)			
II. REPORT DATA (Complete as applicable for final report)			
1. AFSC/AERO RATING/DEGREE AWARDED 1551B		2. <input type="checkbox"/> COURSE NOT COMPLETED (List reason in Item 4 below)	
3. DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES (List criteria in Item 4 below) <input type="checkbox"/> NO DG PROGRAM	
4. DG AWARD CRITERIA/COURSE NONCOMPLETION REASON Lt Pekau graduated in the top 10 percent of Bomber, Fighter (BF) Class 90-13.			
III. COMMENTS (Mandatory)			
ACADEMIC/TRAINING ACCOMPLISHMENTS Lt Pekau was a distinguished graduate from Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training and the recipient of the Paul F. Lorence Award as the top graduate from the BF course. His academic average was 96.4 percent. Lt Pekau matched this high degree of academic achievement with superb airmanship and technical proficiency in the simulator and on flight missions. His performance exceeded course standards during all phases of training. In addition to being the number one graduate in his BF class, Lt Pekau was the top graduate in his Core class. Lt Pekau's superior performance should make him a valuable asset to his gaining unit and the United States Air Force.			
PROFESSIONAL QUALITIES (Bearing, appearance, conduct, fitness) Lt Pekau is a superb officer. He maintains a positive attitude while constantly striving for perfection. His professionalism served as a model for his classmates, and his "can-do" attitude contributed greatly to the success of his fellow students. Lt Pekau is truly a leader. His military appearance, conduct, and fitness are exemplary. His professionalism reflects the highest standards of military officership.			
OTHER COMMENTS (Optional) Highly recommend for ATC instructor duty. Augment into the Regular Air Force.			
IV. EVALUATOR			
NAME, GRADE, BR OF SVC, ORGN, COMD, LOCATION ██████████, Lt Col, USAF 455th Flying Training Squadron (ATC) Mather Air Force Base, California		DUTY TITLE Commander	DATE 16 Aug 90
SSAN ██████████		SIGNATURE ██	

AF FORM 475 AUG 83 PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE

U.S. GPO 1989-0-248-887

EDUCATION/TRAINING REPORT

**Pekau Claimed That “Fictitious Organizations” And “Republican Candidate[s]” Were Spreading “Unfounded Rumors” About His Service In The Military.** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “Unfounded rumors continue to swirl about my military service on social media and in robocalls from fictitious organizations. And I’ve even heard from business owners that a Republican candidate in this race has been doing the same. I proudly served in the United State Air Force and deployed to Southwest Asia on three different occasions. It was my honor to serve with the finest people I have ever known and the best America has to offer. It is unfortunate that people who have never worn the uniform would stoop to this level. However, I am more than happy to make my service record public so you can judge for yourself.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/14/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/14/22](#)]

## Business Career

After Retiring From The Military, Pekau Owned And Operated A Business Consulting Firm For Six Years.

According to the Chicago Tribune, “After graduating from Carl Sandburg High School and getting a bachelor's degree in engineering from Arizona State University, he flew F-15s, a twin-engine fighter jet, during 9 years in the Air Force. Pekau owned and operated a business consulting firm for approximately six years before venturing into his current line of work.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/3/13]

**Pekau Owned A Landscaping Company, GroundsKeeper Landscape Care.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park resident Keith Pekau may be an arborist and a landscape designer now, but in 2003 he was a Duke University graduate with experience as a business consultant looking to move into something more tangible. Applying what he'd learned acquiring his MBA, Pekau researched existing companies and eventually purchased a four-person tree-trimming operation. He renamed it, added landscaping and expanded into an 18-employee, full-service enterprise that operates year-round. Since December, Pekau's company, GroundsKeeper Landscape Care, has been taking down ash trees in Orland Park as part of the response to infestation by the emerald ash borer, a destructive insect from Asia.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/3/13]

**Pekau’s Landscaping Company Had Several Contracts With Municipalities, Including Orland Park.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Approximately 65 percent of GroundsKeeper Landscape Care's work is landscape, with 30 percent to 35 percent tree-trimming and removal, Pekau said. Pekau said Orland Park is his company's second municipal contract. It has provided tree services to Palos Park since 2003. Tree-trimming includes removing unwanted branches, dead wood and branches interfering with sidewalk and street traffic. ‘When we’re done, the trees look the way they’re supposed to look,’ he said. ‘It’s the same way I would prune them; how I would do my own trees.’ Pekau, who returned to Orland Park in 1997, said the village had only 6,000 residents and LaGrange Road was a two-lane thoroughfare when he was growing up on Jefferson Avenue south of 143rd Street.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/3/13]

## Personal Life

**September 2021: Pekau Claimed Ronald Reagan To Be The Best President In His Lifetime.** According to Pekau at a 9/11 commemoration celebration, “Ronald Reagan, born in an apartment in Tampico, Illinois and a B-movie actor, became, in my opinion, the best president in my lifetime.” [YouTube, [10:38 – 10:49](#), 9/12/21]

**Pekau: “I Remember Once Deciding Between Buying Food And Repairing My Car; I Didn’t Have Enough Money To Do Both.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “I remember once deciding between buying food and repairing my car; I didn’t have enough money to do both. These are the decisions people are making right now with inflation and gas prices through the roof. It’s time for the government to do something about our economy.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/22/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/22/22](#)]

**Pekau Stated That He Delivered Pizzas To Put Himself Through College.** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “When I was working to put myself through college by delivering pizzas, my car got a flat tire. I had to go without food to fix it. These are real decisions people are making daily—and we can make a real difference for them by growing our economy.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [4/11/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [4/11/22](#)]

## Political Career

### 2017 Mayoral Race

#### **2017: Pekau Announced He Would Challenge Orland Park’s Longtime Mayor Dan McLaughlin, Drawing The Attention Of Politicians At The National Level And Hundreds Of Thousands From Outside Funders.**

According to the Illinois Review, “Next Tuesday’s mayoral race in southwest suburban Orland Park has become Ground Zero in Illinois’ April 4th municipal elections with a campaign that pits a longtime political insider against a local government reform challenger. Businessman Keith Pekau’s feisty challenge of longtime Mayor Dan McLaughlin has drawn the attention of politicians at the national level and hundreds of thousands of dollars from outside funders. Thursday, an email from U.S. Senator Dick Durbin endorsing Orland Park’s incumbent Mayor McLaughlin hit village voters’ inboxes.” [Illinois Review, 3/31/17]

**U.S. Senator Dick Durbin Endorsed McLaughlin.** According to the Illinois Review, “Next Tuesday’s mayoral race in southwest suburban Orland Park has become Ground Zero in Illinois’ April 4th municipal elections with a campaign that pits a longtime political insider against a local government reform challenger. Businessman Keith Pekau’s feisty challenge of longtime Mayor Dan McLaughlin has drawn the attention of politicians at the national level and hundreds of thousands of dollars from outside funders. Thursday, an email from U.S. Senator Dick Durbin endorsing Orland Park’s incumbent Mayor McLaughlin hit village voters’ inboxes.” [Illinois Review, 3/31/17]

**Pekau Was Reportedly Supported By The Koch Brothers.** According to the Illinois Review, “Durbin’s letter fails to mention McLaughlin’s recent triple salary boost to \$150,000 annually, an issue that conservative talk show host Dan Proft’s Liberty Principles PAC emphasizes in attack ads running continually on the area’s major cable networks. Those outsider funds reaching nearly \$150,000 on their own are a sticking point for McLaughlin’s ‘First Orland Party’ slate, whose mailers critical of challenger Keith Pekau point to Proft, associate Brian Timpone, ‘fake news’ and the Koch Brothers.” [Illinois Review, 3/31/17]

**The State Board Of Elections Noted That “Independent Expenditures Totaling More Than \$100,000” Had Been Made Opposing McLaughlin.** According to the Illinois Senate Republican Caucus Blog, “The ads don’t mention McLaughlin’s challenger, business owner Keith Pekau, who said he doesn’t subscribe to cable TV but was made aware of the ads when they first began airing more than a week ago. Both he and McLaughlin had received notice from the state board of elections that, according to the notice, ‘independent expenditures totaling more than \$100,000 (in aggregate) had been made opposing Dan McLaughlin.’” [Illinois Senate Republican Caucus, Blog, 4/3/17]

**April 2017: Pekau Defeated McLaughlin In The Orland Park Mayoral Race.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “‘The residents of Orland Park have spoken,’ said McLaughlin, who ran under the First Orland Team banner. ‘Our opponent motivated us to get out and deliver a message to more voters than ever. Through the course of that effort, we learned even more about what is more important to our community members. We are thankful for that.’ Suburban voters went to the polls across the Chicago area to decide everything from local school, park district and library board trustees to mayors and village presidents. [...] In Orland Park, Pekau beat McLaughlin, 54 percent to 46 percent, with 44 of 50 precincts reporting.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 4/5/17]

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## **2021 Mayoral Race**

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**In The 2021 Mayoral Race, Pekau Was The Head Of The People Over Politics Ticket, Touting His Accomplishments In Economic Development.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “In a rematch of an election four years ago that ultimately hinged on a jump in the mayor's salary, this year's mayoral race in Orland Park touches on issues such as public safety in a community that touts its low crime rate, and the economic future of a village that is envied by neighbors for its massive tax-generating commercial base. First-term Mayor Keith Pekau, 54, heading the People Over Politics ticket, cites numerous business openings over the last four years while the man he ousted in 2017, longtime Mayor Dan McLaughlin, 67, pushes the need to diversify the village's economy to be less dependent on retail.” [Chicago Tribune, 3/29/21]

**Pekau Ran Against McLaughlin In A Rematch Of The 2017 Race.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “In a rematch of an election four years ago that ultimately hinged on a jump in the mayor's salary, this year's mayoral race in Orland Park touches on issues such as public safety in a community that touts its low crime rate, and the economic future of a village that is envied by neighbors for its massive tax-generating commercial base. First-term Mayor Keith Pekau, 54, heading the People Over Politics ticket, cites numerous business openings over the last four years while the man he ousted in 2017, longtime Mayor Dan McLaughlin, 67, pushes the need to diversify the village's economy to be less dependent on retail.” [Chicago Tribune, 3/29/21]

**March 2021: In A Mayoral Debate, Pekau Claimed, “Since You Elected Me Mayor In 2017, We Have Either Completed Or Started Over 90% Of The Agenda I Ran On.”** According to Pekau’s closing remarks in a 2021 mayoral debate, “Since you elected me mayor in 2017, we have either completed or started over 90% of the agenda I ran on. We instituted term limits, board meetings are now on video and audio, we eliminated patronage hiring, we lowered the mayor’s pay back to 40,000. I refused to take a pension, and we eliminated pensions for all elected officials.” [YouTube, [0:42 – 1:00](#), 3/26/21]

**Pekau Described Himself As A Political Outsider, Public Servant And Decorated Combat Veteran In Contrast To Dan McLaughlin, Who He Described As A Career Politician.** According to his Facebook ad, “34-year career politician Dan McLaughlin does what’s best for himself and his cronies. Mayor Keith Pekau is a political outsider, public servant, and decorated combat veteran who does what’s best for us. Request a vote-by-mail ballot today and cast your vote for the People Over Politics team!” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [3/15/21](#)]

 **Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored • Paid for by Keith For Mayor

34-year career politician Dan McLaughlin does what's best for himself and his cronies. Mayor Keith Pekau is a political outsider, public servant, and decorated combat veteran who does what's best for us. Request a vote-by-mail ballot today and cast your vote for the People Over Politics team!



KEITHPEKAU.COM  
Voting Information  
Sunday, March 21 – Online Voter Registration Closes Monday,  
March 22 – Monday, April 5 – Early Voting Period Thursday, April 1...

[Learn more](#)

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [3/15/21](#)]

**Pekau Was Endorsed By Palos Park Mayor John Mahoney. Reported, “I Want To Thank Palos Park Mayor John Mahoney For His Endorsement.** I have enjoyed working with him over the last four years in our efforts to improve the region. Orland Park and Palos Park have developed a very strong relationship that needs to continue into the future.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [3/28/21](#)]



**Keith Pekau**

Sponsored • Paid for by Keith For Mayor

I want to thank Palos Park Mayor John Mahoney for his endorsement. I have enjoyed working with him over the last four years in our efforts to improve the region. Orland Park and Palos Park have developed a very strong relationship that needs to continue into the future.

My name is John Mahoney and I have served as the Mayor of Palos Park for 14 years, since 2007. I have had the pleasure and privilege of working closely with Mayor Keith Pekau of Orland Park for the past four years. While we have had regular communications over his term, after Palos Hospital held a meeting of local officials to discuss what Palos health professionals and infectious disease experts knew (and didn't know) of the novel coronavirus in early March, Mayor Pekau and I have talked several times per week most weeks. The relationship between Orland Park and Palos Park has improved dramatically during Mayor Pekau's tenure. Both of us were reading and absorbing all we could about Covid-19, various national, state and local governmental responses and mitigations, and shared this information with each other to help guide our local responses to the pandemic. Before even our own State had done so, Mayor Pekau was developing a re-opening plan in April, 2020, and he spent numerous hours talking with local businesses, residents, infectious disease and other health experts, other local leaders and the like gathering input. He shared drafts of the plan with me and other area local officials and solicited our input. He shared his plan with local, regional and state officials. Mayor Pekau demonstrated outstanding leadership in working to address the pandemic and the public health and economic impacts. I value his intellect and his practical approach to solving problems, and his willingness to roll up his sleeves to do whatever is required for the good of Orland Park and the Southwest suburbs. For these reasons, I wholeheartedly and enthusiastically support Mayor Pekau's re-election on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [3/28/21](#)]

**March 2021: Pekau Claimed His Predecessor's Village Manager Appointee Locked Him Out Of Buildings, Blocked Him On Emails, And Restricted His Access To Employees.**" According to Pekau's opening remarks in a 2021 mayoral debate, "He (Jon McLaughlin) hired his Democratic deputy committeeman to be the village manager, after I was elected, before I was sworn in. That individual was put in precisely to obstruct my agenda. He locked me out of buildings, he blocked my emails, he restricted my access to employees. Very, very challenging. Additionally, he had a board that was 6-1 against me. They were all of his people on the board. So, that was what we dealt with for the first two years. Then, we had a new election. 3 trustees were elected. The village manager resigned. We were able to get a new village manager – it took us 6 months to find them. 6 months later, COVID hit. So, essentially, we've had 22 months. And what he said is that – he's basically saying that everything's fallen apart. Well, he built a house of cards that we've had to deal with. The things that he's left behind – the I-80 corridor. Nothing had been done on that since 2009, for 8 years, and suddenly, it's my fault that's nothing's been done and he was gonna get it done in four." [YouTube, [0:06 – 1:17](#), 3/30/21]

## **2022 House Race**

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**November 2021: Pekau Filed His Campaign For Congress.** According to the Capitol Fax blog, "Mayor Keith Pekau is running for Congress in the 6th Congressional District, according to federal documents filed Monday. The Orland Park mayor had not formally announced his candidacy as of Thursday afternoon, but registered Pekau For Congress as a committee under the Federal Election Commission Monday afternoon. Currently, the 6th District is represented by Democratic incumbent Congressman Sean Casten. Democrat Marie Newman [has announced she will run] against Casten in a primary contest. Pekau has registered to run as a Republican." [Capitol Fax, Blog, 11/19/21]

**2022: Pekau Represented Himself As "Unlike" Other Republicans With The "Common Sense Leadership" Needed To "Take On The Failed Far-Left Politics Of... Sean Casten."** According to Keith Pekau for Congress, "While the other Republican candidates talk about solving challenges like crime, inflation, and the economy, I've actually done it. Unlike them, I have a track record of identifying and fixing problems to make people's lives better.

This is the common sense leadership we need to take on the failed far-left politics of Marie Newman and Sean Casten and put people over politics.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]

**If Elected, Pekau Pledged To Fight Inflation And Reduce Taxes.** According to the Lake County News-Sun, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau formally announced Monday he will run for Congress in the redrawn 6th District, saying he will adopt the fiscal responsibility the village has shown if elected. The Republican accused Democrats such as incumbent U.S. Reps. Sean Casten and Marie Newman of putting ‘special interests, party politics and extreme left agendas ahead of the interests of voters.’ In Orland Park, ‘we have put the people first,’ Pekau said, making his announcement at a small business in Lisle. Elected to a second term in April, Pekau touted his record, including working to reduce village operating expenses and cutting debt. If elected, he said, he would fight inflation and reduce taxes. ‘I will work to grow the economy and create good-paying, middle-class jobs,’ the 55-year-old said.” [Lake County News-Sun, 11/22/21]

**In The Six Weeks After Pekau Announced His Candidacy, He Raised \$130,000.** According to the Capitol Fax Blog, “When Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau announced his candidacy on November 22nd, it was already more than halfway through the fourth quarter of the campaign fundraising calendar. Yet in the span of only six weeks, Pekau’s campaign raised \$130,000. This impressive fundraising haul reiterates Pekau’s frontrunner status in the GOP primary for Illinois’ 6th Congressional District.” [Capitol Fax, Blog, 1/27/22]

**Former State Representative Jeannie Ives Endorsed Pekau Because He Would Reign In Spending, “Keep Us Safe,” And Believed In American Exceptionalism.** According to his Facebook ad, ““As a fellow veteran, a military mom, and a suburban taxpayer, I trust Keith Pekau. He is the best mayor in Illinois and during the pandemic acted responsibly, but with a light touch letting businesses and people interact as they wish. As Mayor of Orland Park, he made his community the safest in the state, lowered taxes, and helped create jobs – unlike others, Keith has a proven record of accomplishment.” - Jeanne Ives” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/18/22](#)]

**Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored · Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

"As a fellow veteran, a military mom, and a suburban taxpayer, I trust Keith Pekau. He is the best mayor in Illinois and during the pandemic acted responsibly, but with a light touch letting businesses and people interact as they wish. As Mayor of Orland Park, he made his community the safest in the state, lowered taxes, and helped create jobs – unlike others, Keith has a proven record of accomplishment." - Jeanne Ives

**Keith PEKAU**  
CONGRESS

**ENDORSED BY**

\* The contrast between Keith & the two Democrats running against him could not be clearer. **You might as well be represented by Nancy Pelosi if you choose to be represented by left-wing extremists like Sean Casten or Marie Newman.** By electing Keith Pekau, we'll finally have someone representing us in Congress who will reign in spending, keep us safe & believes in American exceptionalism." - **JEANNE IVES**  
Former State Representative

KeithPekau.com

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/18/22](#)]

**Mokena Mayor Frank Fleisher Endorsed Keith Pekau And Said He Made A “Huge Impact” On The Region, Citing The Development Of The I-80 Corridor.** According to Facebook, “Keith Pekau has taken the bull by the horns. He really puts a lot of time and effort into developing the I-80 Corridor. Keith has made a huge impact not just on Orland Park, but the whole region. Orland Park, Tinley and Mokena are working together and moving things forward for the residents in the area. I never ever endorse, but Keith is very important for our region and he has my endorsement this Election.’ - Mayor Frank Fleisher” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [4/1/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [4/1/22](#)]

**Major General Mike DeCuir, Who Was Pekau’s Commanding Officer In The Air Force, Endorsed Pekau For Congress And Described Him As His “First Choice For All The Tough Jobs In The Squadron Because I Knew He Would Get The Job Done Right The First Time With Class.”** According to Facebook, “It was my honor to be Keith’s Commanding Officer in the Air Force. His tenacity, initiative, integrity, and leadership made him an exceptional officer. Keith was my first choice for all the tough jobs in the Squadron because I knew he would get the job done right the first time with class. The same qualities that made him such a superb officer make him the perfect candidate for Congress. I heartily endorse Keith Pekau!’ —Major General Mike DeCuir, USAF Retired” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/6/22](#)]

 **Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored • Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

"It was my honor to be Keith's Commanding Officer in the Air Force. His tenacity, initiative, integrity, and leadership made him an exceptional officer. Keith was my first choice for all the tough jobs in the Squadron because I knew he would get the job done right the first time with class. The same qualities that made him such a superb officer make him the perfect candidate for Congress. I heartily endorse Keith Pekau!" —Major General Mike DeCuir, USAF Retired



[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/6/22](#)]

**State Representative Tim Ozinga Endorsed Pekau For Congress And Cited His “Disciplined Spending And Lowering Taxes.”** According to Facebook, “Keith Pekau is the voice Illinois desperately needs in Congress. I’m proud to endorse him, and I look forward to our state having a strong leader in Washington—a leader who puts people over politics.’ - State Representative Tim Ozinga [...] ‘Keith has displayed great poise and leadership for Orland Park through disciplined government spending and lowering taxes. Keith Pekau is the voice Illinois desperately needs in Congress. I’m proud to endorse him, and I look forward to our state having a strong leader in Washington – a leader who puts people over politics.’ – Tim Ozinga, State Representative” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/19/22](#)]

 **Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored • Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

"Keith Pekau is the voice Illinois desperately needs in Congress. I'm proud to endorse him, and I look forward to our state having a strong leader in Washington—a leader who puts people over politics." - State Representative Tim Ozinga

**Keith PEKAU**  
CONGRESS

**ENDORSED BY**



"Keith has displayed great poise and leadership for Orland Park through disciplined government spending and lowering taxes. **Keith Pekau is the voice Illinois desperately needs in Congress.** I'm proud to endorse him, and I look forward to our state having **a strong leader** in Washington—a leader **who puts people over politics.**"  
- **TIM OZINGA**  
State Representative

KeithPekau.com  Paid for by Pekau for Congress

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/19/22](#)]

**Gary Grasso Criticized Pekau For Saying “I Hate Going To The Mall Not Carrying” Yet Claiming Orland Park Was Safe.** reported, “Pekau claims Orland Park is safe but he doesn’t like going to the mall without his gun...watch the movie...” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/25/22](#)]

**Gary Grasso for Congress 6th District**  
Sponsored · Paid for by GRASSOFORCONGRESS6  
ID: 361105316129890

Pekau claims Orland Park is safe but he doesn't like going to the mall without his gun...watch the movie...

Ad removed

**Pekau claims Orland Park is safe but...he said this about going to the mall...**

**"I HATE GOING TO THE MALL NOT CARRYING"**

**Watch the Video**

Gary Grasso for Congress 6th District [Learn more](#)

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/25/22](#)]


**Gary Grasso Alleged That Pekau “Blatantly” Distorted His Voting Record.** reported, “Grasso: Pekau Blatantly Distorting His Record to Voters. Click to read more. <https://garygrasso.com/grasso-pekau-blatantly-distorting-his-record-to-voters/>” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/24/22](#)]

**Gary Grasso for Congress 6th District**  
 Sponsored • Paid for by GRASSOFORCONGRESS6  
 ID: 1102568417269193

Grasso: Pekau Blatantly Distorting His Record to Voters. Click to read more.

<https://garygrasso.com/grasso-pekau-blatantly-distorting-his-record-to-voters/>

Ad removed



GARYGRASSO.COM  
 Grasso: Pekau Blatantly Distorting His Record to Voters  
 Grasso Accuses Pekau of Blatantly Distorting His Own Record to Deceive Voters 6th Congressional District... Learn more

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/24/22](#)]

**December 2021: When Asked About The Motivation Behind His Congressional Run, Pekau Answered That “Sean Casten, Marie Newman And Nancy Pelosi Support A Far Left Radical Agenda That Is Not Good For The Residents Of Our District Or America.”** According to a transcript of an interview with Pekau for the Chicago Daily Herald, “Q. What motivates you to run for Congress? A. Sean Casten, Marie Newman and Nancy Pelosi support a far left radical agenda that is not good for the residents of our district or America. I want to bring common sense problem solving that I have demonstrated as mayor to Congress because I think it is what America needs. Q. You have experience fighting for your country abroad. Now, you are fighting for Americans and for their rights on your own land. Which one is more challenging? A. The current fight is more challenging. All Americans that were fighting abroad were on the same page and I knew I could count on my fellow military members to fight for our team. Currently, I have witnessed people on both sides of the aisle that are more interested in personal gain than in doing what is right and am never sure that everyone is working to achieve a common goal and solve problems.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 12/30/21]

**Pekau Alleged In A Campaign Ad That Marie Newman And Sean Casten Did Not Share The Values Of Working Families.** reported, “Extreme politicians like Marie Newman and Sean Casten don’t share the values of working families. Follow Keith Pekau for common sense leadership.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/2/22](#)]

Keith Pekau  
Sponsored • Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

Extreme politicians like Marie Newman and Sean Casten don't share the values of working families. Follow Keith Pekau for common sense leadership.

Keith  
PEKAU  
CONGRESS  
KeithPekau.com

PEOPLE OVER POLITICS

Keith Pekau  
Government Official  
5,196 people like this

Like Page

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/2/22](#)]

**Pekau Implied That The “Democratic Machine” Stole His Campaign Signs And That They Did So Because “They Know I Am The One Republican Running For Congress ... Who Can Win In November.”** reported, “I went to a meet & greet in Beverly today. On the way I noticed that two 4X4 signs on 99<sup>th</sup> and Western had been stolen. The Democratic machine’s illegal shenanigans have already started because they know I am the one Republican running for Congress in the 6<sup>th</sup> District who can win in November.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [4/3/22](#)]

 **Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored • Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

I went to a meet & greet in Beverly today. On the way I noticed that two 4X4 signs on 99th and Western had been stolen.

The Democratic machine's illegal shenanigans have already started because they know I am the one Republican running for Congress in the 6th District who can win in November.

...



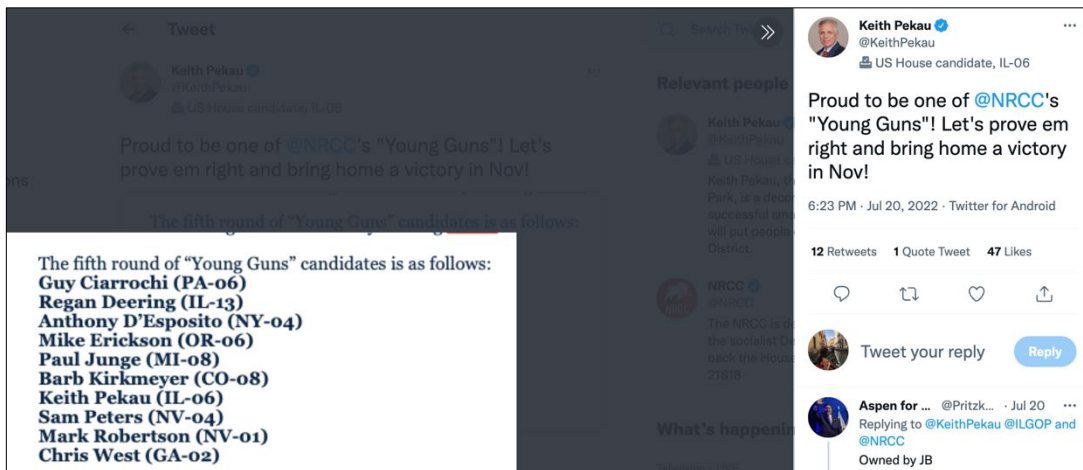
[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [4/3/22](#)]

**Pekau: “Unlike Rep Casten, I Wasn’t Born With A Silver-Spoon In My Mouth. Nor Have I Spent Half My Adult Life In Washington DC.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “Last year, Rep. Sean Casten told voters ‘the inflation we are seeing in the economy right now is passing, transitory, and manageable.’ Got it? Settle down. Don’t believe your eyes. Nevermind your household finances. Sean Casten says this is ‘manageable.’ Unlike Rep Casten, I wasn’t born with a silver-spoon in my mouth. Nor have I spent half my adult life in Washington DC. I feel the pain most families are feeling thanks to the failed policies of Joe Biden and Sean Casten. I am going to Congress to restore common sense and protect you from scams that Sean Casten out of touch DC bureaucrats are running on your life.” This post included a link to a Fox Business article titled, “House Democrats express cautious optimism on inflation as they pursue greater spending before midterms.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/2/22](#); Fox Business, [11/29/21](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/2/22](#)]

**Pekau Celebrated Being Named One Of The NRCC’s “Young Guns.”** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “Proud to be one of @NRCC’s ‘Young Guns’! Let’s prove em right and bring home a victory in Nov!” The post included an image of the list of ‘Young Guns.’ [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [7/20/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [7/20/22](#)]

**June 2022: Pekau Stated, “I Have A Proven Track Record Of Doing Exactly What I Said I Would Do,” Citing His Alleged Actions On Spending, Property Tax Rates, Term Limits, And Pensions.** According to Pekau in an online debate, “I have a proven track record of doing exactly what I said I would do. I’ve lowered spending, our property tax rates are down 20%, I’ve lowered our operating spending 14%. I promised I’d put in term limits, I did. I promised I would get rid of elected official pensions; I did. I promised I would lower the mayor’s pay; I did. So, I have a proven track record of doing the things I said I would do.” [YouTube, [0:32 – 0:55, 6/22/22](#)]

**Pekau Claimed Casten’s Top Policies Were To Defund The Police, Increase Taxes, Raise Prices, And Hike Energy Rates In An Instagram Post.** According to an Instagram post by Keith Pekau, “We just got ahold of Marie Newman and Sean Casten’s #SpotifyWrapped. . . With bad taste like this, no wonder they don’t get results for the 6<sup>th</sup> District.” [Instagram, @keithpekau, [12/2/21](#)]

**Newman & Casten  
2021 Wrapped**

Top Allies	Top Policies
#1 Nancy Pelosi	#1 Defund the Police
#2 Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	#2 Increase Taxes
#3 Kim Foxx	#3 Raise Gas & Grocery Prices
#4 Lori Lightfoot	#4 Hike Energy Rates
<b>Tax Dollars Spent</b> \$6.82 Trillion	<b>Top Genre</b> Far-Left Extremism

Keith PEKAU  
keithpekau.com

keithpekau · Follow

keithpekau We just got ahold of Marie Newman and Sean Casten's #SpotifyWrapped. . . With bad taste like this, no wonder they don't get results for the 6th District.

37w

mikehodes556 Go Keith Go.

37w 1 like Reply

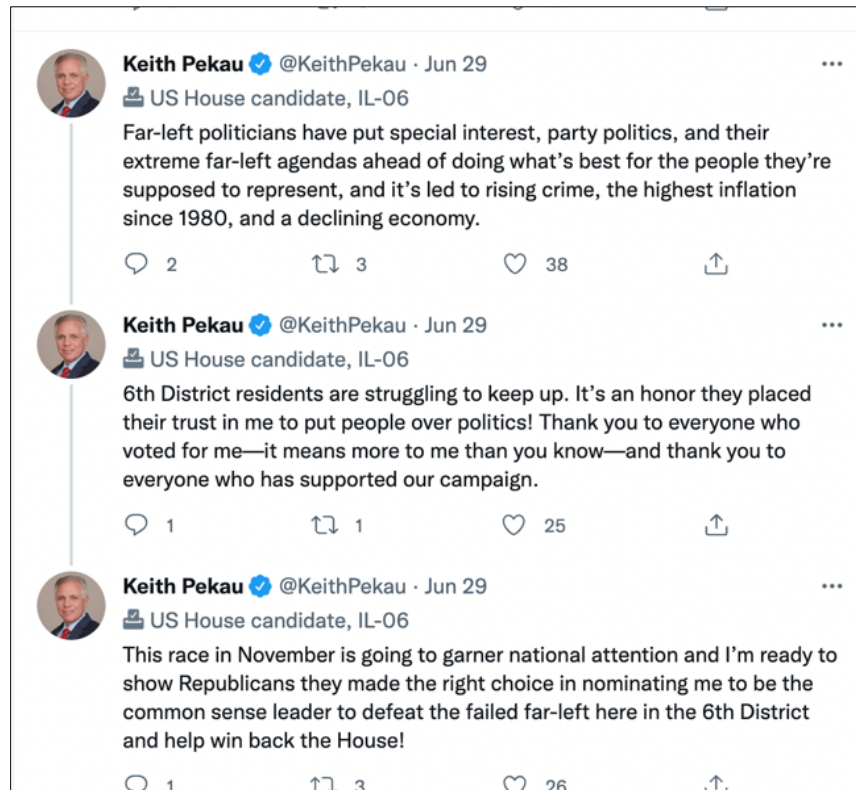
13 likes  
DECEMBER 2, 2021

Add a comment... Post

[Instagram, @keithpekau, [12/2/21](#)]

## Comments Following Primary Results

**Following His Win In The Illinois 6<sup>th</sup> District’s Primary Election, Pekau Claimed He Is Ready To Show Republicans They Made The Right Choice In Nominating Him To Defeat What He Described As The “Failed Far-Left Here In The 6<sup>th</sup> District.”** According to a Twitter thread by Pekau, “Far-left politicians have put special interest, party politics, and their extreme far-left agendas ahead of doing what’s best for the people they’re supposed to represent, and it’s led to rising crime, the highest inflation since 1980, and a declining economy. 6<sup>th</sup> District residents are struggling to keep up. It’s an honor they placed their trust in me to put people over politics! Thank you to everyone who voted for me—it means more to me than you know—and thank you to everyone who has supported our campaign. This race in November is going to garner national attention and I’m ready to show Republicans they made the right choice in nominating me to be the common sense leader to defeat the failed far-left here in the 6<sup>th</sup> District and help win back the House!” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [6/29/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [6/29/22](#)]

**Pekau Retweeted A Statement From NRCC Chairman, Tom Emmer, Which Labeled Casten As A Radical Who “Blindly Supported Democrats’ Failed Policies That Caused Skyrocketing Prices And Soaring Violent Crime.”** According to an NRCC re-tweeted post by Keith Pekau, “Congratulations @KeithPekau ! Chairman @tomemmer 's statement on the #IL06 primary election results.” The post included an image of the statement from NRCC Chairman Tom Emmer, which claimed, ““Congratulations to Keith Pekau on his primary victory. As a small businessman, veteran, and mayor, Keith has a strong record of serving Illinoisans and our country. This stands in stark contrast to radical Sean Casten, who blindly supported Democrats' failed policies that caused skyrocketing prices and soaring violent crime. Illinois voters will reject Casten and send Keith to Washington.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [6/29/22](#)]

**NRCC Chairman Tom Emmer Statement on the IL-06 Primary Election**

**WASHINGTON** – NRCC Chairman Tom Emmer released the following statement regarding the results of the IL-06 primary election:

“Congratulations to Keith Pekau on his primary victory. As a small businessman, veteran, and mayor, Keith has a strong record of serving Illinoisans and our country. This stands in stark contrast to radical Sean Casten, who blindly supported Democrats’ failed policies that caused skyrocketing prices and soaring violent crime. Illinois voters will reject Casten and send Keith to Washington.”

**NRCC** @NRCC  
 Congratulations @KeithPekau!  
 Chairman @tomemmer's statement on the #ILO6 primary election results  
 8:38 AM · Jun 29, 2022 · Twitter Web App  
 8 Retweets 21 Likes  
 Tweet your reply Reply  
 Show additional replies, including those that may contain offensive content Show

[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [6/29/22](#)]

## Budget

### Orland Park Budgets

**Under His Tenure As Mayor, Pekau Claimed To “Cut Operating Expenses By 14%, Paid Down Over \$50 Million In Debt, And Lowered Property Tax Rates By 30%” While “More Than Doubling Investments In The Village’s Infrastructure.”** According to Keith Pekau for Congress, “I will fight inflation and bring fiscal responsibility to Washington. With reckless spending by Democrats leading to the highest inflation since 1980, working families are struggling to keep up. Everything is more expensive, including groceries, gas, utilities, and even eating at restaurants. This has a real impact on people’s lives. We need to stop spending more than we bring in, lower taxes, and address the national debt. I’ve led by example as Mayor of Orland Park—I cut spending, balanced the budget, paid down debt, and lowered taxes. In just one term, I cut operating expenses by 14%, paid down over \$50 million in debt, and lowered property tax rates by 30%, all while more than doubling investments in the village’s infrastructure. This is the fiscally responsible leadership I will bring to Congress.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]

**March 2021: Pekau Claimed To Have Lowered Debt From \$111 Million In 2017 To \$74 Million As Of 2021.** According to Pekau’s closing remarks in a 2021 mayoral debate, “And, in 2017, I ran for Mayor. And since I’ve run for Mayor, we lowered that debt from \$111 million down to \$74 - \$37 million in debt. We’ve taking 13.9% of our operating expenses out. We’ve lowered our full-time work force by 10%. All that helped us get through COVID.” [YouTube, [2:18 – 2:42](#), 3/30/21]

### National Spending

**November 2021: When Asked About Biden’s “Build Back Better” Measure, Pekau Said He Would Have Voted Against The Bill.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “Asked about recent House votes, Pekau said he would have voted against the infrastructure bill Biden signed into law last week. He also would have not supported Biden’s ‘Build Back Better’ climate change and social spending measure passed several days ago, facing an uncertain fate in the Senate. Newman and Casten were champions of the infrastructure bill, and Pekau’s lack of support for it could emerge as an issue.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 11/22/21]

**April 2022: In Order To Help The Lower And Middle Class,” Pekau Said, “We Must Lower Taxes For Hard-Working Americans. And It Is Critical We Get Our National Debt Under Control.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What plans do you have to help the lower and middle class? ‘We need to bring common sense to Congress and stop spending more than we bring in. We must lower taxes for hard-working Americans. And it is critical we get our national debt under control. We can do all this without negatively impacting services by holding spending flat and becoming better and more efficient in everything government does.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**Pekau Criticized The Distribution Of Funding From The American Rescue Project, Claiming Orland Park Received \$2.8 Million Less Than What It Was Owed By The Federal Government, And Called For Reimbursement.** According to Pekau at a village board meeting, “The redistribution of wealth in this country never seems to end. The ARP funding per capita for towns less than 50,000 is \$135.94 per person. This money was given to the state of Illinois, and it was distributed to all towns in Illinois not receiving funds directly from the federal government on a per capita basis. If Orland Park received the money in this manner, like over 1300 other towns, we would receive approx. 7.9 million, or 2.8 million more than we are currently receiving. Instead... we receive the money directly from the Federal government, because our pop is over 50,000. [...] To put this in perspective, Oak Park with 52,000 residents and a higher median household income received \$39 million. Evanston, the home of the very affluent Northwestern (University) received over \$43 million. [...] Orland Park is well run so we’ll survive. But we think it is only fair that the state appropriate approximately \$21 million of the billions of dollars of funding given to Illinois to fully fund Orland Park as well as the other 10 communities that were short per capita.” [YouTube, [0:03 – 3:39](#), 10/8/21]

- **Pekau: “The Redistribution Of Wealth In This Country Never Seems To End.”** According to Pekau at a village board meeting, “The redistribution of wealth in this country never seems to end. The ARP funding per capita for towns less than 50,000 is \$135.94 per person. This money was given to the state of Illinois, and it was distributed to all towns in Illinois not receiving funds directly from the federal government on a per capita basis. If Orland Park received the money in this manner, like over 1300 other towns, we would receive approx. 7.9 million, or 2.8 million more than we are currently receiving. Instead... we receive the money directly from the Federal government, because our pop is over 50,000. [...] To put this in perspective, Oak Park with 52,000 residents and a higher median household income received \$39 million. Evanston, the home of the very affluent Northwestern (University) received over \$43 million. [...] Orland Park is well run so we’ll survive. But we think it is only fair that the state appropriate approximately \$21 million of the billions of dollars of funding given to Illinois to fully fund Orland Park as well as the other 10 communities that were short per capita.” [YouTube, [0:03 – 3:39](#), 10/8/21]
- **Pekau Detailed The Alleged Calculations Made By The Federal Government In Distributing ARP Funds, Adding That It Was “Pretty Clear” That The Formula Favored Urban Areas Over Rural Areas.** According to Pekau at a village board meeting, “The Federal government calculates payouts in two ways and gives communities the highest of those two calculations. The first way uses population, poverty, and overcrowded housing. The second way uses population, housing built before 1940, and growth rates since 1960. This, as noted, is written into fed law. It’s pretty clear when you look at the drivers of this formula, the law was written to ensure that money was redirected to larger urban areas which had been poorly managed over the last 80 years and away from rural towns, small suburbs, and large, successful suburbs, that have grown over the last 60 years.” [YouTube, [0:44 – 3:39](#), 10/8/21]
- **Pekau Claimed That The Calculation Of ARP Funding Was “Another Slap In The Face To The South And Southwest Suburbs – This Time By The Federal Government And Our Congressional Representatives.”** According to Pekau at a village board meeting, “To be clear, Congress has put a value on the worth of our citizens. Congress has placed that value of the average citizen of the United States as \$135.94. They also say that Orland Park residents are worth only \$86.59 each or 36.5 percent less than the average citizen in the United States. They put a dollar value on it. That’s how much we’re worth. [...] This is yet another slap in the face to the south and southwest suburbs – this time by the federal government and our congressional representatives.” [YouTube, [2:08 – 3:39](#), 10/8/21]

**Pekau Claimed He Expected No COVID Relief Because “The Last Place They’re Gonna Wanna Help Is A Place Like Orland Park.”** According to Pekau in a village trustee meeting, “My comment was – expect nothing from the Feds, expect nothing from the state. And we’re gonna operate as if we’re gonna get no help on all of this. Because the last place they’re gonna wanna help is a place like Orland Park, even though we were impacted more by revenue losses than any other town south of I-88. I think there’s no doubt about that, given our size and whatnot.” [YouTube, [3:30 – 3:56](#), 10/8/21]

- **Pekau Claimed That Orland Park Was “Impacted More By Revenue Losses Than Any Other Town South Of I-88.”** According to Pekau in a village trustee meeting, “My comment was – expect nothing from the Feds, expect nothing from the state. And we’re gonna operate as if we’re gonna get no help on all of this. Because the last place they’re gonna wanna help is a place like Orland Park, even though we were impacted more by revenue losses than any other town south of I-88. I think there’s no doubt about that, given our size and whatnot.” [YouTube, [3:30 – 3:56](#), 10/8/21]

## **Pekau Condemned Casten “Spending Sprees” As Cause For Chicago-Area Inflation**

**Pekau Claimed, “Everything Costs More For Chicago Residents Thanks To Sean Casten’s Reckless Spending Sprees.”** According to a post by Keith Pekau, “Everything costs more for Chicago residents thanks to

Sean Casten’s reckless spending sprees.” Pekau linked an article in the post from the NRCC, which shows a report from Axios of the Consumer Price Index for the Chicago-Naperville-Elgin metro area. The article also includes a quote from NRCC Spokesperson, Courtney Parella, claiming it was due to Democratic spending. [Twitter, @KeithPekau, 7/19/22; NRCC, 7/19/22]

**Keith Pekau** @KeithPekau · Jul 19  
US House candidate, IL-06  
Everything costs more for Chicago residents thanks to Sean Casten's reckless spending sprees.

Category	Change
Electricity	+29.0
New vehicles	+15.7
Food	+11.2
Apparel	+8.5
Shelter	+4.4

nrcc.org  
Chicago residents paying more thanks to Democrats  
Axios reports the Consumer Price Index for Chicago-Naperville-Elgin metro area saw a sharp local rise from 2021 to 2022: The author ...

4 replies, 13 retweets, 24 likes

[Twitter, @KeithPekau, 7/19/22]

## Civil Rights

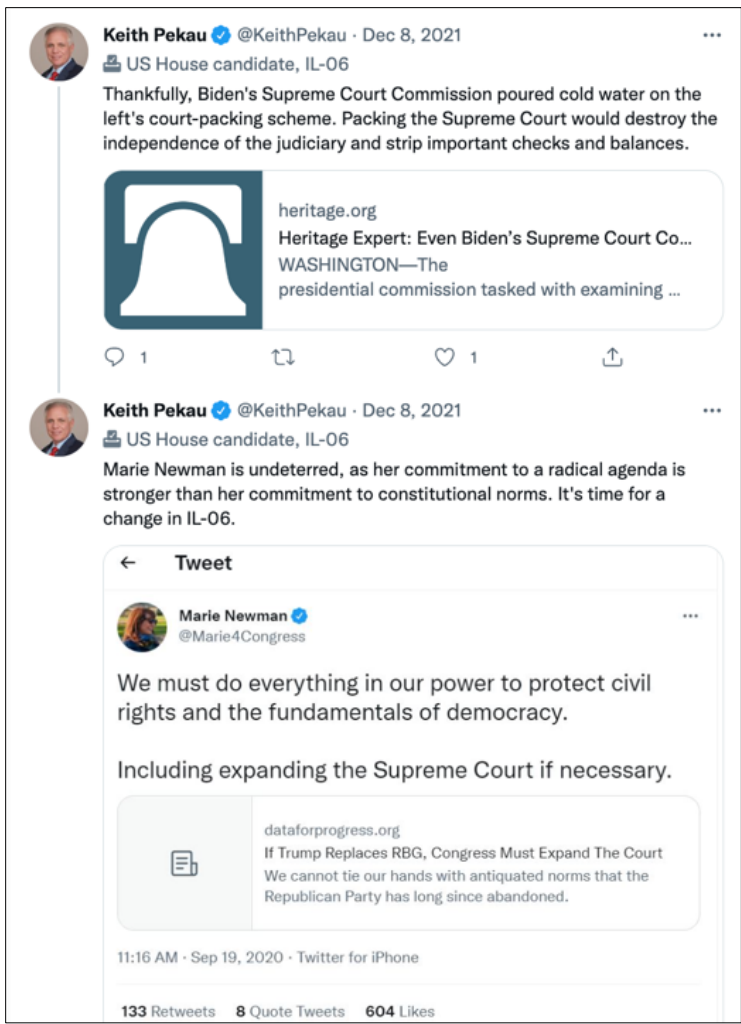
**May 2020: In Anticipation Of Civil Unrest After The Murder Of George Floyd By Minneapolis Police, Pekau Declared, “Those Who Seek To Exploit The Injustice To George Floyd In Order To Sow Chaos And Destruction, You Are Not Welcome.”** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “The majority of the reported curfews are in the south suburbs, according to Cook County officials. Several Chicago suburbs declared curfews Sunday evening as communities in the area braced for more potential civil unrest following a weekend of protests and looting in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. [...] ‘The Village of Orland Park is working diligently to protect life and property. To those who seek to exploit the injustice to George Floyd in order to sow chaos and destruction, you are not welcome,’ Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau said in a statement. ‘The First Amendment protects the right to peaceful assembly. That form of protest is always welcome in Orland Park. However, purposeful destruction of property, theft and any criminal activity will not be tolerated.’” [Chicago Sun-Times, 5/31/20]

**Pekau Took A Church To Court To Prevent Hope Covenant Church From Hosting A Homeless Shelter To Help The Needy During Cold Months.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Like 54 other people, I watched the YouTube broadcast of the Orland Park Village Board debate over Mayor Pekau’s efforts to prevent a church from hosting a homeless shelter to help the needy during this frigid holiday season. It’s hard to imagine that any public agency would block a shelter to help the homeless, but that’s exactly what Pekau is trying to do. He’s even gone to court to prevent Hope Covenant Church, 14401 West Avenue, which started the weekly, Tuesday night homeless shelter in September, from continuing to provide shelter for the homeless.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [11/19/19](#)]

- **Pekau Released False Information Claiming The Pastor Of The Church Did Not Reach Out To The Village About The Shelter Until After The Launch Of The Shelter, While The Pastor Claimed He Contacted The City Multiple Times And Even Appeared Before A Village Board Meeting.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Pekau referenced a lengthy powerpoint timeline that was distributed on social media and then displayed on a big screen at the village board meeting to argue that the church didn’t bother to speak with the village until only after launching the homeless shelter. Pekau said several times he didn’t recall ever speaking with Hope’s Pastor Jon Fogel, who said he tried repeatedly to communicate with the village about the church’s plans but no one got back to him (before Oct. 4). Don’t you get it, Pastor Fogel? The Village doesn’t care about you, your church or about the homeless people who are in need, the way other communities care. The power point asserts that the first meeting took place on October 4, 2019, but that’s just not true. What Pekau left out was that the first confirmed discussion on the homeless shelter took place two months before on August 5 at the podium of the Village board meeting that night when Pastor Fogel detailed his plan to help the needy in the presence of the Mayor and all the board members. Fogel said he has tried to reach out to Pekau since April.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [11/19/19](#)]
- **Pekau Recognized Pastor Fogel At The Board Meeting, Heard His Plans Of The Shelter And Did Not Raise Any Concerns Or Objections Before Filing His Lawsuit.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Maybe Mayor Pekau was dozing off while a member of the Orland Park public was addressing the board meeting that evening. Pekau, in fact, recognized Fogel (mispronouncing his name) and gave him the floor. Fogel detailed the urgency to help Orland Park’s needy and his plans to open the homeless shelter and he urged the village to help the church. Pekau casually thanked Fogel for his presentation and then without any comments or expression of concern about a homeless shelter being opened in Orland Park, went on to recognize the next member of the public, whom he probably ignored, too. Pekau had a choice to listen to Fogel, a resident of Orland Park, or ignore him. Pekau also had the choice to work with the church to help the homeless or to waste taxpayer money and take the matter to the courts. Why not? Pekau doesn’t pay for the legal expenses. The taxpayers do.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [11/19/19](#)]

## Packing the Supreme Court

**Pekau Praised Biden’s Supreme Court Commission For Allegedly Finding No Issues With The Supreme Court System.** According to a Twitter thread by Keith Pekau, “Thankfully, Biden’s Supreme Court Commission poured cold water on the left’s court-packing scheme. Packing the Supreme Court would destroy the independence of the judiciary and strip important checks and balances. Marie Newman is undeterred, as her commitment to a radical agenda is stronger than her commitment to constitutional norms. It’s time for a change in IL-06.” Pekau shared a link to an article detailing the Supreme Court Commission’s decision. Pekau also shared a screenshot of a Tweet from Marie Newman stating, “We must do everything in our power to protect civil rights and the fundamentals of democracy. Including expanding the Supreme Court.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [12/8/21](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [12/8/21](#)]

**Pekau Criticized Marie Newman’s For Her “Radical” Efforts To Protect Civil Rights And Democracy By Expanding The Supreme Court.** According to a Twitter thread by Keith Pekau, “Thankfully, Biden’s Supreme Court Commission poured cold water on the left’s court-packing scheme. Packing the Supreme Court would destroy the independence of the judiciary and strip important checks and balances. Marie Newman is undeterred, as her commitment to a radical agenda is stronger than her commitment to constitutional norms. It’s time for a change in IL-06.” Pekau shared a link to an article detailing the Supreme Court Commission’s decision. Pekau also shared a screenshot of a Tweet from Marie Newman stating, “We must do everything in our power to protect civil rights and the fundamentals of democracy. Including expanding the Supreme Court.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [12/8/21](#)]

## City Employees Contracting COVID-19

**July 2020: After Downplaying The Severity Of COVID-19 In Orland Park And Fighting COVID Restrictions, A City Employee Who Worked Next Door To Pekau Tested Positive For COVID.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Pekau has been trying hard to stoke up his faltering political base by using skepticism about the coronavirus suggesting that it’s not as deadly in Orland Park as it is everywhere else. No one has died in Orland Park, — thankfully — but not because of Pekau’s leadership to fight the virus. [...] So having someone test positive who works for the Village of Orland Park is a public relations catastrophe for Pekau’s image, the fake champion against the repressive restrictions imposed by an unpopular Democratic Governor, Pritzker. It wasn’t just any employee who was infected, though. It was an employee who worked in the offices of the Village Manager, George Kaczvara, which is adjacent to Pekau’s offices at Village Hall. I emailed Kaczvara asking about the report of a confirmed coronavirus case among village employees but the Village Manager didn’t respond. Kaczvara put out a note to employees who worked with the infected employee, required by law, to inform them that employees who may have come in contact with the infected employee should monitor their own health in the coming weeks. Coronavirus can hibernate for up to two weeks before surfacing.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [7/1/20](#)]

**Village Manager George Kaczvara Did Not Report On The Employee Who Contracted COVID Until A Blog Post Blew The Whistle And Reported On The Employee.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “I emailed Kaczvara asking about the report of a confirmed coronavirus case among village employees but the Village Manager didn’t respond. Kaczvara put out a note to employees who worked with the infected employee, required by law, to inform them that employees who may have come in contact with the infected employee should monitor their own health in the coming weeks. Coronavirus can hibernate for up to two weeks before surfacing. [...] Kaczvara could have chosen to respond to the information, but instead, nearly seven hours later, decided to confirm my story by putting out a public press release (which I later updated and appended to the original column that you can read by clicking here). In the press release, the village acknowledged, as I reported, that a village employee was diagnosed with coronavirus. I hope that employee recovers and I also hope that the other employees who came in contact with the employee at Village Hall do not come down with the virus, too. And what about the public that came in contact with the employee? The public has a right to know, but that’s not what the village wanted to happen, apparently. They were forced to after I blew the whistle and reported it first.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [7/1/20](#)]

**Several Employees At Village Hall Contacted The Blog Two Days After The Report To Confirm Another Employee Had Contracted COVID-19.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Two days later, several employees at Village Hall contacted me saying yet another employee contracted the virus, this time in the Recreation Department. Instead of putting out a press release, Pekau, who was on ‘vacation’ in Colorado, decided to not say anything. The only way Orland Park residents learned of the second infection was by reading my second column, which you can read here by clicking this link. And the employees, who work in fear at Orland Park, said that while the village claims to be giving them face masks and gloves, they are not! An email to the Recreation Department also went unanswered. That’s how ‘open’ Pekau’s administration is. The residents of Orland Park have a right to know that employees they may have had contact with have been exposed and diagnosed with coronavirus. But apparently, Pekau doesn’t believe you should have that right. In fact, there is also a third employee who has coronavirus now, and there are rumors about yet another ‘bigshot’ in Village Government has it, too.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [7/1/20](#)]

- **Pekau, Who Was On Vacation In Colorado, Did Not Put Out A Press Release About The Second Employee Who Contracted COVID-19.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Two days later, several employees at Village Hall contacted me saying yet another employee contracted the virus, this time in the Recreation Department. Instead of putting out a press release, Pekau, who was on ‘vacation’ in Colorado, decided to not say anything. The only way Orland Park residents learned of the second infection was by reading my second column, which you can read here by clicking this link. And the employees, who work in fear at

Orland Park, said that while the village claims to be giving them face masks and gloves, they are not! An email to the Recreation Department also went unanswered. That's how 'open' Pekau's administration is. The residents of Orland Park have a right to know that employees they may have had contact with have been exposed and diagnosed with coronavirus. But apparently, Pekau doesn't believe you should have that right. In fact, there is also a third employee who has coronavirus now, and there are rumors about yet another 'bigshot' in Village Government has it, too." [SuburbanChicagoLand, [7/1/20](#)]

## Testing

**August 2020: Pekau Claimed That “The More We Test, The More Cases We Have,” Suggesting Using Hospitalization Rates As A More Accurate Measure.** According to Pekau in a message to Orland Park residents, “Cases are what we regularly hear about from the press and from the governor. For me, cases do not really tell the story for several reasons. The sheer number of tests – the more we test, the more cases we have. For example, at the peak of our resource usage, near the end of April, we were only performing a little more than 10,000 tests per day. Just two weeks before that it was only 6,000. Now we are testing well over 40,000 a day. Many people who test positive, test positive multiple times, especially those people in the hospital. Each of these positive tests is counted as a positive case, which will obviously inflate the numbers. I have personally heard over a dozen anecdotal statement from people who went to get tested, signed up, waited for a really long time, left without taking a test, and received a card in the mail saying they tested positive. This is obviously problematic. [...] The number that tells the full story of what is happening is the number of new COVID hospitalizations each day. The number only lags a few days at most, and is accurate, because we know that a person who has been hospitalized and has a positive test has COVID.” [YouTube, [0:42 – 2:30](#), 8/12/20]

- **Pekau: “Many People Who Test Positive, Test Positive Multiple Times, Especially Those People In The Hospital. Each Of These Positive Tests Is Counted As A Positive Case, Which Will Obviously Inflate The Numbers.”** According to Pekau in a message to Orland Park residents, “Cases are what we regularly hear about from the press and from the governor. For me, cases do not really tell the story for several reasons. The sheer number of tests – the more we test, the more cases we have. For example, at the peak of our resource usage, near the end of April, we were only performing a little more than 10,000 tests per day. Just two weeks before that it was only 6,000. Now we are testing well over 40,000 a day. Many people who test positive, test positive multiple times, especially those people in the hospital. Each of these positive tests is counted as a positive case, which will obviously inflate the numbers. I have personally heard over a dozen anecdotal statement from people who went to get tested, signed up, waited for a really long time, left without taking a test, and received a card in the mail saying they tested positive. This is obviously problematic. [...] The number that tells the full story of what is happening is the number of new COVID hospitalizations each day. The number only lags a few days at most, and is accurate, because we know that a person who has been hospitalized and has a positive test has COVID.” [YouTube, [0:42 – 2:30](#), 8/12/20]
- **Pekau: “I Have Personally Heard Over A Dozen Anecdotal Statement From People Who Went To Get Tested, Signed Up, Waited For A Really Long Time, Left Without Taking A Test, And Received A Card In The Mail Saying They Tested Positive. This Is Obviously Problematic.”** According to Pekau in a message to Orland Park residents, “Cases are what we regularly hear about from the press and from the governor. For me, cases do not really tell the story for several reasons. The sheer number of tests – the more we test, the more cases we have. For example, at the peak of our resource usage, near the end of April, we were only performing a little more than 10,000 tests per day. Just two weeks before that it was only 6,000. Now we are testing well over 40,000 a day. Many people who test positive, test positive multiple times, especially those people in the hospital. Each of these positive tests is counted as a positive case, which will obviously inflate the numbers. I have personally heard over a dozen anecdotal statement from people who went to get tested, signed up, waited for a really long time, left without taking a test, and received a card in the mail saying they tested positive. This is obviously problematic. [...] The number that tells the full story of what is happening is the number of new COVID hospitalizations each day. The number only lags a few days at most, and is accurate, because we know that a person who has been hospitalized and has a positive test has COVID.” [YouTube, [0:42 – 2:30](#), 8/12/20]

## Reopening

**April 2020: In Accordance With The White House’s “Opening Up American Again” Plan, Pekau Said “We... Have To Plan For A Phased Reopening Of The Local Economy, Getting People Back To Work, And Enjoying All Of The Great Things That Orland Park Has To Offer.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “As warmer weather approaches and with outdoor events such as festivals and farmers markets on the horizon, some south suburbs are proceeding cautiously, with some activities being delayed or canceled outright due to COVID-19 concerns. Orland Park, however, is all in, announcing a lineup of concerts for this summer, with the village’s mayor subjected to blowback on social media for the decision. Some residents have supported the decision and others chided officials to trying to jump back into normal patterns too soon. A village news release said the decision follows the White House announcement of the Opening Up America Again plan. ‘Although we continue to monitor the current environment and plan accordingly, we also have to plan for a phased reopening of the local economy, getting people back to work, and enjoying all of the great things that Orland Park has to offer,’ Mayor Keith Pekau said in the news release.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/23/20]

**April 2020: Orland Park Announced A Lineup Of Concerts For Summer 2020, Which Caused Blowback From Citizens Concerned About The Pandemic.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “As warmer weather approaches and with outdoor events such as festivals and farmers markets on the horizon, some south suburbs are proceeding cautiously, with some activities being delayed or canceled outright due to COVID-19 concerns. Orland Park, however, is all in, announcing a lineup of concerts for this summer, with the village's mayor subjected to blowback on social media for the decision. Some residents have supported the decision and others chided officials to trying to jump back into normal patterns too soon.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/23/20]

- **Pekau: “I Realize Some People Will Be Afraid, But Some People Will Be Afraid For A Long Time After This.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “As warmer weather approaches and with outdoor events such as festivals and farmers markets on the horizon, some south suburbs are proceeding cautiously, with some activities being delayed or canceled outright due to COVID-19 concerns. Orland Park, however, is all in, announcing a lineup of concerts for this summer, with the village's mayor subjected to blowback on social media for the decision. Some residents have supported the decision and others chided officials to trying to jump back into normal patterns too soon. [...] Pekau said at Monday’s Village Board meeting it would have cost the village more than \$200,000 to cancel the bands, which had already been booked, and that if Orland Park had done so it faced the prospect of being ‘blackballed’ by musical artists in the future. ‘I realize some people will be afraid, but some people will be afraid for a long time after this,’ he said.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/23/20]

**May 2020: Pekau Wanted Orland Park To Reopen Faster Than Outlined By Governor JB Pritzker, Claiming The Village’s Potential Loss Of \$2.7 Million In Sales Tax Revenues And Furloughed Medical Staff Warranted The Turn Around.** According to ABC7, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau has called for his community to reopen faster than is outlined as part of Governor JB Pritzker’s plan. He says it just can’t wait. ‘The governor’s plan would not allow restaurants to reopen until at least June 26. Frankly, most of our small, family-owned restaurants will not survive that long,’ Mayor Pekau said. Mayor Pekau posted video on social media Thursday. The village said that it may lose \$2.7 million this year in sales tax revenue because of COVID-19 restrictions, so it has laid out its own plan to reopen businesses at a faster pace. ‘When we embarked on the stay-at-home order, the goal was to flatten the curve in order to avoid overwhelming our hospital system. This has clearly been accomplished. In fact, hospitals have been furloughing medical staff because of the lack of utilization in their system.’” [ABC7, 5/8/20]

**May 2020: In Opposition To Governor Pritzker’s Restore Illinois, Pekau Released A Video Why Orland Park Should Be Exempt From The Reopening Plan, Emphasizing That “100% Of Orland Park’s COVID Death Have Been In Long Term Healthcare Facilities.”** According to the Illinois Review, “Orland Park is a southwest suburb of Cook County – thus, the requirements Governor JB Pritzker has set up for his Restore Illinois re-opening plan thrust the village into the same health region as Chicago – the deadliest COVID area in the state. That determination could destroy Orland Park’s economy – as it could any of the towns and villages within the

Chicago region – as Pritzker’s plan would keep small businesses and many services closed and unavailable to the public. Orland Park’s Mayor Keith Pekau released a video clearly laying out why Orland Park should be allowed to open businesses and restore its ability to host a healthy economic environment. Pekau says in the video that 100% of Orland Park’s COVID death have been in long term healthcare facilities – pushing for seniors and immune-compromised persons to be protected while allowing the general population to return to its normal activities, with appropriate precautions.” [Illinois Review, 5/15/20]

**May 2020: In Response To Governor Pritzker’s Reopening Plan, Pekau Said, “We Do Not Have The Legal Authority To Enforce Any Of This,” And That “The Marketplace Will Figure This Out.”** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “Pritzker’s plan still restricts gatherings to 10 people or fewer. Face coverings are required in public. Retailers may open, but with limited capacity. Barbershops, salons and gyms must follow certain rules. [...] ‘We do not have the legal authority to enforce any of this,’ Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau said Thursday. [...] Pekau said the plan amounts to a list of recommendations meant to educate and inform residents. He said his village has not enforced any coronavirus restriction. Its attorneys don’t believe it has that authority, he said. Rather, he said he expects the thousands of businesses in Orland Park to focus on making their customers comfortable. ‘The marketplace will figure this out,’ Pekau said.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 5/28/20]

**June 2020: Pekau Rebuked Governor Pritzker’s Restore Illinois Plan, Claiming It Was Based Off “Weird Science” And An “Asinine Display Of Logic.”** According to the Illinois Policy Institute, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau gave a strong rebuke to Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s Restore Illinois plan in a message shared to the village’s YouTube page. Pekau said Pritzker’s plan is based off ‘weird science’ and has used an ‘asinine display of logic’ in his guidance to restart the state after COVID-19’s peak. [...] ‘We’ve tried to reason with and work with the governor and legislators,’ Pekau said. ‘Frankly, we are getting nowhere. There is no logic, data or science being shared to explain the restriction we are living with.’ Pekau proceeded to describe the various ways he believes Pritzker has ignored logic and scientific data in his mandates.” [Illinois Policy Institute, 6/10/20]

**Pekau Claimed That Pritzker Was Hypocritical And Arbitrary With His Restrictions.** According to the Illinois Policy Institute, “Pekau also highlighted how Pritzker regulated people’s behavior: Marijuana and liquor businesses were able to remain open throughout the stay-at-home order, but healthy activities such as gyms and churches remained shuttered. Gyms can open now, but as Pekau said, only for those with a private trainer, meaning those who cannot afford one are still out of luck. Elective surgeries and other tests at hospitals were also forbidden, which the mayor suggested had potential health consequences for a greater number of people. The mayor pointed out Pritzker’s hypocrisy throughout the pandemic. On the same day he closed restaurants, he encouraged thousands to vote with no social distancing restrictions. Last, Pekau noted the double standard about public gatherings that has existed during the past week. While protests against Pritzker’s stay-at-home order were condemned for being too big, the governor himself appeared at a suburban rally against racial injustice that drew hundreds and he was standing side-by-side with protestors. Republican lawmakers pounced on this, noting Pritzker was breaking his own rule about limiting gatherings to 10 people even though he said protests might lead to an increase in COVID-19 cases.” [Illinois Policy Institute, 6/10/20]

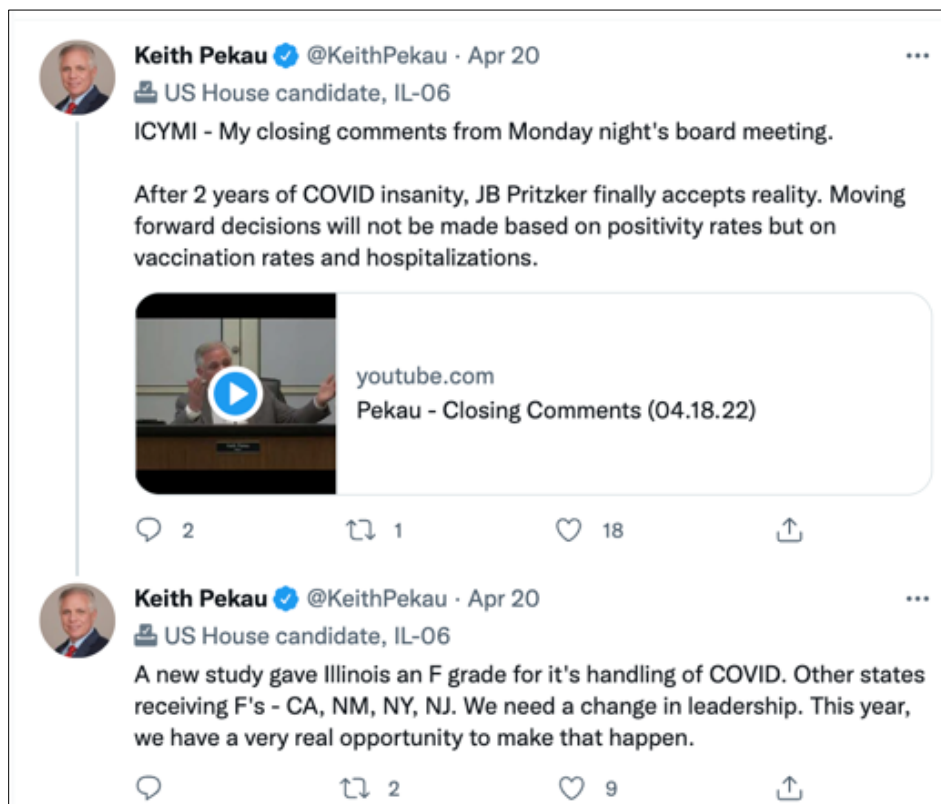
**June 2020: Pekau Continued To Push Back Against Governor Pritzker’s State Reopening Plan, Saying That “He Believed Orland Park Could Immediately Move To Phase Four With Businesses Such As Restaurants Allowing A Limited Number Of Customers To Dine Inside.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park’s plan to host a July 4 fireworks show is raising concerns among two village trustees who questioned whether the village could be sued if someone contracts the coronavirus while attending. Most communities have canceled summer events that usually draw big crowds, and suburbs surrounding Orland Park have called off traditional fireworks shows because of COVID-19. Along with the fireworks and Liberty Fun Run and Walk on July 3, Orland Park also has a series of summer concerts it is hosting at Centennial Park West starting next month. [...] Mayor Keith Pekau and other officials have pushed back against Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s multistage plan to reopen the state, with the mayor saying he believed Orland Park could immediately move to phase four with businesses such as restaurants allowing a limited number of customers to dine inside.” [Chicago Tribune, 6/18/20]

**Pekau Claimed Children Were “Denied An Education,” Due To COVID Safety Precautions, Claiming, “Mental Health Issues Are Up, Suicides Are Up, And Test Scores Are Down.”** According to a Twitter thread by Keith Pekau, “Children are being locked out of their schools & denied an education. The damage done to children in the last 2 years is undeniable - mental health issues are up, suicides are up & test scores are down. The attacks on our children, in the name of COVID, need to stop. Parents, elected officials, youth associations, and all adults need to step up and protect our children!” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/5/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/5/22](#)]

**Pekau Cited “A New Study” Which Gave Illinois, Along With California And New York, F Grades For Their Handling Of COVID.** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “ICYMI - My closing comments from Monday night’s board meeting. After 2 years of COVID insanity, JB Pritzker finally accepts reality. Moving forward decisions will not be made based on positivity rates but on vaccination rates and hospitalizations. A new study gave Illinois an F grade for it's handling of COVID. Other states receiving F's - CA, NM, NY, NJ. We need a change in leadership. This year, we have a very real opportunity to make that happen.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [4/20/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [4/20/22](#)]

**April 2022: Pekau Confirmed Previous Statement That “The Scariest Part Of The Entire Pandemic Was How Quickly People Were Willing To Give Up Their Rights.”** According to Pekau at a village board meeting, “In April of 2020, I said that the scariest part of the entire pandemic was how quickly people were willing to give up their rights. That is still what scares me the most. It is important that we, the American public, learn from this experience and never allow this to happen again, not to us, not to our children. Do not give up your freedom so easily.” [YouTube, 2:55 – 3:18, 4/19/22]

**September 2021: Pekau Compared COVID To 9/11, Claiming, “We’re Being Divided Over A Silly Little Piece Of Cloth, Because People Are Afraid.”** According to Pekau at a 9/11 commemoration ceremony, “Rather than the sorrow and the pain – I prefer to remember the good that came out of those terrible events. America came together. Our differences were put aside, and we focused on the shared experiences of being an American. Democrats and Republicans worked together for the common good of all Americans. Think of how we’re behaving now. We’re being divided over a silly piece of cloth- because people are afraid. On 9/11 people were also afraid.” [YouTube, [8:04 - 8:36](#), 9/12/21]

**June 2020: Pekau Critiqued The Illinois Reopening Plan, Claiming That Gyms Remained Closed While “Cannabis Was Deemed Essential.”** According to Pekau in a message to the residents of Orland Park, “We know that over 90% of the people who died from COVID had pre-existing health conditions, yet we were still not allowed to workout at the gym. However, cannabis was deemed essential. Getting high was okay, so was the liquor store. Getting drunk is approved. You really can’t make this up.” [YouTube, [1:43 – 2:00](#), 6/8/20]

- **Pekau: “Getting High Was Okay, So Was The Liquor Store. Getting Drunk Is Approved. You Really Can’t Make This Up.”** According to Pekau in a message to the residents of Orland Park, “We know that over 90% of the people who died from COVID had pre-existing health conditions, yet we were still not allowed to workout at the gym. However, cannabis was deemed essential. Getting high was okay, so was the liquor store. Getting drunk is approved. You really can’t make this up.” [YouTube, [1:43 – 2:00](#), 6/8/20]

**June 2020: Pekau Critiqued The Illinois Reopening Plan For Allegedly Not Allowing “Peaceful Protesting” By Religious Groups While “The Activities Of Last Week Were A-Okay,” In Reference To George Floyd Protests.** According to Pekau in a message to the residents of Orland Park, “Religious activities were not allowed for months. People peacefully protesting the stay-at-home order were told their actions were going to kill people. Socializing in groups of 10 or more at your home, or at a club, or at a park, are not allowed. However, the activities of last week were A-okay. Somehow, scientific evidence must show that COVID knows the difference between what is being protested for.” [YouTube, [4:45 – 5:07](#), 6/8/20]

- **Pekau: Socializing In Groups Of 10 Or More At Your Home, Or At A Club, Or At A Park, Are Not Allowed. However, The Activities Of Last Week Were A-Okay. Somehow, Scientific Evidence Must Show That COVID Knows The Difference Between What Is Being Protested For.”** According to Pekau in a message to the residents of Orland Park, “Religious activities were not allowed for months. People peacefully protesting the stay-at-home order were told their actions were going to kill people. Socializing in groups of 10 or more at your home, or at a club, or at a park, are not allowed. However, the activities of last week were A-okay. Somehow, scientific evidence must show that COVID knows the difference between what is being protested for.” [YouTube, [4:45 – 5:07](#), 6/8/20]

**May 2020: Pekau Claimed Governor Pritzker Was Hypocritical For Attending Marches After He Mandated 10 Person Maximum Gatherings.** Chicago’s Morning Answer asked Mayor Pekau, “Alright, so Keith, Governor Pritzker has this 10-person gathering limit, and obviously he’s not abiding by his own rules, because he’s been at marches with hundreds and even a thousand people two weeks ago. How hypocritical, and how disappointed are you in his handling of all of this, and how the rules don’t apply to him?” Pekau replied, “It’s very hypocritical obviously, to be out there... A few weeks ago, bills that were protesting to open back up. They were putting people’s lives in danger. They were gonna kill people, but then you come out, and if it’s something you support, you can have thousands of people there. And then you tell other people, you can’t go inside and eat with 10 people. You can’t gather outside with 11, heaven forbid, if it’s 11, COVID will show up.” [YouTube, [12:37 - 13:25](#), 6/16/20]

## ***Fireworks Show***

**June 2020: Orland Park’s Plan To Host Fireworks On July 4<sup>th</sup> Raised Concerns Among Village Trustees Concerned About Liability In The Event Someone Contracted COVID-19.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park's plan to host a July 4 fireworks show is raising concerns among two village trustees who questioned whether the village could be sued if someone contracts the coronavirus while attending. Most communities have canceled summer events that usually draw big crowds, and suburbs surrounding Orland Park have called off traditional fireworks shows because of COVID-19. [...] Village officials say they plan to encourage social distancing and will limit the crowd for the fireworks at Centennial Park, but Trustee Dan Calandriello said during Monday’s village board meeting that keeping attendees a safe distance apart would be virtually impossible. ‘This doesn't sit right with me,’ he said of holding the event. ‘It’s not the right thing to do.’ Trustee Kathy Fenton said she was concerned about the potential liability and someone contracting the virus. Village attorney Dennis Walsh said it would be ‘practically impossible’ for someone to prove that if they were to sue.” [Chicago Tribune, 6/18/20]

- **Village Trustee Dan Calandriello: “It’s Not The Right Thing To Do.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park's plan to host a July 4 fireworks show is raising concerns among two village trustees who questioned whether the village could be sued if someone contracts the coronavirus while attending. Most communities have canceled summer events that usually draw big crowds, and suburbs surrounding Orland Park have called off traditional fireworks shows because of COVID-19. [...] Village officials say they plan to encourage social distancing and will limit the crowd for the fireworks at Centennial Park, but Trustee Dan Calandriello said during Monday’s village board meeting that keeping attendees a safe distance apart would be virtually impossible. ‘This doesn't sit right with me,’ he said of holding the event. ‘It’s not the right thing to do.’ Trustee Kathy Fenton said she was concerned about the potential liability and someone contracting the

virus. Village attorney Dennis Walsh said it would be ‘practically impossible’ for someone to prove that if they were to sue.” [Chicago Tribune, 6/18/20]

## **Lawsuit Against Pritzker**

**Orland Park Filed A Federal Lawsuit Against Governor Pritzker, Challenging Restrictions Put In Place During The Coronavirus Pandemic.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park has dropped a federal lawsuit against Gov. J.B. Pritzker challenging restrictions put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to court filings. The village and other plaintiffs in the case had filed the complaint in mid-June, and last month told the judge overseeing the case it planned to file an amended lawsuit by this Thursday. The short document filed Tuesday did not give an explanation why the village decided to voluntarily dismiss the lawsuit. Mayor Keith Pekau said Thursday that the Village Board decided in a closed session following Monday’s meeting to drop the case, but defended the village’s use of taxpayer money to pursue the litigation.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**October 2020: Pekau Announced That The Village Board Decided To Drop A Federal Lawsuit Challenging Governor Pritzker’s COVID-19 Restrictions After A Closed Session, But “Defended The Village’s Use Of Taxpayer Money To Pursue The Litigation.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park has dropped a federal lawsuit against Gov. J.B. Pritzker challenging restrictions put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to court filings. The village and other plaintiffs in the case had filed the complaint in mid-June, and last month told the judge overseeing the case it planned to file an amended lawsuit by this Thursday. [...] Mayor Keith Pekau said Thursday that the Village Board decided in a closed session following Monday’s meeting to drop the case but defended the village’s use of taxpayer money to pursue the litigation. [...] Pekau said that the village’s early September motion indicating it planned to file an amended lawsuit was a way of giving village officials more time to ponder its options.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**The Judge In The Case Said That The Village Would Have “A Negligible Likelihood Of Success” In Pressing Their Claims.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The lawsuit argued, in part, that Pritzker had ‘failed to prove by clear and convincing evidence that public health is significantly endangered without’ restrictions on businesses and residents. In an Aug. 1 ruling in the lawsuit, Wood denied a motion by the village seeking a temporary restraining order as well as a preliminary injunction to overturn a series of executive orders issued by the governor. Wood ruled the village and other plaintiffs failed to show they have been unduly harmed by the governor’s order and would have ‘a negligible likelihood of success’ in pressing their claims. Pekau said that the village’s early September motion indicating it planned to file an amended lawsuit was a way of giving village officials more time to ponder its options. ‘We were trying to see what was happening out there,’ he said.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**The Total Legal Bill For The Failed Lawsuit Was \$70,000.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The mayor said he did not know how much the lawsuit cost the village, but that he believed the complaint put pressure on the governor to relax restrictions on businesses, which allowed Orland Park businesses to reopen. He said he believed the sales tax revenue flowing into village coffers would more than offset the legal expenses. ‘The money was well worth it because everything opened up,’ Pekau said. Trustee Dan Calandriello, who was opposed from the start to the litigation, said the consensus during Monday’s closed-door session was drop the matter. ‘The feeling was it was time to finish this thing,’ he said. Calandriello, who is an attorney, said he believes the total legal bill for Orland Park will be about \$70,000 and was critical of the expense at a time when municipal revenues have been affected due to the pandemic. ‘At the end of the day this was not productive,’ he said.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**Village Trustee Dan Calandriello Was Critical Of The Expense At A Time When Municipal Revenues Were Affected Due To The Pandemic.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The mayor said he did not know how much the lawsuit cost the village, but that he believed the complaint put pressure on the governor to relax restrictions on businesses, which allowed Orland Park businesses to reopen. He said he believed the sales tax revenue flowing into village coffers would more than offset the legal expenses. ‘The money was well worth it because everything opened up,’ Pekau said. Trustee Dan Calandriello, who was opposed from the start to the litigation, said the consensus during Monday’s closed-door session was drop the matter. ‘The feeling was it was time to finish this thing,’ he said.

Calandriello, who is an attorney, said he believes the total legal bill for Orland Park will be about \$70,000 and was critical of the expense at a time when municipal revenues have been affected due to the pandemic. ‘At the end of the day this was not productive,’ he said.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

**Pekau Maintained That The Lawsuit Was A Good Use Of Money, Saying, “The Money Was Well Worth It Because Everything Opened Up.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The mayor said he did not know how much the lawsuit cost the village, but that he believed the complaint put pressure on the governor to relax restrictions on businesses, which allowed Orland Park businesses to reopen. He said he believed the sales tax revenue flowing into village coffers would more than offset the legal expenses. ‘The money was well worth it because everything opened up,’ Pekau said. Trustee Dan Calandriello, who was opposed from the start to the litigation, said the consensus during Monday’s closed-door session was drop the matter. ‘The feeling was it was time to finish this thing,’ he said. Calandriello, who is an attorney, said he believes the total legal bill for Orland Park will be about \$70,000 and was critical of the expense at a time when municipal revenues have been affected due to the pandemic. ‘At the end of the day this was not productive,’ he said.” [Chicago Tribune, 10/11/20]

## October 2020 Shutdown

**October 2020: In Response To Governor Pritzker’s COVID-19 Measures, Pekau Lamented That The Governor Created A “A Constantly Moving Bar,” Saying, “Ask The Governor How He’s Going To Enforce It.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Suburban Cook County will soon join other communities living under stricter measures intended to slow the latest COVID-19 surge, Gov. J.B. Pritzker announced Monday, much to the dismay of bar and restaurant owners who have already endured a dismal year. [...] But Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, who has frequently criticized Pritzker over his handling of COVID-19 measures, said the governor has created ‘a constantly moving bar’ communities must meet to keep their restaurants open. He pointed to the county’s hospitalization rate, which remains far below the peak in April and May, as evidence that new restrictions aren’t needed. He added that he doesn’t have the legal authority or the inclination to crack down on any restaurants that might ignore the new order. ‘Ask the governor how he’s going to enforce it,’ he said. ‘He’s not going to make me go after my restaurants for trying to earn a living.’” [Chicago Tribune, 10/27/20]

**Pekau Claimed That Local Officials Did Not Have The Responsibility To Enforce Pritzker’s Order.**

According to the Center Square, “Compared to closure orders in the spring, many county officials, sheriffs, and other local leaders have announced the latest emergency orders were not theirs to enforce. ‘Let me be clear; local officials do not have the power or responsibility to enforce an executive order issued pursuant to the [Illinois Emergency Management Agency] Act,’ Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau said in a video the city posted to YouTube. ‘The governor continues to move the goal posts.’ Pekau said the closure orders have become less about safety and ‘more about control and power, not science and data.’” [Center Square, 10/31/20]

**August 2021: Pekau Claimed That COVID Cases Were “Much Higher” At The Beginning Of The Pandemic Than In Nov/Dec 2020, But It Wasn’t Shown In Data Because We “Didn’t Have Testing.”** According to Pekau in a council meeting, “So, I’m gonna give you an update on the latest numbers tonight. So, if you flip to the next page. So, ‘cause we keep hearing all this about COVID and people are getting fear back in ‘em... So, this is what’s happening. Now, you have to remember that in the beginning of this – cases were much higher than they were in November, December and we didn’t have testing. So, we didn’t really know how many cases there were early on.” The description of the video, which was posted to Pekau’s YouTube channel, said, “At Monday night’s council meeting, I gave an update on COVID-19 numbers here in Cook County. JB Pritzker and others have tried to make this about kids but the data does not reflect that. It’s an absolute shame that Pritzker is trying to instill fear in families across Illinois as students go back to school - some of which are attending in person for the first time in 18 months.” [YouTube, – 0:27, 8/20/21]

**November 2020: Pekau Claimed That It Was Important To Note That Case Increases Occurred In “States And Countries With And Without Mask Mandates, With Harsh Lockdowns And No Lockdowns,” Stating, “This Shows That Lockdowns Haven’t Altered The Course Of COVID-19.”** According to Pekau in a message to Orland Park residents, “By now, everyone is aware that cases are up throughout Illinois, most of the US, and

most of the world. It is important to note that these case increases are in states and countries with and without mask mandates, with harsh lockdowns and no lockdowns. This shows that lockdowns haven't altered the course of COVID-19." [YouTube, [0:08- 0:26](#), 11/25/20]

## Mask Mandates

**April 2020: Pekau Claimed That Orland Park Had Not Instituted A Mask Ordinance Because He Questioned The Legality Of Such An Action, Claiming “An Enforcement Issue As Well.”** According to Pekau in an appearance on WGN News, “As far as requiring masks, we do not have an ordinance to require masks. Or, we haven't made a statement to require masks, because we question the legality of such an action. Additionally, an enforcement issue as well. And obviously you heard the mayor of Chicago saying he won't be enforcing it. You actually heard the governor when he announced the mandate that he would not be requiring police to enforce it, because I think they have the same legal advice that we have. And frankly, we've taken the approach that educating our residents is the way to go. And we strongly recommend following the CDC recommendations.” [YouTube, [3:27 – 4:22](#), 4/23/20]

**July 2020: Pekau Emphasized That Masks Did Not Replace Social Distancing.** According to Pekau in a message to Orland Park citizens, “Currently, it seems that the entire national discussion is about masks. Regardless of your position on masks, here's what I'm afraid of. I'm afraid that we're focusing on the wrong thing, and we're forgetting why we have been successful to this point. The CDC, the WHO, IDPH, and everyone else agrees that the primary efforts for stopping the spread of COVID-19 are 1) staying home if you're sick, 2) practice social distancing, and 3) using good hygiene practices. Masks are not a substitute for doing those three things. If you're sick, please stay home. Don't get someone else sick. Please practice social distancing. Again, all of the recommendations are to only use masks if you can't socially distance. So social distancing is the most important thing you can do. And I've heard many people say, I can wear a mask. The mask will keep me safe; I don't need to social distance. That's not true. We need you to social distance. That's what's got us here.” [YouTube, [8:51 – 9:55](#), 7/15/20]

**Pekau On Mask Mandates In Schools: “[Children] Are Human Beings That Have Rights, And Their Parents Should Be Allowed To Make Decisions That Are Best For Their Own Children.”** According to the Center Square, “In Cook County, village of Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau said the governor is ‘ruling by executive fiat’ just before the village board unanimously approved a resolution urging the legislature to address the issue. ‘Many children have stuffed animals to give them comfort. We need to stop using our children as comfort toys for our adults,’ Pekau said. ‘They are human beings that have rights, and their parents should be allowed to make decisions that are best for their own children.’” [Center Square, 8/10/21]

**Pekau Said In A Campaign Ad That When Orland Park Schools Required Summer Camp Participants To Wear Masks, The City Relocated The Program To The Orland Park Cultural Center To “Put Decision-Making Back In Parents' Hands.”** reported, “Parents deserve the right to make medical decisions for their children. When I heard that Orland Park schools were requiring our summer camp program participants to wear masks against their parent's wishes, we relocated them to the Orland Park Cultural Center and put decision-making back in parents' hands.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/10/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/10/22](#)]

**Pekau Claimed Pritzker Was “Ruling By Executive Fiat.”** According to the Center Square, “In Cook County, village of Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau said the governor is ‘ruling by executive fiat’ just before the village board unanimously approved a resolution urging the legislature to address the issue. ‘Many children have stuffed animals to give them comfort. We need to stop using our children as comfort toys for our adults,’ Pekau said. ‘They are human beings that have rights, and their parents should be allowed to make decisions that are best for their own children.’” [Center Square, 8/10/21]

**Pekau Said The Village “Doesn’t Have The Money” To Help Small Businesses Recover From The Pandemic But Conducted A Failed Lawsuit Over The State’s Mask Mandate And Wasted Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars By Forcing Through This Summer’s Concert, Food Festival, And Keeping The Pool Open.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Tried to cover up his failure to aid small businesses. Pekau said the village ‘doesn’t have the money’ to help small businesses recover from the pandemic, yet he was able to conduct a failed, frivolous lawsuit over the state’s mask mandate, and he wasted hundreds of thousands of dollars by forcing through this summer’s concert, food festival, and keeping the pool open — all using taxpayer dollars. At the beginning of the pandemic, he even attacked a fellow village board member for advocating that the village should support small businesses.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [2/13/21](#)]

- **Pekau Filed A Lawsuit Challenging Mask Mandates Claiming Babies Could Be Arrested For Not Wearing A Mask.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Now for the weirdness — Pekau implied that he opposed the mask mandate and filed a failed taxpayer-funded lawsuit against the mandate, in part because he

thinks babies could be arrested for not wearing a mask. We're not even sure what to say about this one...but it's certainly not a valid reason to oppose the CDC-recommended mask mandate and make it more confusing for businesses and residents to know what rules to follow so they can get back to work.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [2/13/21](#)]

**April 2022: Pekau Reaffirmed His Belief That Mask Mandate Were “Unconstitutional.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “How do you feel about mask mandates? ‘As Mayor Orland Park, I stood up against unconstitutional mandates including the mask mandate. The Village of Orland Park refused to institute or enforce any of these mandates and we did so by legislative action, not by one person fiat.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**April 2022: Pekau Criticized The Orland Park Library’s Mask Mandate, Saying “It Is Maddening That The Orland Park Library Continues To Ignore Science, Data And Common Sense And Make Children Bear The Brunt Of A Disease That Has Virtually No Impact On Them.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “I was sent this heart wrenching email by a resident of Orland Park yesterday. I did the research and, in fact, the Orland Park Library is making mask wearing mandatory for adults and CHILDREN. It is maddening that the Orland Park Library continues to ignore science, data and common sense and make children bear the brunt of a disease that has virtually no impact on them. The Library needs to stop driving its social agenda and serve the needs of the residents of Orland Park. Libraries are supposed to be a place to learn and absorb knowledge. I recommend that those involved with this decision check out ‘1984’ by George Orwell, or ‘Fahrenheit 451’ by Ray Bradbury. The Orland Park Library is a beautiful building that costs taxpayers a lot of money and far too few people use because of silly management decisions like this.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [4/1/22](#)]

**Keith Pekau**  
April 1 · 🌐

I was sent this heart wrenching email by a resident of Orland Park yesterday. I did the research and, in fact, the Orland Park Library is making mask wearing mandatory for adults and CHILDREN.

It is maddening that the Orland Park Library continues to ignore science, data and common sense and make children bear the brunt of a disease that has virtually no impact on them. The Library needs to stop driving its social agenda and serve the needs of the residents of Orland Park.

Libraries are supposed to be a place to learn and absorb knowledge. I recommend that those involved with this decision check out “1984” by George Orwell, or “Fahrenheit 451” by Ray Bradbury.

The Orland Park Library is a beautiful building that costs taxpayers a lot of money and far too few people use because of silly management decisions like this.

**Program Type:** Youth Program, Storytime  
**Age Group:** Children, Ages 3 and up

Registration for this event will close on **April 2, 2022 @ 10:00am**.  
A library card is required.  
Allowed Ages: **3 and up**  
There are no more seats remaining.  
Additional registrations will be placed on the waitlist.  
There are **4** waitlist seats remaining.

**Program Description**  
**Event Details**  
Start your weekend off right! Bring the family together for stories, songs, and fun! In order to best socially distance indoors, the storytime will be for 10 age-appropriate children and their one grown-up. No additional children or family members will be able to attend. Masks will be

Hello,

I am writing to you regarding the Orland Park Public Library. I have XX young boys who have always been excited to read, and go to the library. We use to spend lots of time there, meet with friends, and attend story time. Recently, because of Covid, the library has become a very different place. To say that I am disappointed, is an understatement. There is a large sign out front and throughout the library saying that masks are **STRONGLY** recommended. Because of this, we have just avoided going for the most part. My two year old son, XXXX, is severely speech delayed. Part of his speech remediation is being around other children, and picking up on language. The OPPL just announced that they are bringing back story time (which has up until now been virtual for young children- but will be requiring masks for all in attendance. Since they are a public library, and there is not a mask mandate in the state and/or city, how are they able to mandate masks? I am bringing this issue up to you in hopes that you can intervene and help bring the library back to being a special and enjoyable place for everyone.

Thank you,

👍👎🗨️ 188

100 Comments 9 Shares

[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [4/1/22](#)]

**July 2020: Pekau Claimed That There Were Zero Scientific Studies On The Effectiveness Of Cloth Masks, Adding, “Cloth Masks Also Do Not Do Anything If A Person Is Healthy.”** According to Pekau in a message to the residents of Orland Park, “Somehow, as I mentioned, the wearing of cloth masks have become the latest attempt to divide people and create a political issue. You hear things like you’re willing to kill people, you want people to die. This is absurd. Nobody I know wants to hurt anyone, and nobody wants people to die. The state of Illinois,

IDPH, states that the CDC now recommends cloth face coverings in public settings when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas of significant community transmission. [...] First, according to our research and all the health experts I talk to, there are zero scientific studies on the effectiveness of cloth masks. They are also not included in the pandemic training that the CDC created prior to the coronavirus. They talk about social distancing, they talk about other measures, but they do not talk about the wearing of cloth masks. Regarding the use of cloth masks, the WHO and the CDC agree that cloth masks do not protect the wearer from coronavirus, that's important to know. Cloth masks also do not do anything if a person is healthy. Cloth masks help stop the spread of the virus if someone who is sick coughs or sneezes. This can also be accomplished by covering your face with a cloth or into your elbow." [YouTube, [10:52 – 15:00](#), 7/7/20]

## **Masks For Village Employees**

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**While The Village Claimed To Be Providing Employees Face Masks And Gloves, Employees Claimed They Were Not Receiving Those Supplies.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, "Two days later, several employees at Village Hall contacted me saying yet another employee contracted the virus, this time in the Recreation Department. Instead of putting out a press release, Pekau, who was on 'vacation' in Colorado, decided to not say anything. The only way Orland Park residents learned of the second infection was by reading my second column, which you can read here by clicking this link. And the employees, who work in fear at Orland Park, said that while the village claims to be giving them face masks and gloves, they are not! An email to the Recreation Department also went unanswered. That's how 'open' Pekau's administration is. The residents of Orland Park have a right to know that employees they may have had contact with have been exposed and diagnosed with coronavirus. But apparently, Pekau doesn't believe you should have that right. In fact, there is also a third employee who has coronavirus now, and there are rumors about yet another 'bigshot' in Village Government has it, too." [SuburbanChicagoLand, [7/1/20](#)]

**Pekau Closed The Secretary Of State's Office At Village Hall For Political Reasons And Lied About Who Ordered The Office Closed.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, "When Pekau ordered the closure of the Secretary of State's Service office at Village Hall — because Secretary of State Jesse White is the State's Number One Democratic Vote-getter, Pekau asserted White ordered the office closed. White called that lie. Rather than engage in Pekau's mudslinging ways, O'Grady reached out to White and reached an agreement that will not cost taxpayers one penny to restore the popular Secretary of State services at the Orland Township offices." [SuburbanChicagoLand, [7/1/20](#)]

## **Vaccines**

**Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Was Vaccinated, Writing, "It Is Unfortunate When Interviewers Play Gotcha And Push An Agenda."** According to an opinion article by Ted Slowik in the Lake County News-Sun, "Pekau refused to answer Bertrand's question about whether the mayor was vaccinated. 'It is unfortunate when interviewers play gotcha and push an agenda,' Pekau wrote when posting the link." [Lake County News-Sun, 9/17/21]

**January 2022: Contrary To A New Chicago And Suburban Cook County Policy Proof-Of-Vaccination Effect, Pekau Affirmed That Village Resources Would Not Be Used To Enforce It.** According to the Dispatch-Argus, "Districts in Oak Lawn, Olympia Fields and Tinley Park have put new policies into effect regarding the use of their fitness centers and event spaces under Cook County's new proof-of-vaccination mandate. [...] The county mandate requires proof of vaccination for those 5 and older entering a health club or fitness center, and those 16 and older need to show identification, such as a driver's license, that matches the vaccination information. [...] Orland Park won't enforce the vaccination requirement at indoor fitness and recreational facilities it operates, including the Sportsplex, 11351 W. 159th St., and the Orland Park Health & Fitness Center, 15430 West Ave., according to a village spokeswoman. Orland Park officials last week voted to support a resolution opposing the county's mandate and Mayor Keith Pekau said no village resources would be used to enforce it." [Dispatch-Argus, 1/3/22]

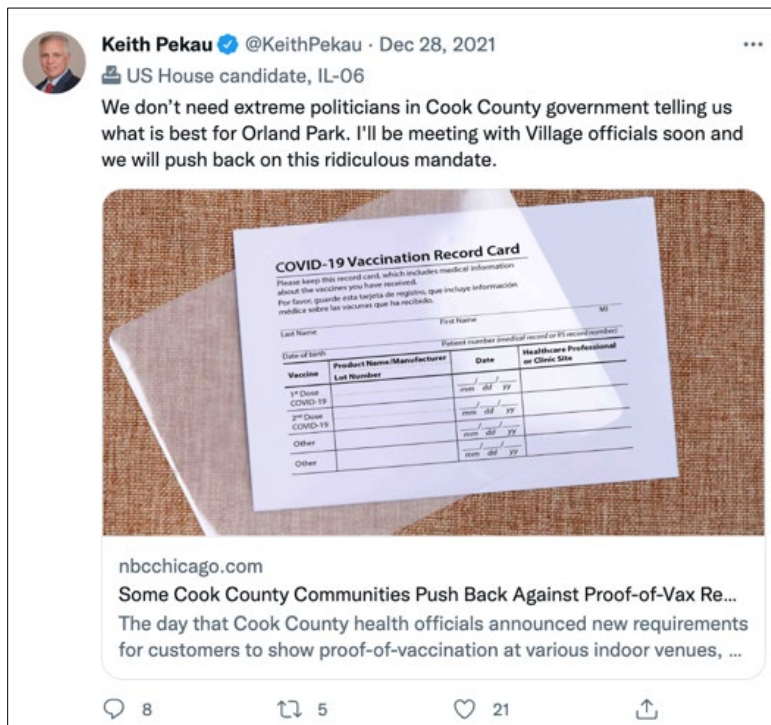
**December 2021: Pekau Considered Proof-Of-Vax Requirements “Dictatorial,” Saying They Were “Not Supported By Law And Will Likely Not Pass Constitutional Muster.”** According to a transcript of an interview with Pekau for the Chicago Daily Herald, “Q. You pushed back against proof-of-vax requirements and called these measures unlawful. [...] What gives you confidence that this is the only right response to these measures? A. I base my responses on data and the law. This is a dictatorial decision clearly not supported by law and will likely not pass constitutional muster. Additionally, I asked for the data that supported this decision and nothing was provided. I can only assume this is because there is no data.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 12/30/21]

**Pekau On Vaccine Mandates: “This Is Government Overreach And I Think It’s Unnecessary.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, who is seeking the Republican nomination for the 6th Congressional District, said the Village Board will vote Tuesday on a resolution to not enforce the proof of vaccination order. He said he anticipates a unanimous vote to reject the order. ‘This is government overreach and I think it’s unnecessary,’ Pekau said in an interview Thursday. ‘We’re going to go to our legislators and have them legislate as they were voted and elected to do to represent the people.’” [Chicago Tribune, 12/24/21]

**April 2022: Pekau Believed That In The Event Of Another Pandemic, “We Do Not Need New Laws And Regulations. We Have Them Already. It Is Called The United States Constitution.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Do you support new laws or regulations to safeguard people in the event of another pandemic? ‘We do not need new laws and regulations. We have them already. It is called the United States Constitution and elected officials and government administrators need to remember that their job is to uphold and support the laws of the Constitution of the United States. If they had done this during the pandemic, the damaging actions of the pandemic would have been avoided.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**Pekau Criticized Chicago’s Vaccine Mandate, Writing, “Rather Than Firing Healthy Police Officers, Many Of Whom Already Had COVID, For Not Getting Vaccinated Lori Lightfoot Should Try Supporting Them And Push Policies That Punish Criminals And Keep People Safe.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “Rather than firing healthy police officers, many of whom already had COVID, for not getting vaccinated Lori Lightfoot should try supporting them and push policies that punish criminals and keep people safe. Under Lightfoot, Foxx and Preckwinkle, Chicago has become a war zone that has endangered those very police officers as well as the residents of neighboring suburbs and counties. Here in Orland Park, we support our police officers for the outstanding work they do keeping us safe. We also did NOT mandate vaccinations for our officers allowing them to make the decisions that the officers and their doctors felt was best for them. I want to thank all of the officers in the Chicagoland area for their hard work and I applaud the FOP for standing up for the rights of their members in Chicago who have suffered under feckless political leadership.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [3/12/22](#)]

**As Mayor, Pekau Fought Against Cook County’s “Ridiculous” Mandate For Proof-Of-Vaccine Cards Despite Illinois Reaching Highest Daily Increase In COVID Cases And High Hospitalization Rates.** According to a Twitter post by Keith Pekau, “We don’t need extreme politicians in Cook County government telling us what is best for Orland Park. I’ll be meeting with Village officials soon and we will push back on this ridiculous mandate.” Pekau shared an article within the post, which discusses the mandate. According to the article by NBC Chicago, “The new mandate will require customers at indoor venues that serve food and beverages, including restaurants, bars, movie theaters and other businesses, to show a proof of COVID vaccination before they will be allowed to enter. [...] The new mandate comes as Illinois reported its single-highest daily increase in COVID cases, with nearly 19,000 cases of the virus reported over the last 24 hours. Hospitalizations in the state are at their highest levels in nearly a year, according to IDPH data, and officials are defending the new vaccination requirements as a necessary step toward beating back the surge in cases.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [12/28/21](#); NBC Chicago, [12/23/21](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [12/28/21](#)]

**Pekau Claimed Casten Was Hypocritical For Allegedly Supporting Vaccine Passports Mandates While Not Supporting Requiring ID To Vote.** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “Far-left politicians like Sean Casten and Marie Newman believe that you should have to show a photo ID and a vaccine card to eat at Applebees, but oppose showing an ID to vote. . . I'd love to hear them explain that one.” Pekau also linked an article in his post which discusses Orland Park’s decision to oppose the proof-of-vax mandate by Cook County. [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/4/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/4/22](#)]

**Pekau: “If A Vaccine Mandate Is Going To Be Passed And Enforced, It Should Be Passed By Law. It Should Be Done By The Legislative Body, And Additionally, It Should Be Supported By Data And Facts.”** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “If a vaccine mandate is going to be passed and enforced, it should be passed by law. It should be done by the legislative body, and additionally, it should be supported by data and facts. Cook County government is just playing politics.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [12/29/21](#)]

**Keith Pekau** @KeithPekau · Dec 29, 2021  
US House candidate, IL-06

If a vaccine mandate is going to be passed and enforced, it should be passed by law. It should be done by the legislative body, and additionally, it should be supported by data and facts. Cook County government is just playing politics.



cbsnews.com  
**Orland Park Trustees Pass Resolution Vowing Not To Enforce Cook Co...**  
You can put your COVID-19 vaccine cards away if you're dining or working out in suburban Orland Park.

22 67 397

**Keith Pekau** @KeithPekau · Dec 29, 2021  
US House candidate, IL-06

In Orland Park, we have followed the data and taken common sense measures to protect our residents and businesses without interfering with their rights—and it's worked.

1 7 76

[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [12/29/21](#)]


**Keith Pekau**  
March 12 · 🌐

Rather than firing healthy police officers, many of whom already had COVID, for not getting vaccinated Lori Lightfoot should try supporting them and push policies that punish criminals and keep people safe.

Under Lightfoot, Foxx and Preckwinkle, Chicago has become a war zone that has endangered those very police officers as well as the residents of neighboring suburbs and counties.

Here in Orland Park, we support our police officers for the outstanding work they do keeping us safe. We also did NOT mandate vaccinations for our officers allowing them to make the decisions that the officers and their doctors felt was best for them.

I want to thank all of the officers in the Chicagoland area for their hard work and I applaud the FOP for standing up for the rights of their members in Chicago who have suffered under feckless political leadership.



Mayor Lori Lightfoot warns police and other city employees will lose pay if they don't get 1st COVID-19...

Send message

Visit the COVID-19 Information Center for vaccine resources.  
[Get Vaccine Info](#)

708 135 Comments 82 Shares

[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [3/12/22](#)]

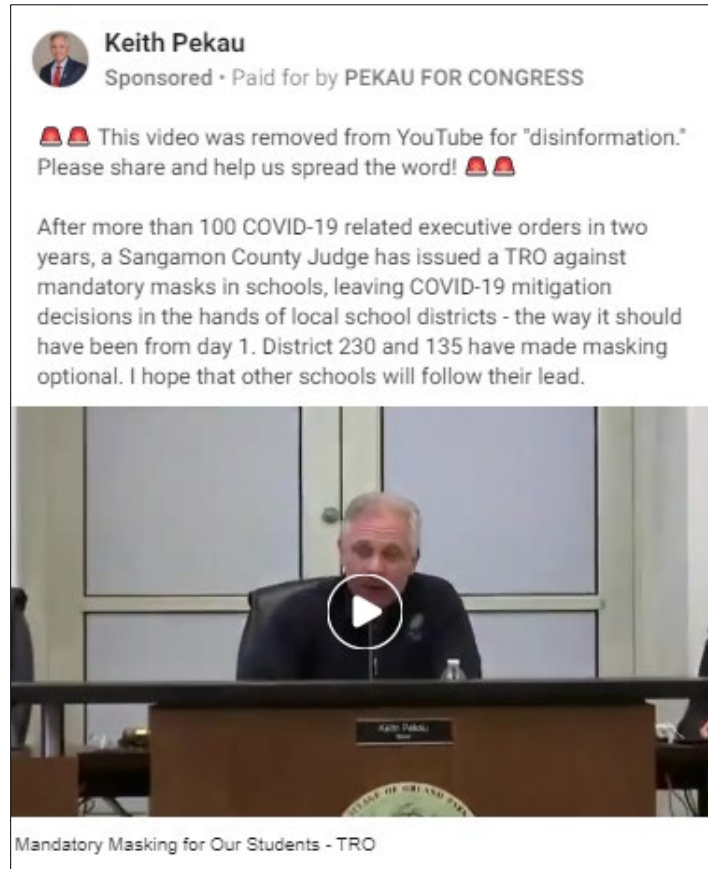
## Misinformation

### **YouTube Removed A Video Of An Orland Park Village Board Meeting For Medical Misinformation.**

According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, who has made himself a laughing stock among Illinois elected officials and the medical profession, again used the Village Board meeting as a forum this week to promote his misinformation on COVID and as a platform to promote his candidacy for Congress in the Republican primary election for the 6th District. During a village board meeting, Pekau repeated five day old news that a Sangamon County Court judge had issued a Temporary Restraining Order on Friday blocking Governor J.B. Pritzker’s much criticized mask mandate for schools. The TRO allows school boards to set their own policies for wearing face masks, a proven means of preventing the spread of the deadly Coronavirus which has taken more than 900,000 American lives during the past two years. Pekau posted the video on YouTube, but it was removed with a warning from the Social Media giant that read, ‘Our team has reviewed your content, and, unfortunately, we think it violates our medical misinformation policy.’” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/9/22](#)]

**Pekau Alleged In His Campaign Ad That A Video About “Mandatory Masking” In Schools Was Removed From YouTube For Disinformation.** reported, “🚩🚩 This video was removed from YouTube for

‘disinformation.’ Please share and help us spread the word! 🚩🚩” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/10/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/10/22](#)]

**Pekau Blamed The Rising Number Of COVID-19 Cases In Orland Park On Testing, Claiming, “The More We Test The More Cases We Have.”** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “In his August 14, 2020 YouTube video chat with the public, Pekau said, ‘Cases are what we regularly hear about from press and from the governor. For me, cases do not really tell the story for several reasons. The sheer number of tests. The more we test the more cases we have.’ His conclusion from his assertion seems clear: if there was no testing there wouldn’t be any infections, apparently. His extremist view is irresponsible. In truth, testing helps the village know the full extent of the infection, rather than burying your head in the sand of political selfishness.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [9/2/20](#)]

**In The Video, Pekau Urged School Districts To Adopt Mask-Optional Policies.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, who has made himself a laughing stock among Illinois elected officials and the medical profession, again used the Village Board meeting as a forum this week to promote his misinformation on COVID and as a platform to promote his candidacy for Congress in the Republican primary election for the 6th District. During a village board meeting, Pekau repeated five day old news that a Sangamon County Court judge had issued a Temporary Restraining Order on Friday blocking Governor J.B. Pritzker’s much criticized mask mandate for schools. The TRO allows school boards to set their own policies for wearing face masks, a proven means of preventing the spread of the deadly Coronavirus which has taken more than 900,000 American lives during the past two years. Pekau posted the video on YouTube, but it was removed with a warning from the Social Media giant that read, ‘Our team has reviewed your content, and, unfortunately, we think it violates our medical misinformation policy.’” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/9/22](#)]

**Keith Pekau Sponsored A Post Addressed To The Orland Park District 135 School Board To Provide Facts Prior To Their Decisions On COVID-19 Precautions Where He Emphasized That “You Cannot Eliminate**

**Every Risk.”** According to Facebook, “I am sure there will be plenty of emails that outline the challenges facing single parent and dual income households during the pandemic. Additionally, everyone with children is acutely aware of the toll the pandemic is taking on their mental well-being. Regardless of your decision, you cannot eliminate every risk. Whether in or out of school there will certainly be COVID cases among children in District 135. I encourage you to base your decision on facts and to remember that your job is do what you think is in the best interests of the children and parents in your district while balancing a lot of competing factors. There are no perfect answers. If there were, the decision would be easy. Regardless of the decision you make, take it from me, you will be attacked personally by those that disagree. I encourage you to stay positive. Those that make ad hominem attacks have not taken the time or do not have the capacity to make a factual argument.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [7/25/20](#)]



**Keith Pekau**

Sponsored • Paid for by Keith For Mayor

Below are my comments to the District 135 board Thursday night. They faced a difficult decision. Whether you agree or disagree with their choice, I am sure it was made in good faith by all of them. Reasonable people have different opinions during this time. I encourage them to continue monitoring the situation, adjust as needed, be transparent and keep the children of parents of D135 (their constituents) as their number one priority. I encourage all of you to stay engaged with the board, but please do so in a respectful way and use facts and data to state your position(s).

\*\*\*\*\*

Orland School District 135 School Board,

Thank you for your service in this difficult time. Nobody in public service imagined needing to make the types of decisions we have been faced with.

As the person in the Village that has been intimately involved in meetings, discussions and planning both at the Village level and regional level, I strongly believe that everyone should be given the facts that are being used to support the decisions being made. For this reason, I wanted to make sure that the entire board has a relevant fact base to make their decision. Here are the facts related to the COVID outbreak:

- The Village of Orland Park has adopted it's Back to Normal plan in light of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan currently being voided by the courts.
- Our plan follows the expert recommendations from the CDC and others on the length of each phase of opening and on the metrics to monitor.
- Cases and testing positivity have trended downward in Suburban Cook County since the end of April. Over the last week cases have flattened, which is to be expected due to increased openings.
- The intent of closing much of the economy was to avoid overwhelming the hospital system. The hospital system not only is not overwhelmed, it currently has an abundance of capacity for beds, ICU beds and ventilators.
- The most important statistic, daily hospitalizations from COVID, has been minimal (less than 5 per day) for weeks down from a high of over 125 per day in late April.
- Currently, the region (and Orland Park) meets every goal set by the state for continued reopening.

I am very familiar with the situation your board currently faces. You have imperfect information and must make difficult choices that attempt to balance risk, none of which are perfect. Here are some facts to consider:

- From 2/1 to 7/11 there were 14 COVID related deaths across the United States for children age 5 to 14.
- During this same time frame, there have been 209 flu and pneumonia deaths for children age 5 to 14. (15 times more than COVID)
- During this same time frame, there have been 3,601 deaths of children age 5 to 14.
- The leading cause of death for children age 5 to 14 are accidents. There were 1,726 accidental deaths in 2018. On average 33 of those deaths are related to school transportation.
- The second leading cause of deaths for ages 10-14 is suicide. There were 596 suicides in this age group in 2018.
- Homicides are the 5th leading cause of death for children age 5 to 14, with 289 in 2018.
- Since COVID began, suicide attempts among all age groups are up, mental health calls among all age groups are up and domestic violence is up.

I am sure there will be plenty of emails that outline the challenges facing single parent and dual income households during the pandemic. Additionally, everyone with children is acutely aware of the toll the pandemic is taking on their mental well-being. Regardless of your decision, you cannot eliminate every risk. Whether in or out of school there will certainly be COVID cases among children in District 135.

I encourage you to base your decision on facts and to remember that your job is do what you think is in the best interests of the children and parents in your district while balancing a lot of competing factors.

There are no perfect answers. If there were, the decision would be easy. Regardless of the decision you make, take it from me, you will be attacked personally by those that disagree. I encourage you to stay positive. Those that make ad hominem attacks have not taken the time or do not have the capacity to make a factual argument.

Best of luck to you and may God bless you as you make these difficult decisions.

Keith Pekau  
Mayor, Village of Orland Park

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [7/25/20](#)]

**Pekau Said The Village “Doesn’t Have The Money” To Help Small Businesses Recover From The Pandemic.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Tried to cover up his failure to aid small businesses. Pekau said the village ‘doesn’t have the money’ to help small businesses recover from the pandemic, yet he was able to conduct a failed, frivolous lawsuit over the state’s mask mandate, and he wasted hundreds of thousands of dollars by forcing through this summer’s concert, food festival, and keeping the pool open — all using taxpayer dollars. At the beginning of the pandemic, he even attacked a fellow village board member for advocating that the village should support small businesses.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/13/21](#)]

**April 6, 2020: During A Committee Meeting, Pekau Criticized Orland Park Trustee Dan Calandriello For “Grandstanding” And Playing “Political Games During A Crisis” For Asking The Village Consider The Needs Of Local Businesses During The Pandemic.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “On April 6, 2020, during a Committee of the Whole, Orland Park Trustee Dan Calandriello asked that the Village consider addressing the needs of local businesses in the wake of the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic restrictions which had been announced in a Disaster Declaration by Gov. J.B. Pritzker on March 9. Pekau began by asserting that Calandriello’s motion would force the Village staff to ‘spend resources and time’ to put a plan together and then attacked Calandriello personally and viciously, calling him a ‘grandstander.’ During the meeting, Pekau angrily declared, ‘This is an attempt by one person [Calandriello] to grandstand and play political games during a crisis. This is unacceptable.’” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [5/19/20](#)]

## **Illinois State Police Probe**

**December 2020: The Illinois State Police Confirmed That An Investigator Attended Pekau’s Fundraising Event To Determine Whether The Fundraiser Violated Illinois Covid-19 Restrictions.** According to Patch Orland Park, “The Illinois State Police confirmed on Friday an announcement made by Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau in his political newsletter that his People Over Politics fundraiser at Papa Joe’s Restaurant was attended by an ISP investigator. The fundraiser at Papa Joe’s, 14459 S. LaGrange Road, was held on Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020 from 6 PM until 9 PM. Tickets were \$100-a-person, with higher sponsorships of up to \$5,000. In his political campaign newsletter, Pekau claimed the visit was sparked by a ‘tip’ from an unknown person that the fundraiser may have violated Illinois COVID-19 restrictions, which the ISP confirmed was the purpose of the officer's attendance.” [Patch Orland Park, 12/19/20]

### General Crime Comments

**Pekau Pledged In A Campaign Ad To “Address Our Nation’s Rising Crime Rate, Work To Decrease Rampant Inflation, And Focus On Revitalizing The American Economy.”** According to Facebook, “As your Congressman, I pledge to address our nation’s rising crime rate, work to decrease rampant inflation, and focus on revitalizing the American economy.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [5/3/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [5/3/22](#)]

**When Asked Why U.S. Crime Was A Problem, Pekau Claimed It Was Caused By Progressive Politicians Who He Claimed Were More Interested In Protecting Criminals Than Victims And Citizens.** According to the Shaw Local News Network, “Do American cities have a crime problem? Crime has risen to record levels in the US and Chicago, and suburban families are experiencing frightening increases of crime in our once-peaceful communities. American families shouldn’t have to live in fear. Yet that’s what’s happening. [...] Why is this happening? Because politicians like Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx are letting violent criminals run free. Through progressive policies like defunding the police and no cash bail, they’re more interested in protecting criminals than victims and law-abiding citizens. 85% of the criminals we arrest in Orland Park are previous felons and/or are out on bail, and nearly every single one of them comes from Cook County.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

- **Pekau: “Because Politicians Like Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx Are Letting Violent Criminals Run Free. Through Progressive Policies Like Defunding The Police And No Cash Bail, They’re More Interested In Protecting Criminals Than Victims And Law-Abiding Citizens.”** According to the Shaw Local News Network, “Do American cities have a crime problem? Crime has risen to record levels in the US and Chicago, and suburban families are experiencing frightening increases of crime in our once-peaceful communities. American families shouldn’t have to live in fear. Yet that’s what’s happening. [...] Why is this happening? Because politicians like Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx are letting violent criminals run free. Through progressive policies like defunding the police and no cash bail, they’re more interested in protecting criminals than victims and law-abiding citizens. 85% of the criminals we arrest in

Orland Park are previous felons and/or are out on bail, and nearly every single one of them comes from Cook County.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

**Pekau: “On Both Sides Of The Aisle, I Am The Only Candidate In IL-06 That Has A Proven Record Of Making Our Neighborhoods Safe, Improving The Economy, & Lowering Taxes.”** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “In the span of 6 wks, we’ve raised \$130K reiterating our frontrunner status in the primary. On both sides of the aisle, I am the only candidate in IL-06 that has a proven record of making our neighborhoods safe, improving the economy, & lowering taxes.” [Twitter, [@KeithPekau, 1/27/22](#)]



[Twitter, [@KeithPekau, 1/27/22](#)]

## Chicago Crime

**March 2022: Pekau Called Chicago A “War Zone.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “Rather than firing healthy police officers, many of whom already had COVID, for not getting vaccinated Lori Lightfoot should try supporting them and push policies that punish criminals and keep people safe. Under Lightfoot, Foxx and Preckwinkle, Chicago has become a war zone that has endangered those very police officers as well as the residents of neighboring suburbs and counties. Here in Orland Park, we support our police officers for the outstanding work they do keeping us safe. We also did NOT mandate vaccinations for our officers allowing them to make the decisions that the officers and their doctors felt was best for them. I want to thank all of the officers in the Chicagoland area for their hard work and I applaud the FOP for standing up for the rights of their members in Chicago who have suffered under feckless political leadership.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [3/12/22](#)]


**Keith Pekau**  
March 12 · 🌐

Rather than firing healthy police officers, many of whom already had COVID, for not getting vaccinated Lori Lightfoot should try supporting them and push policies that punish criminals and keep people safe.

Under Lightfoot, Foxx and Preckwinkle, Chicago has become a war zone that has endangered those very police officers as well as the residents of neighboring suburbs and counties.

Here in Orland Park, we support our police officers for the outstanding work they do keeping us safe. We also did NOT mandate vaccinations for our officers allowing them to make the decisions that the officers and their doctors felt was best for them.

I want to thank all of the officers in the Chicagoland area for their hard work and I applaud the FOP for standing up for the rights of their members in Chicago who have suffered under feckless political leadership.



Mayor Lori Lightfoot warns police and other city employees will lose pay if they don't get 1st COVID-19...

Send message

Visit the COVID-19 Information Center for vaccine resources.  
[Get Vaccine Info](#)

708 135 Comments 82 Shares

[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [3/12/22](#)]

## Kim Foxx

**Pekau Criticized Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx Approach To Crime, Emphasizing Orland Park’s “Reduced Crime To The Lowest Rate In 27 Years” And Rating As “The Safest City In Illinois In 2020” Under His Tenure As Mayor.** According to Keith Pekau for Congress, “I will fight to keep families safe and our neighborhoods secure. With record crime levels in the US and Chicago and Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx letting violent criminals run free, suburban families are seeing frightening increases of crime in our once-peaceful communities. Americans shouldn’t have to live in fear. I didn’t put my life on the line to defend our country in the Air Force, including three tours in Iraq, so families would feel unsafe in their homes. In Orland Park, we’re fighting back by holding criminals accountable for their actions. We’ve reduced crime to the lowest rate in 27 years. With the lowest violent crime rate of cities over 50,000 in Illinois, Orland Park was rated the safest city in Illinois in 2020—despite being mostly in Cook County. I will bring this same common sense approach to Washington.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]

- **Pekau Blamed “Progressive Politics Like Defunding The Police And No Cash Bail” And Other Politicians Like Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx For American Families “[Living] In Fear.”**

According to Keith Pekau for Congress, “American families shouldn’t have to live in fear. Yet that’s what’s happening. [...] Why is this happening? Because politicians like Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx are letting violent criminals run free. Through progressive policies like defunding the police and no cash bail, they’re more interested in protecting criminals than victims and law-abiding citizens. 85% of the criminals we arrest in Orland Park are previous felons and/or are out on bail, and nearly every single one of them comes from Cook County. You ask the average person what will happen if you let a career criminal with a long history of violent crime back onto the streets, they’ll tell you it’s obvious—they’ll commit another violent crime. This isn’t rocket science.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]

- **Pekau Highlighted That Both The FBI And US Attorney’s Office “Thanked Orland Park For Our Help In Putting A Violent Felon And Drug Trafficker Behind Bars That Kim Foxx Had Refused To Charge.”** According to Keith Pekau for Congress, “We utilize modern technology and fund programs that have been proven to work. We actively work to rehabilitate non-violent criminals and we hired mental health professionals to assist the mentally ill, which has decreased committals by 35% and saved lives. Criminals know if they commit a crime in Orland Park, they will be caught and they will face consequences. Our police recently hauled in a group of armed robbers who were smugly laughing because they assumed they’d get a free pass. Their tune immediately changed once they realized they committed the crime in Orland Park on the Will County side. Just a few months ago, the FBI and US Attorney’s office thanked Orland Park for our help in putting a violent felon and drug trafficker behind bars that Kim Foxx had refused to charge.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]
- **The Chicago Sun-Times Claimed To Have Fact Checked Pekau’s Assertion That Orland Park’s Has The Lowest Crime As Seen In 27 Years By Referring To A Presentation By Former Village Police Chief Joe Mitchell.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau claims the village’s crime is the lowest it has been in 27 years. Since Pekau first announced his Republican bid last year for Illinois’ 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, he has repeatedly touted Orland Park’s low crime numbers. ‘We’ve reduced crime to its lowest level in 27 years,’ Pekau said in a recent Facebook campaign ad with more than 88,000 views. So, we decided to check. One of Pekau’s campaign spokesman said the mayor was referring specifically to index crimes, which include larceny, theft, motor vehicle theft, homicide, burglary, rape, aggravated assault, robbery and arson. These crimes are reported to the FBI to create its annual crime index... When asked for evidence to back Pekau’s claim, the spokesman sent a presentation former Orland Park Police Chief Joe Mitchell gave to the Village Board during a meeting earlier this year. The chief showed the board a chart listing the number of crimes each year from 1996 through 2021. In 1996, there were 1,295 index crimes reported, compared to 628 in 2021. We also checked the former chief’s numbers with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which collects crime statistics data from law enforcement agencies throughout the nation. The numbers match, at least through 2020.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 5/1/22]

**Following A Mall Shooting, Pekau Criticized Cook County Attorney Kim Foxx For Dropping All Charges Against 29.9% Of Felony Defendants, Saying, “Her Prioritization Of Criminals Over Victims Has Put Our Communities At Risk.”** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “Cook County States Attorney @KimFoxx has dropped all charges against 29.9% of felony defendants. Her prioritization of criminals over victims has put our communities at risk. Thankfully, the Orland Park Police Department and South Suburban Emergency Response Team are committed to keeping us safe. If you see an officer, thank an officer. They have our back, make sure they know we have theirs!” In the post, Pekau linked an article which details a shooting that occurred at a nearby mall. The article also references a 2020 Chicago Tribune analysis that claimed Kim Foxx dropped all charges against 29.9% of felony defendants.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/2/22](#); [DuPage Policy Journal, 12/31/21](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/2/22](#)]

**March 2022: Pekau Presented A Village Resolution That Unanimously Voted No Confidence In The State Attorney Kim Foxx.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The Orland Park Village Board unanimously approved Monday a vote of no confidence in Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx and called for her to step down. The resolution states Foxx’s resignation is necessary to ‘help restore the public’s confidence in the criminal justice system’ and urges other elected bodies to approve similar resolutions. Mayor Keith Pekau read the resolution, which states Cook County saw more gun-related homicides in 2021 than in previous years, and those 1,002 gun-related homicides were almost twice as many as in 2019. Pekau cited a Chicago Tribune analysis that found during Foxx’s first three years as the county’s top prosecutor, her office dropped all charges against 29.9% of felony defendants.” [Chicago Tribune, 3/10/22]

- **Pekau Insisted That Foxx’s “Disastrous Administration” Only Increased Countywide Crime Rates That Will Lead To A Ripple Effect Across The Region.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Pekau, who filed petitions Monday to seek the Republican nomination in the 6th Congressional District, said the Orland Park Police Department does a ‘phenomenal job’ to keep Orland Park’s crime rate low. ‘They are working their tails off to make that happen,’ he said. ‘The stress on them, the pressure on them is unbelievable.’ But Pekau said Foxx’s ‘disastrous administration’ has only lead to increased crime countywide and will cause a ripple effect across the Chicago region. More criminals will head toward Cook County, including Orland Park, Pekau said. He said the number of felons found in possession of guns while on electronic monitoring or charged with murder or aggravated battery while on ankle monitoring has increased dramatically in the last five years. ‘This will end badly somewhere in Cook County or DuPage County or Will County or Lake County or one of the neighboring counties, and it’ll all stem from Cook County,’ Pekau said. ‘Are you kidding me?’ he said. ‘Our residents have to deal with this.’” [Chicago Tribune, 3/10/22]

**OP-ED HEADLINE: “How Cook County Became A Crime Destination, And How My City Is Fighting Back.”** [The Examiner, Opinion, 2/17/22]

**In An Op-Ed For The Examiner, Pekau Claimed That The Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx Was “Decriminalizing Crime” By Pursuing Policies Such As Defunding The Police And Eliminating Cash Bail.** According to an op-ed by Keith Pekau in the Examiner, “We’ve all seen gritty police procedural dramas where the

police bust some bad guys and then work alongside the public prosecutor to bring a case that's strong enough to put the criminal behind bars. That's the norm on television, but as mayor of Orland Park, I'm here to tell you that's not the current experience in places such as Chicago and Cook County. Instead, politicians there are incredibly decriminalizing crime by pursuing liberal policies such as defunding the police and no cash bail. Despite mountains of proof, we keep hearing a refrain from Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx that goes something like this: 'We looked into the case, but we don't think it's enough to meet our burden of proof.' With that, she lets one criminal after another walk and commit more crimes, for which they might be let go yet again. Foxx and Chief Judge Timothy Evans run a 'catch and release' program that allows criminals to commit crime after crime, resulting in serious crimes expanding outward into the suburbs." [The Examiner, Opinion, 2/17/22]

**Pekau Claimed That The Police In His Town Were Tougher Than Other Towns In The Area And Said That His Town Often Cooperated With The FBI.** According to an op-ed by Keith Pekau in the Examiner, "Here in Orland Park, where I serve as mayor, we have to work around inert prosecutors such as Foxx. When she refuses to charge criminals for their crimes, we turn to federal agencies to ensure that justice is served. [...] With the lowest violent crime rate of any Illinois city with a population greater than 50,000, Orland Park was rated the safest city in Illinois in 2020. Your community can achieve these same results doing exactly what we've done: This commonsense approach works. Our police recently hauled in a group of armed robbers who were smugly laughing because they assumed they'd get a free pass. Their tune immediately changed once they realized they committed the crime in Orland Park on the Will County side, and they were going to face consequences for their actions. Just a few months ago, the FBI and U.S. Attorney's office thanked Orland Park for our help in putting a violent felon and drug trafficker behind bars. This individual was already a convicted felon, and our police department collected so much evidence that this individual pleaded guilty when the feds brought charges. Of course, Foxx had refused to take the case." [The Examiner, Opinion, 2/17/22]


**Pekau Claimed That 85% Of Arrests Made In Orland Park Were Previous Felons Or Out On Bail And That "We Can Thank Cook County For Nearly Every Single One Of Them."** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, "85% of the criminals we arrest in Orland Park are previous felons and/or are out on bail, and we can thank Cook County for nearly every single one of them. It's time for elected officials who will fund and support law enforcement. Those who demean and try to defund law enforcement must be voted out of office." This originally contained a link to an article from West Cook News titled, "Pekau: '85% of the criminals we arrest in Orland Park are previous felons.'" However, this link appears to be broken as of August 11, 2022. [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [2/27/22](#)]

**Pekau Called Out Casten For Not Standing Up To Illinois's "No Cash Bail" Law, Stating, "So Why Won't Sean Casten Stand Up For The Suburbs He Represents And Speak Out Against This Insane Policy?"** According to a Facebook post by Keith Pekau, "Crime is spreading from Chicago into the suburbs, thanks to Kim Foxx. As Mayor of Orland Park, I see it on a daily basis - our police officers are top-notch, but most of the criminals they take off the streets Foxx put right back out with low bail. I agree with the Will County and DuPage County state's attorney's, the state's "no cash bail" law is going to make it worse. It isn't a partisan issue, it is a common sense issue. So why won't Sean Casten stand up for the suburbs he represents and speak out against this insane policy?" Pekau also linked an article where Illinois attorneys opposed the law. [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/26/22](#)]

**Keith Pekau**  
August 26 at 11:15 AM · 🌐

Crime is spreading from Chicago into the suburbs, thanks to Kim Foxx. As Mayor of Orland Park, I see it on a daily basis - our police officers are top-notch, but most of the criminals they take off the streets Foxx put right back out with low bail.

I agree with the Will County and DuPage County state's attorney's, the state's "no cash bail" law is going to make it worse. It isn't a partisan issue, it is a common sense issue. So why won't Sean Casten stand up for the suburbs he represents and speak out against this insane policy?



WIREPOINTS.ORG  
**Illinois state's attorneys demand changes to no-bail law – Wirepoints | Wirepoints**

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[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/26/22](#)]

**Keith Pekau**  
February 27 · 🌐

85% of the criminals we arrest in Orland Park are previous felons and/or are out on bail, and we can thank Cook County for nearly every single one of them.

It's time for elected officials who will fund and support law enforcement. Those who demean and try to defund law enforcement must be voted out of office.

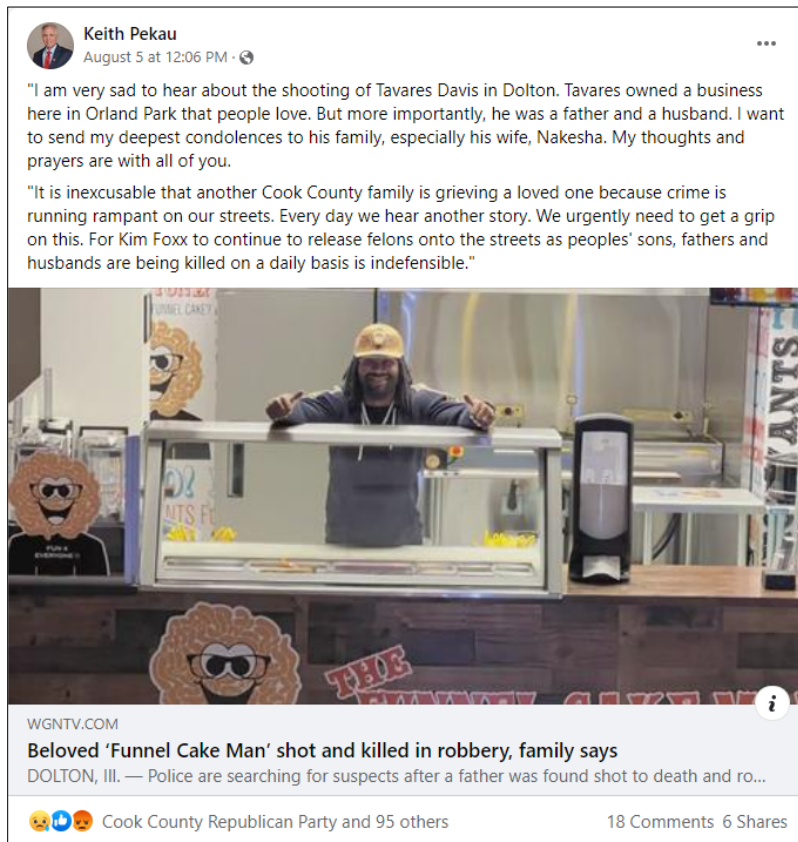


WESTCOOKNEWS.COM  
**Pekau: "85% of the criminals we arrest in Orland Park are previous felons"**  
Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau is criticizing Cook County for releasing criminals back onto the ...

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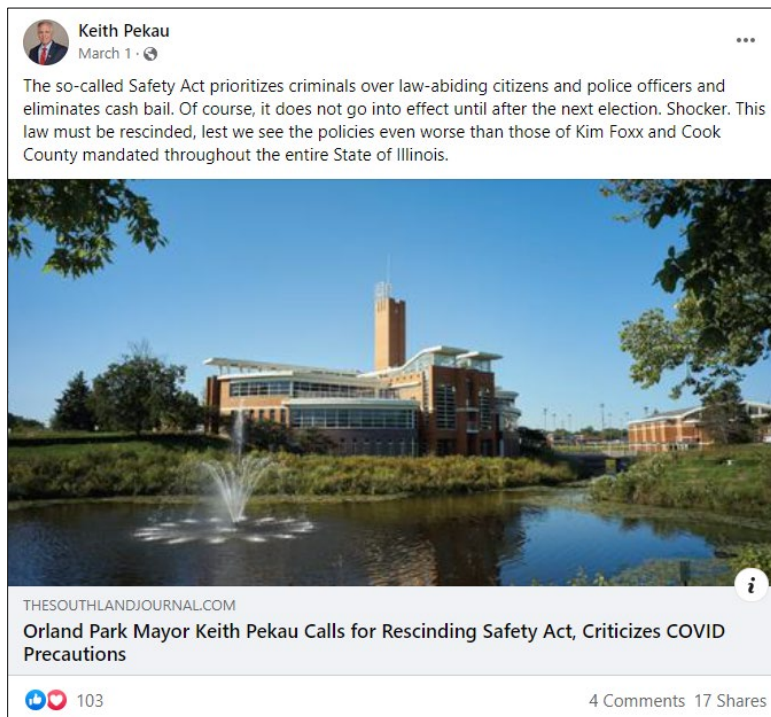
[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [2/27/22](#)]

**August 5, 2022: Pekau Blamed The Shooting Death Of Tavares Davis On Kim Foxx’s Policies, Saying “For Kim Foxx To Continue To Release Felons Onto The Streets As Peoples’ Sons, Fathers And Husbands Are Being Killed On A Daily Basis Is Indefensible.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “I am very sad to hear about the shooting of Tavares Davis in Dolton. Tavares owned a business here in Orland Park that people love. But more importantly, he was a father and a husband. I want to send my deepest condolences to his family, especially his wife, Nakesha. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. ‘It is inexcusable that another Cook County family is grieving a loved one because crime is running rampant on our streets. Every day we hear another story. We urgently need to get a grip on this. For Kim Foxx to continue to release felons onto the streets as peoples’ sons, fathers and husbands are being killed on a daily basis is indefensible.” This post contained a link to a WGN story titled, “Beloved ‘Funnel Cake Man’ shot and killed in robbery, family says.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/5/22](#); WGN, [8/4/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/5/22](#); WGN, [8/4/22](#)]

**March 2022: Pekau: “The So-Called Safety Act Prioritizes Criminals Over Law-Abiding Citizens And Police Officers And Eliminates Cash Bail.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “The so-called Safety Act prioritizes criminals over law-abiding citizens and police officers and eliminates cash bail. Of course, it does not go into effect until after the next election. Shocker. This law must be rescinded, lest we see the policies even worse than those of Kim Foxx and Cook County mandated throughout the entire State of Illinois.” This post contained a link to an article from The Southland Journal titled, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau Calls for Rescinding Safety Act, Criticizes COVID Precautions.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [3/1/22](#); Southland Journal, [2/24/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [3/1/22](#); Southland Journal, [2/24/22](#)]

## Police

**April 2022: Pekau Asserted That “We Must Support Our Police Officers And They Should Never Be Punished For Following Policy And Guidelines.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Should police officers have qualified immunity in cases involving alleged excessive force or other misconduct? ‘Law enforcement officers should have qualified immunity and should not be punished for doing their job so long as what they do falls within training guidelines and department policy. However, qualified immunity does not mean, and has never meant, that an officer is entitled to use excessive force or misconduct that is unlawful and outside of department policy. In those rare cases, officers should be, and here in Orland Park are held accountable. However, we must support our police officers and they should never be punished for following policy and guidelines when doing their very difficult jobs.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**When Discussing Crime In Cook County, Pekau Condemned Casten’s Vote For Legislation Which Allegedly Eliminated Qualified Immunity, Stating, “Removing Qualified Immunity Would Make It Almost Impossible To Hire Police Officers And Would Make Us All Less Safe.”** According to a press release by Keith Pekau For Congress, “‘Increased crime throughout Cook County and a rush for the door in Foxx’s office are all the result of the same thing: Leadership in the State’s Attorney’s Office. Kim Foxx is the problem. ‘We see the same failed leadership in cities across the country where woke prosecutors push anti-police, anti-law-and-order schemes using feel-good language like ‘re-imagining prosecution,’ and argue that ‘data and science’ to back their pro-criminal, anti-victim approach. It’s garbage. Unfortunately, far-Left Democrats like Sean Casten want to take this experiment even further. In fact, he voted to eliminate qualified immunity for police officers, which shields them from harassment and liability when they perform their duties lawfully. Removing qualified immunity would make it almost impossible to hire police officers and would make us all less safe.’” [Keith Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [8/4/22](#)]

**Pekau Cited That 12 Children Had Been Shot In Cook County Over The Past Week, While Casten Had Allegedly Continued His Anti-Police, Pro-Criminal Agenda.** According to a Facebook post by Keith Pekau, “At least 12 children have been shot in Cook County over the past week. Yet, Kim Foxx and Sean Casten continue to

advance their party’s anti-police, pro-criminal agenda. Foxx supported the SAFE-T Act. Casten co-sponsored the so-called ‘Justice in Policing’ Act. They both made us less safe.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/27/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/27/22](#)]

**Pekau Claimed That Casten Co-Sponsored The “Justice In Policing” Act, Saying It Made People Less Safe.** According to a Facebook post by Keith Pekau, “At least 12 children have been shot in Cook County over the past week. Yet, Kim Foxx and Sean Casten continue to advance their party’s anti-police, pro-criminal agenda. Foxx supported the SAFE-T Act. Casten co-sponsored the so-called ‘Justice in Policing’ Act. They both made us less safe.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/27/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/27/22](#)]

**Pekau Alleged That Casten Used “Anti-Police Rhetoric” And Attempted To Defund The Police, Adding, “As Mayor Of Orland Park, I’ve Stood With Law Enforcement & Kept Our Community Safe. I’ll Continue To Do So As Your Congressman.”** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “Anti-police rhetoric & attempts to defund the police by radical leftists like Sean Casten & Marie Newman have put our communities at risk. As mayor of Orland Park, I’ve stood with law enforcement & kept our community safe. I’ll continue to do so as your congressman.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/26/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/26/22](#)]

**Pekau Honored Orland Park Police Officers And Attacked The Cook County Justice System For “Allowing A Person Armed With Handguns And An AR-15 – Who Held People At Gun Point - Go Free On A Low Bond.”** According to a Facebook post by Keith Pekau, “We are proud to honor our police officers in Orland Park. They do an amazing job keeping us all safe and I commend them. The recognition is well-deserved. Your professionalism makes me proud to be a resident of Orland Park, and very proud to be your mayor. However, the Cook County Justice system has failed us by allowing a person armed with handguns and an AR-15 - who held people at gun point to go free on a low bond. This is unacceptable. The state should repeal the SAFE-T Act, which prioritizes criminals over the safety of our citizens and our officers. They deserve better.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/18/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/18/22](#)]

## Hate Crimes

**January 2020: In Response To KKK Content And Materials Left Outside Orland Park Homes, Pekau Released A Statement, Saying, The Village Of Orland Park Strongly Condemns This Message And Any Message That Promotes Hate Of Any Kind.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “Bags containing materials produced by the “Loyal White Knights of the KKK” were delivered to three homes. Orland Park police are investigating after Ku Klux Klan flyers were delivered to several homes in the southwest suburb. Plastic bags with “three different cards and flyers containing hate speech” were delivered to three Orland Park homes Jan. 5, according to a statement from the village of Orland Park. A village spokeswoman confirmed the papers were KKK literature. [...] Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau said police are looking into the matter. ‘The Village of Orland Park strongly condemns this message and any message that promotes hate of any kind,’ Pekau said in the statement.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 1/8/20]

## Public Safety

**March 2021: After A Closed-Door Session, Pekau Announced That The Village Board Voted To Uphold A**

**Decision Revoking The License Of A Sky Zone Trampoline Park.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The Orland Park Village Board voted Monday to uphold a decision to revoke the license of Sky Zone Trampoline Park in response to a Sept. 12 incident in which dozens of police responded to a 911 call of a fight in progress. [...] Monday’s unanimous vote came after a Feb. 22 appeal hearing in which Sky Zone argued that it had taken steps to avoid a repeat of the incident and that it was willing to work with the village on a compromise short of having its license revoked. The Village Board discussed the appeal Monday in a closed-door session then voted to uphold the Dec. 17 ruling by the village’s hearing officer after reviewing hundreds of pages of evidence, Mayor Keith Pekau said.” [Chicago Tribune, 3/3/21]

**December 2020: Pekau Partnered With Orland Park Police For A Press Conference To Officially Debut The Department’s New Mental Health Response Unit.** According to the AP Planner, “Orland Park Police Department holds press conference to officially debut the department’s new Mental Health Response Unit, with speakers including Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, Chief of Police Joe Mitchell and Trinity Services Director of Outpatient Services Bonnie Hassan.” [AP Planner, 12/8/20]

## Orland Park Mall

**Pekau Reportedly Was Caught On Video Admitting He Didn’t Like Going To The Orland Park Mall Without Carrying A Gun.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Claimed the Orland Square Mall is ‘probably the safest place to be in Orland Park.’ Crime at the mall is real, and it’s one of the most common concerns villagers express. The mall has been ‘the site of where many increased incidents of violence have taken place during the past few years,’ and Pekau was caught on video admitting he doesn’t like going to the mall without carrying a gun — yet he’s done nothing to actually address citizens’ security concerns.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/13/21](#)]

**“Rumors Persist The Village Is Helping Provide Security To The Mall At Taxpayer Expense At Least Through The Election To Make Pekau Look Good.”** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Pekau, who doesn’t believe he has to be accountable to the taxpayers, insists crime is the lowest it has ever been. I’ve lived in Orland Park more than 35 years and I have never seen so much crime. The Orland Mall is the biggest magnet. Rumors persist the Village is helping provide security to the mall at Taxpayer expense at least through the election to make Pekau look good.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [4/29/22](#)]

## Fentanyl

**August 4, 2022: Pekau: “Sean Casten Voted AGAINST A Bipartisan Measure To Extend A Federal Ban On Fentanyl. Apparently, The Bill Was Too Tough On Drug Dealers. As Mayor Of Orland Park, I Have Led Our Police Department As They Work Daily To Combat The Impact Of Illegal Drugs Like Fentanyl.”**

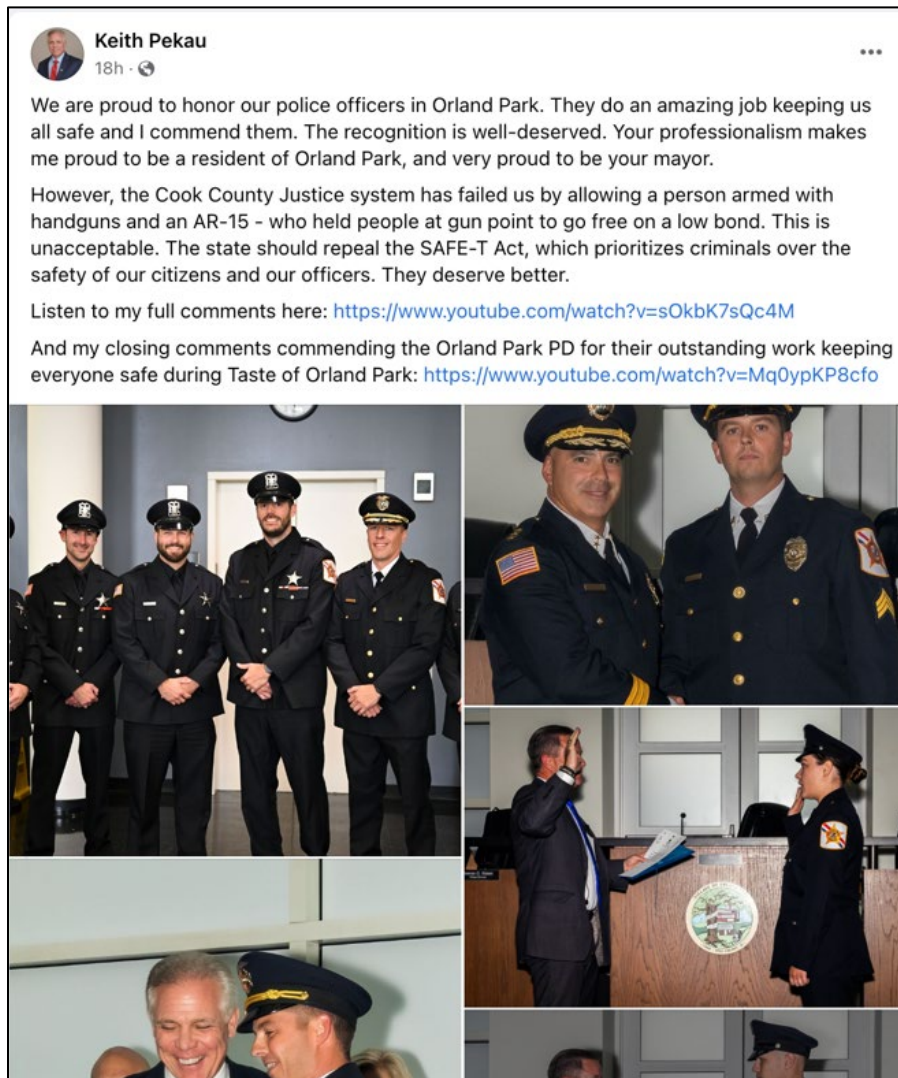
According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “As deaths from fentanyl overdoses continue to rise in DuPage and Cook County, it is important to remember who our leaders stood with in this fight. Sean Casten voted AGAINST a bipartisan measure to extend a federal ban on fentanyl. Apparently, the bill was too tough on drug dealers. As mayor of Orland Park, I have led our police department as they work daily to combat the impact of illegal drugs like fentanyl and keep our residents safe. Meanwhile Sean Casten protected... drug dealers.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/4/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/4/22](#)]

## SAFE-T Act

**Pekau Declared That The State Of Illinois Should Repeal The SAFE-T Act, Claiming It “Prioritizes Criminals Over The Safety Of Our Citizens And Our Officers.”** According to a Facebook post by Keith Pekau, “We are proud to honor our police officers in Orland Park. They do an amazing job keeping us all safe and I commend them. The recognition is well-deserved. Your professionalism makes me proud to be a resident of Orland Park, and very proud to be your mayor. However, the Cook County Justice system has failed us by allowing a person armed with handguns and an AR-15 - who held people at gun point to go free on a low bond. This is unacceptable. The state should repeal the SAFE-T Act, which prioritizes criminals over the safety of our citizens and our officers. They deserve better.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/18/22](#)]

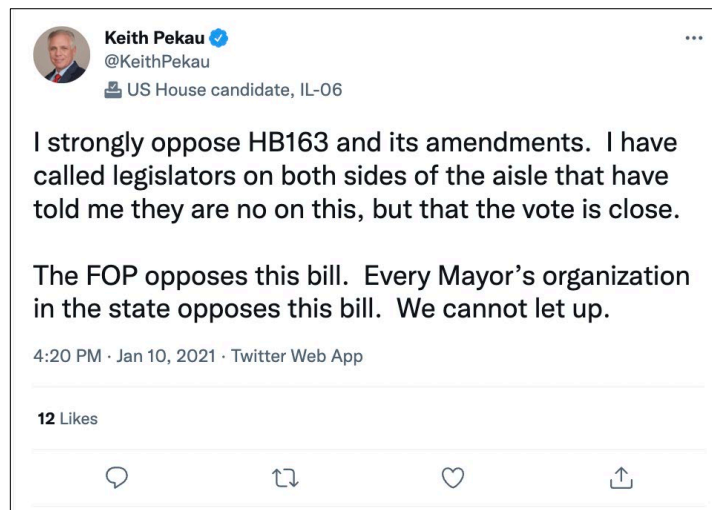


[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/18/22](#)]

## HB163 – Criminal Justice Reform Bill

### Pekau ‘Strongly Opposed’ Illinois’s Criminal Justice Reform Bill, HB163, Saying, “We Cannot Let Up.”

According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “I strongly oppose HB163 and its amendments. I have called legislators on both sides of the aisle that have told me they are no on this, but that the vote is close. The FOP opposes this bill. Every Mayor’s organization in the state opposes this bill. We cannot let up.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/10/21](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [1/10/21](#)]

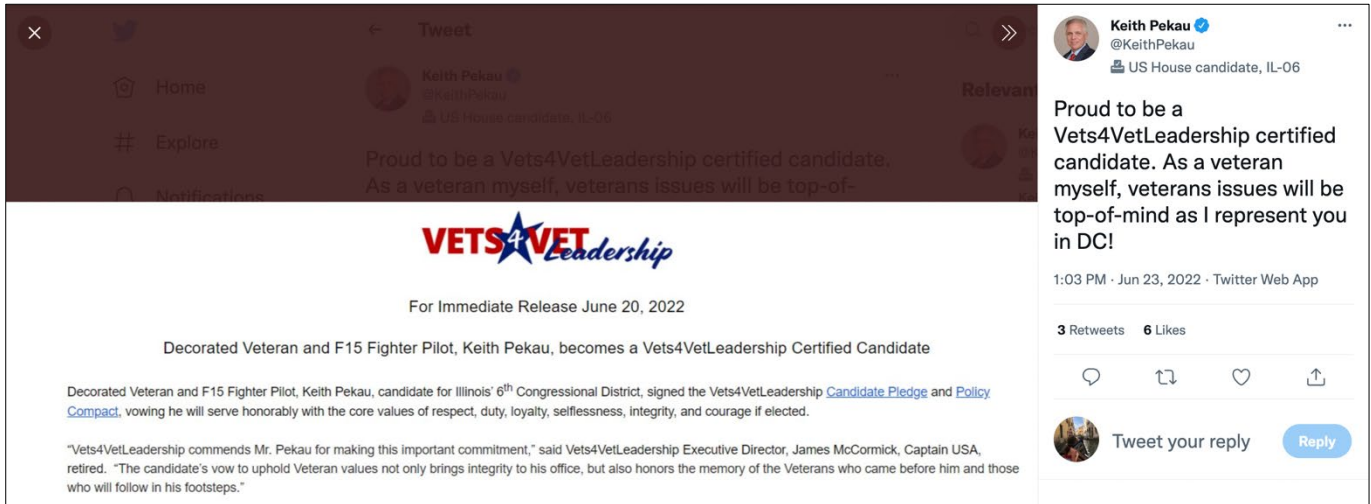
- **Illinois House Bill 163 Proposed Pretrial Reforms, Including “No Detention For Simple Gun Possession” And “Citation Instead Of Arrest For Class B And Class C Misdemeanors And Ordinance Violations.”** According to Chicago Appleseed, “The Bill includes the entirety of the PFA, reflecting the Coalition to End Money Bond’s major policy priorities for pretrial reform: No more detention for simple gun possession (allowing for only about 9% of people arrested in Chicago to be detained compared to about 57% currently); Guaranteed free movement and sentence credit for electronic monitoring; Reductions in penalties for violations of bail bond and electronic monitoring ‘escape’ charges; Mandatory citation (instead of arrest) for Class B and Class C misdemeanors and ordinance violations; and A 30 day cap on jail time for technical violations of pretrial release, like missed court dates, electronic monitoring violations, or low-level arrests.” [Chicago Appleseed, 1/8/21, accessed [8/19/22](#)]
- **Illinois House Bill 163 Proposed Police Reforms, Including Increases In Training Requirements And Screenings, Statewide Standards For Providing Mental Health Treatment And Screenings, And Requires Funding For Universal Use Of Body Cameras.** Chicago Appleseed reported, “HB 163 also introduces a number of reforms in policing. The Bill increases training requirements and screenings – it requires increased training on de-escalation, high-risk traffic stops, first aid, and mental illness; it oversees what counts as mandatory training, barring officers from using external trainings that prioritize use-of-force instead of de-escalation to complete requirements; and it requires the Illinois Police Training Board to establish statewide standards for providing confidential mental health treatment to law enforcement officers and a mental health screening program for recruits. It also requires the use of universal body camera standards as a condition for police departments to receive full state funding.” [Chicago Appleseed, 1/8/21, accessed [8/19/22](#)]
- **Illinois House Bill 163 Proposed Grants And Supports Programs For Communities Most-Impacted By Over-Policing, The War On Drugs, And Disproportionate Access To Mental Health And Drug Treatment.** Chicago Appleseed reported, “The Bill prioritizes grants in communities most negatively impacted by over-policing, the War on Drugs, and that have disproportionate access to mental health and drug treatment; builds public awareness of deflection; and supports effective program implementation through education, training, and technical assistance resources.” [Chicago Appleseed, 1/8/21, accessed [8/19/22](#)]
- **Illinois House Bill 163 Proposed Increased Discipline For Police Officers, Including A New Class 3 Felony Charge For Misconduct And Increased Requirements For Misconduct To Be Reported.** According to Chicago Appleseed, “The Bill would also modify discipline for police officers. It introduces a new Class 3 felony charge for ‘law enforcement misconduct,’ which includes knowingly and intentionally misrepresenting facts; withholding knowledge of the misrepresentations of another; failing to comply with the Body Worn Camera Act; or committing any other act with the intent to avoid culpability for oneself or another.

Officer investigations are changed by: Allowing anonymous complaints and requiring agencies to post procedures for how to submit on their websites; Requiring that all police misconduct records (public and non-public) must be maintained permanently and that records of investigations of use of deadly force must be public; Creating an officer misconduct database accessible to State's Attorneys; and Requiring officers to report to the State when they have resigned and been charged with any felony or sex offense. It also strengthens whistleblower protections for law enforcement reports of misconduct by broadening the definition of 'retaliation.'" [Chicago Appleseed, 1/8/21, accessed [8/19/22](#)]

- **Illinois House Bill 163 Proposed Modified Qualified Immunity And Use Of Force, “Effectively Ending Qualified Immunity.”** Notably, the Bill also modifies qualified immunity and use of force. The Bill creates a civil right of action for individuals against officers for rights violations and use of force, effectively ending qualified immunity; it allows the Attorney General's Office to sue local police departments to investigate civil rights and use of force issues; and cities must publicly report all civil settlements with the name of officer and any discipline done or criminal charges made. The Bill introduces a requirement to investigate any death in custody (including custodial deaths in jails and prisons) or as a result of use of force and report to the Attorney General's Office. Local agencies, as a condition for state funding, must report all uses of force that resulted in death or serious bodily harm to the Illinois State Police (ISP), who then must report to an FBI national database as well as notify the victim's next of kin." [Chicago Appleseed, 1/8/21, accessed [8/19/22](#)]

## Defense

**Pekau Signed Vets4Vets’s “Leadership Candidate Pledge And Policy Compact,” Committing To “Enacting A Robust Defense Budget.”** According to a tweet by congressional candidate Keith Pekau, “Proud to be a Vets4VetLeadership certified candidate. As a veteran myself, veterans issues will be top-of-mind as I represent you in DC!” The post included an image displaying a press release by Vets4Vets Leadership, stating Pekau signed the Vets4Vets Leadership Candidate Pledge and Policy Compact. [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [6/23/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [6/23/22](#)]

- **The Vets4Vets Leadership Policy Compact Stated That The U.S. Must Prioritize A Robust Defense Budget.** According to the Vets4Vets Policy Compact, “The U.S. must prioritize economic, defense, and energy security by: encouraging domestic manufacturing and reliable supply chains; enacting a robust defense budget; and, restoring America's energy independence.” [Vets4Vets Leadership, accessed [8/18/22](#)]



[Vets4Vets Leadership, accessed [8/18/22](#)]

**October 2013: In A Letter To The Editor For The Herald Times, Pekau Wrote, “It’s...A Shame That Illinois Business Owners Such As Me Have To Contend With A State That’s Ranked Among The Worst In The Country For Lawsuit Abuse. ... It’s Time For Common-Sense Legislation To Rein In The Trial Lawyers.”**

According to a letter to the editor by Keith Pekau in the Herald Times, “Litigious America hurting businesses As someone who runs a landscaping and tree business, I can relate to Scott Reeder’s Sept. 16 column about lawsuit abuse and its impact on portable gasoline can prices. Our workers rely heavily on portable gas cans to accomplish their daily landscaping activities. Replacing those gas cans is a significant cost to my business. It is a sad state of affairs that our litigious society has gotten so far out of whack that it’s forcing American businesses to close through no fault of their own. It’s also a shame that Illinois business owners such as me have to contend with a state that’s ranked among the worst in the country for lawsuit abuse. My workers use portable gas cans several times a day and have done so for many years without incident. It’s time people took responsibility for their actions and resisted the urge to blame others. And it’s time for common-sense legislation to rein in the trial lawyers. Keith Pekau Owner and president Groundskeeper Landscape Services.” [Herald Times, Letter to the Editor, 10/2/13]

**August 2021: Pekau Ruled To Revoke The Liquor License For A Local Country Club After The Business Violated City Code.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau ruled Monday that the liquor license for Riviera Country Club and Sports Center is revoked after the business did not contest the move. Dan O’Donnell, Riviera’s president, did not attend the liquor license hearing and in a letter to the village said he had no defense to make. [...] The business was ordered closed by the village Thursday for alleged code violations, but it was not clear whether it would reopen.” [Chicago Tribune, 8/4/21]

**February 2022: Pekau Stated, “I Will Fight For Pro-Growth Policies That Support Our Local Small Businesses And Create Jobs And Opportunities For All Hard-Working Americans.”** According to Pekau in a campaign ad, “As a small business man, I know there is nothing more important than creating good-paying jobs for middle-class workers. Over 600 businesses have opened in Orland Park under my leadership. As your Congressman, I will fight for pro-growth policies that support our local small businesses and create jobs and opportunities for all hard-working Americans.” [YouTube, [-0:23](#), 2/15/22]

## Economic Development

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**October 2017: Pekau Supported Orland Park’s Vie To Become Amazon’s Second North American Headquarters.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Area communities say they are supporting Orland Park’s effort to be the location of Amazon’s second North American headquarters, but it’s unclear whether the village will make the state’s list of sites that will be part of a formal proposal to the online retailer. [...] Pekau admitted the effort is a long shot but that ‘everyone’s a long shot because everyone in the country is vying for this.’ [...] Pekau said the village worked with the Will County Center for Economic Development on its information package and that specifics about what incentives it would offer are confidential. [...] Some have suggested that Illinois’ political and financial instability could hinder the state’s chances of being considered. Pekau said that although ‘we clearly have work to do from a legislative perspective,’ the state ‘has a lot of things going for it.’” [Chicago Tribune, 10/3/17]

**October 2017: Pekau Praised Seritage And AMC Theaters For Opening A State-Of-The-Art Theater In Orland Park.** According to a press release by Seritage Growth Properties, “Seritage Growth Properties (NYSE: SRG) is pleased to announce that it has entered into a lease with AMC Theatres® (NYSE:AMC) to open AMC Orland Square 10, a new-to-market, state-of-the-art 10 screen theatre, at Seritage’s property at Orland Square in Orland Park, Illinois. [...] ‘Seritage’s redevelopment project will benefit the community in a number of ways,’ said Keith Pekau, Mayor of Orland Park. ‘In addition to attracting more leading brands that resonate with our residents like AMC, the project will create jobs, generate tax revenues and fuel economic activity.’ Orland Square Mall is conveniently located in the south suburbs of Chicago and is an upscale shopping destination serving the affluent communities of Orland Park, Tinley Park, Homer Glen, and Frankfort.” [Seritage Growth Properties, Press Release, 10/25/17]

**October 2017: Pekau Expressed His Enthusiasm Over New Orland Square Mall Redevelopment Project, Saying It “Will Benefit The Community In A Number Of Ways... Create Jobs, Generate Tax Revenues And Fuel Economic Activity.”** According to a press release by Seritage Growth Properties, “Seritage owns the Sears store that is attached to Orland Square Mall owned and operated by Simon Property Group (NYSE: SPG). Seritage intends to repurpose this prime parcel into a multi-tenant retail and entertainment destination. The redevelopment involves a full renovation of the property’s upper level to accommodate the new AMC Theatre and outwardly facing retailers and restaurant tenants. The lower level will feature a consolidated and renovated Sears store. Construction is scheduled to commence next year. [...] ‘Seritage’s redevelopment project will benefit the community in a number of ways,’ said Keith Pekau, Mayor of Orland Park. ‘In addition to attracting more leading brands that resonate with our residents like AMC, the project will create jobs, generate tax revenues and fuel economic activity.’” [Seritage Growth Properties, Press Release, 10/25/17]

**September 2019: Pekau Expressed Interest In A Recommended Sports Complex And Believed The Project “Makes Sense” If The Right Deal Is Struck.** According to Real Estate Monitor Worldwide, “A consultant is recommending Orland Park consider developing a sports complex to attract youth and adult baseball and softball tournament. Such a facility could draw teams from throughout the Chicago area as well as the Midwest, according to the report by Kreshmore Group. Village officials earlier this year agreed to pay Kreshmore \$35,000 to assess sports facilities at the villages Centennial Park, John Humphrey Sports Complex and Cachey Park. [...] Mayor Keith Pekau said the village is in the very early stages of studying whether such a complex could be built, but that he believed the project makes sense if we structure the right kind of deal.” [Real Estate Monitor Worldwide, 9/19/18]

### ***Main Street Triangle***

**December 2019: Pekau Participated In Finalizing A Deal To Develop Orland Park’s Main Street Triangle District, Saying, “Discussions Are Still Ongoing.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “More than a year after Orland Park picked a company to develop remaining land in its Main Street Triangle District, a master agreement that would, among other things, spell out what might be built there has yet to be finalized. [...] Going into the process, officials on both sides said it would be a complex deal to hammer out, although Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau acknowledged it has taken longer than he anticipated. ‘Discussions are still ongoing,’ he said. ‘It has taken longer than I’d have liked but we’re getting close.’ [...] Pekau said a sticking point has been pre-existing agreements that give Triangle tenants a say in future development but didn’t describe those agreements as a major obstacle.” [Chicago Tribune, 12/29/19]

**January 2021: Pekau Assured That Development In The Triangle To Continue With Edwards Realty Co. After The Original Firm “Mutually Agreed” To End Discussions Due To The COVID Pandemic.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “The village in November began talks with Edwards Realty Co. to develop the remaining property in the triangle, which includes the Ninety7Fifty on the Park apartments, University of Chicago Medicine Center for Advanced Care and a multilevel parking garage between the apartments and U. of C. [...] The shift comes after the village and another firm initially picked to negotiate a development agreement, Structured Development, mutually agreed in October to end discussions as the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the commercial real estate market. Structured had, in early November 2018, been selected to move forward with a detailed plan to develop the five sites, totaling about 9 acres, and the company and village had been close to a development agreement early last year, according to Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau and Jeff Berta, Structured’s senior director of real estate development. [...] Orland Park-based Edwards was, along with Structured, the other company in the running to take a stab at developing the triangle property, and the village contacted the firm after ending talks with Structured, Pekau said. ‘We are in serious discussions with Edwards,’ he said Thursday. [...] In initial talks with Edwards, they want something complementary to the retail mix in Orland Park Crossing, Pekau said. The village and Edwards had scheduled a meeting for Friday for further discussions, the mayor said.” [Chicago Tribune, 1/19/21]

- November 2018: Pekau Voted In Favor Of Negotiating “A Real Estate Purchase And Master Re-Development Agreement With Structured Development LLC.”** According to notes from a Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees meeting, “Main Street Triangle Selection of Developer I move to approve selecting Structured Development LLC as the purchaser and Developer of the Village owned development sites within the Metra Triangle; And Approve directing staff to negotiate a Real Estate Purchase and Master Re-Development Agreement with Structured Development LLC. A motion was made by Trustee Griffin Ruzich, seconded by Trustee Fenton, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote: Aye: Trustee Fenton, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, Trustee Carroll, and Village President Pekau 6 - Nay: 0 Absent: Trustee Dodge.” [Village of Orland Park, Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [11/5/18](#)]

<b>2018-0765 Main Street Triangle Selection of Developer</b>		
I move to approve selecting Structured Development LLC as the purchaser and Developer of the Village owned development sites within the Metra Triangle;		
And		
Approve directing staff to negotiate a Real Estate Purchase and Master Re-Development Agreement with Structured Development LLC.		
<b>A motion was made by Trustee Griffin Ruzich, seconded by Trustee Fenton, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:</b>		
<hr/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span><i>VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK</i></span> <span><i>Page 18 of 19</i></span> </div>		
<b>Board of Trustees</b>	<b>Meeting Minutes</b>	<b>November 5, 2018</b>
<b>Aye:</b> 6 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, Trustee Carroll, and Village President Pekau		
<b>Nay:</b> 0		
<b>Absent:</b> 1 - Trustee Dodge		

[Village of Orland Park, Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, 11/5/18]

- November 2017: Original Plans For The Triangle Included A Cinepolis USA Operated Theater But Never Moved Forward, In Part Due To A Separate Agreement That “Proposed Bringing A 10-Screen AMC Theater To The Vacant Sears.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “In November 2017, Orland Park officials had approved an agreement with Bradford Real Estate Cos., which was to have paid \$1 million for a site of just under 2 acres in the triangle, upon which it would build a two-story, 80,000-square-foot building. The upper level would have been leased to privately held theater operator Cinepolis USA, which planned to open its first location in the Chicago market. The eight-screen theater would have had a restaurant and bar, and village officials had hoped Cinepolis would be a magnet to draw other development, such as high-end restaurants. The development didn’t move forward, in part because of a separate agreement that had proposed bringing a 10-screen AMC theater to the vacant Sears, which Cinepolis believed could oversaturate the market considering there is a 15-screen Marcus theater in the village on LaGrange Road.” [Chicago Tribune, 1/19/21]

**March 2021: Edwards Realty And The Village Agreed To Set A One-Year Deadline To Negotiate The Development Agreement, Which Pekau Called “A Disaster.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Already possessing an enormous retail base, Orland Park could see more added under development plans for the remaining village-owned land in the Main Street Triangle. Orland Park-based Edwards Realty and the village have agreed to

set a one-year deadline to negotiate a development agreement covering the property northwest of LaGrange Road and 143rd Street. The triangle includes the Ninety7Fifty on the Park apartments, University of Chicago Medicine Center for Advanced Care and a multilevel parking garage between the apartments and U. of C. The triangle ‘has been a disaster,’ Pekau says. Leading up to the 2017 election, he was critical of the village’s decision to try to develop the property and take on significant debt to do so. ‘I was left with a failed project,’ he says.” [Chicago Tribune, 3/29/21]

- **Pekau Claimed He Was “Left With A Failed Project.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Already possessing an enormous retail base, Orland Park could see more added under development plans for the remaining village-owned land in the Main Street Triangle. Orland Park-based Edwards Realty and the village have agreed to set a one-year deadline to negotiate a development agreement covering the property northwest of LaGrange Road and 143rd Street. The triangle includes the Ninety7Fifty on the Park apartments, University of Chicago Medicine Center for Advanced Care and a multilevel parking garage between the apartments and U. of C. The triangle ‘has been a disaster,’ Pekau says. Leading up to the 2017 election, he was critical of the village’s decision to try to develop the property and take on significant debt to do so. ‘I was left with a failed project,’ he says.” [Chicago Tribune, 3/29/21]

## ***I-80***

**The Suburban Chicagoland Blog Claimed That Pekau Made No Progress On The Development Of The I-80 Corridor In Four Years.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland Blog, “Lied about the history of development on the I-80 Corridor. To cover up for his own failings on the development of the I-80 Corridor, Pekau played his classic move of pointing fingers and looking backward. Meanwhile he’s failed to make any progress on the development of the I-80 corridor in the last four years.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [2/13/21](#)]

**June 2022: Pekau Told Residents That A Multi-Billion Dollar Project Could Be Coming To The Area Surrounding Interstate.** According to Patch Orland Park, “A southland interstate alliance is moving forward with a big ticket property near Orland Park, Tinley Park and Mokena, officials said. The Chicago Southland Interstate Alliance was created in 2017 to bring business to the area surrounding Interstate 80. Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau told residents at a recent State of the Village address that a multi-billion dollar project could be coming soon. The corridor is one of four sites being considered for a \$10 billion auto parts manufacturing site which would supply parts to Hyundai.” [Patch Orland Park, 6/6/22]

**March 2021: Pekau Blamed His Predecessor For The Lack Of Progress On The I-80 Corridor.** According to Pekau’s opening remarks in a 2021 mayoral debate, “He (Jon McLaughlin) hired his Democratic deputy committeeman to be the village manager, after I was elected, before I was sworn in. That individual was put in precisely to obstruct my agenda. He locked me out of buildings, he blocked my emails, he restricted my access to employees. Very, very challenging. Additionally, he had a board that was 6-1 against me. They were all of his people on the board. So, that was what we dealt with for the first two years. Then, we had a new election. 3 trustees were elected. The village manager resigned. We were able to get a new village manager – it took us 6 months to find them. 6 months later, COVID hit. So, essentially, we’ve had 22 months. And what he said is that – he’s basically saying that everything’s fallen apart. Well, he built a house of cards that we’ve had to deal with. The things that he’s left behind – the I-80 corridor. Nothing had been done on that since 2009, for 8 years, and suddenly, it’s my fault that’s nothing’s been done and he was gonna get it done in four.” [YouTube, [0:06 – 1:17](#), 3/30/21]

## **Gambling**

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**August 2018: Pekau Was The Deciding Vote On An Ordinance To Allow Video Gambling In Orland Park.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “After months of discussion and debate, as well as two advisory referendum questions, Orland Park officials have overturned a ban on video gambling in the village. Enacting what Mayor Keith Pekau called the ‘most restrictive’ video gambling ordinance in the state, Orland Park will initially cap the number of licenses at 20 and limit them to Class A liquor licenses. Pekau cast the deciding vote. The village had

been among a handful of communities in the south and southwest suburbs outlawing the gambling terminals, and the close 4-3 vote by the board to approve the new measure reflected the apparently even split among residents who had backed keeping the machines out of Orland Park and those who favored video gambling.” [Chicago Tribune, 8/12/18]

**It Was Estimated That Orland Park Would Realize More Than \$415,000 In Revenue From Licensing Gambling Machines.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “A consultant previously estimated Orland Park could realize a bit more than \$415,000 in revenue from licensing gambling machines and the village’s share of gambling revenue. After payouts to players, what the state defines as net terminal income, or essentially losses to players, is taxed at a 30 percent rate. Of that, 25 percent goes to the state and 5 percent to the local municipality. The other 70 percent of net terminal income is divided between the business where the terminals are located and the companies that install and maintain the machines.” [Chicago Tribune, 8/12/18]

**In Response To Concerns From Residents That The Restrictions On The Ordinance Would Open The City Up To Lawsuits, Pekau Said The Regulations Would “Hold Up Against Any Court Challenges.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “After months of discussion and debate, as well as two advisory referendum questions, Orland Park officials have overturned a ban on video gambling in the village. Enacting what Mayor Keith Pekau called the ‘most restrictive’ video gambling ordinance in the state, Orland Park will initially cap the number of licenses at 20 and limit them to Class A liquor licenses. [...] Some residents at Monday’s board meeting said Orland Park’s restrictions would expose the village to lawsuits, although Pekau and Trustee Mike Carroll, who voted in support of the ordinance, said it had been carefully reviewed by attorneys. The mayor insisted the regulations would ‘hold up against any court challenges.’” [Chicago Tribune, 8/12/18]

## **Inflation**

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**April 2022: Pekau Claimed, “The Breakdown In Our Supply Chain Was Driven By Our Reaction To COVID-19 Rather Than The Pandemic Itself.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “The COVID-19 pandemic saw a breakdown in this country’s supply chain. What would you propose to fix it? ‘The breakdown in our supply chain was driven by our reaction to COVID-19 rather than the pandemic itself. Business relationships and supply chains are established over decades. These connections were broken with targeted business shutdowns, businesses and workers deemed non-essential, paying people extra money to stay home and not work and never-ending rule changes of what was allowable. [...] Lastly, we need to bring businesses back to America by making sure that we are energy independent, the market place is fair for American businesses and that strategically we have production in every industry right here in America. As part of that we must hold other countries accountable, especially China, that try to push global economic policies that hurt American businesses and working families.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**Pekau Said In His Campaign Ad That During Casten-Newman’s Tenure, Inflation Outpaced Wage Growth At “Unprecedented Levels.”** According to Facebook, “During Casten-Newman’s tenure in office, inflation has outpaced wage growth at unprecedented levels. As your Congressman, I’ll fight for lower taxes and bring fiscal responsibility to Washington. Ensure we have the funds necessary to take our message directly to voters in IL-06 > [keithpekau.com/contribute/](https://www.facebook.com/keithpekau.com/contribute/)” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/18/22](https://www.facebook.com/keithpekau.com/contribute/)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [2/18/22](#)]

**In His Campaign Ad, Pekau Said That Inflation Was A “Hidden Tax” To Pay For The Price Of Big Government.** reported, “Inflation is a hidden tax that causes American families and small businesses to pay the price of big government. As your Congressman, I will prioritize stabilizing the economy and making your paycheck stretch farther.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [4/11/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [4/11/22](#)]

**Pekau Said In A Campaign Ad That Reckless Spending By “Failed Far-Left Politicians” Led To The Highest**

**Inflation Since 1980.** reported, “Reckless spending by failed far-left politicians like Nancy Pelosi has led to the highest inflation since 1980. Vote for Keith Pekau for Congress so working families can get relief.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/16/22](#)]

**Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored · Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

Reckless spending by failed far-left politicians like Nancy Pelosi has led to the highest inflation since 1980. Vote for Keith Pekau for Congress so working families can get relief.

**Keith PEKAU**  
CONGRESS  
KeithPekau.com

**PEOPLE OVER POLITICS**

KEITHPEKAU.COM  
Vote for Keith Pekau!  
Voter Information District Map Every ten years, based on Census information and other data, districts throughout each state are...

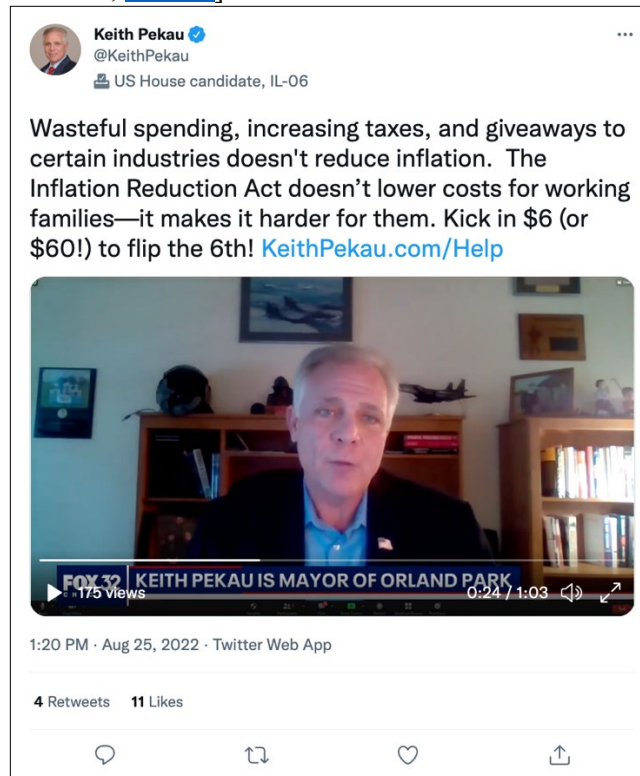
Learn more

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/16/22](#)]

**Pekau Claimed That Casten’s Vote For The “Inflation And Recession Act” Was Cruel, Alleging That It Serves To Benefit Environmental Companies Like Casten’s.** According to a press release from the Keith Pekau For Congress campaign, “Today Sean Casten and Nancy Pelosi passed Joe Biden’s ‘Inflation and Recession Act,’ which inflicts higher taxes on small businesses, adds 87,000 more IRS agents and will increase inflation especially on health care and drug prices. This bill will hurt Americans while we are in a recession. Casten’s opponent in IL-06, Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, issued the following statement on the vote: ‘The Casten-Pelosi-Biden version of Build Back Better will hurt the American people. This “Don’t Say Inflation or Recession Act” will not reduce inflation, the budget deficit or the world’s temperature. Far from “looking out for the little guy,” the bill is replete with socialist boondoggles and corporate welfare. Sean Casten’s vote today was a cruel one. Families are skipping meals, delaying retirement, and eating up their credit lines just to pay for daily essentials, yet Sean Casten just raised taxes on them. [...] Casten voted to raise taxes on small businesses so he could protect federally subsidized corporations (like his own businesses). He unleashes 87,000 new IRS agents on American taxpayers, targeting families, farmers, and small businesses. Under this bill, nearly a quarter of a trillion dollars in Green New Deal subsidies go to the wealthy and to companies just like the one Sean Casten and his father own.” [Keith Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [8/12/22](#)]

**Pekau Linked A News Article From August 2021, In Which Casten Claimed “A Little Bit Of Inflation” Is “A Good Thing.”** According to a Twitter thread by Keith Pekau, “CNBC is reporting today that ‘the consumer price index, a broad measure of everyday goods and services, soared 9.1% from a year ago, above the 8.8% Dow Jones estimate.’ And Sean Casten’s only solution is to spend more money. In fact, Sean Casten is so out of touch that he called inflation ‘a good thing.’ End quote. Repeat the line. I am going to Washington to bring competence and common sense back to government.” The post linked a 2021 article by Fox News that discuss Sean Casten’s claims that a little bit of inflation is good and the Federal Reserve must work to find the acceptable level of inflation. [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [7/13/22](#); Fox News, [8/9/21](#)]

**When Asked For His Thoughts On The Inflation Reduction Act, Pekau Responded, “All In All, It’s Going To Damage The Economy, And It’s Not Going To Do Anything For Inflation,” Adding That “Every Tax Bracket Will See An Increase In Taxes.”** According to Pekau in an appearance on FOX32 News he posted to his Twitter, “Wasteful spending does not reduce inflation. They can call it whatever they want, but it will not reduce inflation. Numerous groups have looked at it and said it will not reduce inflation. Additionally, they’ve looked at it and said that every tax bracket will see an increase in taxes. Increased taxes do not reduce inflation. Giveaways to certain industries do not reduce inflation. [...] So, all in all, it’s going to damage the economy, and it’s not going to do anything for inflation.” Pekau stated this in response to the news anchor asking Pekau’s view on the Inflation Reduction Act. [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/25/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/25/22](#)]

## ***Casten Benefits From EV Tax***

**Pekau Alleged That Casten Ensured Tax Breaks On Luxury Cars For The Wealthy, Referring To The Electric Vehicle Tax Credits Outlined In The Inflation Reduction Act.** According to a Facebook post by Keith Pekau, “Sean Casten, who drives a Tesla, was gleeful about passing this bill to benefit himself, his wealthy buddies and the Green Lobby that has made him rich.’ While the Democrats’ ‘Don’t Say Inflation’ Act does little to reduce inflation, it was a major boon for the Green Energy lobby. The bill is laden with federal subsidies and tax carve-outs for the powerful special interests’ preferred constituencies. For example, now only electric vehicles assembled in North America qualify for the \$7500 electric vehicle tax credit. [...] Casten even recently told Fox Chicago, ‘Electric vehicles are expensive. That’s why we are offering subsidies to consumers.’ He failed to mention the subsidies would only go to consumers in the highest tax brackets. Keith Pekau, GOP Nominee for Congress (IL-06) released the following statement: ‘The EV tax credits are yet another example of how the ‘Don’t Say Inflation’ Act puts special interests and the wealthy ahead of working people. If you can afford an Audi or a Mercedes, you can get a tax break. If you are a single, working mom who can only scratch together enough for a used Toyota: too bad. Sean Casten, who drives a Tesla, was gleeful about passing this bill to benefit himself, his wealthy buddies and the Green Lobby. He didn’t give any consideration to those who are struggling under the Biden-Casten economy. [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/18/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/18/22](#)]

- **Pekau: “Sean Casten, Who Drives A Tesla, Was Gleeful About Passing This Bill To Benefit Himself, His Wealthy Buddies And The Green Lobby That Has Made Him Rich.”** According to a Facebook post by Keith Pekau, “Sean Casten, who drives a Tesla, was gleeful about passing this bill to benefit himself, his wealthy buddies and the Green Lobby that has made him rich.’ While the Democrats’ ‘Don’t Say Inflation’ Act does little to reduce inflation, it was a major boon for the Green Energy lobby. The bill is laden with federal subsidies and tax carve-outs for the powerful special interests’ preferred constituencies. For example, now only electric vehicles assembled in North America qualify for the \$7500 electric vehicle tax credit. [...] Casten even recently told Fox Chicago, ‘Electric vehicles are expensive. That’s why we are offering subsidies to consumers.’ He failed to mention the subsidies would only go to consumers in the highest tax brackets. Keith Pekau, GOP Nominee for Congress (IL-06) released the following statement: ‘The EV tax credits are yet another example of how the ‘Don’t Say Inflation’ Act puts special interests and the wealthy ahead of working people. If you can afford an Audi or a Mercedes, you can get a tax break. If you are a single, working mom who can only scratch together enough for a used Toyota: too bad. Sean Casten, who drives a Tesla, was gleeful about passing this bill to benefit himself, his wealthy buddies and the Green Lobby. He didn’t give any consideration to those who are struggling under the Biden-Casten economy. [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/18/22](#)]

## Small Business

**In His Campaign Ad, Pekau Said That Small Businesses Were The Backbone Of The Economy And Implied That The Would Reduce Government Regulations For Small Businesses.** According to Facebook, “As a small

business owner, I've lived the challenges of making payroll, managing cash flows, and keeping up with government regulations. I understand that small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and in Congress, I'll work to protect them." [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/1/22](#)]

**Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored • Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

As a small business owner, I've lived the challenges of making payroll, managing cash flows, and keeping up with government regulations. I understand that small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and in Congress, I'll work to protect them.

**REDUCE**  
GOVERNMENT  
**REGULATIONS**  
FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

OPEN  
WELCOME

Keith  
**PEKAU**  
CONGRESS

PAID FOR BY PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [6/1/22](#)]

## Education

**Pekau Said In A Campaign Ad That Education Should Get Ride Of No Child Left Behind, Common Core, Standards-Based Grading And CRT.** reported, “We need to revisit our education strategy. Good education starts with families and communities. When education is valued, good schools follow. We should go back to the basics—reading, writing, and arithmetic—and get rid of No Child Left Behind, Common Core, standards-based grading and CRT.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [5/3/22](#)]

**Keith Pekau**  
Sponsored · Paid for by PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

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Keith  
**PEKAU**  
CONGRESS

GOOD EDUCATION  
STARTS WITH  
**FAMILIES &  
COMMUNITIES**

PAID FOR BY PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [5/3/22](#)]

## Student Loan Forgiveness

**When Asked About Biden’s Student Loan Forgiveness Decision, Pekau Claimed That “President Biden And Sean Casten Are Absolutely 100% Wrong On This Issue, Adding That The Root Cause Of The Issue Was Colleges Raising Tuition.** According to Keith Pekau in a Tweet, “Folks who opted to attend a trade school, start a small business or stay home and raise a family shouldn’t be saddled with the student debt of those who chose to incur them. We need to hold people accountable for the decisions they make and not bail them out, and instead of a quick fix, we need to address the root cause of the issue - colleges that raise tuition year after year at a rate significantly higher than inflation.” The post also included a video of Pekau on FOX32 News, stating, “This particular action, which my opponent has leaned into, is wrong, and I think the people in the district agree that it’s

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wrong. From those people who are union members and have gone to the trade schools and are working hard for their families, they're paying for college for someone else. For those people who paid for their own college and their children's, like I did, now I have to pay for someone else. For those people that are still paying their college loans, maybe they make more than \$125,000, why should they pay for someone else to get their college loans? It's wrong. We all incurred these debts ourselves, or chose not to incur these debts, and we shouldn't be saddled with other people's decisions. I think that's how the people of the 6<sup>th</sup> District feel, and I think that President Biden and Sean Casten are absolutely 100% wrong on this issue. We need to hold people accountable for the decisions that they make and not bail them out." [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/27/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/27/22](#)]

- Pekau Claimed That The People Of Illinois's Sixth District Agreed That The Decision To Forgive Student Debt Was Wrong.** According to Keith Pekau in a Tweet, "Folks who opted to attend a trade school, start a small business or stay home and raise a family shouldn't be saddled with the student debt of those who chose to incur them. We need to hold people accountable for the decisions they make and not bail them out, and instead of a quick fix, we need to address the root cause of the issue - colleges that raise tuition year after year at a rate significantly higher than inflation." The post also included a video of Pekau on FOX32 News, stating, "This particular action, which my opponent has leaned into, is wrong, and I think the people in the district agree that it's wrong. From those people who are union members and have gone to the trade schools and are working hard for their families, they're paying for college for someone else. For those people who paid for their own college and their children's, like I did, now I have to pay for someone else. For those people that are still paying their college loans, maybe they make more than \$125,000, why should they pay for someone else to get their college loans? It's wrong. We all incurred these debts ourselves, or chose not to incur these debts, and we shouldn't be saddled with other people's decisions. I think that's how the people of the 6<sup>th</sup> District feel, and I think that President Biden and Sean Casten are absolutely 100% wrong on this issue. We need to hold people accountable for the decisions that they make and not bail them out." [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/27/22](#)]
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## Awake Illinois

**August 2022: Equality Illinois, A Group That Advocated For LGBTQ Rights, Criticized Pekau For Accepting An Award From The Hate Group Awake Illinois.** According to Patch Orland Park, "Orland Park mayor and 6th Congressional District Republican candidate Keith Pekau is drawing criticism after accepting an award from a controversial, politicized group known for its sex education stance, according to a report. 'Awake Illinois' in March recognized Pekau with an Advancing Freedom honor, noting 'his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic,' reports Shaw Local. Pekau was a vocal opponent to mask mandates and vaccines, even as the Covid-19 pandemic was in its early days. The group dubbed Pekau a 'warrior' who is 'effecting positive change in their communities and throughout the state.' Awake Illinois believes public school sex-education standards are 'perverse.' The group also has made transphobic remarks on social media. Pekau's acceptance of the award drew criticism from Equality Illinois, a group that advocates for LGBTQ rights. 'No candidate or public official should ever engage with and encourage hate groups that target marginalized communities and people,' Communications Director Myles Brady Davis told Shaw Local. 'Those are not Illinois values.'" [Patch Orland Park, 8/8/22]

- **Awake Illinois Called Sex Education In Schools "Perverse" And Made Transphobic Remarks On Social Media.** According to Patch Orland Park, "Orland Park mayor and 6th Congressional District Republican candidate Keith Pekau is drawing criticism after accepting an award from a controversial, politicized group known for its sex education stance, according to a report. 'Awake Illinois' in March recognized Pekau with an Advancing Freedom honor, noting 'his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic,' reports Shaw Local. Pekau was a vocal opponent to mask mandates and vaccines, even as the Covid-19 pandemic was in its early days. The group dubbed Pekau a 'warrior' who is 'effecting positive change in their communities and throughout the state.' Awake Illinois believes public school sex-education standards are 'perverse.' The group also has made transphobic remarks on social media. Pekau's acceptance of the award drew criticism from Equality Illinois, a group that advocates for LGBTQ rights. 'No candidate or public official should ever engage with and encourage hate groups that target marginalized communities and people,' Communications Director Myles Brady Davis told Shaw Local. 'Those are not Illinois values.'" [Patch Orland Park, 8/8/22]
- **Equality Illinois: "No Candidate Or Public Official Should Ever Engage With And Encourage Hate Groups That Target Marginalized Communities And People."** According to Patch Orland Park, "Orland Park mayor and 6th Congressional District Republican candidate Keith Pekau is drawing criticism after accepting an award from a controversial, politicized group known for its sex education stance, according to a report. 'Awake Illinois' in March recognized Pekau with an Advancing Freedom honor, noting 'his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic,' reports Shaw Local. Pekau was a vocal opponent to mask mandates and vaccines, even as the Covid-19 pandemic was in its early days. The group dubbed Pekau a 'warrior' who is 'effecting positive change in their communities and throughout the state.' Awake Illinois believes public school sex-education standards are 'perverse.' The group also has made transphobic remarks on social media. Pekau's acceptance of the award drew criticism from Equality Illinois, a group that advocates for LGBTQ rights. 'No candidate or public official should ever engage with and encourage hate groups that target marginalized communities and people,' Communications Director Myles Brady Davis told Shaw Local. 'Those are not Illinois values.'" [Patch Orland Park, 8/8/22]

## Election Law & Campaign Finance

**April 2017: Pekau’s Mayoral Race Against Incumbent Dan McLaughlin “[Saw] \$200,000 In Campaign Ads And Mailers” From The Dan Proft Led-Liberty Principles PAC.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “In southwest suburban Orland Park, Mayor Dan McLaughlin – in office since 1993 – faces off against business owner Keith Pekau in a race that’s seen \$200,000 in campaign ads and mailers to oust the incumbent by the Dan Proft led-Liberty Principles PAC. [...] Pekau on Monday said he’d opt out of receiving a pension should he win. Keith Pekau. Pekau said the financial support from Proft definitely helps: ‘It doesn’t surprise me that an outside group got involved because these pension grabs are affecting everyone, and Orland Park taxpayers pay the brunt.’ Proft calls the race a ‘microcosm’ of how the ‘political ruling class operates’ – thus the reason his PAC is involved in a municipal election.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 4/4/17]

- **July 2018: On Behalf Of Liberty Principles PAC, The Liberty Justice Center Filed “A Lawsuit Challenging Illinois’ Restrictive Campaign Finance Laws” Which “Limit How Much Money Individuals And Organizations May Contribute To Political Candidates.”** According to the Liberty Justice Center, “In July 2018, the Liberty Justice Center filed a lawsuit challenging Illinois’ restrictive campaign finance law. Illinois campaign finance laws limit how much money individuals and organizations may contribute to political candidates. But once certain fundraising thresholds are met in a given race, the campaign contribution limits are eliminated for all types of donors in that race – except ‘independent expenditure committees.’ This means that individuals, corporations, unions and political parties can give unlimited amounts of money to candidates and coordinate with those candidates’ campaigns. But groups such as our client, Liberty Principles PAC, cannot. Independent expenditure committees are forbidden from giving to candidates or even talking with candidates about their plans. Our lawsuit, Dan Proft, et al. v. Kwame Raoul, et al... challenges these free speech restrictions and seeks to level the playing field for all who wish to engage in the democratic process.” [Liberty Justice Center, accessed [7/14/22](#)]

**April 2022: Pekau Considered ID-Required Voting To Be A State Issue, Saying, “I Support States Handling This As They See Fit With Their Constituents.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Should voters be required to show an ID to vote? ‘This is a state issue and I support states handling this as they see fit with their constituents.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

- **June 2022: Pekau Stated, “We Need To Make It Easier To Vote And Harder To Cheat,” And Said That IDs Should Be Mandatory To Vote.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “Pekau said he wants every eligible voter to have easy access to voting. ‘We need to make it easier to vote and harder to cheat,’ he said. ‘I want every voter to know their vote is sacred.’ Pekau also said IDs should be mandatory for voting.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 6/18/22]

## Casten Accusations

**Pekau Condemned Nancy Pelosi’s House Majority PAC Funding Over \$1.9 Million In Ad Buys For Casten In Chicago, Claiming Casten To Be One Of The Most Partisan Members Of Congress.** According to a press release by Keith Pekau For Congress, “Last week, Nancy Pelosi’s House Majority PAC threw \$1,979,695 into ad buys in the Chicago media market to support Congressman Sean Casten. Casten has one of the most partisan voting records in Congress and walks in lockstep with Pelosi. Casten’s opponent Keith Pekau issued the following statement in response: ‘Pelosi and Casten are part of the gang in Washington DC that drove inflation rates to 9.1%, caused gas to skyrocket to nearly \$6 per gallon in Cook and DuPage Counties, pushed anti-police policies and rhetoric that has led to soaring crime rates, and stoked deeply bitter partisan divides nationwide. ‘If voters want to continue down that path, Sean Casten – Nancy Pelosi’s hand-picked candidate – is their guy. But the people I talk to everyday on the campaign trail are ready to bring common-sense back to Washington. As mayor of Orland Park, I’ve reduced crime, reined in spending, and cut property tax rates. I am going to Congress to lead with common sense, put people over politics, and end the Pelosi-Casten era of out of control government.’” [Keith Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [8/10/22](#)]

## 2020 Election & January 6<sup>th</sup>

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**February 2022: Pekau Considered The January 6th Capitol Riot To Be Complicated But Said, “The Idiots Who Stormed The Capitol, Acted Violently And Broke The Law Deserve To Be Prosecuted For Their Actions.”** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “The controversial line appeared in a Feb. 4 RNC resolution censuring U.S. Reps. Adam Kinzinger of Channahon and Liz Cheney of Wyoming for serving on the House committee investigating the violence that occurred Jan. 6, 2021, as Congress met to certify Joe Biden’s presidential victory over Donald Trump. GOP Chair Ronna McDaniel subsequently condemned the Capitol violence in a column for townhall.com and on Twitter. [...] Sixth District candidate Keith Pekau of Orland Park wouldn’t say whether he agreed or disagreed. The issue is complicated, he said. Regardless, the violence at the Capitol angered Pekau. ‘The idiots who stormed the Capitol, acted violently and broke the law deserve to be prosecuted for their actions,’ he said.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 2/20/22]

**April 2022: Pekau Replied “Yes” When Asked If Joe Biden Won The 2020 Election.** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Did Joe Biden win the 2020 election? ‘Yes.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**April 2022: Pekau Replied “Yes” When Asked If He Would Have Voted To Ratify Biden’s 2020 Presidency.** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Would you have voted to ratify his presidency? ‘Yes.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**April 2022: Pekau’s Repeated His Stance That “The People Who Stormed The Capitol Acted Violently And Broke The Law Deserve To Be Prosecuted For Their Actions” And “Have Right To Speedy And Public Trial.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What is your position on the Jan. 6, 2021 riot at the U.S. Capitol? ‘The people who stormed the Capitol acted violently and broke the law deserve to be prosecuted for their actions. Additionally, those that are accused have a right to speedy and public trial as called for in the 6th Amendment which is clearly not happening over one year after the fact.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**Pekau Refused To Answer Whether He Would Vote Against Certifying Presidential Electoral Votes.** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Would you, as a member of Congress, ever vote against certifying presidential electoral votes submitted by states’ official voting authorities? ‘I can’t answer this hypothetical question.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**When Asked Whether Biden Was The Rightful President, Pekau Did Not Answer Yes Or No, Implying It Was A “Trick Question.”** According to Patch Orland Park, “When Patch asked whether Biden was the rightful president, Pekau did not answer yes or no. He apparently took offense at the inquiry, suggesting it was a trick question. He also called it silly. ‘Was he sworn into office?’ Pekau said in an interview. Answering the same question from Patch, Grasso said, ‘Biden was awarded the majority of the electoral votes. He then became the president, even though there were a slew of challenges. All of those were unsuccessful. Biden got the electoral votes. Congress certified him. It’s the end of the debate.’” [Patch Orland Park, 1/6/22]

## General Energy Comments

**To Encourage Economic Growth, Pekau Emphasized “[Becoming] Energy Independent And [Bringing] Manufacturing Jobs Back To The United States” While “Holding Other Countries Accountable, Especially China.”** According to Keith Pekau for Congress, “I will grow the economy to create good-paying middle-class jobs. Our national economy is struggling, with supply shortages and wages not keeping up with the cost of living. Workers are especially hurting in Illinois, where unemployment remains among the highest in the nation. I will fight to bring economic growth and prosperity back to our country, especially right here in the 6<sup>th</sup> District. We’ll do this by creating an environment in which businesses can thrive so they can create good-paying jobs. We will become energy independent and bring manufacturing jobs back to the United States. And we will hold other countries accountable, especially China, that try to push global economic policies that hurt American businesses and workers. As a successful small businessman, I was able to grow our economy in Orland Park. We diversified our economy by re-imagining the village’s downtown, protecting Orland Square Mall, and helping local businesses survive during the pandemic. Major businesses, small businesses, manufacturers, and restaurants are responding positively, with over 600 businesses opening in the village so far during my tenure.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]

**Pekau Stressed Economic Strategies Such As “Energy Production, Including Renewable Sources, Allowing Us To Be An Energy Exporter,” To Encourage The Return Of American Manufacturing Jobs.**

According to Keith Pekau for Congress, “A key part of my plan is to make us energy independent and bring manufacturing back. Right now, we are relying on countries for our energy and manufacturing that may not be our friends, today or in the future. We should be a global leader in energy production, including renewable sources, allowing us to be an energy exporter. This inexpensive and reliable energy, along with the best labor force in the world, will bring manufacturing jobs back to the United States. As a successful businessman and small business owner, I have seen firsthand the challenges businesses face. I advised businesses in every industry to help them grow. In my own business, I lived the challenges of making payroll, managing cashflows, and trying to keep up with government regulations.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]

**April 2022: Pekau Opined, “A Key Part Of My Plan Is To Make Us Energy Independent And Bring Manufacturing Back. [...] We Should Be A Global Leader In Energy Production Of All Types Which Will Allow Us To Be An Energy Exporter.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “How would you bring back manufacturing jobs? ‘I will work in Congress to create an environment in which businesses can succeed and thrive so they can grow and create good-paying jobs for American workers. A key part of my plan is to make us energy independent and bring manufacturing back. Right now, we are relying on countries for our energy and manufacturing that may not be our friends, today or in the future. We should be a global leader in energy production of all types which will allow us to be an energy exporter. This inexpensive and reliable energy, along with the best labor force in the world, will bring manufacturing jobs back to the United States. Too often we enter into ‘free’ market trade policies where only American businesses play by the rules. We need to hold other countries accountable and make sure that trade markets are fair. Lastly, America has a strategic interest to have production capability in every industry so that we cannot be held at a disadvantage by our enemies. Our federal policies should ensure that our strategic interests are aligned with American manufacturing.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## Vets4Energy

**Pekau Was A Member Of The American Petroleum Institute’s “Vets4Energy” Campaign.** According to a press release by the American Petroleum Institute, “The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy campaign returns to the nation's capital this week. Twenty-six veterans are meeting members of Congress and staff to discuss why burgeoning North American energy resources are vital to improving our national security. ‘There are so many exciting opportunities for the U.S. to become a global leader in energy, but many lawmakers continue to ignore

them,’ said retired Major General Duane Jones. ‘We need to make sure Congress doesn't lose sight of this game changing opportunity to produce more North American energy which will strengthen our national security.’ The veterans of Vets4Energy have fought in every U.S. war or engagement since Vietnam and believe that energy security is vital to keeping Americans safe. ‘Greater U.S. security means reducing our dependence on oil from unfriendly parts of the world,’ said retired Captain Keith Pekau. ‘We can do this easily by strengthening our energy ties with Canada and by tapping more of our own abundant resources.’” [American Petroleum Institute, Press Release, 7/10/13]

**July 2013: On A Lobbying Trip To Washington DC On Behalf Of The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy Campaign, Pekau Stated, “Greater U.S. Security Means Reducing Our Dependence On Oil From Unfriendly Parts Of The World... By Tapping More Of Our Own Abundant Resources.”** According to a press release from the American Petroleum Institute, “The American Petroleum Institute’s Vets4Energy campaign returns to the nation’s capital this week. Twenty-six veterans are meeting members of Congress and staff to discuss why burgeoning North American energy resources are vital to improving our national security. [...] The veterans of Vets4Energy have fought in every U.S. war or engagement since Vietnam and believe that energy security is vital to keeping Americans safe. ‘Greater U.S. security means reducing our dependence on oil from unfriendly parts of the world,’ said retired Captain Keith Pekau. ‘We can do this easily by strengthening our energy ties with Canada and by tapping more of our own abundant resources.’” [American Petroleum Institute, Press Release, 7/10/13]

## Clean Energy

**April 2022: When Asked About Investing In Renewable Energy, Pekau Responded, “The Federal Government Should Be Investing In Research And Development To Meet Our Strategic Energy Needs, Such As Defense And Space,” Referring To Agencies Like NASA And DARPA.** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Should America invest in other forms of renewable energy? Please explain. ‘The federal government should be investing in research and development to meet our strategic energy needs, such as defense and space. Companies should then be allowed to bring that technology to the private sector as it becomes economically viable. We have a long track record of this with agencies such as NASA and DARPA. This type of investment will bring alternative energy efficiency products and energy generation to the market place when they are economically viable without picking winners and losers. This not only ensures that we generate new energy solutions, but do so in an economically viable way that will ensure a smoother transition and less disruption for the public. We should continue to invest in research on alternative power sources including hydrogen which is the most attractive future energy source that has the potential to provide base load power to the grid.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**June 2022: Pekau Endorsed Nuclear Energy And Clean Coal, Stating That “Energy Security Equals National Security And For This Reason, America Must Be Energy Independent.”** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “Do you acknowledge humans’ role in causing climate change? What steps should government be taking to address the issue? ‘The earth’s climate has always changed, even prior to humans. Humans, given the exploding population, have an impact on the environment in which we live. We all want clean air, water, and a healthy planet. Most of us also want the comforts of modern living that technological advancements have made possible. The challenges we face can be solved. To start with, we need to become more energy independent as a nation, including we should continue our private sector energy efficiency efforts. Energy security equals national security and for this reason, America must be energy independent. This requires using all of our resources. We should be investing in clean coal technologies while also augmenting our baseload power generation with renewable energy such as solar. Geothermal and hydroelectric power are also a part of the solution. We must also invest in nuclear power as it is the cleanest source of baseload power and the US has had only one nuclear reactor go online in the last 25 years.’” [Chicago Daily Herald, 6/2/22]

**Pekau Claimed That Casten “Is Out Of Step With The American People” And “Out Of Touch With Voters” For Promoting Green Energy Policies.** According to a Facebook post by Pekau, “Sean Casten is out of step with the American people. He has boasted in press conferences and on social media about how much the Democrats “Don’t Say Inflation” Act will do for the Green Lobby. But the numbers show, voters understand the extreme

Biden-Casten agenda is responsible for the spike in energy prices. Voters don't believe the solution to our problems is for everyone to drive a Tesla or install Chinese made solar panels or their roofs. It is clear that voters' number one concern is the economy. Just 1.3% of respondents identified Climate Change as a priority. They don't want Sean Casten to make energy more expensive by imposing a carbon tax, and more than two-thirds of voters reject electric vehicle mandates. Sean Casten is out of touch with voters. In November, voters are going to give him a much needed reality check." Pekau also linked a poll that allegedly supported his claims. [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/24/22](#)]



**Keith Pekau**

August 24 at 8:29 AM · 🌐

Sean Casten is out of step with the American people.

He has boasted in press conferences and on social media about how much the Democrats "Don't Say Inflation" Act will do for the Green Lobby. But the numbers show, voters understand the extreme Biden-Casten agenda is responsible for the spike in energy prices. Voters don't believe the solution to our problems is for everyone to drive a Tesla or install Chinese made solar panels or their roofs.

It is clear that voters' number one concern is the economy. Just 1.3% of respondents identified Climate Change as a priority. They don't want Sean Casten to make energy more expensive by imposing a carbon tax, and more than two-thirds of voters reject electric vehicle mandates.

Sean Casten is out of touch with voters. In November, voters are going to give him a much needed reality check.

[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/24/22](#)]

### **September 2021: Pekau Claimed That Nuclear Energy Is "The Most Clean Energy Source That We Have."**

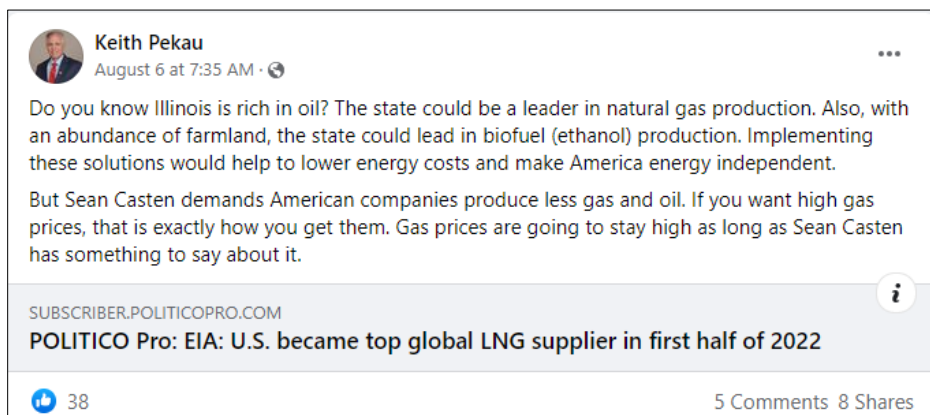
According to Pekau in a village board meeting, "We've mandated that two nuclear power plants are gonna come offline, which are gonna devastate those communities. It's also the most clean energy source that we have – is nuclear energy." [YouTube, [8:02 – 8:13](#), 9/8/21]

## **Natural Gas**

### **Pekau Stated That "Illinois Is Rich In Oil" And That "[Illinois] Could Be A Leader In Natural Gas**

**Production."** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, "Do you know Illinois is rich in oil? The state could be a leader in natural gas production. Also, with an abundance of farmland, the state could lead in biofuel (ethanol) production. Implementing these solutions would help to lower energy costs and make America energy independent. But Sean Casten demands American companies produce less gas and oil. If you want high gas prices, that is exactly how you get them. Gas prices are going to stay high as long as Sean Casten has something to say about it."

[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/6/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/6/22](#)]

## China


**Pekau: “Sean Casten Has Doubled Down On His Effort To Allow President Biden To Sell Oil Drawn From The United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve To Entities Controlled By The Chinese Communist Party.”**

According to Twitter, Keith Pekau tweeted, “Sean Casten has doubled down on his effort to allow President Biden to sell oil drawn from the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve to entities controlled by the Chinese Communist Party.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [7/28/22](#)]





[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [7/28/22](#)]

**Pekau Claimed That Casten Had Authorized The Sale Of Nearly One Million Barrels Of Oil From The SPR To “A CCP-Owned Company With Financial Ties To Hunter Biden.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “Sean Casten has doubled down on his effort to allow President Biden to sell oil drawn from the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve to entities controlled by the Chinese Communist Party. The motion - put forth by House Republicans - came just weeks after reports revealed that Biden sold nearly one million barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to a CCP-owned gas company with financial ties to Hunter Biden. Sean Casten and Joe Biden declared war on domestic energy production the day they each took office. Now, Casten has doubled down on a vote to put the national security interests of China - an adversarial nation - ahead of the interests of the people he represents. It's time to reject his harmful ideology. We need common-sense leadership that will focus on increasing energy production, rather than a far-Left activist who supports our adversaries while his constituents are suffering from outrageously high fuel prices.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [7/27/22](#)]

 **Keith Pekau**  
 July 27 at 12:50 PM · 🌐


Sean Casten has doubled down on his effort to allow President Biden to sell oil drawn from the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve to entities controlled by the Chinese Communist Party. The motion - put forth by House Republicans - came just weeks after reports revealed that Biden sold nearly one million barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to a CCP-owned gas company with financial ties to Hunter Biden.

Sean Casten and Joe Biden declared war on domestic energy production the day they each took office. Now, Casten has doubled down on a vote to put the national security interests of China - an adversarial nation - ahead of the interests of the people he represents. It's time to reject his harmful ideology. We need common-sense leadership that will focus on increasing energy production, rather than a far-Left activist who supports our adversaries while his constituents are suffering from outrageously high fuel prices.

  40

8 Comments 15 Shares

[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [7/27/22](#)]


 **Keith Pekau**  
 August 24 at 11:29 AM · 🌐

Sean Casten is out of step with the American people.

He has boasted in press conferences and on social media about how much the Democrats "Don't Say Inflation" Act will do for the Green Lobby. But the numbers show, voters understand the extreme Biden-Casten agenda is responsible for the spike in energy prices. Voters don't believe the solution to our problems is for everyone to drive a Tesla or install Chinese made solar panels or their roofs.


It is clear that voters' number one concern is the economy. Just 1.3% of respondents identified Climate Change as a priority. They don't want Sean Casten to make energy more expensive by imposing a carbon tax, and more than two-thirds of voters reject electric vehicle mandates.

Sean Casten is out of touch with voters. In November, voters are going to give him a much needed reality check.



COMMITTEETO UNLEASH PROSPERITY.COM

**Poll: Voters Reject Biden Climate Agenda by Huge Margins; See Lower Energy Prices as Pathway to Prosperity**

 See how the average temperature in your area is changing.  
[Explore Climate Science Info](#)

[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [8/24/22](#)]

## Environment

**Pekau Denied Anthropogenic Climate Change, Saying, “The Climate Has Been Changing Since The Beginning Of Time On Planet Earth... It Is The Ultimate Arrogance To Think That Humans Can Stop The Climate From Changing.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What is your position on climate change and what should be done about it? ‘The climate has been changing since the beginning of time on planet earth. We all agree that we want a clean environment and to live with the comforts that the modern world affords us. It is the ultimate arrogance to think that humans can stop the climate from changing.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

- **April 2022: When Asked About And How To Address Climate Change, Pekau Encouraged “Clean Coal,” Saying “There Are... Technologies That Allow Us To Utilize Coal In An Environmentally Friendly Way.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, ““However, as we identify environmental challenges, I think humans have the ingenuity and engineering know how to respond to them. For example, there are clean coal technologies that allow us to utilize coal in an environmentally friendly way. Additionally, trucks can be easily modified to run on compressed natural gas (CNG) that is much cleaner than diesel. Many companies have converted their fleets. Why has the US not invested in CNG filling stations throughout our interstates so that semi-trucks could do the same.” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## Ethics & Government Reform

**June 11, 2022: Pekau Announced That He Had Signed The “Term Limits On Congress” Pledge.** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “As the only candidate in the race who has implemented term limits, I am happy to make this pledge at the federal level as well.” This post shared a post from Illinois Term Limits that read, “Thank you Keith Pekau for signing the #termlimits on Congress pledge.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/11/22](#); Facebook, Illinois Term Limits, [6/10/22](#)]



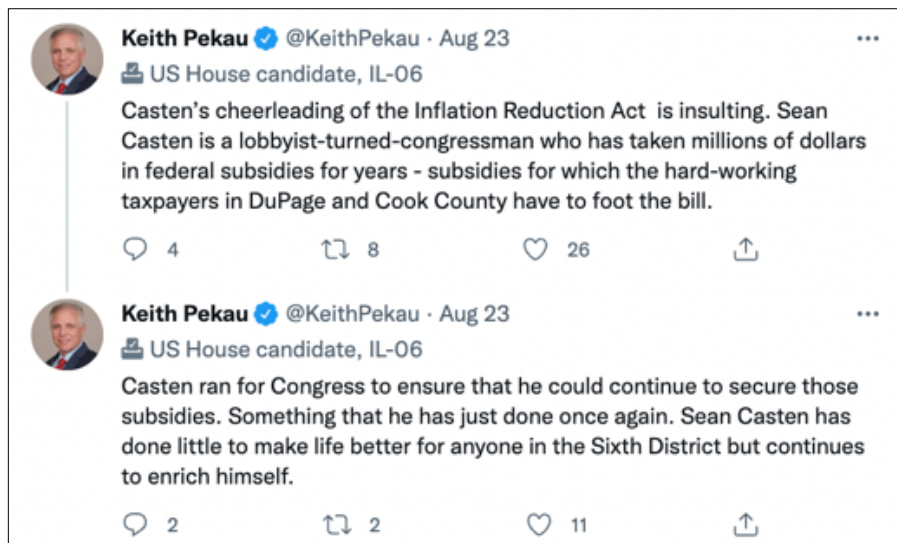
[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/11/22](#); Facebook, Illinois Term Limits, [6/10/22](#)]

## Casten Accusations

**Pekau Claimed Casten Was A “Lobbyist-Turned-Congressman Who Has Taken Millions Of Dollars In Federal Subsidies For Years,” Alleging That Casten Ran For Congress To Continue Those Subsidies.**

According to a Twitter thread by Keith Pekau, “Casten’s cheerleading of the Inflation Reduction Act is insulting. Sean Casten is a lobbyist-turned-congressman who has taken millions of dollars in federal subsidies for years - subsidies for which the hard-working taxpayers in DuPage and Cook County have to foot the bill. Casten ran for Congress to ensure that he could continue to secure those subsidies. Something that he has just done once again. Sean Casten has done little to make life better for anyone in the Sixth District but continues to enrich himself.”

[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/23/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/23/22](#)]

- **Pekau: “Sean Casten Has Done Little To Make Life Better For Anyone In The Sixth District But Continues To Enrich Himself.”** According to a Twitter thread by Keith Pekau, “Casten’s cheerleading of the Inflation Reduction Act is insulting. Sean Casten is a lobbyist-turned-congressman who has taken millions of dollars in federal subsidies for years - subsidies for which the hard-working taxpayers in DuPage and Cook County have to foot the bill. Casten ran for Congress to ensure that he could continue to secure those subsidies. Something that he has just done once again. Sean Casten has done little to make life better for anyone in the Sixth District but continues to enrich himself.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/23/22](#)]

**Pekau Claimed That Casten Holds \$500,000 In A Green Energy Company That Will Benefit From Green Energy Spending, Adding, “This Is A Disturbing Pattern With Sean Casten.”** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “The Washington Free Beacon reported over the weekend that Sean Casten’s latest financial disclosure shows he holds up to \$500,000 in a green energy company that will likely benefit from Green Energy spending. This is a disturbing pattern with Sean Casten. In 2008, he secured \$8 million in taxpayer-funded subsidies for his family’s company from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. As a Congressman, Casten has pushed for similar special deals to benefit his own company and special interests. Rather than reforming the system, Sean Casten works the system.” Pekau linked an article by the Washington Free Beacon that detailed Casten’s alleged potential benefits from green energy spending. [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/23/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/23/22](#)]

- **Pekau Claimed Casten Secured \$8 Million In Taxpayer-Funded Subsidies For His Family’s Company Following The 2008 Financial Crisis.** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “The Washington Free Beacon reported over the weekend that Sean Casten’s latest financial disclosure shows he holds up to \$500,000 in a green energy company that will likely benefit from Green Energy spending. This is a disturbing pattern with Sean Casten. In 2008, he secured \$8 million in taxpayer-funded subsidies for his family’s company from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. As a Congressman, Casten has pushed for similar special deals to benefit his own company and special interests. Rather than reforming the system, Sean Casten works the system.” [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [8/23/22](#)]

## Mayoral Duties & Salary

**Pekau Supported Term Limits On The Municipal Level And Criticized Village Leaders For Making The Mayor’s Job A Full-Time Post With A Higher Salary.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Dan McLaughlin is seeking his seventh term as mayor of the southwest suburb in a race against Keith Pekau, who favors term limits and criticized village leaders for making the mayor's job a full-time post with a higher salary.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/2/17]

**April 2017: Pekau Criticized His Opponent, Dan McLaughlin, For The Village Board’s Decision To Raise The Mayoral Salary – And Thus, McLaughlin’s Pension.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “In southwest suburban Orland Park, Mayor Dan McLaughlin - in office since 1993 - faces off against business owner Keith Pekau in a race that's seen \$200,000 in campaign ads and mailers to oust the incumbent by the Dan Proft led-Liberty Principles PAC. Gov. Bruce Rauner is one of the three top contributors to the political action committee, which ran a multitude of ads last year to support Republicans in legislative races. But Rauner political aides note

Rauner hasn't given to the PAC since June 2016, and that his money is not going to fund the municipal election. [...] But he's under fire by some for the village board's decision last year to up the mayoral salary from \$40,000 to \$150,000, thus upping his pension - while making the position full-time. McLaughlin abstained from the vote. The move to expand the mayor's duties was made in lieu of hiring an additional assistant village manager and economic development director." [Chicago Sun-Times, 4/4/17]

**Pekau Said, If Elected, He Would Not Take A Pension.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, "He's under fire by some for the village board's decision last year to up the mayoral salary from \$40,000 to \$150,000, thus upping his pension - while making the position full-time. McLaughlin abstained from the vote. The move to expand the mayor's duties was made in lieu of hiring an additional assistant village manager and economic development director. [...] Pekau on Monday said he'd opt out of receiving a pension should he win." [Chicago Sun-Times, 4/4/17]

**2018: One Year After Pekau Became The Mayor, An Ordinance That Would Make The Mayor Position Part-Time Was Considered By The Village Board.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "A year after Keith Pekau became Orland Park's first full-time mayor, with expanded duties and a beefed-up salary, some village trustees are openly questioning whether he's worth the money. An ordinance that could revert the position to part-time status and scale back how much the job pays is expected to be considered by the Village Board next month. Should changes to the job be approved by trustees, they would not take effect until after the next mayoral election in spring 2021." [Chicago Tribune, 4/4/18]

- **The Ordinance Would Also Include A Pay Cut.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "A year after Keith Pekau became Orland Park's first full-time mayor, with expanded duties and a beefed-up salary, some village trustees are openly questioning whether he's worth the money. An ordinance that could revert the position to part-time status and scale back how much the job pays is expected to be considered by the Village Board next month. Should changes to the job be approved by trustees, they would not take effect until after the next mayoral election in spring 2021." [Chicago Tribune, 4/4/18]

**As Mayor, Pekau "Refused To Take A Pension And Worked To Eliminate Pensions For All Village Of Orland Park Elected Officials."** According to Keith Pekau for Congress, "Keith Pekau, the Mayor of Orland Park, is a decorated veteran and successful small businessman who will put people over politics in the 6th District. In Pekau's first run for political office in 2017, he defeated a 28-year politician to become the mayor of his hometown, Orland Park. He ran to put an end to the political games and instead focus on doing what was best for his community—and he kept that promise. In his first term as Mayor, Pekau worked with the Orland Park Village Board to reduce operating expenses, pay down debt, lower property taxes, and institute term limits. He refused to take a pension and worked to eliminate pensions for all Village of Orland Park elected officials. As mayor, Pekau has worked proactively with local law enforcement to make Orland Park safer. During his tenure, crime has been reduced to the lowest levels in over 27 years, and Orland Park was recently named the safest city in Illinois and the 8th safest city in the county." [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]

- **April 2017: Pekau Accepted The \$150,000 Mayoral Salary While Seemingly Rejecting The Pension, Saying, "I Am Not Vested In The Pension System And I Will Not Be Taking A Pension."** According to the Patch, "Orland Park Mayor-elect Keith Pekau will accept the heightened \$150,000 a year mayoral salary after he is sworn into office next month and said in an interview with The Regional News that it will be up to him to 'earn' the salary that was put in place by trustees who fully expected it to go to current Mayor Dan McLaughlin. 'I will earn the \$150,000. I never said anything different. However, I am not vested in the pension system and I will not be taking a pension,' Pekau told The Regional News in an interview published this week. Pekau also made it known that he has no plans to accept an inflated pension that trustees voted to quadruple from \$25,000 annually to \$100,000. [...] The village board voted in October to turn the mayoral role into a full-time position and raise the salary from \$40,000 a year to \$150,000 beginning with the 2017-elected term." [Patch, [4/27/17](#)]

- In The Meeting To Eliminate Pension Eligibility For Village Employees In May 2019, The Trustee And Clerk Eligibility Would End July 2019 While The Mayor’s Would End May 2021.** According to notes from a Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees meeting, “The State of Illinois and all municipalities face budget issues related to growing pension costs. All employees are automatically enrolled in IMRF by law. However, the Village has the authority to either allow or not allow elected officials to participate in the IMRF pension system. [...] This resolution eliminates the ability for the Trustees and the Clerk to participate in IMRF as of July 1, 2019. This resolution eliminates the ability for the Mayor to participate in IMRF as of the first Monday of May 2021.” [Village of Orland Park, Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [5/20/19](#)]

**2019-0394 Relating to Termination of Participation by Elected Officials in IMRF - Village President - 1000 Hours - Resolution**

The State of Illinois and all municipalities face budget issues related to growing pension costs. All employees are automatically enrolled in IMRF by law. However the Village has the authority to either allow or not allow elected officials to

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VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARKPage 27 of 31

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Board of Trustees	Meeting Minutes	May 20, 2019
<p>participate in the IMRF pension system.</p> <p>IMRF Tier 1 candidates need 600 service hours to receive 1 year IMRF credit. IMRF Tier 2 candidates need 1000 service hours to receive 1 year IMRF credit. For decades the Village has offered the option of IMRF to all elected officials. This resolution eliminates the ability for the all Trustees and the Clerk to participate in IMRF as of July 1, 2019. This resolution eliminates the ability for the Mayor to participate in IMRF as of the first Monday of May 2021.</p> <p>Trustee Milani made a motion to the amend the resolution to read effective May 3, 2021 and no longer qualifying for IMRF participation as of May 3, 2021. (refer to audio file)</p> <p>Trustees Dodge, Fenton, Calandriello, and President Pekau had comments. (refer to audio file)</p> <p>I move to pass Resolution Number 1908, entitled: A RESOLUTION RELATING TO TERMINATION OF PARTICIPATION BY ELECTED OFFICIALS IN THE ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND, FOR VILLAGE PRESIDENT, FOR AT LEAST 1000 HOURS PER YEAR, EFFECTIVE MAY 3, 2021</p> <p><b>A motion was made by Trustee Milani, seconded by Trustee Healy, that this matter be PASSED. The motion carried by the following vote:</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><b>Aye:</b> 5 - Trustee Calandriello, Trustee Healy, Trustee Nelson Katsenes, Trustee Milani, and Village President Pekau</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><b>Nay:</b> 2 - Trustee Fenton, and Trustee Dodge</p>		

[Village of Orland Park, Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [5/20/19](#)]

- Orland Park’s Mayoral Salary Was Supposed To Drop From \$150,000 To \$40,000 After The Local April 2021 Election.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park’s eight elected officials will no longer be in a state pension plan for municipal employees even though the timing of who will pull out and when sparked debate among some trustees and the mayor at Monday’s Village Board meeting. The village’s six trustees and village clerk will be withdrawn from the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund as of July 1 even though for the mayor the change wouldn’t take effect until after the next mayoral election in 2021. [...] Discussion of pension matter again brought to the surface an ongoing issue regarding Pekau’s pay and job responsibilities. In March, the Village Board approved an ordinance that scaled back the duties and pay for the mayor, although the job’s salary can’t be altered during the current term. The job now pays \$150,000 a year and the mayor also receives \$3,000 as liquor commissioner. The mayor’s salary would drop to \$40,000 after the April 2021 election, with the pay for liquor commissioner remaining at \$3,000. In October 2016, trustees approved changing the mayor’s job from part-time to the equivalent of a full-time position, with the added duties of being Orland

Park’s lead person on economic development matters and working to bring businesses to the village. [...] The mayor is technically still classified as a part-time position and making it full-time would require changing the village’s form of government through a referendum question.” [Chicago Tribune, 5/21/19]

**As Mayor Of Orland Park, Pekau “[Instituted] Term Limits” And “[Cut] Salaries And Pensions For Politicians” To End “Government As Usual.”** According to Keith Pekau for Congress, “We need good people in Congress who aren’t beholden to special interests—people who are there to do the right thing and solve problems by putting people over politics. I’ve been fighting the politicians and winning. I defeated a 28-year politician to become Mayor of Orland Park, where I put an end to ‘government as usual’ by instituting term limits, cutting salaries and pensions for politicians, and putting the focus on doing what’s best for the people in our community. That is the leadership I will bring to Congress.” [Keith Pekau for Congress, accessed [7/12/22](#)]

**Pekau Criticized Former Mayor Dan McLaughlin For Taking A \$150,000 Salary And Proceeded To Take The Same Salary When In Office.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Pekau was an ‘accidental mayor’ who won office only because longtime Mayor Dan McLaughlin made one mistake after nearly a quarter century of brilliant leadership. McLaughlin proposed giving himself a pay hike to \$150,000 a year, plus a massive pension hike, too. Pekau denounced McLaughlin and used that to stumble into office. Most voters were voting in anger against McLaughlin and very few voted because they thought Pekau had any talent or promise. If ‘Mickey Mouse’ were on the ballot, ‘Mickey Mouse’ would have won in the wave of anger that swept through the Orland Park elections. For his part, McLaughlin acknowledged it was a mistake and has a future working with the next administration who picks up the strewn pieces of Orland Park’s shattered, embarrassing Pekau government. Ironically, Pekau is taking that \$150,000 annual salary after viciously attacking McLaughlin for proposing it — McLaughlin never received that salary. Pekau is being paid \$150,000 a year, for doing what? I don’t know.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [7/1/20](#)]

**Pekau’s Campaign Sent Out Mailers Falsely Claiming He Lowered His Salary By 70%.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Pekau and his campaign are sending mailers, emails, videos, and speeches to tout false claims such as: ‘I (Pekau) lowered my own salary by 70% and I took away pensions for elected officials.’ His deception started in 2017 when he vigorously campaigned against the \$150,000+ mayor’s salary yet pocketed the salary when sworn in after the election. It is well documented that Pekau chose to take the full \$150,000 after saying he was against it, deceiving Orland voters who voted for him. ‘When my opponent won his election, he kept the mayor’s salary for four years totaling over \$600,000. Midway through his term, his duties were cut to part time at the same rate of pay and made it pensionable – a further hidden benefit for him. So, Pekau deceived the voters by promising one thing and doing another and he is deceiving them again now,’ added Grasso. Under the 2016 village ordinance, the Orland Park Board of Trustees provided for the \$150,000 mayor’s salary to ‘sunset’ automatically back to what it was in 2016 if they did not extend it. No vote to lower the salary was ever taken by the Village Board. Pekau’s claims that he cut his salary by 70% are blatantly false and misleading – the salary was lowered automatically by Village ordinance.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [6/21/22](#)]

**March 2017: Pekau Stated There Was Nothing He Could Do About The Mayoral Salary For Four Years.** According to Pekau in an appearance on Illinois Rising, “Well, first and foremost, I’m not going to take a pension. The salary is set in law for the next four years, so there’s nothing I can do about it for four years, however I’m going to push to bring it back to a part-time position like it should be and bring the salary back commensurate to what it was, which was \$40,000.” [YouTube, [5:36 – 5:50](#), 3/27/17]

- **Pekau: “Well, First And Foremost, I’m Not Going To Take A Pension.”** According to Pekau in an appearance on Illinois Rising, “Well, first and foremost, I’m not going to take a pension. The salary is set in law for the next four years, so there’s nothing I can do about it for four years, however I’m going to push to bring it back to a part-time position like it should be and bring the salary back commensurate to what it was, which was \$40,000.” [YouTube, [5:36 – 5:50](#), 3/27/17]

## Grasso Accusation

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**HEADLINE: “Grasso Accuses Pekau Of Blatantly Distorting His Own Record To Deceive Voters.”**

[Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/21/22](#)]

**The Suburban Chicagoland Blog Reported That A Challenger In The 2022 GOP Primary, Gary Grasso, Claimed That Pekau Lied About Reducing His Own Salary.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland Blog, “6th Congressional District candidate and Burr Ridge Mayor Gary Grasso criticized his opponent for what he calls ‘a blatant distortion of the facts’ ahead of the June 28th primary. Grasso is specifically challenging his opponent, Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, on deceiving voters about Pekau’s salary and pension as mayor and property taxes in Orland Park.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/21/22](#)]

**Pekau And His Campaign Messaged On The Fact That He Lowered His Salary By 70 Percent.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland Blog, “6th Congressional District candidate and Burr Ridge Mayor Gary Grasso criticized his opponent for what he calls ‘a blatant distortion of the facts’ ahead of the June 28th primary. [...] ‘If you compare what he says against the record, it is clear my opponent is blatantly distorting facts in an effort to deceive voters,’ stated Grasso. Pekau and his campaign are sending mailers, emails, videos, and speeches to tout false claims such as: ‘I (Pekau) lowered my own salary by 70% and I took away pensions for elected officials.’” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/21/22](#)]

**Grasso Claimed That Midway Through Pekau’s Term, His Duties Were Cut To Part Time At The Same Rate Of Pay (\$150,000) And Became Pensionable.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland Blog, “‘When my opponent won his election, he kept the mayor’s salary for four years totaling over \$600,000. Midway through his term, his duties were cut to part time at the same rate of pay and made it pensionable – a further hidden benefit for him. So, Pekau deceived the voters by promising one thing and doing another and he is deceiving them again now,’ added Grasso.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/21/22](#)]

**The Suburban Chicagoland Blog Noted That Pekau Did Not Cut His Salary; Under The 2016 Ordinance Raising The Salary, The Board Of Trustees Provided For The Salary To Go Back To What It Was If It Was Not Extended.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Under the 2016 village ordinance, the Orland Park Board of Trustees provided for the \$150,000 mayor’s salary to ‘sunset’ automatically back to what it was in 2016 if they did not extend it. No vote to lower the salary was ever taken by the Village Board. Pekau’s claims that he cut his salary by 70% are blatantly false and misleading – the salary was lowered automatically by Village ordinance.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/21/22](#)]

**Pekau Reportedly Voted In Favor Of Keeping Himself Pension Eligible By A Five To Two Vote.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland Blog, “6th Congressional District candidate and Burr Ridge Mayor Gary Grasso criticized his opponent for what he calls ‘a blatant distortion of the facts’ ahead of the June 28th primary. [...] ‘If you compare what he says against the record, it is clear my opponent is blatantly distorting facts in an effort to deceive voters,’ stated Grasso. [...] ‘Keith Pekau tells unsuspecting voters that he removed all the pensions for elected officials – leaving out one important fact: he and the board kept his position pension eligible,’ Grasso contends. ‘Pekau voted in favor of keeping himself pension eligible by a 5 to 2 vote.’” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/21/22](#)]

## Tensions Between Pekau & The Village Board

**The Trustees Reportedly Had A “Rocky Relationship” With Pekau In The First Year Of His Term.**

According to the Chicago Tribune, “‘They’re not happy with who won,’ Pekau said Monday of trustees in response to the proposed changes in the mayor’s job. He and the six trustees have had a rocky relationship 11 months into Pekau’s term, and that was again on display at Monday’s Village Board meeting. Trustees voted unanimously to reject the mayor’s appointment of Ed Schussler, a former longtime village trustee who backed Pekau in last year’s election, to the position of chairman of the village’s Plan Commission. Schussler served on the Village Board for

17 years and served six months as acting mayor following the death of former Mayor Fred Owens.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/4/18]

**Pekau’s Efficacy As Mayor Was Doubted By Village Trustees Who Questioned If His Tenure “[Warrants] The Full-Time Salary,” Saying That The Mayor Was “Not Accountable To Anyone.”** According to the Chicago Tribune, “A year after Keith Pekau became Orland Park’s first full-time mayor, with expanded duties and a beefed-up salary, some village trustees are openly questioning whether he’s worth the money. An ordinance that could revert the position to part-time status and scale back how much the job pays is expected to be considered by the Village Board next month. [...] Months before the 2017 mayoral election, village trustees approved changing the mayor’s job from part time to full time, with the added duties of being Orland Park’s lead person on economic development matters and working to bring businesses to the village. Trustee Patricia Gira, who brought up the proposal at a Village Board committee meeting Monday, said she doesn’t believe Pekau has done enough as far as business attraction to warrant the full-time salary. She said the mayor is ‘not accountable to anyone’ as far as recording or otherwise accounting for his efforts in that area. [...] On Monday, Pekau said he didn’t ‘know anything’ about what had been proposed regarding the mayor’s job but that he puts in more than full-time hours and defended his record on economic development initiatives.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/4/18]

- **Pekau Claimed That Development Plans At The Orland Square Mall Were “100 Percent My Efforts” In Defense Of His Record On Economic Development.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “On Monday, Pekau said he didn’t ‘know anything’ about what had been proposed regarding the mayor’s job but that he puts in more than full-time hours and defended his record on economic development initiatives. He said a redevelopment plan for the Sears anchor store at Orland Square Mall that calls for constructing an AMC movie theater was ‘100 percent my efforts.’ Pekau said he also is involved in efforts to bring development to the Interstate 80 corridor, working with Mokena, Tinley Park and the Will County Center for Economic Development.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/4/18]

**2018: The Village Board Of Trustees Unanimously Voted To Reject Pekau’s Appointment Of Ed Schussler To The Village’s Planning Commission.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “‘They’re not happy with who won,’ Pekau said Monday of trustees in response to the proposed changes in the mayor’s job. He and the six trustees have had a rocky relationship 11 months into Pekau’s term, and that was again on display at Monday’s Village Board meeting. Trustees voted unanimously to reject the mayor’s appointment of Ed Schussler, a former longtime village trustee who backed Pekau in last year’s election, to the position of chairman of the village’s Plan Commission. Schussler served on the Village Board for 17 years and served six months as acting mayor following the death of former Mayor Fred Owens.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/4/18]

- **Schussler Was A Longtime Village Trustee Who Backed Pekau In The Mayoral Election.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “‘They’re not happy with who won,’ Pekau said Monday of trustees in response to the proposed changes in the mayor’s job. He and the six trustees have had a rocky relationship 11 months into Pekau’s term, and that was again on display at Monday’s Village Board meeting. Trustees voted unanimously to reject the mayor’s appointment of Ed Schussler, a former longtime village trustee who backed Pekau in last year’s election, to the position of chairman of the village’s Plan Commission. Schussler served on the Village Board for 17 years and served six months as acting mayor following the death of former Mayor Fred Owens.” [Chicago Tribune, 4/4/18]

**March 2021: Pekau Claimed It Was Important As Mayor To “Surround Yourself With A Team That Has Different Points Of View.”** According to Pekau in a community appearance, “This is my take. When I try and pick trustees, I want trustees that can help guide me – and provide input to me. Because I don’t have all the answers. I want to surround myself with a team that has different points of view. [...] But it’s really important, as a mayor, to surround yourself with people who can help guide you. Not that you can guide and steer and get to vote your way all the time - that’s just a recipe for failure.” [YouTube, [0:06 – 2:21](#), 3/30/21]

**Joseph La Margo Was The Village Manager Of Orland Park From 2017 To 2019.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**2019: La Margo Hired Jones Day To Investigate Irregularities In The Bidding Process Involving The Landscaping Company Formerly Owned By Pekau.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**Jones Day Said They Did Not Find Evidence Of Clear Violations With The Village’s Bidding Process But Said More Investigation Was Needed.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**An Interim Orland Park Village Manager Conducted An Internal Investigation And Additionally Found No Irregularities.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village’s bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper. Pekau complained about La Margo initiating the investigation into the bidding and the landscaping company, which Pekau had sold to a longtime employee, according to the Daily Southtown. Later, an interim Orland Park village manager conducted an internal investigation and concluded there were no irregularities.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**After La Margo Commenced The Investigation, Pekau Forced Him To Resign.** According to the Chicago Tribune, “Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making ‘disparaging’ comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to

resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village's bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper." [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**2020: Joseph La Margo Filed A Defamation Lawsuit Against Pekau And The Village Of Orland Park, Alleging That The Terms Of A Separation Agreement He Entered Into With The Village Was Violated.**

According to the Chicago Tribune, "The Niles Village Board on July 27 was expected to confirm Mayor George Alpogianis' appointment of Joseph S. La Margo as the village's top administrator overseeing day-to-day operations. [...] Previously, La Margo worked for the village of Orland Park from 2006 to 2019, serving as deputy clerk and then assistant village manager before being appointed village manager in 2017. La Margo resigned from the position in 2019, saying he was asked to do so by Mayor Keith Pekau, who was elected to office two years earlier. Last year, La Margo filed a defamation lawsuit against Pekau and the village of Orland Park, alleging that terms of the separation agreement he entered into with the village —specifically a section that prohibits the mayor and board from making 'disparaging' comments about him — were violated. The lawsuit alleges Pekau forced La Margo to resign several months after La Margo initiated an investigation into allegations of bidding irregularities involving a landscaping company formerly owned by Pekau. La Margo hired an independent investigator, the Jones Day law firm, and its investigators said they did not find evidence of clear violations with the village's bidding process, but said more investigation was needed, according to the Daily Southtown newspaper." [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**Pekau Allegedly Made False Statements About La Margo During A May 2019 Press Conference And In A Blog Post.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "According to the lawsuit, Pekau made false and 'disparaging statements' about La Margo during a May 2019 press conference and in a blog post. The statements included untrue claims that La Margo leaked information about the bidding investigation, conducted it for political reasons, and engaged in misconduct, the lawsuit says. La Margo this week declined to comment on the lawsuit, saying it is ongoing. He did say that Orland Park is a 'great community' and believes 'a lot of good things' were accomplished there during his time with the village." [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

- **The Statements Included Claims That La Margo Leaked Information About The Bidding Investigation, Conducted It For Political Reasons, And Engaged In Misconduct.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "According to the lawsuit, Pekau made false and 'disparaging statements' about La Margo during a May 2019 press conference and in a blog post. The statements included untrue claims that La Margo leaked information about the bidding investigation, conducted it for political reasons, and engaged in misconduct, the lawsuit says. La Margo this week declined to comment on the lawsuit, saying it is ongoing. He did say that Orland Park is a 'great community' and believes 'a lot of good things' were accomplished there during his time with the village." [Chicago Tribune, 7/27/21]

**The Internal Review Of The Case Was Conducted By Joseph Mitchell, Orland Park's Interim Assistant Village Manager.** According to Patch Orland Park, "A second review of the cases, this one opened in response to the Jones Day report, concurred with the findings that no laws were broken. It was conducted by Joseph Mitchell, Orland's interim assistant village manager. He said he found that Pekau had no conflicts of interest with the village and that he, too, recommended strengthening the village's ethics and purchasing policies. The two reports were made public in a news conference Wednesday afternoon with Pekau and acting village manager Tom Dubelbeis, who said they wanted to bring the reports 'to light.'" [Patch Orland Park, 5/29/19]

**Mitchell Said No Laws Were Broken And That Pekau Had No Conflicts Of Interest With The Village.**

According to Patch Orland Park, "A second review of the cases, this one opened in response to the Jones Day report, concurred with the findings that no laws were broken. It was conducted by Joseph Mitchell, Orland's interim assistant village manager. He said he found that Pekau had no conflicts of interest with the village and that he, too, recommended strengthening the village's ethics and purchasing policies. The two reports were made public in a news conference Wednesday afternoon with Pekau and acting village manager Tom Dubelbeis, who said they wanted to bring the reports 'to light.'" [Patch Orland Park, 5/29/19]

**Pekau Denied The Allegations Made In The Report And Called The Jones Day Report “A Purely Political Attack” Orchestrated By La Margo.** According to Patch Orland Park, “At the conference, Pekau denied the allegations made against him and his former business, calling the Jones Day report ‘a purely political attack’ orchestrated by La Margo. ‘This investigation was unethical, potentially illegal and according to the trustees, solely approved by Joe LaMargo, an unelected village employee who does not have such authority,’ he said. Pekau said the investigation was held ‘in secret’ and that no trustees knew about it. He accused La Margo of spending unauthorized money on the review, adding that the \$46,000 Jones Day billed is a waste of taxpayer money. ‘Anyone with reasonable judgement would have recognized in minutes that these allegations were unfounded but they were investigated because this was political,’ Pekau said.” [Patch Orland Park, 5/29/19]

**Village Officials Said That The Bidding Scandals Tarnished Orland Park’s Reputation And Drained The Pool Of Candidates For The Village Manager Position.** According to Patch Orland Park, “Recent bidding scandals appear to have tarnished Orland’s reputation and are draining the candidate pool for a new village manager, officials said. And judging by actions of the village’s trustees and attorney Monday night, they don’t appear to be going away soon. [...] The issues appear to have stalled the recruiting of a new village manager. One trustee called for a thorough review of the village’s entire bidding process. And the controversial release of executive-session meeting minutes was stalled Monday after Pekau promised to distribute them.” [Patch Orland Park, 6/17/19]

**Interim Village Manager Tom Dubelbeis: “Some Of The Headlines The Village Has Made Over The Past Few Months Have Not Been Conducive For Highly Qualified Candidates.”** According to Patch Orland Park, “Interim Village Manager Tom Dubelbeis told the board at the regularly scheduled meeting Monday that the hiring of his replacement had been delayed for weeks because the village had not received enough resumes. Trustee Jim Dodge asked why. ‘I think some of the headlines the village has made over the past few months have not been conducive for highly qualified candidates for the Village of Orland Park,’ he said. Dubelbeis was referring to stories local media reported about the village’s bidding irregularities. Candidates for the top-staff job often shy away from municipalities beset by controversial investigations, highly politicized issues or other evidence of brewing problems.” [Patch Orland Park, 6/17/19]

**Patch Orland Park Reported That Pekau Made Several False Claims About The Investigation, Including Claims That The Investigation Was Done In Secret, Was Unethical, And Was Potentially Illegal.** According to Patch Orland Park, “Pekau made the following claims in email, a news conference and a public meeting. They are copied verbatim. Patch linked to source documentation where available. [...] Claim: We are also aware that the investigation was done in secret. The investigation was not done in secret. According to the reports, email records and interviews, the people who were told about the investigation include: La Margo; attorneys James Roche, Dennis Walsh and Kenneth Friker; trustees Carole Ruzich, Patricia Gira, Michael Carroll, Jim Dodge, Kathleen Fenton and Daniel Calandriello; former Assistant Village Manager John Keating; and the seven employees interviewed as part of the investigation. As part of this, Pekau indicates that he should have been told because he was the mayor. However, ICMA, the leading association of professional city and county managers and other employees who serve local governments, disagrees. [...] Claim: This investigation was unethical, potentially illegal and according to the Trustees, solely approved by Joe LaMargo, an Unelected Village Employee who does not have such authority. According to a spokeswoman from the Illinois attorney general’s office, a village manager typically has the authority to conduct investigations. Perego, of ICMA, said village managers are ethically bound to look into allegations of wrongdoing. ‘When a manager gets a valid complaint by a whistleblower or staff or member of the public, and there is enough information or data to document or support the claim,’ she said, ‘then the ethical obligation is to consider the allegation valid and open whatever is an appropriate course of review.’ In addition, Trustees Dodge, Fenton and Ruzich told La Margo to proceed, and all three village attorneys who were notified about the investigation indicated it should continue.” [Patch Orland Park, 6/18/19]

## Legislative Issues

**When Asked Whether He Would Censure Paul Gosar For Posting A Video Of Him Murdering Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Pekau Said He “Has Not Looked At That Issue At All.”** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “Last

Wednesday, Rep. Adam Kinzinger, R-Ill., and Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., were the only two Republicans joining all Democrats in censuring Rep. Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., for posting a video of him murdering Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y. Asked his position on censuring Gosar, Pekau said he has ‘not looked at that issue at all’ and did not have a stand since it has ‘absolutely zero impact on my region.’” [Chicago Sun-Times, 11/22/21]

## Scott Kaspar

**March 2022: Scott Kaspar, An Orland Park Resident Running In The GOP Primary For The 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Released A Campaign Advertisement Focusing On Crime In Orland Park.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “A Republican running for Illinois’ 6th Congressional District seat is irate about allegations a competitor has made in a new campaign advertisement. Candidate Keith Pekau, who’s also Orland Park’s mayor, said he’s ‘appalled’ by GOP rival Scott Kaspar’s brief commercial, which focuses on crime in the Southwest suburb. Kaspar lives in Orland Park, too. In the 38-second video released Monday, a narrator alleges crime is ‘out of control’ in the village as a photo of an Orland Park police vehicle, a succession of news headlines and crime-related social media posts zip by.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 3/26/22]

**Pekau Said He Was “Appalled” By The Advertisement And Defended The Work Of The Orland Park Police Department.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “A Republican running for Illinois’ 6th Congressional District seat is irate about allegations a competitor has made in a new campaign advertisement. Candidate Keith Pekau, who’s also Orland Park’s mayor, said he’s ‘appalled’ by GOP rival Scott Kaspar’s brief commercial, which focuses on crime in the Southwest suburb. [...] Pekau, Orland Park’s mayor since 2017, insisted crimes involving people or property in town are at a 27-year low, and his campaign provided departmental data supporting that claim. Pekau defended the work of the department and outgoing Chief Joseph Mitchell, who is taking a job in a different community. ‘I will not stand for attacks on our police department,’ Pekau said in an emailed statement. ‘Attacking our police department’s performance and our (chief’s) integrity for personal and political gain is as distasteful as it is unacceptable.’” [Chicago Daily Herald, 3/26/22]

- **Pekau: “I Will Not Stand For Attacks On Our Police Department.”** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “A Republican running for Illinois’ 6th Congressional District seat is irate about allegations a competitor has made in a new campaign advertisement. Candidate Keith Pekau, who’s also Orland Park’s mayor, said he’s ‘appalled’ by GOP rival Scott Kaspar’s brief commercial, which focuses on crime in the Southwest suburb. [...] Pekau, Orland Park’s mayor since 2017, insisted crimes involving people or property in town are at a 27-year low, and his campaign provided departmental data supporting that claim. Pekau defended the work of the department and outgoing Chief Joseph Mitchell, who is taking a job in a different community. ‘I will not stand for attacks on our police department,’ Pekau said in an emailed statement. ‘Attacking our police department’s performance and our (chief’s) integrity for personal and political gain is as distasteful as it is unacceptable.’” [Chicago Daily Herald, 3/26/22]

**April 2022: The Orland Park Trustees Voted To Remove Kaspar From The Village’s Ethics Commission And Police Pension Fund Board Claiming He Disparaged The Village And The Police Department.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “Trustees on Monday voted to recommend Pekau remove Kaspar from the panels. Kaspar’s terms with both groups had been set to expire in June. On Tuesday, Kaspar revealed he resigned from the pension fund board the night before in an email to the group’s chairman. He wouldn’t provide a copy of the email. In an email to Village Manager George Koczwara, Orland Park Trustee Cynthia Nelson Katsenes said Kaspar should be removed from both groups because he ‘publicly attacked and disparaged’ the village and police department.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 4/6/22]

**Kaspar Claimed The Removal Was Retaliation And That Pekau Abused His Position As Mayor To Target His Political Opponents.** According to the Beacon-News, “Orland Park trustees want to remove a political opponent of Mayor Keith Pekau from the village’s Ethics Commission and Police Pension Fund Board for what they say are attacks that disparaged the village and particularly the Police Department. Formal action on removing Scott Kaspar from the two appointed positions is expected to come at the April 18 Village Board meeting. Kaspar is one of six people vying for the Republican nomination in the new 6th Congressional District. Pekau is also a

candidate in the June 28 primary and abstained from the discussion and preliminary vote at Monday's committee of the whole meeting. Kaspar on Tuesday accused the mayor of 'weaponizing and abusing his position as Mayor to target political opponents.'" [Beacon-News, 4/5/22]

**Pekau Removed His Opponent, Scott Kaspar, From The Village Fund Pension Board For Allegedly Attacking The Police Department.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, "Pekau asserted falsely in claims parroted by his underlings on the village board that he wanted Kaspar removed because Kaspar allegedly attacked and criticized the Orland Park Police Department. The claim is in fact an outright lie. Kaspar has never attacked the Police Department. What Kaspar has done is warn that crime is rising throughout the Southwest Suburbs in a large part because of the failed policies of Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx. But unlike Pekau, who has thrown empty words at Foxx, Kaspar actually is doing something to fight crime, including creating a task Force headed by one of the nation's most respected crime fighters, Bernard Kerik, the former Police Chief of New York City at the time of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks." [SuburbanChicagoLand, [4/5/22](#)]

- **Kaspar Claimed That Crime Was Rising In The Southwest Suburbs And Was Endorsed By Bernard Kerik, The Former Police Chief Of New York City.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, "Pekau asserted falsely in claims parroted by his underlings on the village board that he wanted Kaspar removed because Kaspar allegedly attacked and criticized the Orland Park Police Department. The claim is in fact an outright lie. Kaspar has never attacked the Police Department. What Kaspar has done is warn that crime is rising throughout the Southwest Suburbs in a large part because of the failed policies of Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx. But unlike Pekau, who has thrown empty words at Foxx, Kaspar actually is doing something to fight crime, including creating a task Force headed by one of the nation's most respected crime fighters, Bernard Kerik, the former Police Chief of New York City at the time of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks." [SuburbanChicagoLand, [4/5/22](#)]

**April 2022: Pekau Denied Kaspar's Claim That He Was Forcibly Removed And Presented Kaspar's Resignation Letter To The Orland Park Board Of Trustees.** According to Pekau at a village board of trustees meeting, "I have a few comments to make. So, Mr. Kaspar made several statements, as did the people working for him, that he was forcibly removed from his position. To be clear, I have not removed him, and the board has not yet officially recommended for his removal either. They invited him to speak tonight. I do not see him tonight. All the board can do is recommend, and last week, they moved it to the main board meeting to have that happen, so that's all that happened. As I pointed out, Mr. Kaspar is not in attendance here. But, I want to let the board know – he did send a resignation letter dated April 8<sup>th</sup>. It was received in my office last Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup>. I received it the 14<sup>th</sup>, and clearly from that recommendation, he knew that he was not forcibly removed. So, he was still putting things out there that he knew were not true." [YouTube, [0:32 – 1:28](#), 4/19/22]

## Sean Morrison

**Pekau Was A Close Supporter Of Sean Morrison, A Cook County Commissioner.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, "The politics of the Morrison-Martin scandal surfaced when I sent a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Orland Park seeking records. The Village refused, obviously because Mayor Keith Pekau supports Morrison for the 17th Cook County District seat over the more qualified taxpayer champion, Elizabeth 'Liz' Doody Gorman. Pekau is also trying to topple Gorman as Orland Township Republican Committeewoman, backing no-experience Cindy Katsenes, another Morrison pal." [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [5/26/22](#)]

**2022: Morrison Sent A Letter To Cook County Judge John Hynes Urging Leniency For A Friend Who Was Charged With Sexually Harassing A Teenage Girl At Morrison's Home During A Pool Party.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland Blog, "Sean Morrison sent a letter to Cook County Judge John Hynes urging leniency for Anthony Martin, a senior manager at Morrison Security who was charged with sexually harassing a 14-year-old girl at Morrison's home during a pool party. The case was investigated by Orland Park police." [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [5/26/22](#)]

**Days After Morrison Filed His Letter In Support Of The Friend, Anthony Martin, Martin Again Sexually**

**Harassed Another Victim.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Martin was seeking probation rather than jail, at the time, and Morrison’s letter argued Martin was needed ‘due to the trust I have with him (Martin) and his long tenure with me.’ At the same time Morrison sent his letter to Judge Hynes that allowed Martin to travel to Colorado where he again sexually harassed, in even more vulgar terms, another victim he thought was 14, too. Martin’s prey turned out to be a Colorado police investigator. He was arrested, again, as a sexual predator, only 19 days after Morrison sent his letter to the judge.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [5/26/22](#)]

**Columnist Ray Hanania: “Morrison Cared More About Martin And Protecting His Business Rather Than Concern For The Victim.”** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “The sordid tale raises serious questions about Sean Morrison’s lack of judgement and qualifications to serve on the Cook County Board. It seemed as if Morrison cared more about Martin and protecting his business rather than concern for the victim. Morrison’s letter made no mention of the victim at all.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [5/26/22](#)]

**The Village Of Orland Park Initially Refused To Release Public Documents Related To The Morrison-Martin Scandal.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “The politics of the Morrison-Martin scandal surfaced when I sent a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Orland Park seeking records. The Village refused, obviously because Mayor Keith Pekau supports Morrison for the 17th Cook County District seat over the more qualified taxpayer champion, Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Doody Gorman. Pekau is also trying to topple Gorman as Orland Township Republican Committeewoman, backing no-experience Cindy Katsenes, another Morrison pal.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [5/26/22](#)]

**In An Appeal To The Illinois Attorney General, The Village Was Forced To Release The Documents.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “The politics of the Morrison-Martin scandal surfaced when I sent a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Orland Park seeking records. The Village refused, obviously because Mayor Keith Pekau supports Morrison for the 17th Cook County District seat over the more qualified taxpayer champion, Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Doody Gorman. Pekau is also trying to topple Gorman as Orland Township Republican Committeewoman, backing no-experience Cindy Katsenes, another Morrison pal. In an appeal to the Illinois Attorney General, Pekau was forced to release documents detailing the sordid actions of sexual predator Anthony Martin.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [5/26/22](#)]

## Village Board Meetings

**Pekau Was Criticized By The Suburban Chicagoland Blog For Using Taxpayer-Funded Village Board Meetings To Disparage His Political Enemies And Promote His Re-Election Campaign.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Last week, Pekau once again used the taxpayer funded Village Board of Trustees meeting to advance his political attacks in the hopes of undermining McLaughlin. Pekau has turned the taxpayer-funded Village Board meetings into a bully pulpit, a platform to promote his re-election campaign. [...] At the board meeting, Pekau’s bully-syndicate attacked McLaughlin’s handling of floods that slammed Orland Park back in August 1996. He also accused McLaughlin of having an interest in property on Beacon Avenue, all issues that should have been better brought up in political mailings and campaign literature.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [1/23/21](#)]

**Pekau’s Mayoral Opponent, Dan McLaughlin, Criticized Pekau For Using Village Meetings To Campaign.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Here is Dan McLaughlin’s statement on the ‘Culture of Misinformation’ in Orland Park’s Current Leadership: ‘What an incredible sadness I feel about how Mayor Pekau used time owed to Orland Park residents to campaign with a made-up scandal when he could have been providing answers on issues that matter to the community,’ McLaughlin said. In response to false accusations made by Mayor Keith Pekau and two trustees at a recent village board meeting, mayoral candidate Dan McLaughlin released the following statement: ‘I am appalled that my opponent would bring a ridiculous accusation into a village hall meeting that could have been used to address the pressing issues that Orland Park citizens are facing. Using taxpayer time and money to fling false allegations and out of context stories while threatening investigations for political advancement is disgusting and not what Orland Park residents deserve. It makes me sad to see local government used like this.’” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [1/21/21](#)]

**November 2021: Pekau Discussed Campaign Points At Village Board Meeting, Including The Claim That “Far-left Politicians Are Pushing To Defund The Police.”** According to Pekau at a village board meeting, “Instead, let’s put the focus on the root causes of the recent issues throughout Chicagoland. The Cook County State Attorney, the state legislators, our congressmen, and our governor are all to blame for policies that have put our citizens at risk. The Cook County State Attorney has refused to prosecute violent crimes time and time and time again. Far-left politicians are pushing to defund the police and support those that attack our police. The Cook County and state jails have been emptied, putting violent criminals on the street. Our borders are a sieve. It allows criminals and drugs - like fentanyl – to pour into our country. And, make no mistake, they make their way to Chicago. Springfield politicians pass laws like HB3653 that emboldens criminals, criminalizes policing, and puts our residents at risk.” [YouTube, [1:27 – 2:19](#), 11/30/21]

## Consolidating Committees

**After Pekau Was Elected, He Eliminated Independent Committees And Consolidated Them So He Could Control Them.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Ever since he was able to take over the board two years ago casting a ‘tie-breaking vote’ on the split board, Pekau has eliminated the independent committees and consolidated them so he can control everything that comes up. Nothing about him. But everything about people he hates.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [1/23/21](#)]

**The Suburban Chicagoland Blog Said That Pekau Was Curtailing Democracy By Eliminating Committees On Which He Did Not Serve.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Pekau and his board majority have decided to end the Democratic process by eliminating all of the village board committees by creating one ‘Committee of the Whole’ that will review everything. It’s intended to silence his critics and give the majority the power to ram through their interests over everyone else. What he is doing is eliminating all of the committees in which trustees could discuss issues and assert their experience and authority. Those committees would include three trustees not all six of the board’s trustees. That way, issues can be discussed and then presented to the board. [...] How does this curtail Democracy? It puts all of the power in Pekau’s hands and curtails diverse views and opinions from getting aired prior to the board meetings. The Committee system is supposed to be a part of the ‘Checks and Balance’ process that separates Democracy from Tyranny. By eliminating the committees, Pekau has anointed himself as the ‘Tyrant in Chief,’ silencing any discussions he does not like, and putting all the power in his own hands.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [11/24/19](#)]

## Transparency

**Pekau Was Criticized By Suburban Chicagoland Blogger Ray Hanania For Not Uploading Video From Contentious Village Meetings.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “In a move reminiscent of the Watergate fiasco that brought down the administration of disgraced former President Richard M. Nixon, a public audio file (as of Thursday April 9, 2020) of a meeting in which Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau viciously attacked a fellow elected official, Trustee Dan Calandriello, appeared to have been edited to delete the majority of the taped discussion. The public audio file about 18 and 1/2 minutes from the Monday April 6, 2020 “Meeting of the Whole” appeared to be edited with the majority of the file deleted from the Village of Orland Park’s website. In its place was a recycling edited audio file that played the first 50 or so seconds of the meeting in a repeated recurring loop. The same occurred for the audio file of the Village Board meeting which began afterwards at 7 pm. Instead of hearing Pekau’s ugly, personal attacks against Calandriello, listeners now hear a file that starts and repeats only with the first few seconds of each audio file.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [4/9/20](#)]

- **Suburban Chicagoland: “With The Audio File Mysteriously Corrupted, ... The Public Can’t Hear Pekau’s Ugly Rhetoric Against Calandriello.”** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “With the audio file mysteriously corrupted, both for the Committee of the Whole and for the Village Board meeting, the public can’t hear Pekau’s ugly rhetoric against Calandriello. And Pekau can continue his false assertions that my

column transcription is ‘highly fictional.’ I don’t trust the Pekau Administration. If they did edit or delete the file then it would be typical of what failed politicians do. For example, President Richard M. Nixon deleted 18 and 1/2 minutes of audio tape from the secret White House audio tape files of his conversations which implicated him in embarrassing acts against his critics. The Watergate scandal brought down Nixon’s administration.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [4/9/20](#)]

## Secretary Of State’s Office

**The Suburban Chicagoland Blog Criticized Pekau For Closing A Secretary Of State’s Satellite Office Operating In Orland Park.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Once again, Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau puts his own political interests above the interests of the residents of Orland Park in his ultimatum that forced the closure of the Secretary of State’s Satellite Office that was located in the Village Hall board meeting room which most of the time is otherwise empty and unused. Pekau has attacked everyone, and now he is attacking the Secretary of State.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/5/20](#)]

**Pekau Reportedly Issued An Ultimatum To The Secretary Of State’s Office, Which Was Using A Room In Orland Park’s Village Hall, To Pay Rent To The Village Or Vacate The Building.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Pekau claimed incredulously that Secretary of State Jesse White, one of the state’s most popular public servants, decided to close the office. But what Pekau was apparently hoping you wouldn’t know is that he forced White to close the service. The satellite office was in the Village Hall Board Room, which is otherwise empty and unused almost 90 percent of the time. Pekau issued an ultimatum to the Secretary of State, either pay the village for the unused space in the Village Hall, or leave. They left.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/5/20](#)]

- **The Room Hosting The Secretary Of State’s Office Was Otherwise Empty And Unused Most Of The Time.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Pekau claimed incredulously that Secretary of State Jesse White, one of the state’s most popular public servants, decided to close the office. But what Pekau was apparently hoping you wouldn’t know is that he forced White to close the service. The satellite office was in the Village Hall Board Room, which is otherwise empty and unused almost 90 percent of the time. Pekau issued an ultimatum to the Secretary of State, either pay the village for the unused space in the Village Hall, or leave. They left.” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/5/20](#)]

**Suburban Chicagoland: “Pekau Is Basically Saying That All Of The Popular Services Offered By The Secretary Of State At The Village Hall Were Not Worth The Exchange For The Free Space.”** According to the Suburban Chicagoland blog, “Pekau is basically saying that all of the popular services offered by the Secretary of State at the Village Hall were not worth the exchange for the free space. The Secretary of State’s Office was one of the most popular services that the Village of Orland Park ever offered to its residents. Residents could go to the Village Hall every day and renew their drivers licenses, get a vision test, change the address on their licenses, and renew license plate stickers. All in a Village Board room which was basically empty and unused most of each week. Pekau called those popular services ‘inadequate.’” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/5/20](#)]

**June 2020: Pekau Claimed That The Secretary Of State Decided To Leave Orland Park After Attempting to Relocate To A Larger Space Which Better Fit Their Needs, Adding That Village Staff Helped Facilitate The Relocation.** According to Pekau in a message to Orland Park residents, “The Secretary of State decided to leave the village hall and Orland Park entirely. [...] In December of 2019, discussions were started regarding formalizing the Secretary of State’s use of the Orland Park village hall. The village board voted 7-0 to start those discussions, when it was determined that the Secretary of State has never had a formal agreement with the village. That request included that proper insurance and indemnification be put in place to protect the taxpayers of Orland Park and that a market-based rent be paid like other tenants of the village hall. The Secretary of State staff countered that the facility available at the village hall was too small to meet the Secretary of State office’s long-term needs, and instead suggested relocation. Knowing this, and in the best interest of all parties, the village committed to allowing the office to stay at our facility until a seamless relocation could be made. Our village staff began working collaboratively with the Secretary of State staff to locate a space that would meet the short- and long-term goals of

the Secretary of State office. Village staff contacted numerous property owners and provided multiple leads. Additionally, village staff took Secretary of State staff on tours of available properties that met their prerequisite requirements. Ultimately, the Secretary of State representative chose an ideal location at the Marly Creek shopping center because it met their pre-requisite requirements.” [YouTube, [1:18-4:32](#), 6/22/20]

- **June 2020: Pekau Claimed That The Spokesperson For The Secretary Of State’s Office “Disingenuously Indicated That I Demanded The Closure Of The Facility,” Adding That He Only Learned Of The Office’s Departure After They Relocated From The Village Hall.** According to Pekau in a message to Orland Park residents, “Only upon completion of moveout, when we inquired about the new address to assist their customers in finding their new location, were we told that the Orland Park location was permanently closed. Subsequently, the spokesperson for the Secretary of State office disingenuously indicated that I demanded the closure of the facility. This demonstrated a complete lack of respect to the people of Orland Park, who for a quarter century, provided the Secretary of State office rent-free facilities. I can only assume that since the spokesperson went to several outlets in a coordinated fashion, that this was an orchestrated political attack.” [YouTube, [1:18-4:32](#), 6/22/20]
- **June 2020: Pekau Claimed That The Spokesperson For The Secretary Of State’s Office Orchestrated A Political Attack Against Him.** According to Pekau in a message to Orland Park residents, “Only upon completion of moveout, when we inquired about the new address to assist their customers in finding their new location, were we told that the Orland Park location was permanently closed. Subsequently, the spokesperson for the Secretary of State office disingenuously indicated that I demanded the closure of the facility. This demonstrated a complete lack of respect to the people of Orland Park, who for a quarter century, provided the Secretary of State office rent-free facilities. I can only assume that since the spokesperson went to several outlets in a coordinated fashion, that this was an orchestrated political attack.” [YouTube, [1:18-4:32](#), 6/22/20]

## Endorsements

**Pekau’s Handpicked Trustee Candidate, Lora Kresczmer, Had A Warrant Out For Her Arrest From A 2017 DUI Charge That Resulted In A Major Car Accident.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Many of you may have heard that Lora Kresczmer, trustee candidate, who was handpicked by Mayor Pekau and claiming to be Republican, had a warrant out for her arrest from a 2017 DUI charge that resulted in a major car accident.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [3/22/21](#)]

**Orland Park Trustee Jim Dodge On Pekau: “The People Of Orland Park Need To Understand If Keith Doesn’t Like You Or Your Idea Because It Challenges Him, He Changes The Rules To Benefit Himself. It’s Bad For The Future Of Orland Park But It Reflects His True Nature.”** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “I spoke with Trustee Dodge to get his perspective in response to the Mayor’s public attacks. Dodge has been in public office for more than 30 years elected to the Village as Clerk in 1989. He’s also a veteran who served in the Illinois Army National Guard, and as a veteran myself I respect that. Here’s what Dodge had to say in response to Pekau’s personal attacks’ ‘The people of Orland Park need to understand if Keith doesn’t like you or your idea because it challenges him, he changes the rules to benefit himself. It’s bad for the future of Orland Park but it reflects his true nature. I would also point out, I always tried to work with him. When he didn’t have the votes, we didn’t changes the rules to suppress him or his ideas. A bigger factor for his ineffectiveness is no collaboration skills,’ said Dodge, who earned a bachelor’s degree from DePaul University and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago with concentrations in finance and economics.” [SuburbanChicagoLand, [11/24/19](#)]

**Pekau Received The Endorsement Of Disgraced Former Illinois Governor And Convicted Felon Rod Blagojevich Who Tried To Sell An Illinois U.S. Senate Seat For Profit.** According to SuburbanChicagoLand, “Pekau’s slate is better recognized as the ‘Pekau-Blagojevich slate,’ named after disgraced former Illinois Governor and convicted felon Rod Blagojevich who tried to sell an Illinois U.S. Senate seat for profit. Pekau reached out to Blagojevich to get his endorsement for the controversy-plagued candidates on his Pekau Machine slate in Orland Township. It’s all intended to distract voters from what he did. Pekau’s literature misleads voters by claiming that

he 'reduced' the mayoral salary from \$150,000 a year to only \$40,000 a year. But in fact, Pekau has continued to take the \$150,000 a year salary working as a part-time mayor." [SuburbanChicagoLand, [4/2/21](#)]

**April 2022: Pekau Considered China And Russia To Be The Top Two Threats To American National Security.** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What are the top two threats to our national security? China and Russia.” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

- **April 2022: When Asked How To “Eliminate” China And Russia, Pekau Opined, “We Must Operate From A Position Of Strength. We Are The Best Country And The Greatest Force For Good In The History Of The Planet... When We Rely On Other Countries, We Are Playing Into Their Hand.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What should be done to eliminate them? ‘We must operate from a position of strength. We are the best country and the greatest force for good in the history of the planet and historically we have been able to accomplish this by acting from a position of strength. Every time we have weakened our position globally in the last 120 years, we have witnessed more worldwide unrest. Recent events have shown why it’s critical to our national security and interest to focus on being energy independent. When we rely on other countries, we are playing into their hand, leaving our residents to foot the bill for increased costs. We should be a global leader in energy production of all types so that we are an exporter rather than an importer of energy.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**June 2022: In Response To A Question About American Foreign Policy, Pekau Asserted, “There Are Three Legs To Foreign Policy — Diplomacy, Economy, And Military Force. While The US Is The Leader Of The Free World, We Should Only Involve Ourselves If Our National Interests Or... Security Is At Stake.”** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “What do you consider America’s role in world affairs? In particular, what should our role be regarding current points of tension involving Russia/Ukraine, the future of Taiwan or other threats of Chinese expansionism and the Middle East? ‘There are three legs to foreign policy — diplomacy, economy, and military force. While the US is the leader of the free world, we should only involve ourselves if our national interests or our nation’s security is at stake. I’ve served in the Air Force, including 1,500 hours of flight time, 45 combat sorties, and 150 combat hours over Southern Iraq — I know what is at stake and I know we have the strongest military in the world who will defend our national security and the safety of our allies and partners. We must be willing but reluctant to use military force and only use it when it is absolutely necessary. We’ve seen why it’s critical to our national security and interest to focus on being energy independent. When we rely on other countries, we are playing into their hand, leaving our residents to foot the bill for increased costs. We also need to hold countries accountable, especially China, when they try to push global economic policies that hurt American businesses and workers.’” [Chicago Daily Herald, 6/2/22]

**Pekau Claimed The United States Needed “To Operate From A Position Of Strength” And “A Strong Military” To Fight Against The Threat Of China And Russia, Which He Deemed As The Two Top Threats To National Security.** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “What are the top two threats to our national security? China and Russia. What should be done to eliminate them? We must operate from a position of strength. We are the best country and the greatest force for good in the history of the planet and historically we have been able to accomplish this by acting from a position of strength. Every time we have weakened our position globally in the last 120 years we have witnessed more worldwide unrest. [...] Lastly, we must have strong military in the event that our diplomatic and economic efforts need enforcement. I’ve served in the Air Force, including 1,500 hours of flight time, 45 combat sorties, and 150 combat hours over Southern Iraq—I know what is at stake and I know we have the strongest military in the world who will defend our national security and the safety of our allies and partners.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

**January 2019: In Response To A Fatal Shooting Inside Orland Square Mall, Pekau Offered His “Condolences And Good Wishes” To The Victims And Their Families.** According to the Journal Gazette and Times-Courier, “Police have identified the suspected gunman they say shot and killed an 18-year-old Richton Park man Monday inside Orland Square Mall in Orland Park. Police said that there is a manhunt underway for 19-year-old Jakharr Williams of University Park, who they said ‘should be considered armed and dangerous’ and that he has an active parole warrant. The shooting took place near the mall’s food court and the victim was identified as Javon Britten. Police described the shooting as an ‘isolated incident.’ Another person in the mall suffered a graze wound during the shooting, police said. Police said that Britten and Williams knew each other. Police responded to a 6:45 p.m. call of shots fired near the food court of the mall and Britten was found near an escalator near H&M, police said. He was taken to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, where he died. Another victim also was taken to Christ hospital. Police did not provide additional information about that victim. In a message Tuesday, Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau said he and village trustees were offering their ‘condolences and good wishes to the victims and their families’ and praised first-responders for their actions. Police said that Britten was shot several times but did not offer a motive for the shooting.” [Journal Gazette and Times-Courier, 1/22/19]

**April 2022: Pekau Maintained, “I Am Pro-Second Amendment. [...] We Have Gun Laws Currently That Place Limits On The Second Amendment But They Are Inadequately Enforced And The Focus Should Be On Criminals Not The Tools They Use.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Are there any limits to the Second Amendment? ‘I am pro-second amendment. Violent offenders should not be allowed to possess firearms, and we should work harder to take criminals who violate existing gun-laws off the streets, just as we do in Orland Park, even when Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx puts these violent criminals right back onto our streets. We have gun laws currently that place limits on the Second Amendment but they are inadequately enforced and the focus should be on criminals not the tools they use.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

- **April 2022: Pekau Asserted, “We Do Not Need More Gun Laws,” When Asked About Civilian Access To Military Style Weaponry.** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Do you support any restrictions on gun purchases or other stricter gun control measures including citizens’ access to military style weaponry? ‘We do not need more gun laws, we need to enforce the laws that currently exist. The focus should be on criminals not on the tools and/or law abiding citizens.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## Uvalde Response

**June 2022: “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau... Toes The NRA Line” On Gun Control Following The Mass Shooting At The Elementary School In Uvalde.** According to the Editorial Board of the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, toes the NRA line. Speaking about Salvador Ramos, the 18-year-old shooter in Uvalde, Pekau told us, ‘If in fact there was no history, if he was completely law-abiding, what’s going to solve that particular problem -- someone that just snapped?’” [Chicago Tribune, Editorial, 6/13/22]

**June 2022: In Response To The 18-Year-Old Uvalde Shooter Salvador Ramos, Pekau Said, “If In Fact There Was No History, If He Was Completely Law-Abiding, What’s Going To Solve That Particular Problem – Someone That Just Snapped?”** According to the Editorial Board of the Chicago Tribune, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, toes the NRA line. Speaking about Salvador Ramos, the 18-year-old shooter in Uvalde, Pekau told us, ‘If in fact there was no history, if he was completely law-abiding, what’s going to solve that particular problem -- someone that just snapped?’” [Chicago Tribune, Editorial, 6/13/22]

**June 2022: In Response To The Buffalo And Uvalde Shootings, Pekau Questioned Recent Shootings In Chicago And Blamed State Attorney Kim Foxx For “[Exacerbating] The Situation.”** According to an op-ed written by Keith Pekau for Center Square: Illinois, “I think I speak for almost everyone when I say I was shocked and horrified at the evil and horrific crimes perpetrated in both Buffalo and Uvalde the last few weeks. But how is

it, I wonder, that we can stand united against such an atrocity, yet so many politicians ignore the ongoing violence in cities like Chicago. In a tragic event the other week locally, a teenager was senselessly shot dead, and Chicago Police say it was another teenager who pulled the trigger. It's heartbreaking and gut-wrenching anytime someone takes a life, but it's somehow worse when the victim and perpetrator are both kids. The victim lost his life, but the kid who pulled the trigger lost his future. Why is violence so pervasive in the City of Chicago that even kids are taking each other's lives? It's a question I wish I could answer. While I can't tell you why every violent act occurs, I can tell you what exacerbates the situation. We have a Cook County State's Attorney who, time and again, lets hardened criminals walk free in the name of social justice. When a violent offender gets off the hook, they feel invincible. You know who also sees when Kim Foxx lets violent offenders walk free? Kids." [Center Square: Illinois, 6/16/22]

## Highland Park Shooting Response

**After Learning That The Highland Park Shooter Had Been Planning Shooting Weeks In Advance And Posting Disturbing Content, Pekau Responded, "If You See Something, Say Something."** According to a post by Keith Pekau, "If you see something, say something. Increased communication between mental health professionals, law enforcement, and community members will go a long way in reducing the likelihood of tragedies like this striking again." In the post, Pekau linked an article discussing details of the shooting, including the fact that the 22-year old shooter had been planning the shooting weeks in advance and posting disturbing content prior to the shooting. The article also states that, back in 2019, Crimo attempted suicide just months before he threatened to kill members of his own family." [Twitter, @KeithPekau, [7/12/22](#); South Cook News, [7/10/22](#)]



[Twitter, @KeithPekau, [7/12/22](#); South Cook News, [7/10/22](#)]

### Abortion

**April 2022: With Regard To Abortion Rights, Pekau Stated, “Because The US Supreme Court Provides The Prevailing Ruling On Abortions, Let’s Focus On Doing Everything We Can To Make Abortion As Rare An Occurrence As Possible.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Should pregnant women have the right to get an abortion? ‘Because the US Supreme Court provides the prevailing ruling on abortions, let’s focus on doing everything we can to make abortion as rare an occurrence as possible. I was adopted 7 years before Roe V. Wade and the most loving act of my life was a 15-year-old girl carrying me to term. The second most loving act was the adoption of two giving and loving parents who were at best lower middle class. Today, it is far too expensive and cumbersome to adopt a child. I want to work on making the process of making adoption the preferred option, make it easier and more affordable so that the average American can afford to make that choice.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**Pekau Was Adopted Before The Roe V. Wade Ruling.** According to the Shaw Local News Network, “What do candidates in the Kane County area running for election for federal office have to say about abortion? Before Politico’s report of a draft opinion that suggested the U.S. Supreme Court will overturn the 1973 case Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion nationwide, we asked all candidates running for Congress this question on abortion. Should pregnant women have the right to get an abortion? [...] Keith Pekau: ‘Because the US Supreme Court provides the prevailing ruling on abortions, let’s focus on doing everything we can to make abortion as rare an occurrence as possible. I was adopted 7 years before Roe V. Wade and the most loving act of my life was a 15-year-old girl carrying me to term. The second most loving act was the adoption of two giving and loving parents who were at best lower middle class. Today, it is far too expensive and cumbersome to adopt a child. ‘I want to work on making the process of making adoption the preferred option, make it easier and more affordable so that the average American can afford to make that choice.’” [Shaw Local News Network, 5/3/22]

- **Pekau: “The Most Loving Act Of My Life Was A 15-Year-Old Girl Carrying Me To Term.”** According to the Shaw Local News Network, “What do candidates in the Kane County area running for election for federal office have to say about abortion? Before Politico’s report of a draft opinion that suggested the U.S. Supreme Court will overturn the 1973 case Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion nationwide, we asked all candidates running for Congress this question on abortion. Should pregnant women have the right to get an abortion? [...] Keith Pekau: ‘Because the US Supreme Court provides the prevailing ruling on abortions, let’s focus on doing everything we can to make abortion as rare an occurrence as possible. I was adopted 7 years before Roe V. Wade and the most loving act of my life was a 15-year-old girl carrying me to term. The second most loving act was the adoption of two giving and loving parents who were at best lower middle class. Today, it is far too expensive and cumbersome to adopt a child. ‘I want to work on making the process of making adoption the preferred option, make it easier and more affordable so that the average American can afford to make that choice.’” [Shaw Local News Network, 5/3/22]

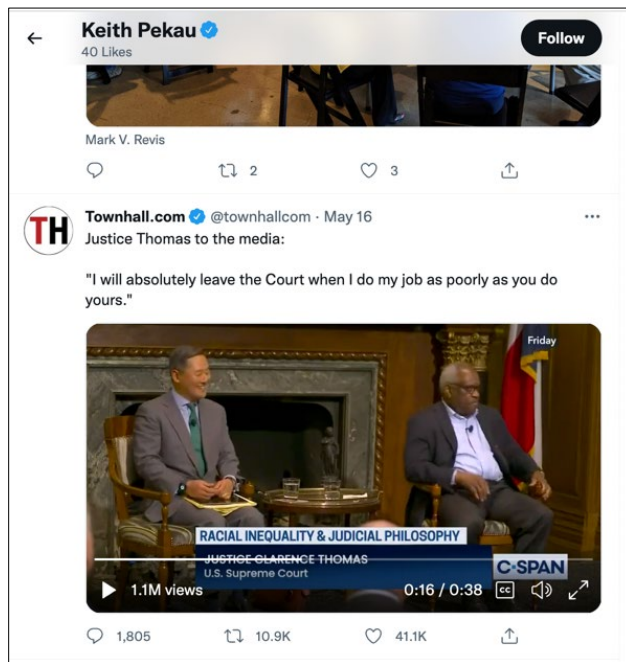
**Pekau Said He Would Work To Make Adoption The Preferred Option.** According to the Shaw Local News Network, “What do candidates in the Kane County area running for election for federal office have to say about abortion? Before Politico’s report of a draft opinion that suggested the U.S. Supreme Court will overturn the 1973 case Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion nationwide, we asked all candidates running for Congress this question on abortion. Should pregnant women have the right to get an abortion? [...] Keith Pekau: ‘Because the US Supreme Court provides the prevailing ruling on abortions, let’s focus on doing everything we can to make abortion as rare an occurrence as possible. I was adopted 7 years before Roe V. Wade and the most loving act of my life was a 15-year-old girl carrying me to term. The second most loving act was the adoption of two giving and loving parents who were at best lower middle class. Today, it is far too expensive and cumbersome to adopt a child. ‘I want to work on making the process of making adoption the preferred option, make it easier and more affordable so that the average American can afford to make that choice.’” [Shaw Local News Network, 5/3/22]

**June 27, 2022: Pekau Claimed That The Biden Administration Was “Ignoring The Supreme Court’s Ruling On Roe V. Wade And Asking The Pentagon To Provide Abortion Resources,” Calling The Supposed Action “Dangerous.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “American values are under threat. Just a couple of days ago, we learned that the president is deliberately ignoring the Supreme Court’s ruling on Roe v. Wade and asking the Pentagon to provide abortion resources to states outlawing abortion. This is dangerous, and it won’t stop unless we elect leaders who can win when it matters. I have shown during my first term as Orland Park mayor that I’m someone who gets stuff done for you, and I’m running for Congress to show the rest of the country the leadership it deserves.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/27/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/27/22](#)]

**Pekau Liked Video Post Of Justice Clarence Thomas Saying To The Media, “I Will Absolutely Leave The Court When I Do My Job As Poorly As You Do Yours.”** According to one of Keith Pekau’s liked post from Townhall.com, “Justice Thomas to the media: “I Will Absolutely Leave The Court When I Do My Job As Poorly As You Do Yours.” [Twitter, @townhallcom, [5/16/22](#)]



[Twitter, @townhallcom, [5/16/22](#)]

**Pekau Liked A Post From RNC National Committee Member, Tyler Bowyer, Which States, “I’m Pro-Life Because I’ve Decidedly Liked Living And Probably Everyone Conceived Should Too.”** According to one of Keith Pekau’s liked Tweets From Tyler Bowyer, “I’m pro-life because I’ve decidedly liked living and probably everyone conceived should too.” [Twitter, @tylerbowyer, [1/23/22](#)]



[Twitter, @tylerbowyer, [1/23/22](#)]

## Financial Reform

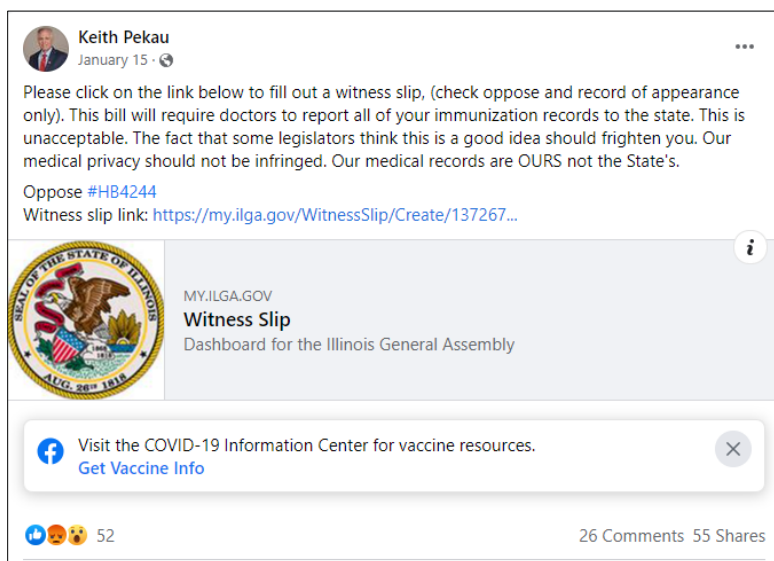
**June 2022: On Health Care Reform, Pekau Said, “We Need Increased Price Transparency In Our Healthcare System Because Costs Are Unacceptably High In The US.”** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “Please define your position on health care reform, especially as it relates to the Affordable Care Act. ‘We need increased price transparency in our healthcare system because costs are unacceptably high in the US. Equipping Americans with this knowledge and empowering them to make smart decisions that reward them for choosing high quality but more affordable care options is a common-sense way to drive down health care costs through the free

market. We also must ensure our veterans have access to the highest quality healthcare. Far too often our veterans are left behind when they are the ones we should be supporting the most.” [Chicago Daily Herald, 6/2/22]

**When Explicitly Asked By The Chicago Daily Herald About His Stance On The Affordable Care Act, Pekau Did Not Respond To The Question.** According to the Chicago Daily Herald, “Please define your position on health care reform, especially as it relates to the Affordable Care Act. ‘We need increased price transparency in our healthcare system because costs are unacceptably high in the US. Equipping Americans with this knowledge and empowering them to make smart decisions that reward them for choosing high quality but more affordable care options is a common-sense way to drive down health care costs through the free market. We also must ensure our veterans have access to the highest quality healthcare. Far too often our veterans are left behind when they are the ones we should be supporting the most.’” [Chicago Daily Herald, 6/2/22]

## Vaccines

**January 2022: Pekau Urged His Followers To Oppose House Bill 4244, A Bill That Pekau Claimed Would “Require Doctors To Report All Of Your Immunization Records To The State.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “Please click on the link below to fill out a witness slip, (check oppose and record of appearance only). This bill will require doctors to report all of your immunization records to the state. This is unacceptable. The fact that some legislators think this is a good idea should frighten you. Our medical privacy should not be infringed. Our medical records are OURS not the State's. Oppose #HB4244.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [1/15/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [1/15/22](#)]

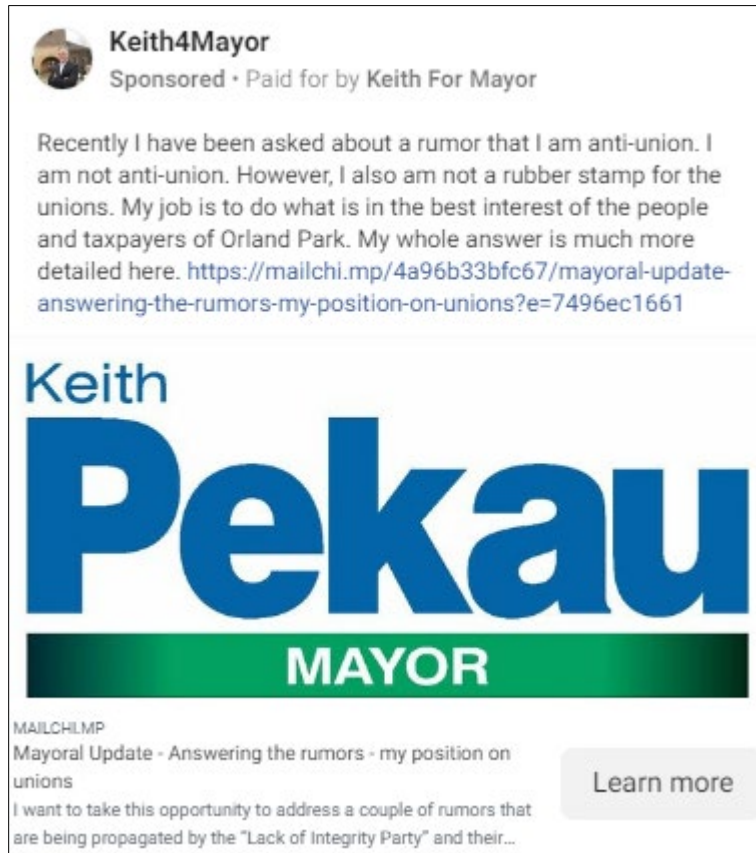
**April 2022: Pekau Asserted, “Before Addressing Any Changes In Our Immigration System, We Must Control Our Borders. [...] If And Only If This Is Addressed, We Can Then Start... Going Forward To Ensure That Those Who We Allow Into The Country Are A Benefit To America And Its People.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Is the immigration system a problem in this country? If so, what is your plan to fix it? ‘As a proud American, we need to start by agreeing that we can’t fault anyone for wanting to live in the best country on earth. However, it is simply irresponsible and impossible for us to not follow our immigration laws. Most importantly, our immigration system should prioritize those immigrants who provide benefits to America rather than vice versa. Additionally, immigrants must go through the process legally, and we should not incentivize illegal immigration. Right now, it’s easier to come into our country illegally than legally. Before addressing any changes in our immigration system, we must control our borders. This includes our physical borders, but also it means identifying and stopping people who over stay their visas. If and only if this is addressed, we can then start tackling the issues of those who are already in the country illegally and make changes to our immigration system going forward to ensure that those who we allow into the country are a benefit to America and its people.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**When Asked About Immigration, Pekau Emphasized Prioritizing “Immigrants Who Provide Benefits To America Rather Than Vice Versa.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “Is the immigration system a problem in this country? If so, what is your plan to fix it? As a proud American, we need to start by agreeing that we can’t fault anyone for wanting to live in the best country on earth. However, it is simply irresponsible and impossible for us to not follow our immigration laws. Most importantly, our immigration system should prioritize those immigrants who provide benefits to America rather than vice versa. Additionally, immigrants must go through the process legally, and we should not incentivize illegal immigration. Right now, it’s easier to come into our country illegally than legally. Before addressing any changes in our immigration system, we must control our borders. This includes our physical borders, but also it means identifying and stopping people who overstay their visas. If and only if this is addressed, we can then start tackling the issues of those who are already in the country illegally and make changes to our immigration system going forward to ensure that those who we allow into the country are a benefit to America and its people.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

- **Pekau: “Right Now, It’s Easier To Come Into Our Country Illegally Than Legally.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “Is the immigration system a problem in this country? If so, what is your plan to fix it? As a proud American, we need to start by agreeing that we can’t fault anyone for wanting to live in the best country on earth. However, it is simply irresponsible and impossible for us to not follow our immigration laws. Most importantly, our immigration system should prioritize those immigrants who provide benefits to America rather than vice versa. Additionally, immigrants must go through the process legally, and we should not incentivize illegal immigration. Right now, it’s easier to come into our country illegally than legally. Before addressing any changes in our immigration system, we must control our borders. This includes our physical borders, but also it means identifying and stopping people who overstay their visas. If and only if this is addressed, we can then start tackling the issues of those who are already in the country illegally and make changes to our immigration system going forward to ensure that those who we allow into the country are a benefit to America and its people.” [Shaw Local News Network, [4/30/22](#)]

## Labor

**Pekau Posted In A Campaign Ad That He Was Not Anti-Union, But He Was “Not A Rubber Stamp For The Unions.”** Reported, “Recently I have been asked about a rumor that I am anti-union. I am not anti-union. However, I also am not a rubber stamp for the unions. My job is to do what is in the best interest of the people and taxpayers of Orland Park. My whole answer is much more detailed here. <https://mailchi.mp/4a96b33bfc67/mayoral-update-answering-the-rumors-my-position-on-unions?e=7496ec1661>” [Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [3/14/19](#)]



The image is a screenshot of a Facebook advertisement. At the top left, there is a profile picture of Keith Pekau and the name "Keith4Mayor". Below the name, it says "Sponsored · Paid for by Keith For Mayor". The main text of the ad reads: "Recently I have been asked about a rumor that I am anti-union. I am not anti-union. However, I also am not a rubber stamp for the unions. My job is to do what is in the best interest of the people and taxpayers of Orland Park. My whole answer is much more detailed here. <https://mailchi.mp/4a96b33bfc67/mayoral-update-answering-the-rumors-my-position-on-unions?e=7496ec1661>". Below the text is a large graphic with "Keith" in blue, "Pekau" in a very large blue font, and "MAYOR" in white text on a green rectangular background. At the bottom left, it says "MAILCHIMP" and "Mayoral Update - Answering the rumors - my position on unions". Below that, it says "I want to take this opportunity to address a couple of rumors that are being propagated by the 'Lack of Integrity Party' and their...". On the bottom right, there is a button that says "Learn more".

[Facebook, Keith Pekau Ad, [3/14/19](#)]

## Marjuana

**October 2019: In A Unanimous Vote Alongside Board Members, Pekau Voted Against The Sale Of Recreational Marijuana In The Village.** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “The vote was passed Monday, citing ‘the importance of sustaining Orland Park’s family values and public safety.’ The Orland Park Village Board voted unanimously Monday to ban the sale of recreational marijuana within the southwest suburb’s village limits.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 10/12/19]

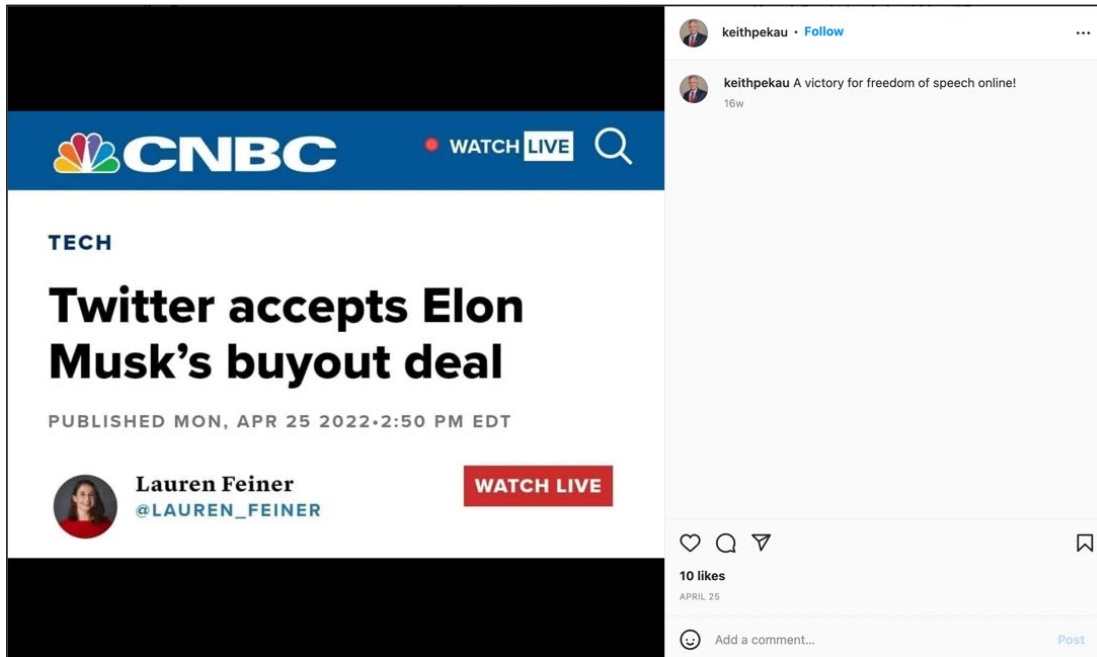
**Pekau Opposed Legalizing Marijuana, Saying, “We Don’t Need Another Mind Altering Drug.”** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “The vote was passed Monday, citing ‘the importance of sustaining Orland Park’s family values and public safety. The Orland Park Village Board voted unanimously Monday to ban the sale of recreational marijuana within the southwest suburb’s village limits. The vote was passed in anticipation of the impending statewide legalization of weed in 2020, citing ‘the importance of sustaining Orland Park’s family values and public safety,’ according to a release from the Village of Orland Park. ‘I’m against legalizing it (marijuana) and always have been. Drug use has and continues to damage our society. In my opinion we don’t need another mind altering drug,’ stated Mayor Keith Pekau.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 10/12/19]

**Pekau: “I Don’t See Any Benefits To Legalizing Recreational Marijuana.”** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “The Orland Park Village Board voted unanimously Monday to ban the sale of recreational marijuana within the southwest suburb’s village limits. The vote was passed in anticipation of the impending statewide legalization of weed in 2020, citing ‘the importance of sustaining Orland Park’s family values and public safety,’ according to a release from the Village of Orland Park. ‘I’m against legalizing it (marijuana) and always have been. Drug use has and continues to damage our society. In my opinion we don’t need another mind altering drug,’ stated Mayor Keith Pekau. [...] ‘I don’t see any benefits to legalizing recreational marijuana. Tax money is always less than expected and the social costs will be higher than the revenue generated,’ Pekau said. Pekau said he is open to revisiting the issue, but would be unlikely to change his opinion.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 10/12/19]

**April 2022: Pekau Opposed Marijuana Legalization, Insisting That “The Last Thing We Need Is To Legalize Another Recreational Drug Which Leads To Other Societal Problems.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Illinois, along with many states across the country, have legalized marijuana making it legal for people to buy and use it. Marijuana, however, is still illegal at the federal level. Do you support legalizing marijuana nationally? Why or why not? ‘No. The last thing we need is to legalize another recreational drug which leads to other societal problems. In my opinion, it was wrong for the State of Illinois to do so.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## Science & Technology

**Pekau Called Elon Musk’s Buyout Of Twitter “A Victory For Freedom Of Speech Online!”** According to an Instagram post by Keith Pekau, “A victory for freedom of speech online!” Pekau shared an image of a headline stating that Twitter accepted Elon Musk’s buyout deal. [Instagram, @keithpekau, [4/25/22](#)]



[Instagram, @keithpekau, [4/25/22](#)]

## General Taxes

**April 2022: When Asked If He Believed If Corporations Pay Enough In Taxes, Pekau Responded With, “We All Pay Enough Taxes.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Do you believe that corporations pay enough in taxes? ‘We all pay enough taxes.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

- **April 2022: Pekau Said, “We Need To Lower Taxes On All Americans, And That Includes Our Over-Taxed Businesses.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Would you support increases or decreases in the amount of taxes corporations pay? Why? ‘We need to lower taxes on all Americans, and that includes our over- taxed businesses.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]
- **April 2022: Pekau Said, “I Believe We All Pay Enough Taxes. Federal Revenues Are 71% Higher Today Than In 2010. Washington Has A Spending Problem, Not A Revenue Problem.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Do the rich, defined as the wealthiest 1%, pay enough in taxes? ‘Again, I believe we all pay enough taxes. Federal revenues are 71% higher today than in 2010. Washington has a spending problem, not a revenue problem.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**April 2022: Pekau Said, “I Do Not Support Raising Any Taxes. Increasing These Taxes Reduces Economic Activity And Reduces The Amount Of Revenue The Federal Government Receives.”** According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “Do you support raising taxes on capital gains and dividends? Why? ‘No, I do not support raising any taxes. Increasing these taxes reduces economic activity and reduces the amount of revenue the federal government receives. Additionally, if we increase taxes on capital gains and dividends, we hurt everyone who has a retirement account or is trying to invest their hard-earned money to keep up with the added cost of inflation. We must lower taxes for hard-working Americans.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

**Pekau Wrote On Facebook, “History Has Shown That Reducing Taxes Opens Up The Economy And Increases Revenues For Governments.”** According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “History has shown that reducing taxes opens up the economy and increases revenues for governments. Working families should keep more of their hard-earned money, especially with inflation shrinking paychecks.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/7/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [6/7/22](#)]

**When Asked If He Supported Raising Taxes On Capital Gains And Dividends, Pekau Responded, “No, I Do Not Support Raising Any Taxes.”** The Shaw Local News Network reported, “Do you support raising taxes on capital gains and dividends? Why? No, I do not support raising any taxes. Increasing these taxes reduces economic activity and reduces the amount of revenue the federal government receives. Additionally, if we increase taxes on capital gains and dividends, we hurt everyone who has a retirement account or is trying to invest their hard-earned money to keep up with the added cost of inflation. We must lower taxes for hard-working Americans.” [Shaw Local News Network, 4/30/22]

## Income Tax

**September 2019: Pekau Held A Town Hall On The State’s Proposal To Switch To A Graduated Income-Tax System From A Flat Rate.** According to the Capitol Fax blog, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau found a supportive audience Tuesday during a town hall on the state’s proposal to switch to a graduated income-tax system from a flat rate on everyone. ‘The state of Illinois has a spending problem, not a revenue problem,’ Pekau told an audience of more than 50 community members during the forum at the Orland Park Civic Center. The state promised to return 10% of income-tax revenues to municipalities through the Local Government Distributive Fund, Pekau said. But the state only shares 5.757% of individual income tax collections and 6.5% of corporate income tax collections through the LGDF, according to a fact sheet by the Illinois Municipal League. So, Mayor Pekau first complains about too much state spending, then complains that the state doesn’t spend enough on local governments. Thanks. Drive through.” [Capitol Fax, Blog, 9/18/19]

- **Pekau Said, “The State Of Illinois Has A Spending Problem, Not A Revenue Problem.”** According to the Capitol Fax Blog, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau found a supportive audience Tuesday during a town hall on the state’s proposal to switch to a graduated income-tax system from a flat rate on everyone. ‘The state of Illinois has a spending problem, not a revenue problem,’ Pekau told an audience of more than 50 community members during the forum at the Orland Park Civic Center. The state promised to return 10% of income-tax revenues to municipalities through the Local Government Distributive Fund, Pekau said. But the state only shares 5.757% of individual income tax collections and 6.5% of corporate income tax collections through the LGDF, according to a fact sheet by the Illinois Municipal League. So, Mayor Pekau first complains about too much state spending, then complains that the state doesn’t spend enough on local governments.” [Capitol Fax, Blog, 9/18/19]

**The Capitol Fax Blog Criticized Pekau For Complaining About Too Much State Spending While Simultaneously Claiming That The State Didn’t Spend Enough On Local Government.** According to the Capitol Fax blog, “Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau found a supportive audience Tuesday during a town hall on the state’s proposal to switch to a graduated income-tax system from a flat rate on everyone. ‘The state of Illinois has a spending problem, not a revenue problem,’ Pekau told an audience of more than 50 community members during the forum at the Orland Park Civic Center. The state promised to return 10% of income-tax revenues to municipalities through the Local Government Distributive Fund, Pekau said. But the state only shares 5.757% of individual income tax collections and 6.5% of corporate income tax collections through the LGDF, according to a fact sheet by the Illinois Municipal League. So, Mayor Pekau first complains about too much state spending, then complains that the state doesn’t spend enough on local governments. Thanks. Drive through.” [Capitol Fax, Blog, 9/18/19]

## Property Tax

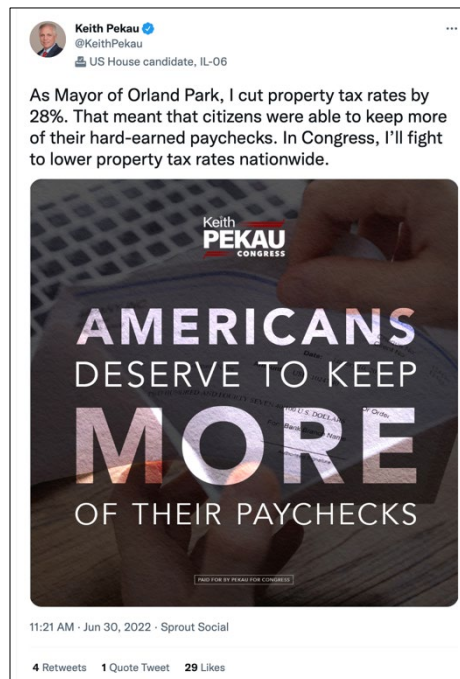
**May 2017: Pekau Joined Governor Rauner To Urge The General Assembly To Pass Property Tax Relief.** According to the Capitol Fax Blog, “Governor Rauner and Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau joined homeowners Ken and Andi Borucke to urge the General Assembly to pass true, lasting property tax relief. ‘Illinois home and business owners pay the highest property taxes in the nation. The median average for property taxes in Illinois is \$3,995 compared to \$1,085 average property taxes in Indiana,’ said Governor Rauner. ‘We can’t just keep sticking it to the taxpayers without any real property tax relief.’ Under the governor’s proposal, property taxes would remain frozen unless voters chose to raise them through a referendum. ‘In Orland Park, we remain committed to keeping your taxes as low as possible while still maintaining the quality of services you expect and deserve,’ said Mayor Keith Pekau. ‘I am glad the Governor is pushing for property tax relief to help our residents.’” [Capitol Fax, Blog, 5/26/17]

**May 2017: Pekau Supported Governor Bruce Rauner In “[Freezing] Property Taxes At Current Rates Unless Residents Vote To Raise Them” When “Officials Representing More Than 150 Cities And Villages” Released A Piece In Opposition.** According to the Associated Press State & Local, “A suburban Chicago mayor is joining Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner in calling for a permanent freeze on property taxes. Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau (PEE’-cow) says he is committed to keeping property taxes low while maintaining services. The recently elected mayor met with Rauner on Friday to urge state lawmakers to support the governor’s push to freeze property taxes at current rates unless residents vote to raise them. But other suburban Chicago mayors have firmly opposed the plan. Officials representing more than 150 cities and villages released an opinion piece in April saying a freeze would hurt local governments while doing nothing to address the state’s budget problems.” [Associated Press State & Local, 5/29/17]

**The Suburban Chicagoland Blog Reported That Pekau’s Claim That He Lowered Property Taxes By 30 Percent Was Disingenuous, As The City Only Controlled A Small Portion Of Property Taxes.** According to the Suburban Chicagoland Blog, “Grasso’s campaign also takes issue with Pekau’s claims he lowered property taxes by 28% in Orland Park. Like many municipalities, schools account for the largest portion of property taxes upwards of 70% with the remaining taxes levied for county, pensions, and other taxing bodies. Property taxes in

villages like Orland Park are traditionally 5% to 6% of a total tax bill. Pekau has once again claimed in mailers, emails, videos, and speeches that he lowered property taxes by as much as 30% which is false. In fact, he increased the tax levy (the amount of money the village wants from taxes), and Orland is taking in more money today than when he began as mayor therefore increasing property taxes since he took office. ‘It is disingenuous to tell voters district-wide that you lowered property taxes in Orland Park by nearly 30% when you only control 5% – 6% of a total property tax bill,’ explained Grasso. ‘It seems to establish a pattern of false claims misleading voters at a time when trust in our government is at an all-time low. Look, the residents of the 6th district deserve honest representation in Congress and that is what they will get from me.’” [Suburban Chicagoland, Blog, [6/21/22](#)]

**Pekau Claimed That He Cut Property Tax Rates By 28% As Mayor Of Orland Park.** According to a Twitter post by Keith Pekau, “As Mayor of Orland Park, I cut property tax rates by 28%. That meant that citizens were able to keep more of their hard-earned paychecks. In Congress, I’ll fight to lower property tax rates nationwide.” [Twitter, [@KeithPekau](#), [6/30/22](#)]



[Twitter, [@KeithPekau](#), [6/30/22](#)]

## Child Tax Credit

**April 2022: Regarding The Child Tax Credit In The American Rescue Plan, Pekau Said, “We Need To Make The Child Tax Credit Work For Working Families And The Economy Again. [...] Democrats... Turned Bipartisan Tax Relief For Working Families Into A Government Handout For Those Unwilling To Work.”**

According to Pekau in an election questionnaire for the Herald News, “What is your position re-establishing the Child Tax Credit at \$3,500 per child as set in the American Rescue Plan? ‘We need to make the Child Tax Credit work for working families and the economy again. The adjustments Democrats made further exacerbated the job shortage for businesses as it eliminated the long-standing requirement for earnings, which turned bipartisan tax relief for working families into a government handout for those unwilling to work. This ends up hurting the people who need help most because it ends up costing jobs which results in higher prices and further inflation. In just one term as Mayor of Orland Park, I cut operating expenses by 14%, paid down over \$50 million in debt, and lowered property tax rates by 30%, all while more than doubling investments in the village’s infrastructure. This is the fiscally responsible leadership I will bring to Congress which helps create jobs and lower taxes for the middle-class and working families.’” [The Herald News, 4/30/22]

## IRS

**August 2022: Pekau Alleged That Casten Called The Hiring Of 87,000 New IRS Agents “Funding The Police,” Adding That The New IRS Agents Would Be Coming After Law Abiding Citizens, Small Businesses, And Taxpayers.** According to Pekau in a Newsmax appearance that he posted to his Twitter, “My opponent goes one step further, and he says this is funding the police – hiring 87,000 IRS agents. And they’ve repeatedly ignored the border. This is not 87,000 to enforce the border, this is not money for 87,000 police officers in our cities that are being overrun. This is 87,000 federal IRS agents my opponent says is increasing the police to go after small businesses and taxpayers. Make no mistake, that is who they are coming after. So, they’re coming after law abiding citizens and ignoring crime. This is what the democrats are running on, this is what Biden’s running on, and this is what my opponent is running on in the Congressional race.” [Twitter, [0:32 – 1:17](#), 8/15/22]

## SALT Deduction

**Pekau Claimed Casten Sold Out Taxpayers In Favor Of Subsidies For Green Energy By Not Restoring The SALT Deduction In The IRA.** According to a press release from the Keith Pekau For Congress campaign, “In the past, Sean Casten promised he would make sure the state and local tax (SALT) deduction was here to stay. Unfortunately for Illinois taxpayers, when push came to shove, Sean Casten sold them out in favor of subsidies for green energy. Not only does the Democrats’ new reckless spending spree not restore the SALT deduction, but it will fuel inflation, raise taxes, and increase IRS funding by \$80 billion so the agency can hire 87,000 new IRS agents to harass middle-class taxpayers. Keith Pekau, the GOP nominee for Congress in IL-06, responded saying, ‘This is yet another example of Sean Casten selling out his constituents to line his own pockets and help out his political allies. Casten’s ‘green’ company has received millions in federal subsidies over the years. The insultingly-titled ‘anti-inflation’ bill guarantees they will continue to line their own pockets with those taxpayer-funded subsidies. [...] And Sean Casten voted away one of their major deductions – a deduction he PROMISED to protect.’” [Keith Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [8/8/22](#)]

- **Pekau: “This Is Yet Another Example Of Sean Casten Selling Out His Constituents To Line His Own Pockets And Help Out His Political Allies.”** According to a press release from the Keith Pekau For Congress campaign, “In the past, Sean Casten promised he would make sure the state and local tax (SALT) deduction was here to stay. Unfortunately for Illinois taxpayers, when push came to shove, Sean Casten sold them out in favor of subsidies for green energy. Not only does the Democrats’ new reckless spending spree not restore the SALT deduction, but it will fuel inflation, raise taxes, and increase IRS funding by \$80 billion so the agency can hire 87,000 new IRS agents to harass middle-class taxpayers. Keith Pekau, the GOP nominee for Congress in IL-06, responded saying, ‘This is yet another example of Sean Casten selling out his constituents to line his own pockets and help out his political allies. Casten’s ‘green’ company has received millions in federal subsidies over the years. The insultingly-titled ‘anti-inflation’ bill guarantees they will continue to line their own pockets with those taxpayer-funded subsidies. [...] And Sean Casten voted away one of their major deductions – a deduction he PROMISED to protect.’” [Keith Pekau For Congress, Press Release, [8/8/22](#)]

**Pekau Alleged That Casten Put His Family And Business Over His Constituents By Not Protecting SALT Deductions, Adding, “As Mayor, I Put People Over Politics To Reduce Spending, Reduce Taxes And Improve Accountability.”** According to a Tweet by Keith Pekau, “Seems like Casten is for your family and business right up until they get in the way of big government deals for his family and their business. I am sick of self-dealers in Washington putting themselves ahead of the people they are supposed to represent. As mayor, I put people over politics to reduce spending, reduce taxes and improve accountability. I am going to Congress to do the same.” [Twitter, @Keith Pekau, [8/9/22](#)]



[Twitter, @Keith Pekau, [8/9/22](#)]

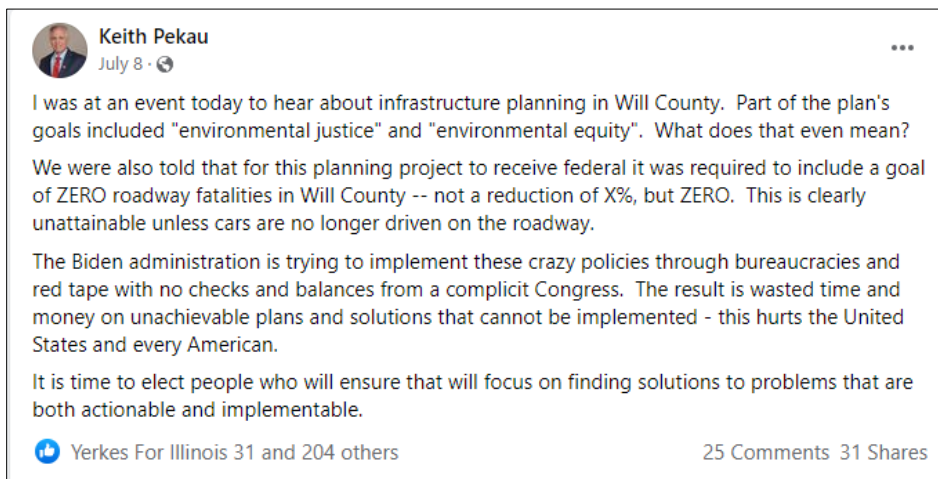
## Transportation & Infrastructure

### **Pekau Said He Would Have Voted Against The Infrastructure Bill Biden Signed Into Law In 2021.**

According to the Chicago Sun-Times, “Asked about recent House votes, Pekau said he would have voted against the infrastructure bill Biden signed into law last week. He also would have not supported Biden’s ‘Build Back Better’ climate change and social spending measure passed several days ago, facing an uncertain fate in the Senate. Newman and Casten were champions of the infrastructure bill, and Pekau's lack of support for it could emerge as an issue.” [Chicago Sun-Times, 11/22/21]

### **Pekau: “I Was At An Event Today To Hear About Infrastructure Planning In Will County. Part Of The Plan’s Goals Included ‘Environmental Justice’ And ‘Environmental Equity’. What Does That Even Mean?”**

According to Facebook, Keith Pekau wrote, “I was at an event today to hear about infrastructure planning in Will County. Part of the plan’s goals included ‘environmental justice’ and ‘environmental equity’. What does that even mean? We were also told that for this planning project to receive federal it was required to include a goal of ZERO roadway fatalities in Will County -- not a reduction of X%, but ZERO. This is clearly unattainable unless cars are no longer driven on the roadway. The Biden administration is trying to implement these crazy policies through bureaucracies and red tape with no checks and balances from a complicit Congress. The result is wasted time and money on unachievable plans and solutions that cannot be implemented - this hurts the United States and every American. It is time to elect people who will ensure that will focus on finding solutions to problems that are both actionable and implementable.” [Facebook, Keith Pekau, [7/8/22](#)]



[Facebook, Keith Pekau, [7/8/22](#)]

**May 2022: Pekau Claimed That Manufacturing Is A National Security Issue, Adding That “If We Bring Back Manufacturing, We Bring Back Our Middle Class.”** According to Pekau in a visit to a local manufacturing facility, “And the manufacturing in the U.S. is a national security issue. We need manufacturing in all industries in the U.S., in the event that there’s ever something that happens globally, we have to be able to provide the manufacturing here... When it comes to labor, we have a service economy, and we have a professional economy and we’re losing the middle. We’re losing the middle because manufacturing has left. If we bring back manufacturing, we bring back our middle class.” [YouTube, [0:44 – 1:20](#), 5/9/22]

## Due Diligence

**Full Name:** Keith I. Pekau

**DOB:** April 10, 1966

**Place of Birth:** Unknown

### Addresses

10640 BONNIEGLEN PL  
ORLAND PARK, IL 60462-2796  
COOK COUNTY

10439 SANTA CRUZ LN  
ORLAND PARK, IL 60467-8215  
COOK COUNTY

150 PERRYTOWN RD  
NEW BERN, NC 28562-9037  
CRAVEN COUNTY

217 CARSWELL LN  
GOLDSBORO, NC 27584-5431  
WAYNE COUNTY

105 CREEK CT  
GOLDSBORO, NC 27530-8883  
WAYNE COUNTY

1338 BUFFALO AVE  
CALUMET CITY, IL 60509-5917  
COOK COUNTY

17200 W BELL RD LOT 1649  
SURPRISE, AZ 85374-9866  
MARICOPA COUNTY

7916 W EARLL DR APT 13  
PHOENIX, AZ 85033-4820  
MARICOPA COUNTY

1932 SIOUX  
GLENDALE, AZ 85307-4820  
MARICOPA COUNTY

10071 LINCOLN VILLAGE DR  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95827-2969  
SACRAMENTO COUNTY

2929 ROUTIER RD APT 152  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95827-1972

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

309 WESTOVER RD  
GOLDSBORO, NC 27534-5417  
WAYNE COUNTY

519 BOXWOOD LN APT F  
GOLDSBORO, NC 27584-4401  
WAYNE COUNTY

7111 N 75<sup>TH</sup> AVE APT 2026  
GLENDALE, AZ 85303-2525  
MARICOPA COUNTY

10071 LINCOLN  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95827  
SACRAMENTO COUNTY

2433 W CAMPBELL AVE APT 3  
PHOENIX, AZ 85015-4311  
MARICOPA COUNTY

56 N EXTENSION RD APT  
MESA, AZ 85201-7145  
MARICOPA COUNTY

1844 W TURNEY AVE  
PHOENIX, AZ 85015-3839  
MARICOPA COUNTY

2121 W MAIN ST APT 3031  
MESA, AZ 85201-9024  
MARICOPA COUNTY

## Voter Registration

*Researcher's note: Voter participation records were not allowed to be accessed for commercial purposes. Basic voter registration is included below.*

**Pekau Was Registered To Vote In Cook County.** [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [7/27/22](#)]

## REGISTRATION LOOKUP RESULTS

Your Search Criteria: Keith, Pekau, 10640, BONNIEGLEN PL, 60462, 04/10/1966

**Name:**

Keith I Pekau

**Age:**

56

**Registration Status:**

Keith Pekau **IS REGISTERED TO VOTE** in the State of Illinois.

If you have any questions, please contact [the Cook local Election Authority](#)

[Early Voting/Grace Period Registration Locations](#)

[Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [7/27/22](#)]

### Tax Issues

*No relevant results were found in the US Tax Court database. No bankruptcies, judgements, or liens found on Nexis. No results found in the Illinois Independent Tax Tribunal database. Property taxes are found in the property records section.*

### Yearbooks

- Carl Sandburg High School
- Arizona State University
- Duke University

*Pekau did not appear on Classmates.com. We were not able to find yearbooks for the years Pekau attended Arizona State University. We did not identify Pekau in Duke University's yearbooks from 1995 – 1997.*

# Personal Court Records

## Nexis Criminal Records

**2013: Pekau Had A Traffic Infraction For Driving 11-14 Miles Per Hour Above The Speed Limit In Illinois.**  
[Nexis Criminal Records, Case No.: 2013TR1307, filed 3/4/13]

<b>Illinois Court Report</b>	
<b>Offender Information</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	PEKAU, KEITH I
<b>Address:</b>	10640 BONNIEGLEN PL ORLAND PARK, IL 60462-2796 COOK COUNTY
<b>Case Number:</b>	2013TR1307
<b>Case Filing Date:</b>	03/04/2013
<b>Case Type:</b>	TRAFFIC
<b>DOB:</b>	04/1966
<b>SSN:</b>	353-66-XXXX
<b>Sex:</b>	Male
<b>Eyes:</b>	HAZEL
<b>Height:</b>	6'0"
<b>Offenses</b>	
<b>Categories:</b>	TRAFFIC
<b>Case Filing Date:</b>	03/04/2013
<b>Offense Date:</b>	03/02/2013
<b>Court Description:</b>	CIRCUIT
<b>Court Case Number:</b>	2013TR1307
<b>Court Offense:</b>	DRIVING 11-14 MPH ABOVE LIMIT
<b>Court Disposition:</b>	WITHHOLD JUDGMENT/SUPERVISION
<b>Court Disposition Date:</b>	03/18/2013
<b>Court Level/Degree:</b>	TRAFFIC
<b>Court Activity</b>	
[NONE FOUND]	

[Nexis Criminal Records, Case No.: 2013TR1307, filed 3/4/13]

**2011: Pekau Was Found Guilty Of Driving 10 Miles Per Hour Above The Speed Limit In Ohio.** [Nexis Criminal Records, Case No.: TRD1100329, filed 2/24/11]

## Ohio Court Report

### Offender Information

**Name:** PEKAU, KEITH I  
**Address:** 10640 BONNIEGLEN PL  
ORLAND PARK, IL 60462-2796  
COOK COUNTY  
**Case Number:** TRD1100329  
**Case Filing Date:** 02/24/2011  
**Case Type:** MISDEMEANOR  
**County:** FULTON  
**DOB:** 04/1966  
**SSN:** 353-66-XXXX

### Offenses

**Categories:** TRAFFIC  
**Case Filing Date:** 02/24/2011  
**Offense Date:** 02/23/2011  
**Court Description:** FULTON COUNTY WESTERN DISTRICT COURT  
**Court Case Number:** TRD1100329  
**Court Offense:** SPEED 10 MPH  
**Court Statute:** 4511.21D2  
**Court Disposition:** GUILTY  
**Court Disposition Date:** 02/28/2011  
**Court Level/Degree:** MISDEMEANOR

### Court Activity

[NONE FOUND]

[Nexis Criminal Records, Case No.: TRD1100329, filed 2/24/11]

**1993: Pekau Had A Traffic Infraction For Driving 63/55 In Virginia.** [Nexis Criminal Records, Case No.: 550GT9301977300, filed 6/10/93]

## Virginia Court Report

### Offender Information

**Name:** PEKAU, KEITH I  
**Address:** VA  
**Case Number:** 550GT9301977300  
**Case Filing Date:** 06/10/1993  
**Case Type:** INFRACTION

### Offenses

**Categories:** TRAFFIC  
**Case Filing Date:** 06/10/1993  
**Offense Date:** 06/10/1993  
**Court Description:** CHESAPEAKE GENERAL DISTRICT  
**Court Case Number:** 550GT9301977300  
**Court Offense:** SPEEDING 63/55  
**Court Disposition:** PREPAID  
**Court Disposition Date:** 07/08/1993  
**Court Level/Degree:** INFRACTION

### Court Activity

[NONE FOUND]

[Nexis Criminal Records, Case No.: 550GT9301977300, filed 6/10/93]

**1993: Pekau Had A Traffic Infraction For “Radar Detector” In Virginia.** [Nexis Criminal Records, Case No.: 550GT9301977400, filed 6/10/93]

## Virginia Court Report

### Offender Information

**Name:** PEKAU, KEITH I  
**Address:** VA  
**Case Number:** 550GT9301977400  
**Case Filing Date:** 06/10/1993  
**Case Type:** INFRACTION

### Offenses

**Categories:** TRAFFIC  
**Case Filing Date:** 06/10/1993  
**Offense Date:** 06/10/1993  
**Court Description:** CHESAPEAKE GENERAL DISTRICT  
**Court Case Number:** 550GT9301977400  
**Court Offense:** RADAR DETECTOR  
**Court Disposition:** PREPAID  
**Court Disposition Date:** 07/08/1993  
**Court Level/Degree:** INFRACTION

### Court Activity

[NONE FOUND]

[Nexis Criminal Records, Case No.: 550GT9301977400, filed 6/10/93]

## Cook County

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### ***Chancery Court – Mortgage, Foreclosure, Injunctions, Mechanics Liens***

**2021: Pekau Was A Defendant In A Court Case Brought By Sky Zone LLC.** [Cook County Chancery Court, Sky Zone LLC v. Fenton et al, Case No.: 2021-CH-00983, filed 3/2/21]

<u>Party Information</u>		
<b>Plaintiff(s)</b> SKY ZONE, LLC		<b>Attorney(s)</b> CHRISTOPOULOS LAW GROUP
<b>Defendant(s)</b> FENTON, KATHLEEN HEALY, WILLIAM MILANI, MICHAEL KATSENES, CYNTHIA DODGE, JAMES VILLAGE OR ORLAND PARK IL PEKAU, KEITH KOCZWARA, GEORGE CALANDRIELLO, DANIEL	<b>Defendant Date of Service</b>	<b>Attorney(s)</b> PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE

[Cook County Chancery Court, Sky Zone LLC v. Fenton et al, Case No.: 2021-CH-00983, filed 3/2/21]

### ***Domestic Relations/Child Support***

*No records found.*

### ***Civil – Personal Injury Or Contract Cases Under \$30K, Evictions, Housing, Garnishments, Small Claims***

**2020: Pekau Was A Defendant In A Lawsuit Against The Village Of Orland Park.** [Cook County Civil Court, Village of Orland Park v. O'Brien et al, Case No.: 2020-M5-000698, filed 1/29/20]

<b>Plaintiff(s)</b> THE VILLAGE OF ORL		<b>Attorney(s)</b> KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS
<b>Defendant(s)</b> OBRIEN, KELLY RUZICH, CAROL HASTINGS, KYLE HENRY, MICHAEL F COOK COUNTY DEMOCR HANANIA, RAY OGRADY, PAUL MADIGAN, MICHAEL MCCARTHY, TIMOTHY ELECTRICIANS, LOCAL HODGE, DEVIN GORMAN, ELIZABETH	<b>Defendant Date of Service</b>	<b>Attorney(s)</b> PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE
GORMAN, GERALD KATSENES, CINDY NEL MORRISON, SEAN MCLAUGHLIN, DAN GIRA, PATRICIA HASTINGS, MICHAEL PEKAU, KEITH HSTINGS, KYLE R, II CARROLL, MICHAEL		PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE PRO SE

[Cook County Civil Court, Village of Orland Park v. O'Brien et al, Case No.: 2020-M5-000698, filed 1/29/20]

**2002: Pekau Was The Plaintiff In A Civil Suit Against Watson Construction.** [Cook County Civil Court, Pekau v. Watson Construction et al, Case No.: 2002-M1-041362, filed 12/2/02]

Case Information Summary for Case Number <a href="#">2002-M1-041362</a>		
Filing Date: 12/02/2002 Division: Municipal Division Ad Damnum: \$800.00		Case Type: PRO SE District: First Municipal Calendar:
<b><u>Party Information</u></b>		
<b>Plaintiff(s)</b> PEKAU KEITH		<b>Attorney(s)</b> PRO SE
<b>Defendant(s)</b> WATSON CONSTRUCTIO MICHAEL MARICH	<b>Defendant Date of Service</b> 03/21/2003	<b>Attorney(s)</b> CYZE, DONALD A

[Cook County Civil Court, Pekau v. Watson Construction et al, Case No.: 2002-M1-041362, filed 12/2/02]

## **Law Division – Personal Injury And Contract Cases Over \$30K, Malpractice, Attorney Codes**

**2022: Pekau Was The Plaintiff In A Petition For Discovery Suit Against Robert Burman.** [Cook County Law Division, Pekau v. Burman, Case No.: 2022-L-001057, filed 2/1/22]

Case Information Summary for Case Number <a href="#">2022-L-001057</a>		
Filing Date: 02/01/2022 Division: Law Division Ad Damnum: \$0.00		Case Type: Petitions for Discovery - Non Jury District: First Municipal Calendar: R
<b><u>Party Information</u></b>		
<b>Plaintiff(s)</b> PEKAU, KEITH		<b>Attorney(s)</b> LEE, MICHAEL DAEHYUN
<b>Defendant(s)</b> ROBERT BURMAN d/b/a YES! P	<b>Defendant Date of Service</b>	<b>Attorney(s)</b> PRO SE

[Cook County Law Division, Pekau v. Burman, Case No.: 2022-L-001057, filed 2/1/22]

**2020: Pekau Was A Defendant In A Breach Of Contract Case Brought By Joseph La Margo.** [Cook County Law Division, La Margo v. Keith Pekau for Mayor et al, Case No.: 2020-L-004136, filed 4/10/20]

Case Information Summary for Case Number <a href="#">2020-L-004136</a>		
Filing Date: 04/10/2020 Division: Law Division Ad Damnum: \$75000.00		Case Type: Breach of Contract - Jury District: First Municipal Calendar: I
<b><u>Party Information</u></b>		
<b>Plaintiff(s)</b> LA, MARGO JOSEPH		<b>Attorney(s)</b> KURTZ SLEPER AND EXLINE L
<b>Defendant(s)</b> KEITH PEKAU FOR MAYOR PEKAU, KEITH VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK	<b>Defendant Date of Service</b>	<b>Attorney(s)</b> LYNCH, JOHN J COLLINS LAW FIRM SANCHEZ DANIELS HOFFMAN L KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS

[Cook County Law Division, La Margo v. Keith Pekau for Mayor et al, Case No.: 2020-L-004136, filed 4/10/20]

### **Probate Court**

*No records found.*

### **Traffic Ticket Search**

*To search for traffic tickets, you need either the ticket number or the driver's license number.*

## **County Case Search – Name Changes, Election Matters, Real Estate Tax Matters**

*No records found.*

### **Craven County**

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*Information about North Carolina court cases can only be accessed in person.*

### **Wayne County**

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*Information about North Carolina court cases can only be accessed in person.*

### **Maricopa County**

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#### **Civil Court**

*No records found.*

#### **Criminal Court**

*No records found.*

#### **Family Court**

*No records found.*

#### **Probate Court**

*No records found.*

### **Sacramento County**

---

#### **Civil**

*No records found.*

#### **Criminal**

*No records found.*

#### **Family**

*No records found.*

#### **Probate**

*No records found.*

## Small Claims

No records found.

## PACER

**2021: Pekau Was A Defendant In A Telephone Consumer Protection Act Lawsuit Brought By Michael Henry.** [United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois, Henry v. USA, Case No.: 3:21-cv-03244-RM-KLM, filed 11/15/21]

U.S. District Court CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS (Springfield) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 3:21-cv-03244-RM-KLM	
Henry v. United States of America et al Assigned to: Senior District Judge Richard Mills Referred to: Magistrate Judge Karen L. McNaught Case in other court: Seventh Circuit, 22-01136 Cause: 47:227 Restrictions of Use of Telephone Equipment	Date Filed: 11/15/2021 Date Terminated: 01/31/2022 Jury Demand: Plaintiff Nature of Suit: 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) Jurisdiction: Federal Question
<b>Plaintiff</b> Michael Henry	represented by <b>Michael Henry</b> 13233 Bundoran Court Orland Park, IL 60462 PRO SE
<b>Defendant</b> Village of Orland Park	represented by <b>Howard Charles Jablecki</b> KLEIN THORP & JENKINS LTD Suite 1660 20 N Wacker Dr Chicago, IL 60606-2903 312-984-6400 Email: hcjablecki@ktjlaw.com <i>ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED</i>
<b>Defendant</b> Klein Thorpe & Jenkins	represented by <b>Howard Charles Jablecki</b> (See above for address) <i>ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED</i>
<b>Defendant</b> Keith Pekau <i>Individually</i>	represented by <b>Howard Charles Jablecki</b> (See above for address) <i>ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED</i>
<b>Defendant</b> Kwame Raoul <i>Illinois Attorney General</i> <i>TERMINATED: 01/31/2022</i>	represented by <b>Salena Young</b> OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL 500 South Second Street Springfield, IL 62701 217-782-1841 Email: salena.young@ilag.gov <i>ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED</i>

[United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois, Henry v. USA, Case No.: 3:21-cv-03244-RM-KLM, filed 11/15/21]

**2022: Henry Appealed The Case To The 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Of Appeals.** [United States Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Henry v. USA, Case No.: 22-1173, filed 2/2/22]

**General Docket  
Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals**

**Court of Appeals Docket #:** 22-1173  
**Nature of Suit:** 2485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act  
Michael Henry v. USA, et al  
**Appeal From:** Central District of Illinois  
**Fee Status:** Due

**Docketed:** 02/02/2022  
**Termed:** 04/19/2022

**Case Type Information:**

- 1) civil
- 2) us
- 3) -

**Originating Court Information:**

**District:** 0753-3 : [3:21-cv-03244-RM-TSH](#)  
**Trial Judge:** Richard Mills, District Court Judge  
**Date Filed:** 11/15/2021  
**Date Order/Judgment:**  
02/01/2022

**Date NOA Filed:**  
02/02/2022

[United States Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Henry v. USA, Case No.: 22-1173, filed 2/2/22]

# Property Records

## 10640 Bonnie Glen

**2009: Pekau And His Wife Purchased The Property At 10640 Bonnie Glen.** [Cook County Recorder of Deeds, Parcel No.: 27-17-405-010-0000, [11/13/09](#)]

Document No.	Executed	Recorded	Document Type	Case No.	Amount
0931747036	10/22/2009	11/13/2009	RELEASE		

PIN(s) - 1

PIN	Prop. Type	Condo Unit Num.	S-T-R	Sub Div-Condo	Lot	Block	Part of Lot	Building
<a href="#">27-17-405-010-0000</a>	S		17-36-12	HUGUELETSCH	51			

UPIN(s) - 1

PIN	UPIN
<a href="#">27-17-405-010-0000</a>	27-17-400-002-0000

Grantor(s) - 1

Grantor(s)	Trust #
<a href="#">PALOS B&amp;T CO</a>	

Grantee(s) - 2

Grantee(s)	Trust #
<a href="#">PEKAU KEITH</a>	
<a href="#">PEKAU BETTY</a>	

[Cook County Recorder of Deeds, Parcel No.: 27-17-405-010-0000, [11/13/09](#)]

**For Tax Year 2022, The Property At 10640 Bonnie Glen Had An Estimated Market Value Of \$453,830.**  
[Cook County Assessor, 10640 Bonnie Glen, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

Assessed Valuation <span style="float: right;">^</span>		
	2022 Assessor Valuation	2021 Board of Review Certified
<b>Total Estimated Market Value</b>	\$453,830	\$453,830
<b>Total Assessed Value</b>	\$45,383	\$45,383
<b>Land Assessed Value</b>	\$10,613	\$10,613
<b>Building Assessed Value</b>	\$34,770	\$34,770

[Cook County Assessor, 10640 Bonnie Glen, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

**Pekau Paid His Property Taxes For 10640 Bonnie Glen In Full.** [Cook County Treasurer, 10640 Bonnie Glen, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

	Tax Year	Total Billed Amount	Total Paid Amount	Installment	Billed Amount	Due Date	Tax Summary
▼	2020	\$11,773.92	\$11,773.92	1st 2nd	\$6,933.81 \$4,840.11	03/02/2021 10/01/2021	
▼	2019	\$12,606.93	\$12,606.93	1st 2nd	\$6,742.84 \$5,864.09	03/03/2020 08/03/2020	
▼	2018	\$12,259.70	\$12,259.80	1st 2nd	\$7,176.55 \$5,083.15	03/01/2019 08/01/2019	
▼	2017	\$13,048.28	\$13,048.28	1st 2nd	\$6,360.12 \$6,688.16	03/01/2018 08/01/2018	
▼	2016	\$11,563.86	\$11,563.86	1st 2nd	\$6,279.85 \$5,284.01	03/01/2017 08/01/2017	
▼	2015	\$11,417.90	\$15,958.44	1st 2nd	\$7,125.10 \$4,292.80	03/01/2016 08/01/2016	
▼	2014	\$12,954.73	\$12,954.73	1st 2nd	\$6,541.03 \$6,413.70	03/03/2015 08/01/2015	
▼	2013	\$11,892.79	\$11,892.79	1st 2nd	\$7,848.84 \$4,043.95	03/04/2014 08/01/2014	
▼	2012	\$14,270.62	\$14,384.08	1st 2nd	\$7,564.11 \$6,706.51	03/01/2013 08/01/2013	
▼	2011	\$13,752.93	\$13,976.67	1st 2nd	\$6,294.89 \$7,458.04	03/01/2012 08/01/2012	
▼	2010	\$11,445.26	\$11,445.26	1st 2nd	\$6,192.55 \$5,252.71	04/01/2011 11/01/2011	
▼	2009	\$11,259.18	\$11,346.88	1st 2nd	\$5,846.74 \$5,412.44	03/02/2010 12/13/2010	
▼	2008	\$10,630.43	\$10,630.43	1st 2nd	\$5,448.75 \$5,181.68	03/01/2009 12/01/2009	
▼	2007	\$10,897.49	\$10,897.49	1st 2nd	\$5,389.07 \$5,508.42	03/01/2008 11/03/2008	
▼	2006	\$10,778.13	\$10,778.13	1st 2nd	\$5,394.43 \$5,383.70	03/01/2007 12/03/2007	
▼	2005	\$9,554.79	\$10,788.86	1st 2nd	\$0.00 \$9,554.79	03/01/2006 09/01/2006	

[Cook County Treasurer, 10640 Bonnie Glen, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

## 150 Perrytown

**2006: Pekau And His Wife Purchased The Property At 150 Perrytown.** [Craven County Register of Deeds, Book 2507 Page 885, filed [8/29/06](#)]

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL WARRANTY DEED

THIS DEED made this 29 day of August, 2006, by and between

GRANTOR	GRANTEE
<p>ELLEN J. McCOY, individually and as EXECUTRIX of the Estate of Betty Smith Gibble (See Craven County File 06-E-62) and husband, BRIAN McCOY                      KAREN JOANN ROUSE, single                      JESSICA HOLLOWAY and husband, BRIAN HOLLOWAY</p>	<p>BETTY G. PEKAU and KEITH I. PEKAU                      10640 Bonnienglen Place                      Orland Park, IL 60462</p>

[Craven County Register of Deeds, Book 2507 Page 885, filed [8/29/06](#)]

**2020: Pekau And His Wife Sold The Property At 150 Perrytown For \$53,500.** [Craven County Assessor, 150 Perrytown, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

Recent Sales Information				
SALE DATE	Sellers Name	Buyers Name	Sale Type	Sale Price
7/22/2020	PEKAU, BETTY G & PEKAU, KEITH I	JONES, JOHN HOWARD & JANE JACKSON	STRAIGHT TRANSFER	\$53,500
9/15/2006	MCCOY, ELLEN & ROUSE, KAREN & PEKAU	PEKAU, BETTY G & PEAKU, KEITH I	STRAIGHT TRANSFER	\$0

[Craven County Assessor, 150 Perrytown, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

**Pekau Paid His Property Taxes For 150 Perrytown In Full.** [Craven County Assessor, 150 Perrytown, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

Tax Year Billing Type *	County Tax Billed <b>Due</b>	City Tax Billed <b>Due</b>	Real Value <b>Exclusion</b>	Personal Value ** <b>Exclusion</b>
2012	\$235.70 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$48,330 \$0	\$0 \$0
2013	\$234.49 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$48,330 \$0	\$0 \$0
2014	\$215.04 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$44,320 \$0	\$0 \$0
2015	\$215.62 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$44,320 \$0	\$0 \$0
2016	\$249.19 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$44,420 \$0	\$0 \$0
2017	\$251.68 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$44,420 \$0	\$0 \$0
2018	\$250.71 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$44,420 \$0	\$0 \$0
2019	\$255.15 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$44,420 \$0	\$0 \$0
2020	\$255.15 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$44,420 \$0	\$0 \$0

[Craven County Assessor, 150 Perrytown, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

## 10439 Santa Cruz

**1998: Pekau And His Wife Purchased The Property At 10439 Santa Cruz For \$290,000.** [Cook County Recorder of Deeds, Parcel No.: 27-32-206-003-0000, [8/20/98](#)]

Document No.	Executed	Recorded	Document Type		Case No.	Amount		
98736016	08/11/1998	08/20/1998	WARRANTY DEED			\$290,000.00		
PIN(s) - 1								
PIN	Prop. Type	Condo Unit Num.	S-T-R	Sub Div-Condo	Lot	Block	Part of Lot	Building
<a href="#">27-32-206-003-0000</a>	S		32-36-12	MISSIONHU/2	64			
Grantor(s) - 1								
Grantor(s)				Trust #				
<a href="#">MISSION HILLS-ORLAND PK LLC</a>								
Grantee(s) - 2								
Grantee(s)				Trust #				
<a href="#">PEKAU KEITH I</a>								
<a href="#">PEKAU BETTY J</a>								

[Cook County Recorder of Deeds, Parcel No.: 27-32-206-003-0000, [8/20/98](#)]

**2005: Pekau And His Wife Sold The Property At 10439 Santa Cruz For \$415,000.** [Cook County Recorder of Deeds, Parcel No.: 27-32-206-003-0000, [6/7/05](#)]

Document No.	Executed	Recorded	Document Type	Case No.	Amount			
0515835217	06/01/2005	06/07/2005	WARRANTY DEED		\$415,000.00			
PIN(s) - 1								
PIN	Prop. Type	Condo Unit Num.	S-T-R	Sub Div- Condo	Lot	Block	Part of Lot	Building
<a href="#">27-32-206-003-0000</a>	S		32-36-12	MISSIONHU/2	64			
Grantor(s) - 2								
Grantor(s)			Trust #					
<a href="#">PEKAU KEITH J</a>								
<a href="#">PEKAU BETTY J</a>								
Grantee(s) - 1								
Grantee(s)			Trust #					
<a href="#">JABER ADNAN A</a>								

[Cook County Recorder of Deeds, Parcel No.: 27-32-206-003-0000, [6/7/05](#)]

*Researcher's note: Property tax records for Cook County only date back to 2001.*

**Pekau Paid His Property Taxes For 10439 Santa Cruz In Full.** [Cook County Treasurer, 10439 Santa Cruz, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

▼	2005	\$7,789.34	\$8,427.36	1st 2nd	\$3,137.41 \$4,651.93	03/01/2006 09/01/2006	
▼	2004	\$6,274.82	\$6,274.82	1st 2nd	\$2,910.18 \$3,364.64	03/01/2005 11/01/2005	
▼	2003	\$5,820.35	\$5,862.76	1st 2nd	\$2,827.63 \$2,992.72	03/01/2004 11/15/2004	
▼	2002	\$5,655.26	\$5,655.26	1st 2nd	\$2,593.95 \$3,061.31	03/01/2003 10/01/2003	
▼	2001	\$5,187.89	\$5,187.89	1st 2nd	\$2,505.08 \$2,682.81	03/01/2002 11/01/2002	

[Cook County Treasurer, 10439 Santa Cruz, accessed [7/28/22](#)]

## 4526 E 10<sup>th</sup>

**2004: Strike Eagle Properties Purchased The Property At 4526 E 10<sup>th</sup>.** [Lake County Assessor, 4526 E 10<sup>th</sup>, accessed [7/29/22](#)]

03-26- 2004	STRIKE EAGLE PROPERTIES INC	\$10,500.00	WD
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[Lake County Assessor, 4526 E 10<sup>th</sup>, accessed [7/29/22](#)]

**2004: The Lake County Auditor Acquired The Property At 4526 E 10<sup>th</sup>.** [Lake County Assessor, 4526 E 10<sup>th</sup>, accessed [7/29/22](#)]

11-02- 2004	LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR PEGGY KATONA	\$0.00	WD
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[Lake County Assessor, 4526 E 10<sup>th</sup>, accessed [7/29/22](#)]

*Researcher's note: Tax information for 4526 E 10<sup>th</sup> before Tax Year 2021 was not available online.*

## **217 Carswell**

*Researcher's note: Nexis lists 217 Carswell as an address for Pekau. However, we were not able to identify this property on the [Wayne County Assessor](#) website. We were not able to confirm if Pekau owned this property.*

## Personal Campaign Finance Contributions

**Pekau Contributed Over \$100,000 To Federal, State, And Local Political Campaigns From 2009 To 2022.**  
 [Ante, Keith Pekau, accessed 8/1/22]

Pekau Campaign Contributions			
Contributor	Date	Amount	Recipient
PEKAU, KEITH	6/28/2022	\$2,980.16	PEKAU FOR CONGRESS
PEKAU, KEITH	11/22/2021	\$100.00	PEKAU FOR CONGRESS
Pekau Keith	1/25/2021	\$500.00	Citizens for Andrea Bowles
Pekau Keith	9/30/2020	\$25,000.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	9/30/2020	\$20,000.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	9/8/2020	\$250.00	Ozinga for Illinois
Pekau Keith	8/10/2020	\$100.00	Keith For Mayor
PEKAU, KEITH	6/11/2020	\$50.00	ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN PARTY – FEDERAL
PEKAU, KEITH	6/11/2020	\$50.00	ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN PARTY – FEDERAL (WINRED)
PEKAU, KEITH	6/10/2020	\$50.00	ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN PARTY – FEDERAL
PEKAU, KEITH	6/10/2020	\$50.00	ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN PARTY – FEDERAL (WINRED)
Pekau Keith	6/21/2018	\$270.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	5/3/2018	\$160.41	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	2/22/2018	\$372.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	7/6/2017	\$2,247.14	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	4/8/2017	\$1,200.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	4/7/2017	\$2,535.65	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	3/29/2017	\$6,500.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	3/24/2017	\$5,000.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	3/3/2017	\$10,000.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	2/25/2017	\$4,926.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	2/25/2017	\$4,926.20	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	2/25/2017	\$3,590.32	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	2/24/2017	\$4,500.00	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	12/30/2016	\$3,771.11	Keith For Mayor
Pekau Keith	3/20/2012	\$100.00	Wisconsin Recall Action Fund
PEKAU, KEITH	9/30/2011	\$250.00	KINZINGER FOR CONGRESS
Pekau Keith	10/9/2010	\$50.00	Republican Organization of Orland Township
Pekau Keith	10/6/2010	\$20.00	Republican Organization of Orland Township
Pekau Keith	7/20/2010	\$200.00	Republican Organization of Orland Township
Pekau Keith	7/1/2010	\$140.00	Republican Organization of Orland Township
Keith, Pekau	10/16/2009	\$300.00	American Solutions for Winning the Future
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$100,188.99</b>	

[Ante, Keith Pekau, accessed 8/1/22]

## House Personal Financial Disclosure

### Scope

**Pekau's House Candidate Financial Disclosure Report Covered The Period Between January 1, 2021 Through May 15, 2022.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

#### FILER INFORMATION

**Name:** Keith Pekau  
**Status:** Congressional Candidate  
**State/District:** IL06

#### FILING INFORMATION

**Filing Type:** Candidate Report  
**Filing Year:** 2022  
**Filing Date:** 06/10/2022  
**Period Covered:** 01/01/2021– 05/15/2022

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

### Assets And Unearned Income

**2022: Pekau Disclosed Assets Ranging From \$180,026 To \$775,000.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

#### Pekau Assets And Unearned Income 2022

Asset	Owner	Value of Asset	Income Type	Income (Current Year to Filing)	Income (Preceding Year)
American Century Mid Cap [MF]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Janus enterprise Class 1 [MF]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Vanguard 500 Index [MF]		\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) [ST]	JT	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Dividends	\$1 - \$200	\$1 - \$200
JP Morgan Chase & Co. (JPM) [ST]	JT	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Dividends	\$201 - \$1,000	
Bright Start [5P] (Location: IL)		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity 500 Index [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Contra Fund [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Equity Fund [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		

Fidelity extended market [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Growth Company [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Mid Cap Stock [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity New Market [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Select Healthcare [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Select Software [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity small cap Discovery [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Small Cap Growth [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity ST TR BD IDX [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Total Bond [MF]	SP	\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
Fidelity Value Discovery [MF]	SP	\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
ABIOMED, Inc. (ABMD) [ST]		\$15,001 - \$50,000	Tax-Deferred		
DuPont de Nemours, Inc. (DD) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Gates Industrial Corporation plc Ordinary Shares (GTES) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Lockheed Martin Corporation (LMT) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Microsoft Corporation (MSFT) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
Verizon Communications Inc. (VZ) [ST]		\$1,001 - \$15,000	Tax-Deferred		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$180,026 – \$775,000</b>			

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

## Earned Income

**2022: Pekau Listed Earned Income From North Palos School District #117, The Village Of Orland Park, Fahrenheit Consulting Group, Three Point Consulting, And Strike Eagle Properties.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

Pekau Earned Income			
Source	Type	Amount Current Year	Amount Preceding Year
North Palos School District #117	Spouse Salary	\$20,165.00	\$48,397.08
Village of Orland Park	Salary as Mayor of Orland Park	\$17,888.00	\$83,927.00

Fahrenheit Consulting Group, LLC	Partner		\$61,046.00
Three Point Consulting	Contract Consulting		\$3,263.00
Strike Eagle Properties	Owner		\$358,487.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$38,053.00</b>	<b>\$555,120.08</b>

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

## Liabilities

**2022: Pekau Listed A Refinanced Mortgage In The Amount Of \$250,000 To \$500,000.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

Pekau Liabilities				
Owner	Creditor	Date Incurred	Type	Liability Amount
JT	Chase Mortgage	12/1/2021	Refinanced mortgage	\$250,001 - \$500,000

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

## Positions

**2022: Pekau Disclosed Positions With The Village Of Orland Park And Fahrenheit Consulting Group.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

Pekau Positions	
Position	Organization
Village President	Village of Orland Park
Partner	Fahrenheit Consulting Group, LLC

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

## Agreements

*Pekau did not disclose any agreements.*

## Compensation In Excess Of \$5,000 Paid By One Source

*Pekau did not disclose any compensation in excess of \$5,000 paid by one source.*

## Exclusions Of Spouse, Dependent, Or Trust Information

**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Qualified Blind Trusts.** Pekau answered “No” to the question, “Details regarding ‘Qualified Blind Trusts’ approved by the Committee on Ethics and certain other ‘excepted trusts’ need not be disclosed. Have you excluded from this report details of such a trust benefiting you, your spouse, or dependent child?” [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

**Pekau Did Not Exclude Any Assets, Transactions, Liabilities Of A Spouse Or Dependent.** Pekau answered “No” to the question, “Have you excluded from this report any other assets, ‘unearned’ income, transactions, or

liabilities of a spouse or dependent child because they meet all three tests for exemption?" [Candidate Financial Disclosure Report, Keith Pekau, filed [6/10/22](#)]

## Amendment

**June 2022: Pekau Filed An Amendment To His Personal Financial Disclosure For Candidates Because He Placed His 2020 And 2019 Income In The Income Portion.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Amendment, Keith Pekau, filed [6/13/22](#)]

**JUN 13 2022**

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER  
2022 JUN 23 AM 11:12  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**The Clerk**  
**U.S. House of Representatives Legislative Resource Center**  
**B-81 Cannon House Office Building**  
**Washington, DC 20515-6612**

**To Whom It May Concern,**

**When filing my 2022 filing, I realized that I incorrectly filed the income portion of my 2021 filing. I placed my 2020 and 2019 income in those blocks. The remainder is filled out correctly.**

**Since I mailed my form in, I cannot amend on line. Therefore, I have attached a new schedule C for my December 11, 2021 filing which is attached.**

Sincerely,

**Keith Pekau**  
**IL- District 6, Candidate**

[Candidate Financial Disclosure Amendment, Keith Pekau, filed [6/13/22](#)]

**Pekau’s Revised Schedule C Included Income From The Village Of Orland Park, North Palos School District #117, Three Point Consulting, Fahrenheit Consulting, And Strike Eagle Properties.** [Candidate Financial Disclosure Amendment, Keith Pekau, filed [6/13/22](#)]

Pekau Revised Earned Income			
Source	Type	Amount Current Year	Amount Preceding Year
Village of Orland Park	Salary	\$83,827	\$153,000
North Palos School District #117	Spouse Salary	\$48,397	\$41,914
Three Point Consulting	Consulting Fees	\$3,263	N/A
Fahrenheit Consulting	Salary	\$61,046	(\$1,623)
Strike Eagle Properties	Owner	\$358,487	\$4,370
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$555,020</b>	<b>\$197,661</b>

## Cook County Statements Of Economic Interest

### 2021 Statement Of Economic Interest

#### Assets

**Pekau Disclosed That He Held Over \$10,000 In JP Morgan And Walt Disney Stock.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

1. If you have any single asset that was worth more than \$10,000 as of the end of the preceding calendar year and is held in, or payable to, your name, held jointly by, or payable to, you with your spouse, or held jointly by, or payable to, you with your minor child, list such assets below. In the case of investment real estate, list the city and state where the investment real estate is located. If you do not have any such assets, list "none" below.

**ANSWER: Asset Type:** ASSET **Asset Name:** JP MORGAN STOCK

**ANSWER: Asset Type:** ASSET **Asset Name:** WALT DISNEY STOCK

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

#### Income

**Pekau Disclosed The Sale Of Land Owned By Strike Eagle Properties And Income From His Consulting Company, Fahrenheit Consulting Group.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

2. Excluding the position for which you are required to file this form, list the source of any income in excess of \$7,500 required to be reported during the preceding calendar year. If you sold an asset that produced more than \$7,500 in capital gains in the preceding calendar year, list the name of the asset and the transaction date on which the sale or transfer took place. If you had no such sources of income or assets, list "none" below.

**ANSWER: Source of Income:** STRIKE EAGLE PROPERTIES LAND **Date Sold:** 9/15/2021 12:00:00 AM

**ANSWER: Source of Income:** FAHRENHEIT CONSULTING GROUP

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

#### Liabilities

**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Liabilities On His 2021 Statement Of Economic Interest.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

3. Excluding debts incurred on terms available to the general public, such as mortgages, student loans, and credit card debts, if you owed any single debt in the preceding calendar year exceeding \$10,000, list the creditor of the debt below. If you had no such debts, list "none" below. List the creditor for all applicable debts owed by you, owed jointly by you with your spouse, or owed jointly by you with your minor child. In addition to the types of debts listed above, you do not need to report any debts to or from financial institutions or government agencies, such as debts secured by automobiles, household furniture or appliances, as long as the debt was made on terms available to the general public, debts to members of your family, or debts to or from a political committee registered with the Illinois State Board of Elections or any political committee, principal campaign committee, or authorized committee registered with the Federal Election Commission.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

## Employment

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**Pekau Disclosed Employment With The Village Of Orland Park And The North Palos School District.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

4. List the name of each unit of government of which you or your spouse were an employee, contractor, or office holder during the preceding calendar year other than the unit or units of government in relation to which the person is required to file and the title of the position or nature of the contractual services.

**ANSWER:** Applicable To: SELF Unit of Government: ORLAND PARK, VILLAGE OF Job Title: VILLAGE PRESIDENT

**ANSWER:** Applicable To: SPOUSE Unit of Government: NORTH PALOS SCHOOL DISTRICT 117 Job Title: TEACHER

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

## Lobbying

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Lobbying Interests With The State Of Illinois.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

5. If you maintain an economic relationship with a lobbyist or if a member of your family is known to you to be a lobbyist registered with any unit of government in the State of Illinois, list the name of the lobbyist below and identify the nature of your relationship with the lobbyist. If you do not have an economic relationship with a lobbyist or a family member known to you to be a lobbyist registered with any unit of government in the State of Illinois, list "none" below.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

## Gifts Or Honoraria

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Gifts Or Honoraria On His 2021 Statement Of Economic Interest.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

6. List the name of each person, organization, or entity that was the source of a gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, valued singly or in the aggregate in excess of \$500 received during the preceding calendar year and the type of gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, excluding any gift or gifts from a member of your family that was not known to be a lobbyist registered with any unit of government in the State of Illinois. If you had no such gifts, list "none" below.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

## Public Utilities

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose The Employment Of Family Members By A Public Utility.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

7. List the name of any spouse or immediate family member living with the person making this statement employed by a public utility in this State and the name of the public utility that employs the relative.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/4/22](#)]

## 2020 Statement Of Economic Interest

## Entities Doing Business With Local Government

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Entities Doing Business With Local Government.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

1. List the name and instrument of ownership in any entity doing business with a unit of local government in relation to which the person is required to file, in which the ownership interest held by the person at the date of filing is in excess of \$5,000.00 fair market value or from which dividends in excess of \$1,200.00 were received during the preceding calendar year. (In the case of real estate, location thereof shall be listed by street address, or if none, then by legal description.) No time or demand in a financial institution, nor any debt instrument shall be listed.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

## Positions

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Positions.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

2. List the name, address and type of practice of any professional organization in which the person making the statement was an officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor or served in any advisory capacity, from which income in excess of \$1,200.00 was derived during the preceding year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

## Professional Services Rendered

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Professional Services Rendered.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

3. List the nature of professional services rendered (other than to the unit or units of local government in relation to which the person is required file) and the nature of the entity to which they were rendered if fees exceeding \$5,000.00 were received during the preceding calendar year from the entity for professional services rendered by the person making the statement. ("Professional services" means services rendered in the practice of law, accounting, engineering, medicine, architecture, dentistry, or clinical psychology.)

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

## Assets

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Assets.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

4. List the identity (including the address or legal description of real estate) of any capital asset from which a gain of \$5,000.00 or more was realized during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

## Real Estate

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Entities Which Have Applied To A Unit Of Local Government In Relation To**

**Which The Person Must File For Any License, Franchise Or Permit For Annexation, Zoning Or Rezoning Of Real Estate.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

5. List the name of any entity and the nature of the governmental action requested by any entity which has applied to a unit of local government in relation to which the person must file for any license, franchise or permit for annexation, zoning or rezoning of real estate during the preceding calendar year if the ownership interest of the person filing is in excess of \$5,000.00 fair market value at the time of filing or if income or dividends in excess of \$1,200.00 were received by the person filing from the entity during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

## Employment

**Pekau Did Not Disclose Other Employment With The Government.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

7. List the name of any unit of government which employed the person making the statement during the preceding calendar year other than the unit or units of government in relation to which the person is required to file.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

## Gifts Or Honoraria

**Pekau Did Not Disclose Gifts Or Other Honoraria In Excess Of \$500.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

8. List the names of any entity from which a gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, valued singly or in the aggregate in excess of \$500.00, was received during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/12/21](#)]

## 2019 Statement Of Economic Interest

### Entities Doing Business With Local Government

**Pekau Disclosed That Strike Eagle Properties Was Doing Business With Local Government.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

1. List the name and instrument of ownership in any entity doing business with a unit of local government in relation to which the person is required to file, in which the ownership interest held by the person at the date of filing is in excess of \$5,000.00 fair market value or from which dividends in excess of \$1,200.00 were received during the preceding calendar year. (In the case of real estate, location thereof shall be listed by street address, or if none, then by legal description.) No time or demand in a financial institution, nor any debt instrument shall be listed.

**ANSWER:** **Business Entity:** Business **Business Name:** STRIKE EAGLE PROPERTIES, INC **Instrument of Ownership:** Sole Proprietorship **Position Of Management:** Owner **Unit of Government:** ORLAND PARK, VILLAGE OF

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

## Positions

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Positions.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

2. List the name, address and type of practice of any professional organization in which the person making the statement was an officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor or served in any advisory capacity, from which income in excess of \$1,200.00 was derived during the preceding year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

## Professional Services Rendered

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Professional Services Rendered.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

3. List the nature of professional services rendered (other than to the unit or units of local government in relation to which the person is required file) and the nature of the entity to which they were rendered if fees exceeding \$5,000.00 were received during the preceding calendar year from the entity for professional services rendered by the person making the statement. ("Professional services" means services rendered in the practice of law, accounting, engineering, medicine, architecture, dentistry, or clinical psychology.)

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

## Assets

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**Pekau Disclosed That He Held Stock In Groundskeeper Landscape Care.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

4. List the identity (including the address or legal description of real estate) of any capital asset from which a gain of \$5,000.00 or more was realized during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** Type: Stock Capital Asset Description: GROUNDSKEEPER LANDSCAPE CARE, LLC

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

## Real Estate

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Entities Which Have Applied To A Unit Of Local Government In Relation To Which The Person Must File For Any License, Franchise Or Permit For Annexation, Zoning Or Rezoning Of Real Estate.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

5. List the name of any entity and the nature of the governmental action requested by any entity which has applied to a unit of local government in relation to which the person must file for any license, franchise or permit for annexation, zoning or rezoning of real estate during the preceding calendar year if the ownership interest of the person filing is in excess of \$5,000.00 fair market value at the time of filing or if income or dividends in excess of \$1,200.00 were received by the person filing from the entity during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

## Employment

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Other Employment With The Government.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

7. List the name of any unit of government which employed the person making the statement during the preceding calendar year other than the unit or units of government in relation to which the person is required to file.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

## Gifts Or Honoraria

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Gifts Or Other Honoraria In Excess Of \$500.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

8. List the names of any entity from which a gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, valued singly or in the aggregate in excess of \$500.00, was received during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [4/2/20](#)]

## 2018 Statement Of Economic Interest

### Entities Doing Business With Local Government

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Entities Doing Business With Local Government.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

1. List the name and instrument of ownership in any entity doing business with a unit of local government in relation to which the person is required to file, in which the ownership interest held by the person at the date of filing is in excess of \$5,000.00 fair market value or from which dividends in excess of \$1,200.00 were received during the preceding calendar year. (In the case of real estate, location thereof shall be listed by street address, or if none, then by legal description.) No time or demand in a financial institution, nor any debt instrument shall be listed.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

### Positions

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**Pekau Disclosed His Position As A Partner Of Fahrenheit Consulting.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

2. List the name, address and type of practice of any professional organization in which the person making the statement was an officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor or served in any advisory capacity, from which income in excess of \$1,200.00 was derived during the preceding year.

**ANSWER:** Name of Professional Organization: FAHRENHEIT CONSULTING GROUP Type of Professional Organization: Other Type of Professional Organization Other: MANAGEMENT CONSULTING Role: Partner Address 1: 1640 HUNTERS GLEN CT City: WHEATON State: IL Zip: 60187

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

## Professional Services Rendered

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**Pekau Disclosed A Partnership.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

3. List the nature of professional services rendered (other than to the unit or units of local government in relation to which the person is required file) and the nature of the entity to which they were rendered if fees exceeding \$5,000.00 were received during the preceding calendar year from the entity for professional services rendered by the person making the statement. ("Professional services" means services rendered in the practice of law, accounting, engineering, medicine, architecture, dentistry, or clinical psychology.)

**ANSWER:** Professional Service: Other Nature of Entity: Partnership

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

## Assets

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**Pekau Disclosed That He Held Stock In Groundskeeper Landscape Care.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

4. List the identity (including the address or legal description of real estate) of any capital asset from which a gain of \$5,000.00 or more was realized during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** Type: Stock Capital Asset Description: GROUNDSKEEPER LANDSCAPE CARE, LLC

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

## Real Estate

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Entities Which Have Applied To A Unit Of Local Government In Relation To Which The Person Must File For Any License, Franchise Or Permit For Annexation, Zoning Or Rezoning Of Real Estate.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

5. List the name of any entity and the nature of the governmental action requested by any entity which has applied to a unit of local government in relation to which the person must file for any license, franchise or permit for annexation, zoning or rezoning of real estate during the preceding calendar year if the ownership interest of the person filing is in excess of \$5,000.00 fair market value at the time of filing or if income or dividends in excess of \$1,200.00 were received by the person filing from the entity during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

## Employment

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Other Employment With The Government.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

7. List the name of any unit of government which employed the person making the statement during the preceding calendar year other than the unit or units of government in relation to which the person is required to file.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

## Gifts Or Honoraria

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Gifts Or Other Honoraria In Excess Of \$500.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

8. List the names of any entity from which a gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, valued singly or in the aggregate in excess of \$500.00, was received during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/6/19](#)]

## 2017 Statement Of Economic Interest

### Entities Doing Business With Local Government

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Entities Doing Business With Local Government.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

1. List the name and instrument of ownership in any entity doing business with a unit of local government in relation to which the person is required to file, in which the ownership interest held by the person at the date of filing is in excess of \$5,000.00 fair market value or from which dividends in excess of \$1,200.00 were received during the preceding calendar year. (In the case of real estate, location thereof shall be listed by street address, or if none, then by legal description.) No time or demand in a financial institution, nor any debt instrument shall be listed.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

### Positions

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**Pekau Disclosed His Positions As A Partner Of Fahrenheit Consulting And Owner Of Groundskeeper Landscape Care.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

2. List the name, address and type of practice of any professional organization in which the person making the statement was an officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor or served in any advisory capacity, from which income in excess of \$1,200.00 was derived during the preceding year.

**ANSWER:** **Name of Professional Organization:** GROUNDSKEEPER LANDSCAPE CARE **Type of Professional Organization:** Other **Type of Professional Organization Other:** LANDSCAPING **Role:** Proprietor **Address 1:** 10640 BOMIEGLEN PL **City:** ORLAND PARK **State:** IL **Zip:** 60462

**Name of Professional Organization:** FAHRENHEIT CONSULTING GROUP **Type of Professional Organization:** Other **Type of Professional**

**ANSWER:** **Organization Other:** MANAGEMENT CONSULTING **Role:** Other **Role Other:** N/A **Address 1:** 1640 HUNTER GLEN CT **City:** WHEATON **State:** IL **Zip:** 60187

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

### Professional Services Rendered

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**Pekau Disclosed Management Consulting Professional Services.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

3. List the nature of professional services rendered (other than to the unit or units of local government in relation to which the person is required file) and the nature of the entity to which they were rendered if fees exceeding \$5,000.00 were received during the preceding calendar year from the entity for professional services rendered by the person making the statement. ("Professional services" means services rendered in the practice of law, accounting, engineering, medicine, architecture, dentistry, or clinical psychology.)

**ANSWER:** Professional Service: Other Nature of Entity: Other Nature of Entity - Other: MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

## Assets

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**Pekau Did Not List Any Assets.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

4. List the identity (including the address or legal description of real estate) of any capital asset from which a gain of \$5,000.00 or more was realized during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

## Real Estate

---

**Pekau Did Not Disclose Any Entities Which Have Applied To A Unit Of Local Government In Relation To Which The Person Must File For Any License, Franchise Or Permit For Annexation, Zoning Or Rezoning Of Real Estate.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

5. List the name of any entity and the nature of the governmental action requested by any entity which has applied to a unit of local government in relation to which the person must file for any license, franchise or permit for annexation, zoning or rezoning of real estate during the preceding calendar year if the ownership interest of the person filing is in excess of \$5,000.00 fair market value at the time of filing or if income or dividends in excess of \$1,200.00 were received by the person filing from the entity during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

## Employment

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**Pekau Did Not Disclose Other Employment With The Government.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

7. List the name of any unit of government which employed the person making the statement during the preceding calendar year other than the unit or units of government in relation to which the person is required to file.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

## Gifts Or Honoraria

---

**Pekau Did Not Disclose Gifts Or Other Honoraria In Excess Of \$500.** [Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

8. List the names of any entity from which a gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, valued singly or in the aggregate in excess of \$500.00, was received during the preceding calendar year.

**ANSWER:** N/A

[Statement of Economic Interest, Cook County Clerk's Office, filed [5/17/18](#)]

# Federal Campaign Finance Records

## Fundraising Overview

### Spending And Disbursements By Cycle

**2021 – 2022: Pekau’s Campaign Committee Had Raised \$437,222.19.** According to the Federal Election Commission, Pekau’s campaign committee raised \$437,222 between 2021 and 2022. [Federal Election Commission, Pekau For Congress, 2021 – 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**2021 – 2022: Pekau’s Campaign Committee Had Spent \$383,834.71.** According to the Federal Election Commission, Pekau’s campaign committee spent \$383,834.71 between 2021 and 2022. [Federal Election Commission, Pekau For Congress, 2021 – 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

<b>Pekau’s Campaign Committee Fundraising As Of June 2022</b>		
	<b>2022*</b>	<b>Total</b>
Receipts	\$437,222	\$437,222
Disbursements	\$383,834	\$383,834
Cash on hand	\$53,387	-

[Federal Election Commission, Pekau For Congress, 2021 – 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

*\*Note: This figure only represents data collected 1/1/21 through 6/30/22*

### Total Individual And PAC Contributions By Cycle

*Note: The total amounts fundraised in this section differ slightly from the amounts reported in the “Spending and disbursements by cycle” section of this book. The figures in that section of the book are directly from the Federal Election Commission and are more accurate. The differences are minor and do not skew the trends in Pekau’s fundraising in any significant way.*

*Note: Open Secrets summarizes candidates’ fundraising sources by donation type (dollars from small contributors, large contributors, PACs, and other) on a per-cycle basis. We aggregated this data to find the proportion of contributions to Pekau from each of these donation types.*

**2021 – 2022: Approximately 2 Percent Of Pekau’s Campaign Contributions Were From Political Action Committees.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, as of August 2022, approximately 2 percent of the contributions to Pekau’s campaign committee were from political action committees. [Center for Responsive Politics, Illinois District 06 Race: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**2021 – 2022: Approximately 84 Percent Of Pekau’s Campaign Contributions Were From Donors Who Gave More Than \$200.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, as of August 2022, approximately 84 percent of the contributions to Pekau’s campaign committee were from donors who gave more than \$200. [Center for Responsive Politics, Illinois District 06 Race: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**2021 – 2022: Approximately 14 Percent Of Pekau’s Campaign Contributions Were From Donors Who Gave \$200 Or Less.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, as of August 2022, approximately 14 percent of the contributions to Pekau’s campaign committee were from donors who gave \$200 or less. [Center for Responsive Politics, Illinois District 06 Race: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

<b>Pekau's Campaign Committee Fundraising From PACs And Individual Donors, Amounts By Cycle</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>*2022</b>	<b>Total</b>
Small Ind. ( $\leq$ \$200)	\$59,163	\$59,163
Large Ind. ( $>$ \$200)	\$364,959	\$364,959
PAC	\$7,500	\$7,500
Candidate Self Financing	\$100	\$100
Other	\$3,400	\$3,400
Total	\$435,122	\$435,122

[Center for Responsive Politics, Illinois District 06 Race 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

*\*Note: This figure only represents data from 1/1/21 through 6/30/22.*

<b>Pekau's Campaign Committee Fundraising From PACs And Individual Donors, Percentages By Cycle</b>	
<b>Type</b>	<b>2022</b>
Small Ind. ( $\leq$ \$200)	13.6%
Large Ind. ( $>$ \$200)	83.88%
PAC	0.02%
Other	0.72%
Total	100.0%
	<b>100.0%</b>

[Center for Responsive Politics, Illinois District 06 Race 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

*\*Note: This figure only represents data from 1/1/21 through 6/30/22.*

## **2021 – 2022: Pekau's Top 20 Contributors**

<b>Pekau's Top 20 Contributors, By Affiliation</b>			
<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Individuals</b>	<b>PACs</b>	<b>Total</b>
K&H Builders LLC	\$7,900	\$0	\$7,900
Edwards Realty	\$5,900	\$0	\$5,900
Fahrenheit Consulting	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Compass Holding	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Cmt	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Deloitte CPA	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Integrated Medical Systems, In	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Ghaben Auto Group	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Horton Insurance	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
American Battlefield Trust	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Pipeline Media LLC	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Papa Joe's	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Overhead Door Corp	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
Rebco Machine Specialties	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800
<a href="#">Uline Inc</a>	\$5,800	\$0	\$5,800

<a href="#">Cook County, IL</a>	\$5,590	\$0	\$5,590
Guide Inc	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Free Spirit Yacht Cruise	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
<a href="#">National Auto Dealers Assn</a>	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000

[Center for Responsive Politics, Keith Pekau: Top Contributors, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## Fundraising By Industry

**2021 – 2022: Pekau’s Campaign Committee Accepted Approximately \$198,245 From PACs And Individuals Affiliated With Certain Industries.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, between 2021 and 2022, Pekau’s campaign committee and leadership PAC accepted a total of \$198,245 from political action committees and individuals employed in the following sectors: Retired, Automotive, Accountants, Insurance, Health, Professionals, Misc. Health, Real Estate, Business Services, Misc. Manufacturing & Distributing, Non-Profit Institutions, Lawyers/Law Firms, Civil Servants/Public Officials, Misc. Transport, Food & Beverage, Special Trade, Contractors, Construction Services, Securities & Investment, Building Materials & Equipment, Misc. Communications/Electronics, and Pharmaceuticals/Health Products.” [Center for Responsive Politics, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

2021 – 2022: Total Contributions By Industry	
Industry	Total
Retired	\$78,875
Automotive	\$20,600
Accountants	\$11,490
Insurance	\$10,200
Health Professionals	\$7,255
Misc Health	\$7,050
Real Estate	\$6,965
Business Services	\$5,975
Misc Manufacturing & Distributing	\$5,800
Non-Profit Institutions	\$5,800
Lawyers/Law Firms	\$5,675
Civil Servants/Public Officials	\$5,605
Misc Transport	\$5,000
Food & Beverage	\$4,400
Special Trade Contractors	\$3,880
Construction Services	\$3,400
Securities & Investment	\$3,225
Building Materials & Equipment	\$2,500
Misc Communications/Electronics	\$2,500
Pharmaceuticals/Health Products	\$2,050
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$198,245</b>

[Center for Responsive Politics, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## Fundraising By Sector

**2021 – 2020: Pekau’s Campaign Committee And Leadership PAC Accepted Approximately \$206,545 From PACs And Individuals Associated With Certain Sectors.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, between 2021 and 2022, Pekau’s campaign committee and leadership PAC accepted \$206,545 from political action committees and individuals associated with certain sectors. [Center for Responsive Politics, Keith Pekau: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

- **2021 – 2022: Pekau’s Campaign Committee And Leadership PAC Accepted Approximately \$32,000 From Donors Affiliated With Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, between 2021 and 2022, Pekau’s campaign committee and leadership PAC accepted \$32,630 from donors affiliated with finance, insurance, and real estate. [Center for Responsive Politics, Keith Pekau: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]
- **2021 – 2022: Pekau’s Campaign Committee And Leadership PAC Accepted Approximately \$25,000 Donors Affiliated With Transportation.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, between 2021 and 2022, Pekau’s campaign committee and leadership PAC accepted \$25,950 from donors affiliated with transportation. [Center for Responsive Politics, Keith Pekau: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]
- **2021 – 2022: Pekau’s Campaign Committee And Leadership PAC Accepted Approximately \$20,000 From Donors Affiliated With Business.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, between 2021 and 2022, Pekau’s campaign committee and leadership PAC accepted \$18,175 from donors affiliated with the business sector. [Center for Responsive Politics, Keith Pekau: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

<b>Pekau’s Contributions By Sector, 2022</b>	
<b>Sector</b>	<b>*2022</b>
Communic/Electronics	\$2,800
Construction	\$13,280
Finance/Insur/RealEst	\$32,630
Health	\$16,605
Lawyers & Lobbyists	\$5,675
Transportation	\$25,950
Misc Business	\$18,175
Ideology/Single-Issue	\$650
Other	\$90,780
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$206,545</b>

[Center for Responsive Politics, Keith Pekau: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

*\*Note: This figure only represents data from 1/1/21 through 6/30/22.*

## **Contributions From Political Action Committees**

### **2021 – 2020: Pekau Accepted Approximately \$13,000 From Political Action Committees**

**2021 – 2020: Pekau’s Campaign Committee Accepted Approximately \$13,000 From Political Action Committees.** According to the FEC database, between 2021 and 2022, Pekau’s campaign committee and leadership PAC accepted \$13,000 from political action committees. [Federal Election Commission, Pekau For Congress, Pekau For IL-06, 2021 – 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## **2021 – 2022: Pekau Accepted \$7,500 From His Business PAC Donors**

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**2021 – 2022: Pekau Accepted \$7,500 From His Top Political Action Committees Affiliated With Businesses.** According to data from the Federal Election Commission, between 2021 and 2022, Pekau’s campaign committee and leadership PAC accepted \$7,500 from his top political action committees affiliated with businesses. [Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

<b>Pekau Business Political Action Committee Donors, By Cycle</b>		
<b>Contributor Name</b>	<b>*2022</b>	<b>Total</b>
National Automobile Dealers Assoc. PAC	\$5,000	\$5,000
Associated Equipment Distributors PAC	\$2,500	\$2,500

[Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

*\*Note: This figure only represents data from 1/1/21 through 6/30/22.*

## **2021 – 2020: Pekau Accepted Approximately \$5,500 From Ideological PAC Donors**

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**2021 – 2022: Pekau Accepted \$5,500 From Ideological Political Action Committees.** According to data from the Federal Election Commission, between 2021 and 2022, Pekau’s campaign committee and leadership PAC accepted \$5,500 from ideological political action committees. [Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

<b>Pekau Ideological Political Action Committee Donors, By Cycle</b>		
<b>Contributor Name</b>	<b>*2022</b>	<b>Total</b>
National Republican Congressional Committee	\$5,000	\$5,000
Volunteers For Shimkus	\$500	\$500

[Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

*\*Note: This figure only represents data from 1/1/21 through 6/30/22.*

## **2021 – 2022: 94.5 Percent Of The Contributions To Pekau’s Campaign Came From Within The State Of Illinois—With Over 90 Percent Coming From The Chicago Metro Area**

**2021 – 2022: 94.5 Percent Of The Contributions To Pekau’s Campaign Came From Within The State Of Illinois.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, between 2021 and 2022, 94.5 percent of the contributions to Pekau’s campaign committee came from within the state of Illinois. [Center for Responsive Politics, Keith Pekau: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**2021 – 2022: Over 90 Percent Of The Contributions To Pekau’s Campaign Came From The Chicago Metro Area.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, between 2021 and 2022, 93.63 percent of the contributions to Pekau’s campaign committee came from the Chicago Metro Area. [Center for Responsive Politics, Keith Pekau: 2022, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

<b>Contributions Accepted By Pekau’s Campaign Committee, By State, As Of August 2022</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Percentage of total</b>

Illinois	\$342,729.28	94.50%
Texas	\$6,300.00	1.70%
Florida	\$3,750.00	1.00%
Massachusetts	\$3,250.00	0.90%
Indiana	\$1,500.00	0.40%
Virginia	\$1,000.00	0.30%
Tennessee	\$1,000.00	0.30%
South Carolina	\$1,000.00	0.30%
Wisconsin	\$500.00	0.10%
Nevada	\$500.00	0.10%
California	\$300.00	0.08%
North Carolina	\$250.00	0.07%
Utah	\$250.00	0.07%
Arizona	\$250.00	0.07%

[Federal Election Commission, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## Outside Spending For/Against Pekau Totaled Approximately \$150,000

**2021 – 2022: 100 Percent Of Outside Spending Supporting Pekau Came From The Restoration PAC, Totaling \$100,000.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, 100 percent of outside spending supporting Pekau came from the Restoration PAC, totaling \$100,000. [Center for Responsive Politics, Outside Spending, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**2021 – 2022: 100 Percent Of Outside Spending Opposing Pekau Came From A Single-Candidate Super PAC Called Restore America Dream PAC, Totaling \$49,357.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, 100 percent of outside spending opposing Pekau came from a single-candidate super PAC called Restore America Dream PAC, totaling \$49,357.

Outside Spending Supporting/Opposing Pekau	
Position	*2022
Supporting	\$100,000
Opposing	\$49,257

[Center for Responsive Politics, Outside Spending, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

Outside Spending Supporting/Opposing Pekau		
Contributor	Support/Oppose	*2022
Restoration PAC	Support	\$100,000
Restore America Dream PAC**	Oppose	\$49,257

[Center for Responsive Politics, Outside Spending, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

*\*Note: This figure only represents data from 1/1/21 through 6/30/22.*

*\*\*NOTE: This committee is a single-candidate super PAC opposing Keith Pekau (R).*

## There Was No Record Of Online Ad Spending By Pekau As Of August

**2021 – 2022: There Was No Record Of Online Ad Spending By Pekau As Of August 2022.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, there was no record of online ad spending by Pekau as of August 2022. [Center for Responsive Politics, Outside Spending, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**Itemized Contributions**

**Pekau Received 420 Campaign Contributions As Of September 2022.** [Federal Election Commission, accessed [9/2/22](#)]

<b>Campaign Contributions To Pekau For Congress As Of September 2022</b>			
<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Employer</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
K AND J BUILDERS, LLC, K&J	K AND J BUILDERS, LLC	3/10/2022	5000
K AND J BUILDERS, LLC, K&J	K AND J BUILDERS, LLC	3/10/2022	5000
NADAPAC		5/24/2022	5000
NRCC		6/30/2022	5000
PEKAU, KEITH	FAHRENHEIT	6/28/2022	2980.16
HORTON, DEBORAH	HOMEMAKER	11/22/2021	2900
HORTON, GLENN	HORTON INSURANCE	11/22/2021	2900
KINSEY, HEATHER	HOMEMAKER	11/22/2021	2900
KINSEY, JEFFREY	FAHRENHEIT CONSULTING	11/22/2021	2900
FREDERICK, ERIK	URHC	11/24/2021	2900
MANOLIS, EVAN	SELF	12/1/2021	2900
MOTTL, ZACHARY	ATLAS TOOL WORKS	12/6/2021	2900
PAPPAS, MARY	RETIRED	12/13/2021	2900
PAPPAS, MICHAEL	SELF	12/13/2021	2900
COPPENS, JAMES	OVERHEAD DOOR	12/16/2021	2900
COPPENS, KIMBERLY	HOMEMAKER	12/16/2021	2900
NOCERA, DAVID	MERCEDES-BENZ OF ORLAND PARK	12/17/2021	2900
NOCERA, DAVID	MERCEDES-BENZ OF ORLAND PARK	12/17/2021	2900
NOCERA, DAVID	MERCEDES-BENZ OF ORLAND PARK	12/17/2021	2900
TIMPONE, BRIAN	PIPELINE MEDIA LLC	12/18/2021	2900
TIMPONE, PATRICIA	HOMEMAKER	12/18/2021	2900
K AND J BUILDERS, LLC, K&J	K AND J BUILDERS, LLC	12/20/2021	2900
BRESNAHAN, JAME	REBCO MACHINE SPECIALTIES	12/29/2021	2900
BRESNAHAN, KERRI	HOMEMAKER	12/29/2021	2900
BURKE, CHRISTOPHER B	CHRISTOPHER BURKE ENGINEERING	12/29/2021	2900
BERGEN, EILEEN	RETIRED	1/4/2022	2900
BERGEN, EILEEN	RETIRED	1/4/2022	2900
HORD, EILEEN	RETIRED	2/8/2022	2900
HORD, ROBERT E	RETIRED	2/8/2022	2900
DREMONAS, JAMES	RETIRED	2/22/2022	2900
DREMONAS, JAMES	RETIRED	2/22/2022	2900
HASSAN, EDWARD	EDWARDS REALTY	3/22/2022	2900
SWEIS, SAM	GHABEN AUTO GROUP	3/22/2022	2900

SWEIS, SAM	GHABEN AUTO GROUP	3/22/2022	2900
INTERNATIONAL IMPORTS	INTERNATIONAL IMPORTS LLC	3/29/2022	2900
RIZZA, NIVES	RETIRED	3/29/2022	2900
CORCORAN, EDWARD	SELF	3/30/2022	2900
MORRISON, LORA	HOMEMAKER	3/30/2022	2900
PEKAU, BETTY	HOMEMAKER	3/30/2022	2900
PEKAU, BETTY	HOMEMAKER	3/30/2022	2900
UIHLEIN, RICHARD	U-LINE	3/31/2022	2900
UIHLEIN, ELIZABETH	ULINE	4/19/2022	2900
GOODRICH, BARBARA E		4/29/2022	2900
GOODRICH, PAUL R		4/29/2022	2900
TRUAX, DOUGLAS	EVERLONG	4/30/2022	2900
MCMILLAN, DAN	RIZZA	5/6/2022	2900
RHODES, JOE	COMPASS HOLDING	5/14/2022	2900
RHODES, JOE	COMPASS HOLDING	5/14/2022	2900
HUPP, WILLIAM	RETIRED	5/24/2022	2900
HUPP, WILLIAM	RETIRED	5/24/2022	2900
CASTO, SCOTT	CMT	6/3/2022	2900
CASTO, SCOTT	CMT	6/3/2022	2900
FOX, FRANK	FOX'S PIZZA	6/5/2022	2900
GAYNOR, LUCY J	PAPA JOE'S	6/8/2022	2900
LORENZO, JAN C	PAPA JOE'S	6/8/2022	2900
ULLEWEIT, BERNADETTE	HOMEMAKER	6/8/2022	2900
ULLEWEIT, MICHAEL L	DELOITTE CPA	6/8/2022	2900
CULLINAN, MARGEE	RETIRED	6/25/2022	2900
GASPARDO, PAULA	HOMEMAKER	6/25/2022	2900
DIORIO, PATRICK	INTEGRATED MEDICAL SYSTEMS, IN	6/28/2022	2900
DIORIO, PAULA	HOMEMAKER	6/28/2022	2900
K AND J BUILDERS, LLC, K&J	K AND J BUILDERS, LLC	6/28/2022	2900
GUIDE, FRANK	GUIDE, INC.	6/30/2022	2900
KASAL, BRIAN	FOURSTAR	6/30/2022	2900
NOCERA, EILEEN	HOMEMAKER	6/30/2022	2900
WALSH, JOHN	AREA LANDSCAPE SUPPLY	3/25/2022	2880
DEVLIN, RYAN	SELF	12/18/2021	2725
KAMPAS, SEAN	KFORCE	3/22/2022	2725
BETTINARDI, ANN E	HOMEMAKER	12/7/2021	2500
BETTINARDI, ROBERT J	X-CEL TECHNOLOGIES	12/7/2021	2500
FRENCH, BON	ADAMS STREET PARTNERS	4/14/2022	2500
ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTORS PAC		5/24/2022	2500
DONOFRIO, ANGELA	FREE SPIRIT YACHT CRUISE	6/16/2022	2500
DONOFRIO, JOE	FREE SPIRIT YACHT CRUISE	6/16/2022	2500
PAPPAS, MARY	RETIRED	12/13/2021	2100
PAPPAS, MICHAEL	SELF	12/13/2021	2100
HORD, EILEEN	RETIRED	2/8/2022	2100
HORD, ROBERT E	RETIRED	2/8/2022	2100

MORRISON, SEAN	COOK COUNTY	3/30/2022	2100
GUIDE, FRANK	GUIDE, INC.	6/30/2022	2100
SMITH, JACKY W	STIFEL	12/6/2021	2000
SHEWMAKE, DAVID	RETIRED	12/20/2021	2000
SHEWMAKE, LORIE	HOMEMAKER	12/20/2021	2000
BACHRACH, EDGAR	EDWARDS REALTY	3/22/2022	2000
ALFIREVICH, JOHN	PEPPER'S LEMONT AUTO CARE	3/29/2022	2000
KOWALIS, JEFFREY	LEXUS OF ORLAND	3/29/2022	2000
AMAN, KENNETH D	RETIRED	6/7/2022	2000
PORTER, RICHARD W	KIRKLAND & ELLIS	6/30/2022	1900
SHEWMAKE, DAVID	RETIRED	2/26/2022	1800
SHEWMAKE, LORIE	HOMEMAKER	2/26/2022	1800
ADAMEK, JAMES J JR.	AB MATERIAL TESTING LLC	1/31/2022	1650
MCNAUGHTON, PAUL	MCNAUGHTON DEVELOPMENT	2/22/2022	1500
GARIFALIS, GEORGE	SELF	2/26/2022	1500
SMITH, GAYLA	FCL BUILDERS	3/8/2022	1500
BETTENHAUSEN, MIKE	BETTENHAUSEN MOTOR SALES	3/28/2022	1500
WILLIAM R HEALY, CPA		6/24/2022	1500
HALIKIAS, ARISTOTLE	ICD	6/28/2022	1500
EGOFSKE, JOHN	K AND H BUILDERS, LLC	12/20/2021	1450
MCCLAFFERTY, KENNETH	K AND H BUILDERS, LLC	12/20/2021	1450
GESUALDO, RALPH J	INTERNATIONAL IMPORTS LLC	3/29/2022	1450
GESUALDO, FRANCIS	INTERNATIONAL IMPORTS LLC	3/29/2022	1450
EGOFSKE, JOHN	K AND H BUILDERS, LLC	3/10/2022	1250
EGOFSKE, LOUISE	SELF	3/10/2022	1250
MCCLAFFERTY, KENNETH	K AND H BUILDERS, LLC	3/10/2022	1250
MCCLAFFERTY, ANN	SELF	3/10/2022	1250
ORAL, RAYMOND	FORTIUM PARTNERS, LP	12/16/2021	1100
SHEWMAKE, DAVID	RETIRED	12/31/2021	1100
SHEWMAKE, LORIE	HOMEMAKER	12/31/2021	1100
GARFIELD, FRED	RETIRED	11/22/2021	1000
HEALY, WILLIAM	WILLIAM R HEALY, CPA	11/22/2021	1000
PAMPALONE, AJ	NIN	11/26/2021	1000
THANOS, PATTI	PHP	11/29/2021	1000
RIORDAN, BRIAN	CLAUSEN MILLER	11/30/2021	1000
BARR, CARNEY	RETIRED	12/7/2021	1000
BARR, CARNEY	RETIRED	12/13/2021	1000
DIORIO, PAT	INTEGRATED MEDICAL SYSTEMS	12/13/2021	1000
GASPARDO, BRIAN	SELF	12/14/2021	1000
HACKER, TOM	C&L SUPREME	12/14/2021	1000
PHELAN, JOHN	RETIRED	12/14/2021	1000
KOST, PETER	RETIRED	12/17/2021	1000
HALIKIAS FAMILY COMPANY	HALIKIAS FAMILY COMPANY, LLC	12/20/2021	1000
TRAVERSO, JAY	BIOTECH AMERICA	12/20/2021	1000
LICEAGA, EDWARD	RETIRED	12/21/2021	1000

BARKER, ROBERT	FRONT SQUARE INC.	12/27/2021	1000
O'CONNOR, JOHN	RETIRED	12/29/2021	1000
MATHIS, PAUL	SELF	12/30/2021	1000
MCKAY, JENNIFER	CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON	12/31/2021	1000
WHITTINGHAM, RICHARD	R WHITTINGHAM MEAT CORP	1/21/2022	1000
RIORDAN, BRIAN	CLAUSEN MILLER	1/23/2022	1000
AVERS, RICHARD	VERISTAR	1/25/2022	1000
VATES, ERIC	MAZDA OF ORLAND PARK	1/27/2022	1000
BARR, PATRICE	HOMEMAKER	2/22/2022	1000
MARLAR, ROBERT	SELF	2/24/2022	1000
MCGUSHIN, PATRICK	MIDWEST UTILITY, INC.	2/24/2022	1000
MARAGOS MD, STAVROS G	SELF	2/26/2022	1000
HARDING, JIM	RETIRED	3/3/2022	1000
SCHMIDT, MATTHEW	SELF	3/24/2022	1000
CAPPS, CHAD	CORE AND MAIN	3/27/2022	1000
CITIZEN FOR TIMOTHY SCHNEIDER		3/28/2022	1000
CONNOLLY, JERRY	STATE FARM	3/28/2022	1000
HYLAND, RICHARD	CELTIC CARTAGE	3/28/2022	1000
MAINE TOWNSHIP REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB		3/28/2022	1000
DILGER, CARRIE	ABSOLUTE SECURITY MANAGEMENT	3/29/2022	1000
BEARD, KIMBERLY	SELF	3/30/2022	1000
PORTER, RICHARD W	KIRKLAND & ELLIS	3/30/2022	1000
GASPARDO, LOUIS	O'NEILL & GASPARDO	4/16/2022	1000
GASPARDO, BRIAN	SELF	4/24/2022	1000
HAMILTON, JAMES R	AXIS CAPITAL	5/19/2022	1000
MATHIS, PAUL	SELF	5/26/2022	1000
LOTT, KURTIS	CAJUN BOIL & BAR	6/3/2022	1000
MANDARY, JAMES	JVM REALTY CORPORATION	6/6/2022	1000
MASON, PETER I	SELF	6/7/2022	1000
ALONGI, PAUL V	RETIRED	6/8/2022	1000
HASSAN, RAMZI	EDWARDS REALTY CO	6/17/2022	1000
KOLOZENSKI, MARK A	SELF	6/17/2022	1000
SLIVA JR, RAYMOND A	BEST BUY	6/17/2022	1000
WYDAJEWSKI, BRIAN	BAKER MCKENZIE LLP	6/17/2022	1000
BRASHER, JAMES	PROFESSIONAL STRATEGY GROUP	6/24/2022	1000
LAROCCO, STEVE	FATTIES PUB	6/25/2022	1000
SHURLEY, RALPH J	SELF	6/28/2022	1000
SODEIKA, THOMAS	AUXILLIUM HCM	6/28/2022	1000
PORTER, RICHARD W	KIRKLAND & ELLIS	6/30/2022	1000
SHEWMAKE, DAVID	RETIRED	12/31/2021	900
SHEWMAKE, LORIE	HOMEMAKER	12/31/2021	900
GASPARDO, BRIAN	SELF	5/12/2022	740.2
IVES, JEANNE	SELF	5/7/2022	686.08
MORRISON, SEAN	COOK COUNTY	3/29/2022	590
KACEROVSKIS, TIM	SELF	11/26/2021	500

VATES, ERIC	MAZDA OF ORLAND PARK	11/29/2021	500
TRACY, DOUG	XFORMDIGITAL	11/30/2021	500
VLAMING, JAMES P	RETIRED	12/6/2021	500
SHURLEY, YVONNE N	HOMEMAKER	12/13/2021	500
WELDON, WILLIAM R		12/13/2021	500
TROY, JAMES	RETIRED	12/17/2021	500
BODDY, DONNA	RETIRED	12/18/2021	500
HARTMANN, JOHN F	MARTIN & MARTIN JEWELERS	12/20/2021	500
SHARP, VICTOR L JR.	SELF	12/20/2021	500
KOLOZENSKI, MARK A	SELF	12/29/2021	500
MACKANIN, JOHN	ICC	12/29/2021	500
FERGUSON, GARY R		12/30/2021	500
KALM, NICK	REPUTATION PARTNERS, LLC	12/31/2021	500
MIKITKA, MICHAEL	MATERIAL HANDLING INDUSTRY	12/31/2021	500
ORAL, RAYMOND	FORTIUM PARTNERS, LP	12/31/2021	500
BRASHER, JAMES	PROFESSIONAL STRATEGY GROUP	1/8/2022	500
OTTOSEN, KARL	OTTOSEN DINOLFO	1/14/2022	500
BRAMLETT, LONNIE JR		1/18/2022	500
HAMPTON, DAN	RETIRED	1/24/2022	500
BARR, CARNEY	RETIRED	1/28/2022	500
SKENDER, JOSEPH	SKENDER CONSTRUCTION	1/30/2022	500
SHARP, VICTOR L JR.	SELF	2/8/2022	500
LEARY, KEVIN	W.H. LEARY CO.	2/18/2022	500
MCCARTHY, TIMOTHY J	RETIRED	2/24/2022	500
LAHEY, JAMES	OWNER	3/2/2022	500
YOUNG, MICHAEL	SELF	3/6/2022	500
COGHILL, BERT	RETIRED	3/22/2022	500
DONEGAN, MICHAEL	RETIRED	3/23/2022	500
NASO, CHARLES	ALLIANT	3/23/2022	500
WALSH, DENNIS	KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS, LTD	3/28/2022	500
SFIRE, JOHN	SELF	3/29/2022	500
HOME CENTER, FOX	FHC FENCE	3/30/2022	500
PROVENZANO, JANICE	RETIRED	3/30/2022	500
SMITH, JACKY W	STIFEL	3/30/2022	500
WATSON, GRAHAM	FAMILY HYUNDAI	3/30/2022	500
WOJCIK, MICHAEL	THE HORTON GROUP	4/8/2022	500
WALSH, DENNIS	KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS, LTD	4/30/2022	500
BANDAUSKAS, SUSAN	RETIRED	5/6/2022	500
HARDEK, MIKE	FIRST SECURE BANK	5/6/2022	500
YAKSIC, VIRGINIA	RETIRED	5/6/2022	500
ORAL, RAYMOND	FORTIUM PARTNERS, LP	5/8/2022	500
RIORDAN, BRIAN	CLAUSEN MILLER	5/8/2022	500
NICHOLSON, PETER	P ARISTO NICHOLSON CONSULTING	5/14/2022	500
NUSSBAUM, PHILIP	PERFORMANCE TRUST	5/18/2022	500
BURKE, THOMAS T		5/19/2022	500

CROSSON, WILLIAM D		5/19/2022	500
KOTSIOVOS, CHRISTO P	RETIRED	5/19/2022	500
WILLE, BRIAN R	SELF	5/19/2022	500
MOLINARI, ROBERT	RETIRED	5/28/2022	500
AURELIO, ROGER L JR.		6/6/2022	500
OSWALD, BRIAN	RETIRED	6/6/2022	500
VOLUNTEERS FOR SHIMKUS		6/6/2022	500
MERRILL, ROSANNE	RETIRED	6/8/2022	500
DUBELBEIS, TOM	RETIRED	6/11/2022	500
HAUGH, ROBERT	FRANCIS W PARKER SCHOOL	6/11/2022	500
HICKEY, LAURENCE	RETIRED	6/13/2022	500
DEA, JEROME T	DEA APPRAISALS	6/15/2022	500
GARDINER, THOMAS	GARDINER KOCH WEISBERG & WRONA	6/15/2022	500
MATEJA, DANIEL J	NAVISTAR	6/15/2022	500
SHAHEEN, PAUL	THE HORTON GROUP	6/15/2022	500
MANOLIS, EVAN	SELF	6/17/2022	500
FROST, WILLIAM C	RETIRED	6/24/2022	500
GABRIEL, KENNETH	RETIRED	6/24/2022	500
LANG, PAUL F	RETIRED	6/28/2022	500
MCPHERSON, SCOTT	MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	12/31/2021	400
KATSENES, CYNTHIA L	REAL ESTATE	6/22/2022	400
HARRIS, CHRISTOPHER	DARVIN	12/8/2021	375
STOGUR, JOHN	MUGSHOTS	1/31/2022	373
HALIKIAS, ROBERT	HALIKIAS FAMILY COMPANY, LLC	12/20/2021	334
CHARAL, ROBERT	HALIDIAS FAMILY COMPANY, LLC	12/20/2021	333
HALIKIAS, PATRICIA	HALIKIAS FAMILY COMPANY, LLC	12/20/2021	333
ADAMEK, JAMES J JR.	AB MATERIAL TESTING LLC	12/6/2021	300
JEANES, DONALD	CRYSTAL ESTATES LLC	12/31/2021	300
MSH MEDICAL LLC, MSH	MSH MEDICAL, LLC	2/23/2022	300
RYAN, MICHAEL P		2/26/2022	300
ADAMEK, JAMES J JR.	AB MATERIAL TESTING LLC	3/30/2022	300
CHAMP, PETER	IIT, INC.	4/26/2022	300
HAVERLY, VICTOR	HAVERLY SYSTEMS INC.	5/8/2022	300
MATEJA, DANIEL J	NAVISTAR	5/24/2022	300
STONE, LINDA LORENZO	LWHS 210	6/30/2022	300
DENNEE, RICHARD	RETIRED	11/29/2021	250
MCGURY, CAROL	SMITHBUCKLIN	12/2/2021	250
BUKOWSKI, DANIEL	NET ALPHA ADVISORS LLC	12/15/2021	250
DUBELBEIS, TOM	RETIRED	12/17/2021	250
NASO, CHARLES	ALLIANT	12/17/2021	250
MAYHALL, DOUGLAS	ALL SEASONS POOLS	12/21/2021	250
DAVIDS, RANDY	RETIRED	12/22/2021	250
RAUSCHENBERGER, STEVE	RETIRED	12/23/2021	250

ANDERSON, STEPHEN	BR PURCHASING LLC	12/27/2021	250
DE JONG, MICHAEL	IQVIA	12/29/2021	250
HARTFORD, ELMER	POLAR HEATING AND AIR	12/29/2021	250
OHARA, WANDA	RETIRED	12/29/2021	250
OKUN, WILLIAM	SELF	12/29/2021	250
IPEMA, DONALD	RETIRED	12/30/2021	250
KOUCHIS, PETE	VISUCOM GRAPHICS	12/30/2021	250
KRZUS, MICHAEL	SELF	12/30/2021	250
HABERKERN, ASHLEY	HOMEMAKER	12/31/2021	250
OHARA, WANDA	RETIRED	12/31/2021	250
RADASZEWSKI, JONI	NOVACK AND MACEY LLP	12/31/2021	250
DAMSTRA, ED	COLONIAL CHAPEL LTD	1/25/2022	250
DILL, MATT	BEECHEN & DILL HOMES	2/10/2022	250
MURIN, C. SUZANNE	RETIRED	3/1/2022	250
STIEBER, JAY	LETTUCE ENTERTAIN YOU	3/16/2022	250
BARKOWSKI, EDWARD	SERVICE NET	3/22/2022	250
JEANES, DONALD H	SELF	3/22/2022	250
JUNKAS, JEFFREY	LIBERTY MUTUAL	3/22/2022	250
MOTTL, CINDY	SELF	3/22/2022	250
ORAL, RAYMOND	FORTIUM PARTNERS, LP	3/23/2022	250
BATES, GREG	SELF	3/24/2022	250
DAMSTRA, ED	COLONIAL CHAPEL LTD	3/24/2022	250
TROKEY, SCOTT	SELF	3/24/2022	250
CRISCIONE, VINCE	DELTA AIRLINES	3/25/2022	250
HARTFORD, ELMER	POLAR HEATING AND AIR	3/25/2022	250
FEROLO, JAMES	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	3/28/2022	250
JURUSIK, MICHAEL	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	3/28/2022	250
MALINE, LANCE	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	3/28/2022	250
MELODY, THOMAS	KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS, LTD	3/28/2022	250
PELLEGRINI, DANIEL	WALSH SERVICES	3/29/2022	250
UHLER, SCOTT	KLEIN THORPE & JENKINS	3/29/2022	250
DURKIN, BILL	ONE POSITIVE PLACE	3/31/2022	250
HASSAN, RAMZI	EDWARDS REALTY CO	3/31/2022	250
O'SULLIVAN, PATRICK	ASSURANCE MMA	3/31/2022	250
O'SULLIVAN, TERESA	RUSH STREET GAMING	3/31/2022	250
ULRICH, DAVE	RETIRED	3/31/2022	250
KOLOZENSKI, MARK A	SELF	4/4/2022	250
ULRICH, DAVE	RETIRED	4/5/2022	250
ADTURE, TAMER	SELF	4/8/2022	250
KLOS, JANET	RETIRED	4/8/2022	250
OSTERMAN, JEFF	STRATEGY POINT FINANCIAL	4/10/2022	250
ANKENY, LORYN	RETIRED	4/13/2022	250
CASSA, SUSAN SOJKA	RETIRED	4/13/2022	250
FREDRICKS, BRIAN C	RETIRED	4/13/2022	250
SPRENGER, DOUGLAS M	RETIRED	4/13/2022	250

KIRBY, GWEN	RETIRED	4/14/2022	250
HARRIS, TIM	SELF	4/16/2022	250
ORMSBY, PATRICK	RETIRED	4/16/2022	250
MURRAY, PATRICK	MORNINGSTAR, INC.	4/18/2022	250
ECK, VIRGINIA L	RETIRED	4/19/2022	250
HOLECEK, JAMES A	TRAVELERS INS	4/19/2022	250
MURPHY, JAMES	SELF	4/22/2022	250
ULLMAN, DAVE	RETIRED	4/24/2022	250
MARTH, JIM	MARTH CONSTRUCTION	4/26/2022	250
BAVCEVIC, MIKE	SELF	4/28/2022	250
NOGAL, RICHARD J	GOLDSTINE, SKRODZKI, RUSSIA, N	4/29/2022	250
HEIDECKE, ALBERT	CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF JOLIET	5/8/2022	250
TENUTA, PAUL	PWC	5/14/2022	250
EVOY, TIMOTHY M JR	FIBRE DRUM SALES, INC.	5/24/2022	250
WINKLER, VINCE	RETIRED	5/24/2022	250
DAVISON, GEORGE	RETIRED	5/26/2022	250
BLATZER, ELLEN	RETIRED	5/28/2022	250
ANDREWS, JOE	SELF	6/5/2022	250
FOX, FRANK	FOX'S PIZZA	6/5/2022	250
KANE, DAVID	SPYGLASS BUILDERS LLC	6/6/2022	250
WILLETT, ROBERT	LETTER CARRIER	6/6/2022	250
HRUSKA, JAMES J	RETIRED	6/7/2022	250
BAUER, JOHN	EXODUS WORLD SERVICE	6/8/2022	250
DEGROOT, H PAUL	RETIRED	6/8/2022	250
LOFGREN, CARL A	RETIRED	6/8/2022	250
PAVONE, JOSEPH A	SELF	6/8/2022	250
SFIRE, JOHN	SELF	6/8/2022	250
TUOHY, VINCENT	IRISH PATRIOT	6/8/2022	250
DURKIN, BILL	ONE POSITIVE PLACE	6/11/2022	250
BARON, DAVID	GILEAD	6/13/2022	250
KEPOUROS, JOY	SELF	6/13/2022	250
BLATZER, ELLEN	RETIRED	6/17/2022	250
BURKE, KAREN	NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE	6/17/2022	250
LEARY, KEVIN	W.H. LEARY CO.	6/17/2022	250
HUSHKA, THOMAS G	RETIRED	6/22/2022	250
JANSSEN, ROBERT C	RETIRED	6/22/2022	250
RIELAND, EDWARD J	GREAT LAKES HEALTHCARE	6/24/2022	250
RHOADS, DAVID	THREE POINT CONSULTING	6/28/2022	250
WITT, MARILYN A	RETIRED	6/28/2022	250
RAUSCHENBERGER, STEVE	RETIRED	6/30/2022	250
HORD, ROBERT E	RETIRED	2/24/2022	225
SMITH, JACKY W	STIFEL	2/24/2022	225
SWANSON, JAY	RETIRED	12/29/2021	200
OHARA, WANDA	RETIRED	1/27/2022	200
BLATZER, ELLEN	RETIRED	3/4/2022	200

RAUSCHENBERGER, STEVE	RETIRED	6/6/2022	200
O'MALLEY, LINDSEY	HOWARD & HOWARD	12/7/2021	175
RIORDAN, BRIAN	CLAUSEN MILLER	12/8/2021	175
DEVLIN, RYAN	SELF	12/18/2021	175
MATEJA, DANIEL J	NAVISTAR	12/20/2021	175
KAMPAS, SEAN	KFORCE	3/22/2022	175
JABLECKI, HOWARD	KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS	3/29/2022	150
CALVANESE, LARISA	SELF	4/30/2022	150
BRYLES, SCOTT	BRYLES RESEARCH	6/8/2022	150
KRZUS, MICHAEL	SELF	1/20/2022	125
CONNOLLEY, CHARLES	DISC REPLAY	1/26/2022	125
HACKER, TOM	C&L SUPREME	2/7/2022	125
SWANSON, JAY	RETIRED	2/15/2022	125
SOLEK, JOSEPH	RETIRED	2/19/2022	125
O'NEILL, DAN	RETIRED	2/22/2022	125
VLAMING, JAMES P	RETIRED	2/22/2022	125
MATEJA, DANIEL J	NAVISTAR	2/24/2022	125
PEKAU, KEITH	FAHRENHEIT	11/22/2021	100
ADAMEK, JAMES J JR.	AB MATERIAL TESTING LLC	12/16/2021	100
CARR, LINDA	RETIRED	12/28/2021	100
ADAMEK, JAMES J JR.	AB MATERIAL TESTING LLC	12/31/2021	100
ADAMEK, JAMES J JR.	AB MATERIAL TESTING LLC	1/31/2022	100
GALVAN, MICHAEL	GALLY DEVELOPMENT	3/2/2022	100
GRESS, LAWRENCE	RETIRED	3/22/2022	100
KRZUS, MICHAEL	SELF	3/27/2022	100
O'NEILL, DAN	RETIRED	3/30/2022	100
DE JONG, MICHAEL	IQVIA	3/31/2022	100
WALSH, JAMES	BOEING	4/8/2022	100
SOLEK, JOSEPH	RETIRED	4/13/2022	100
YUNDT III, GEORGE J	RETIRED	4/13/2022	100
DUBELBEIS, TOM	RETIRED	4/18/2022	100
BENSON, CRISSIE	THOMAS BENSON, CPA	4/20/2022	100
CALVANESE, LARISA	SELF	4/30/2022	100
CONNOLLEY, CHARLES	DISC REPLAY	5/6/2022	100
CONNOLLY, JERRY	STATE FARM	5/6/2022	100
MATEJA, DANIEL J	NAVISTAR	5/6/2022	100
ULRICH, DAVE	RETIRED	5/18/2022	100
MCPHERSON, SCOTT	MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	5/20/2022	100
VLAMING, JAMES P	RETIRED	6/1/2022	100
PIPOLO, JIM	XERIS PHARMA	6/5/2022	100
GALGAN, ROBERT J JR.	SELF	6/7/2022	100
MICHAELS, LINDA	WILLIAM R HEALY, CPA	6/8/2022	100
CARR, LINDA	RETIRED	6/17/2022	100
VLAMING, JAMES P	RETIRED	6/25/2022	100

YERKES, KENNETH	SELF	1/28/2022	75
CARR, LINDA	RETIRED	2/10/2022	75
SHURLEY, YVONNE N	HOMEMAKER	2/23/2022	75
KATSENES, CYNTHIA L	REAL ESTATE	2/24/2022	75
O'NEILL, DAN	RETIRED	5/4/2022	60
KATSENES, CYNTHIA L	REAL ESTATE	5/6/2022	60
SOLEK, JOSEPH	RETIRED	5/6/2022	60
SHAHEEN, PAUL	THE HORTON GROUP	12/27/2021	50
SOLEK, JOSEPH	RETIRED	12/29/2021	50
VLAMING, JAMES P	RETIRED	3/2/2022	50
SHAHEEN, PAUL	THE HORTON GROUP	3/23/2022	50
KUBASAK, SHARON L	SELF	3/25/2022	50
VLAMING, JAMES P	RETIRED	3/28/2022	50
GALVAN, MICHAEL	GALLY DEVELOPMENT	3/31/2022	50
MELKONIAN, EDWARD	RETIRED	5/6/2022	50
KATSENES, CYNTHIA L	REAL ESTATE	5/24/2022	50
CALVANESE, LARISA	SELF	6/1/2022	50
BLOCK, ANITA	RETIRED	6/5/2022	50
CALVANESE, LARISA	SELF	1/10/2022	40
YERKES, KENNETH	SELF	1/19/2022	30
SOLEK, JOSEPH	RETIRED	1/25/2022	30
KATSENES, CYNTHIA L	REAL ESTATE	1/31/2022	30
CARR, LINDA	RETIRED	3/23/2022	25
SOLEK, JOSEPH	RETIRED	3/28/2022	25
CARR, LINDA	RETIRED	3/31/2022	25
CARR, LINDA	RETIRED	5/14/2022	25
CARR, LINDA	RETIRED	6/1/2022	25
SOLEK, JOSEPH	RETIRED	6/1/2022	25
NOCERA, DAVID	MERCEDES-BENZ OF ORLAND PARK	12/17/2021	-2900
K AND J BUILDERS, LLC, K&J	K AND J BUILDERS, LLC	3/10/2022	-2900

[Federal Election Commission, accessed [9/2/22](#)]

## Itemized Disbursements

**Pekau Made 161 Disbursements From His Campaign Account As Of September 2022.** [Federal Election Commission, accessed [9/2/22](#)]

Keith For Congress Itemized Disbursements As Of September 2022			
Recipient	Description	Date	Amount
VISUCOM GRAPHICS	CAMPAIGN BANNER, SIGN AND STAND	11/22/2021	596.82
FOX'S PIZZA	FUND RAISER FOOD	11/22/2021	988.11
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	11/29/2021	215.12
ARIZONA STRATEGIC PARTNERS	CONTRACTED RETAINER FEE	12/1/2021	15000

ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	12/6/2021	323.86
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	12/13/2021	226.33
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	12/20/2021	1304.06
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	12/27/2021	79.05
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	12/31/2021	215.9
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	12/31/2021	688.84
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/1/2022	4.3
RUTLEDGE PRINTING COMPANY	PRINTING NOTE CARDS	1/1/2022	424.3
SUNCOM.TV	VIDEO PRODUCTION FOR CAMPAIGN	1/1/2022	2025
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/3/2022	8.6
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	1/3/2022	4200
COR SERVICES	SIGNS, ADVERTISING, MAILINGS, BUS CARDS	1/5/2022	7195.27
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/6/2022	235.91
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/8/2022	24.6
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/10/2022	5.6
CRYSTAL TREE COUNTRY CLUB	FUNDRAISER BANQUET ROOM	1/10/2022	3328.72
COR STRATEGIES	CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT	1/10/2022	7179.25
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/12/2022	21
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/14/2022	5.3
ARIZONA STRATEGIC PARTNERS	CAMPAIGN CONTRACTED RETAINER FEE	1/14/2022	15000
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/16/2022	20.3
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/18/2022	3.3
FULL CIRCLE STRATEGIES LLC	FUNDRAISING CONSULTING	1/19/2022	1000
WILLIAM R HEALY, CPA	ACCOUNTING SERVICES	1/19/2022	1600
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/20/2022	2.81
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	1/22/2022	58.81
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	1/24/2022	51.23
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/26/2022	76.24
COR SERVICES	PRINTING	1/26/2022	2010.15
COR STRATEGIES	CAMPAIGN MGMT	1/26/2022	4699.51
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	1/28/2022	91.82
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	1/30/2022	13.75
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	1/31/2022	32.03
STOGUR, JOHN	IN-KIND - BEVERAGES	1/31/2022	373
ADAMEK, JAMES J JR.	IN-KIND - FOOD	1/31/2022	1650
FULL CIRCLE STRATEGIES LLC	FUND RAISING	2/1/2022	1000
THE KNIGHT AGENCY	PUBLIC RELATIONS	2/2/2022	5000
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2/3/2022	17.52
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2/5/2022	6.9

ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2/9/2022	10.6
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2/11/2022	28.13
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2/13/2022	7.92
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2/17/2022	20.2
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2/19/2022	27.91
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2/21/2022	11.61
RUTLEDGE PRINTING COMPANY	ADVERTISING	2/22/2022	214.7
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	2/23/2022	136.51
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	2/25/2022	129.2
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	2/25/2022	3600
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	2/27/2022	7.6
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	3/1/2022	10.91
FULL CIRCLE STRATEGIES LLC	FUNDRAISING	3/1/2022	1000
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	3/1/2022	3900
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	3/3/2022	40.42
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	3/5/2022	56.2
VISUCOM GRAPHICS	ADVERTISING/PRINTING	3/5/2022	268.69
THE KNIGHT AGENCY	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	3/5/2022	5000
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/7/2022	20.3
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	3/9/2022	66.91
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/11/2022	1.3
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/15/2022	8.6
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/17/2022	18.91
COR SERVICES	ADVERTISING	3/22/2022	2189.22
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/23/2022	469.44
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/25/2022	177.13
WALSH, JOHN	IN-KIND - 240 PIECES REBAR FOR 4 X 4 SIGNS	3/25/2022	2880
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/27/2022	43.11
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/29/2022	203.56
MORRISON, SEAN	IN-KIND - FOOD FOR FUNDRAISER	3/29/2022	590
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3/31/2022	62.75
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/1/2022	96.33
COR STRATEGIES	CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT	4/1/2022	5858.15
COR STRATEGIES	EVENT CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT	4/1/2022	7901.9
COR SERVICES	ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION	4/1/2022	18374.94
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/4/2022	4.61
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	4/5/2022	5200
STRATEGIC MEDIA PLACEMENT	ADVERTISING	4/5/2022	8364.43
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/6/2022	51.25
FULL CIRCLE STRATEGIES	FUND RAISING	4/6/2022	1665

LLC			
THE KNIGHT AGENCY	ADVERTISING	4/6/2022	5000
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/8/2022	65.73
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/10/2022	14.61
STRATEGIC MEDIA PLACEMENT	ADVERTISING	4/11/2022	14500
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/12/2022	10.91
COR SERVICES	CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT	4/12/2022	38343.38
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/14/2022	125.84
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/16/2022	77.75
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/18/2022	16.92
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/20/2022	13.9
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/22/2022	27.11
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/24/2022	62.82
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/26/2022	22.61
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/28/2022	14.61
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	4/30/2022	151.51
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/2/2022	7.71
DGTRO	CAMPAIGN SPEAKER	5/3/2022	1000
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	5/3/2022	4200
THE KNIGHT AGENCY	PUBLIC RELATIONS	5/3/2022	5000
COR SERVICES	MAILINGS - ADVERTISING	5/3/2022	32575.84
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGE	5/4/2022	11.41
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/6/2022	173.6
COR STRATEGIES	APRIL CAMPAIGN EXPENSES	5/6/2022	4884.04
COR SERVICES	MAILINGS, ADVERTISING	5/6/2022	33602.69
IVES, JEANNE	IN-KIND - 8,576 EMAIL / DONOR ADDRESSES AT 0.08 CENTS EACH	5/7/2022	686.08
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/8/2022	67.03
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/10/2022	12.21
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/12/2022	2.31
GASPARDO, BRIAN	IN-KIND - FOOD AND DRINK AT FUNDRAISER	5/12/2022	740.2
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/14/2022	272.12
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/18/2022	27.62
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/20/2022	15.81
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/24/2022	242.61
FULL CIRCLE STRATEGIES LLC	FUNDRAISING CONSULTANT	5/24/2022	1000
RED BEACON STRATEGIES	POSTAGE AND MAILING	5/24/2022	5234.75
STRATEGIC MEDIA PLACEMENT	FUNDRAISING MAILERS	5/24/2022	8064.43
COR SERVICES	POSTAGE AND MAILING	5/24/2022	14087.56
RUTLEDGE PRINTING COMPANY	PRINTING MAILERS	5/25/2022	177.4
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/26/2022	63.51

RUTLEDGE PRINTING COMPANY	MATERIALS FOR MAILING	5/26/2022	1117
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	5/28/2022	33.82
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/1/2022	4.3
ANEDOT		6/1/2022	6.21
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/3/2022	281.81
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/5/2022	147.53
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD FEES	6/6/2022	77.52
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/8/2022	46.44
JACOB PORWISZ	EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR MAY	6/9/2022	1750
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	6/9/2022	4000
MCPHERSON PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP	CAMPAIGN CONSULTING	6/9/2022	5000
THE KNIGHT AGENCY	PUBLIC RELATIONS	6/10/2022	5000
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/11/2022	74.74
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/13/2022	43.23
LAURENCELL, GORDIE	FUNDRAISER ENTERTAINMENT	6/13/2022	350
RUTLEDGE PRINTING COMPANY	LETTER & ENVELOPE FOR MAILING	6/13/2022	739.5
FULL CIRCLE STRATEGIES LLC	FUNDRAISING CONSULTING	6/13/2022	1000
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/15/2022	48.51
DONOFRIO, ANGELA	IN-KIND - FUNDRAISER CRUISE	6/16/2022	2500
DONOFRIO, JOE	IN-KIND - FUNDRAISER CRUISE	6/16/2022	2500
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/17/2022	60.44
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARDCHARGES	6/17/2022	80.6
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/19/2022	12.21
RED BEACON STRATEGIES	PRINTING MAILERS	6/20/2022	974.4
STRATEGIC MEDIA PLACEMENT INC.	EMAIL FUNDRAISING	6/20/2022	6254.98
COR STRATEGIES	CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT	6/20/2022	7912.5
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/21/2022	6.61
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/23/2022	11.91
JACOB PORWISZ	EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR JUNE	6/23/2022	2000
COR SERVICES	ADS AND TRACKING	6/23/2022	17519.92
VISUCOM GRAPHICS	IN-KIND - ADS - DONOR SIGNS	6/24/2022	96.34
WILLIAM R HEALY, CPA	IN-KIND - ACCOUNTING SERVICES	6/24/2022	1500
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/25/2022	283.11
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/28/2022	361.37
EGOFSKE, LOUISE	EXCESS DONATION	6/28/2022	1050
MCCLAFFERTY, ANN	EXCESS DONATION	6/28/2022	1050
K AND J BUILDERS, LLC, K&J	REFUND OF EXCESSIVE DONATION	6/28/2022	2100
PEKAU, KEITH	IN-KIND - MILEAGE & TOLLS DEC THRU MAR 2022	6/28/2022	2980.16
ANEDOT	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	6/30/2022	464.34

## State Campaign Finance Records

### Fundraising Overview

#### Spending And Disbursements By Cycle

##### *2021 Mayoral*

**2017 - 2021: Pekau's Campaign Committee Raised \$436,851.** According to the Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau's campaign committee raised \$436,851 between 2017 and 2021. [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**2017 – 2021: Pekau's Campaign Committee Spent \$376,827.** According to the Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau's campaign committee spent \$376,827 between 2017 and 2021. [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

##### *2017 Mayoral*

**2016 – 2017: Pekau's Campaign Committee Raised \$82,850.** According to the Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau's campaign committee raised \$82,850 between 2016 and 2017. [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**2016 – 2017: Pekau's Campaign Committee Spent \$80,948.** According to the Illinois State Board of Elections, Pekau's campaign committee raised \$80,948 between 2016 and 2017. [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

### Top Mayoral Contributors

#### **2017-2022**

**Pekau Loaned His Mayoral Campaign \$95,098.83 From January 2017 To August 2022.** According to the Illinois State Board of Elections, Keith Pekau contributed \$95,098.83 to Keith for Mayor from January 2017 through August 2022. [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

<b>Pekau Mayoral Contributions Aggregated 2017-2022</b>	
<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Aggregate Amount</b>
Keith Pekau	\$ 95,098.83
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	\$ 22,500.00
Joe Rizza	\$ 20,000.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	\$ 15,500.00
Orland Park Small Business Association	\$ 12,500.00
Ozinga Bros, Inc	\$ 10,000.00
Papa Joes	\$ 8,915.21
JR Robert Hord	\$ 8,700.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	\$ 8,100.00
Patrick DiOrio	\$ 7,500.00

McNaughton Development	\$	6,300.00
Jeffery Kinsey	\$	6,200.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	\$	6,075.00
Anderson & Hord	\$	5,800.00
Horton Glen & Deborah	\$	5,650.00
Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park	\$	5,500.00
Edwards Realty Company	\$	5,300.00
Comcast Financial Agency	\$	5,250.00
Richard Hyland	\$	5,200.00
Bridges Excavating, Inc.	\$	5,000.00
Zeigler Auto Group	\$	5,000.00

[Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

**Pekau's Top Contributor To His Mayoral Campaign Was Klein, Thorpe, & Jenkins, Ltd, Who Contributed \$22,500.** According to the Illinois State Board of Elections, Klein, Thorpe, & Jenkins, Ltd contributed \$22,500 to Keith for Mayor from January 2017 to August 2022. [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## Fundraising By Industry

**Pekau's Top Donors By Industry Included The Construction, Real Estate, Lawyers & Lobbyists, And Automotive Industries.** [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

Pekau Mayoral Top Donors By Industry	
Industry	Amount
Candidate/Committee	\$95,098.83
Construction	\$49,507.00
Real Estate	\$35,850.00
Lawyers/Lobbyists	\$32,550.00
Automotive	\$31,500.00
Food & Beverage	\$26,840.21
Other	\$24,475.00
Financial	\$21,350.00
Business	\$20,900.00
Healthcare	\$18,160.00
Retired	\$17,875.00
Development	\$17,175.00
Manufacturing	\$16,550.00
Insurance	\$8,350.00
Gaming	\$7,050.00
Consulting	\$6,850.00
Transportation	\$5,200.00
Funeral Services	\$3,800.00
Retail	\$3,500.00
Mail	\$2,500.00
Sales	\$2,500.00

Technology	\$2,450.00
Engineering	\$2,250.00
Media	\$1,700.00
Waste Management	\$1,500.00
PAC	\$1,300.00
Plumbing	\$1,300.00
Printing	\$1,200.00
Recruiting	\$1,000.00

[Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## Itemized Contributions

### 2021 Mayoral

**Pekau Accepted 581 Contributions To His 2021 Mayoral Campaign Committee.** [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

Pekau Itemized Contributions, 2021 Mayoral			
Contributor	Employer	Date	Amount
Pekau Keith	Village of Orland Park	2020-09-30	\$25,000.00
Pekau Keith	Village of Orland Park	2020-09-30	\$20,000.00
Anderson & Hord	N/A	2020-08-07	\$5,800.00
Bridges Excavating, Inc.	N/A	2017-05-11	\$5,000.00
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2019-05-15	\$5,000.00
Zeigler Auto Group	N/A	2020-08-03	\$5,000.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2020-08-23	\$5,000.00
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2020-08-23	\$5,000.00
Ozinga Bros, Inc	N/A	2020-09-19	\$5,000.00
Ozinga Bros, Inc	N/A	2020-12-17	\$5,000.00
Orland Park Small Business Association	N/A	2021-03-11	\$5,000.00
DiOrio Patrick	Integrated Medical Systems	2021-01-09	\$3,000.00
Hord JR Robert	Retired	2021-09-10	\$3,000.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	N/A	2017-05-11	\$2,575.00
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-04-07	\$2,535.65
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2017-05-09	\$2,500.00
Gaspardo Brian	ONeill and Gaspardo	2017-05-11	\$2,500.00
Pinnacle Construction Design Build Inc	N/A	2017-05-11	\$2,500.00

Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2017-05-11	\$2,500.00
Environmental Protection Industries, Inc	N/A	2017-05-11	\$2,500.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2017-06-03	\$2,500.00
Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park	N/A	2018-04-16	\$2,500.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2018-05-08	\$2,500.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2018-09-27	\$2,500.00
Service Corporation International	N/A	2018-09-27	\$2,500.00
Hord JR Robert	Retired	2019-05-13	\$2,500.00
DiOrio Patrick	Integrated Medical Systems	2019-09-03	\$2,500.00
Drew J	Structured Development	2019-10-08	\$2,500.00
Oberman Jim	PAYROC	2020-07-07	\$2,500.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	N/A	2020-08-03	\$2,500.00
Papa Joes	N/A	2020-08-28	\$2,500.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2020-08-28	\$2,500.00
Cattoni TJ	T's Gaming	2020-12-15	\$2,500.00
Executive Mailing Service	N/A	2021-01-17	\$2,500.00
Linder Plaza LTD	N/A	2021-02-08	\$2,500.00
Pappas Bernadette	Retired	2021-02-08	\$2,500.00
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2021-03-05	\$2,500.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2021-03-11	\$2,500.00
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2021-05-01	\$2,500.00
Orland Park Small Business Association	N/A	2021-05-31	\$2,500.00
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2021-08-21	\$2,500.00
JD Real estate	N/A	2021-09-04	\$2,500.00
Papa Joes	N/A	2021-09-04	\$2,500.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2021-09-04	\$2,500.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2021-09-28	\$2,500.00
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-07-06	\$2,247.14
The Weglarz Company	N/A	2020-08-18	\$2,000.00
Eileen Bergen	Retired	2021-03-18	\$2,000.00
Simpson Phillip	Phlavz Bar & Grill	2021-04-02	\$2,000.00
Vail Jeff	T's Gaming	2021-09-28	\$1,700.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2020-08-18	\$1,650.00
V3 Companies	N/A	2020-08-21	\$1,650.00
Twin Peaks Restaurant	N/A	2018-04-16	\$1,500.00
Edwards Realty Company	N/A	2018-04-16	\$1,500.00
Orland Park Small Business Association	N/A	2018-09-25	\$1,500.00
McNaughton Development	N/A	2019-05-30	\$1,500.00

Van Bruggen Sam	Van Bruggen Signs	2021-02-08	\$1,500.00
T's Gaming	N/A	2020-08-03	\$1,450.00
Papa Joes	N/A	2018-12-19	\$1,402.88
W.H. Leary Co.	N/A	2021-09-01	\$1,350.00
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-04-08	\$1,200.00
Forkan John	Celtic Development	2018-04-24	\$1,200.00
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	2021-05-17	\$1,200.00
Papa Joes	N/A	2021-04-06	\$1,187.51
A.B. Material Testing LLC	N/A	2020-09-01	\$1,150.00
Jeanes Construction Co., Inc	N/A	2020-12-17	\$1,107.00
Edwards Realty Company	N/A	2020-07-28	\$1,050.00
Keller Williams Elite	N/A	2020-08-12	\$1,050.00
Bettenhausen Michael	Bettenhausen Dodge	2017-05-11	\$1,000.00
Kinsey Jeffery	BRUNSWICK CORPORATION	2017-05-18	\$1,000.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2017-05-18	\$1,000.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2017-06-03	\$1,000.00
Comcast Financial Agency	N/A	2017-07-06	\$1,000.00
McNaughton Development	N/A	2017-10-23	\$1,000.00
Fair Share Gaming, LLC	N/A	2017-10-23	\$1,000.00
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	2017-10-25	\$1,000.00
Comcast Financial Agency	N/A	2018-06-09	\$1,000.00
Pappas Michael	Fair Share Gaming	2018-09-23	\$1,000.00
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	2018-09-25	\$1,000.00
Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park	N/A	2018-11-07	\$1,000.00
Orland Park Small Business Association	N/A	2018-12-10	\$1,000.00
Bollman Jeff	Next day plus	2019-05-02	\$1,000.00
Orland Park Crossings, LLC	N/A	2019-05-07	\$1,000.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2019-05-13	\$1,000.00
Hyland Richard	Celtic Cartage INC.	2019-05-30	\$1,000.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2019-05-30	\$1,000.00
Halikias Family Company, LLC	N/A	2019-05-30	\$1,000.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2019-06-05	\$1,000.00
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2019-09-06	\$1,000.00
Grigas Leynn & Marc	Strand Associates	2019-09-06	\$1,000.00
Hassan Ramzi	Edward Realty	2019-09-17	\$1,000.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2019-09-17	\$1,000.00
Jacobsen Scott	Owner	2019-10-06	\$1,000.00

Ozinga Martin	Owner	2019-10-07	\$1,000.00
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	2019-10-09	\$1,000.00
Halikias Family Company, LLC	N/A	2019-10-09	\$1,000.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2019-10-09	\$1,000.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2019-10-09	\$1,000.00
McNaughton Development	N/A	2019-10-09	\$1,000.00
Kasper Scott	Self Employed	2020-01-24	\$1,000.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2020-03-05	\$1,000.00
Orland Park Crossings, LLC	N/A	2020-03-17	\$1,000.00
Kasal Brian	Four Star Wealth	2020-06-16	\$1,000.00
Comcast Financial Agency	N/A	2020-07-07	\$1,000.00
Lang Paul	Owner	2020-07-09	\$1,000.00
Lang Paul	Owner	2020-07-11	\$1,000.00
Lang James	Performance Services	2020-07-11	\$1,000.00
Kasper Scott	Self Employed	2020-07-19	\$1,000.00
Orland Park Small Business Association	N/A	2020-08-03	\$1,000.00
DiOrio Patrick	Integrated Medical Systems	2020-08-03	\$1,000.00
Gardiner Koch Weisberg & Wrona	N/A	2020-08-08	\$1,000.00
Hyland Richard	Celtic Cartage INC.	2020-08-12	\$1,000.00
Pappas Michael	Fair Share Gaming	2020-09-01	\$1,000.00
Kosloskus Tom	Next Day Plus	2020-09-06	\$1,000.00
S.R. Jacobson Development Corp	N/A	2020-09-06	\$1,000.00
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2020-12-02	\$1,000.00
Mathis Paul	GE Mathis Company	2020-12-02	\$1,000.00
Hord JR Robert	Retired	2020-12-15	\$1,000.00
Halikias Family Company, LLC	N/A	2020-12-17	\$1,000.00
Barker Robert	Front Square Inc dba. J.W. Hollstein's Saloon	2020-12-17	\$1,000.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2021-02-21	\$1,000.00
Frederick Erik	Unemployed	2021-02-28	\$1,000.00
Edwards Realty Company	N/A	2021-03-05	\$1,000.00
Fox Home Center, Inc	N/A	2021-03-06	\$1,000.00
Halikias Family Company, LLC	N/A	2021-03-06	\$1,000.00
Manolis Evan	Self Employed	2021-03-19	\$1,000.00
Comcast Financial Agency	N/A	2021-03-19	\$1,000.00
McNaughton Development	N/A	2021-04-08	\$1,000.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2021-05-28	\$1,000.00

Wargo Jim	Ottosen DiNolfo, Hasenbalg & Castaltdo, Ltd	2021-08-24	\$1,000.00
O'Neill & Gaspardo Consultants & CPAs	N/A	2021-09-01	\$1,000.00
Elliot Dan	Tommy's Car Wash	2021-09-10	\$1,000.00
Orland Park Small Business Association	N/A	2021-09-12	\$1,000.00
Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park	N/A	2021-09-28	\$1,000.00
Citizens For Brian Riordan	N/A	2021-07-19	\$950.00
G.E. Mathis Company	N/A	2021-07-19	\$950.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2021-09-12	\$950.00
V3 Companies	N/A	2021-09-17	\$950.00
Papa Joes	N/A	2020-12-16	\$925.00
Adamek Jim	AB Material	2020-09-01	\$900.00
Sosin David	Sosin, Arnold & Shoenbeck	2021-08-24	\$850.00
Huestis Bob	Retired	2021-02-21	\$825.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	N/A	2019-05-29	\$800.00
Mathis Paul	GE Mathis Company	2020-07-07	\$800.00
Walsh Services Inc.	N/A	2020-07-07	\$800.00
Coach's Corner Sports Bar & Grill	N/A	2020-07-28	\$800.00
HR Green	N/A	2020-08-03	\$800.00
Szofer Edward	CEO	2020-08-06	\$800.00
Oberman Jim	PAYROC	2021-08-24	\$800.00
Egofske John	Village of Lemont	2020-09-30	\$775.00
Athletex Physical Therapy	N/A	2017-05-12	\$750.00
Comcast Financial Agency	N/A	2019-05-07	\$750.00
Jem Medspa	N/A	2020-08-13	\$750.00
Glasgow William	William T. Glasgow, Inc	2020-08-18	\$750.00
Structured Development	N/A	2020-08-23	\$750.00
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	2020-08-28	\$750.00
Pappas Mary	Retired	2021-03-19	\$750.00
VisuCom Grpahics	N/A	2020-08-28	\$701.70
Willett Robert	Retired	2021-03-11	\$700.00
Mulrenin Katie	ICI	2021-06-29	\$700.00
Horton Glen & Deborah	Horton Insurance	2021-08-19	\$700.00
Adamek Jim	AB Material	2021-08-24	\$700.00
Coach's Corner Sports Bar & Grill	N/A	2021-09-01	\$700.00
O'Connor John	Retired	2021-09-01	\$700.00
Inthenet Management and Strategy Consulting, LLC	N/A	2021-09-04	\$700.00

Fox Home Center, Inc	N/A	2020-07-07	\$650.00
Parkview Christian Church	N/A	2020-07-19	\$650.00
Glanville Peter	Chik Fil A	2020-07-19	\$650.00
Darwent Carol	Retired	2020-07-24	\$650.00
Mulrenin Katie	ICI	2020-07-24	\$650.00
Sosin David	Sosin, Arnold & Shoenbeck	2020-08-12	\$650.00
Hampton Dan	Retired	2020-08-21	\$650.00
Capps Chad	Core and Main	2021-09-01	\$650.00
Hord JR Robert	Retired	2017-05-05	\$600.00
Hord JR Robert	Retired	2017-10-24	\$600.00
Stevens John	Arctic Ice Arena	2020-08-28	\$600.00
Sabatino Jodi	Retired	2017-05-12	\$575.00
Manolis Evan	Self Employed	2021-05-28	\$560.00
Connelley Charles	Self Employed	2021-08-26	\$550.00
Robinson Engineering	N/A	2017-05-05	\$500.00
Botica Luke	N/A	2017-05-05	\$500.00
Finn Deborah	N/A	2017-05-08	\$500.00
MPI Media Group	N/A	2017-05-09	\$500.00
HR Green Inc T. Scott Creech	N/A	2017-05-11	\$500.00
Gaylord Robert	Connor & Gallagher	2017-05-11	\$500.00
MORE PAC	N/A	2017-05-12	\$500.00
Lexus Of Orland	N/A	2017-05-12	\$500.00
Spaceco Inc	N/A	2017-05-12	\$500.00
Ealain Technology Solutions, LLC	N/A	2017-05-12	\$500.00
McNaughton Development	N/A	2017-05-18	\$500.00
Spaceco Inc	N/A	2017-10-18	\$500.00
Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd	N/A	2017-10-18	\$500.00
Arctic Ice Arena	N/A	2017-10-18	\$500.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2017-10-23	\$500.00
Edwards Realty Company	N/A	2017-10-24	\$500.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2017-10-25	\$500.00
HR Green Inc T. Scott Creech	N/A	2017-10-25	\$500.00
State Farm Insurance Companies	N/A	2017-10-25	\$500.00
Waste Management	N/A	2017-11-06	\$500.00
Comcast Financial Agency	N/A	2017-12-04	\$500.00
Southmoor COMmons of Orland Park	N/A	2017-12-23	\$500.00
Traverso John	N/A	2018-04-02	\$500.00
Damastra III Edward	N/A	2018-04-02	\$500.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2018-04-12	\$500.00
MORE PAC	N/A	2018-04-12	\$500.00

Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2018-04-12	\$500.00
McNaughton Development	N/A	2018-04-24	\$500.00
Garfield Fred	N/A	2018-09-12	\$500.00
Gaspardo Brian	N/A	2018-09-19	\$500.00
Solek, DDS Joseph	N/A	2018-09-19	\$500.00
Johandes Melissa	N/A	2018-09-20	\$500.00
Kolozenski Mark	N/A	2018-09-20	\$500.00
Doria John	N/A	2018-09-26	\$500.00
Schmidt Matthew	N/A	2018-09-27	\$500.00
DiOrio Patrick	N/A	2018-09-28	\$500.00
Blagrave Taylor	N/A	2018-09-28	\$500.00
Waste Management	N/A	2018-10-15	\$500.00
Daley James	N/A	2018-11-14	\$500.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2018-11-30	\$500.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2018-11-30	\$500.00
Edwards Realty Company	N/A	2018-12-10	\$500.00
Pappas Michael	N/A	2018-12-13	\$500.00
Joe Rizza	N/A	2018-12-14	\$500.00
Hord JR Robert	N/A	2018-12-14	\$500.00
Ryan Michael	N/A	2019-03-18	\$500.00
Roche Jim	N/A	2019-05-02	\$500.00
Flaherty M.D.	N/A	2019-05-07	\$500.00
Prekwas Russ	N/A	2019-05-09	\$500.00
Orland Grove Management	N/A	2019-05-13	\$500.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2019-05-13	\$500.00
Fox Home Center, Inc	N/A	2019-05-16	\$500.00
Friends of Carole Griffin Ruzich	N/A	2019-05-25	\$500.00
Lang Paul	N/A	2019-05-25	\$500.00
HR Green	N/A	2019-05-29	\$500.00
Smith Jack & Deborah	N/A	2019-05-30	\$500.00
Sosin, Arnold & Schoenbeck	N/A	2019-05-30	\$500.00
Sosin David	N/A	2019-09-05	\$500.00
Prekwas Russ	N/A	2019-09-05	\$500.00
Grigas Leynn & Marc	N/A	2019-09-05	\$500.00
Kolozenski Mark	N/A	2019-09-13	\$500.00
Flaherty M.D.	N/A	2019-09-17	\$500.00
Fox Home Center, Inc	N/A	2019-09-17	\$500.00
Gardiner Koch Weisberg & Wrona	N/A	2019-10-01	\$500.00
Hansen Robert	N/A	2019-10-01	\$500.00
Gaspardo Brian	N/A	2019-10-06	\$500.00
Lang Paul	N/A	2019-10-07	\$500.00
Waste Management	N/A	2019-10-18	\$500.00

James J Roche & Associates	N/A	2019-10-18	\$500.00
Orland Park Small Business Association	N/A	2019-10-21	\$500.00
Kasper Scott	N/A	2019-10-22	\$500.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2020-03-05	\$500.00
Baxter & Woodman	N/A	2020-03-17	\$500.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2020-03-17	\$500.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2020-07-08	\$500.00
Solek, DDS Joseph	N/A	2020-07-28	\$500.00
Dubelbeis Tom	Retired	2020-07-28	\$500.00
Disc Replay	N/A	2020-08-03	\$500.00
Pappy's Liquor Group, LLC	N/A	2020-08-18	\$500.00
Jeanes Construction Co., Inc	N/A	2020-08-28	\$500.00
B Kat, Inc	N/A	2020-09-01	\$500.00
Illinois Proroofing, LLC	N/A	2020-09-02	\$500.00
The White Sheep, INc	N/A	2020-09-02	\$500.00
McNaughton Development	N/A	2020-09-19	\$500.00
Fox Home Center, Inc	N/A	2020-11-14	\$500.00
Fox Home Center, Inc	N/A	2020-12-02	\$500.00
V3 Companies	N/A	2020-12-02	\$500.00
The Original Pancake House	N/A	2020-12-03	\$500.00
Shurley Yvonne	N/A	2020-12-07	\$500.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2020-12-07	\$500.00
Garfield Fred	N/A	2020-12-11	\$500.00
Jacobowski Paul	N/A	2020-12-14	\$500.00
Gaspardo Brian	N/A	2020-12-15	\$500.00
Sodeika Tom	N/A	2020-12-16	\$500.00
AB Material Testing, LLC	N/A	2020-12-17	\$500.00
Stukel Doug	N/A	2021-02-21	\$500.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2021-02-25	\$500.00
Shaheen Paul	Horton Insurance	2021-02-28	\$500.00
Shurley Yvonne	N/A	2021-03-02	\$500.00
Kasper Scott	N/A	2021-03-03	\$500.00
Mathis Paul	N/A	2021-03-03	\$500.00
Gaspardo Brian	N/A	2021-03-05	\$500.00
Dea J.T.	N/A	2021-03-05	\$500.00
Gurgone John	N/A	2021-03-06	\$500.00
Garfield Fred	N/A	2021-03-11	\$500.00
Cynthia Leary	N/A	2021-03-11	\$500.00
Shaheen Paul	Horton Insurance	2021-03-11	\$500.00
The White Sheep, INc	N/A	2021-03-11	\$500.00
JPL Builders Inc	N/A	2021-03-11	\$500.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2021-03-29	\$500.00

Battaglia Andrew	N/A	2021-03-31	\$500.00
CG Professional Services	N/A	2021-05-01	\$500.00
The Original Pancake House	N/A	2021-05-05	\$500.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2021-05-10	\$500.00
Edwards Realty Company	N/A	2021-05-10	\$500.00
Christopher B Burke Engineering, LTD	N/A	2021-05-14	\$500.00
James J Roche & Associates	N/A	2021-05-31	\$500.00
Rodzila Properties, LLC	N/A	2021-05-31	\$500.00
Walsh Services Inc.	N/A	2021-08-19	\$500.00
Dea J.T.	N/A	2021-09-17	\$500.00
VisuCom Grpahics	N/A	2021-10-01	\$493.75
Tru Male Medical	N/A	2020-07-19	\$450.00
Kubasak Sharon	N/A	2020-08-18	\$450.00
Gaspardo Brian	N/A	2020-08-28	\$450.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2021-08-19	\$450.00
Canna & Canna	N/A	2018-09-19	\$400.00
Beechen & Dill Homes	N/A	2018-09-25	\$400.00
Curran Roger	N/A	2020-07-15	\$400.00
Vail Jeff	N/A	2020-08-12	\$400.00
Dubelbeis Tom	Retired	2021-07-19	\$400.00
DeVito Diane	N/A	2021-08-19	\$400.00
Shutay Robert	N/A	2021-09-28	\$400.00
Colunga Isaac	N/A	2019-10-01	\$375.00
Koos Werner	N/A	2020-09-01	\$375.00
Pekau Keith	N/A	2018-02-22	\$372.00
Baxter & Woodman	N/A	2018-12-10	\$350.00
Sipich Susan	N/A	2020-07-07	\$350.00
Darvin Furniture & Mattress	N/A	2020-08-03	\$350.00
Healy William	N/A	2020-08-08	\$350.00
CG Professional Services	N/A	2020-08-12	\$350.00
Czorniak Debi	N/A	2020-08-12	\$350.00
Harris Will	N/A	2020-08-12	\$350.00
Dea J.T.	N/A	2020-08-21	\$350.00
Stanton Tom	N/A	2020-08-28	\$350.00
Nocera David	N/A	2020-09-01	\$350.00
Citizens For Joni Radaszewski	N/A	2021-06-29	\$350.00
Jeanes Construction Co., Inc	N/A	2021-09-16	\$350.00
Dignan Raymond	N/A	2017-05-05	\$300.00
Windt John	N/A	2017-05-08	\$300.00
Downs Elizabeth	N/A	2017-05-12	\$300.00
Nye Scott	N/A	2017-05-12	\$300.00
James J Roche & Associates	N/A	2017-05-12	\$300.00

James J Roche & Associates	N/A	2017-10-25	\$300.00
J D A Southfork Restaraunt	N/A	2017-11-06	\$300.00
Mt Greenwood Catering, Inc DBA Traverso's	N/A	2018-09-19	\$300.00
The Original Pancake House	N/A	2018-09-19	\$300.00
Damastra III Edward	N/A	2018-09-19	\$300.00
Fox Home Center, Inc	N/A	2018-09-19	\$300.00
B Kat, Inc	N/A	2018-09-19	\$300.00
MORE PAC	N/A	2018-09-27	\$300.00
Solek, DDS Joseph	N/A	2018-12-10	\$300.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2019-10-07	\$300.00
Republic Services, Inc	N/A	2020-05-24	\$300.00
Law Offices of John S. Fotopoulos, PC	N/A	2020-05-24	\$300.00
Mt Greenwood Catering, Inc DBA Traverso's	N/A	2020-07-19	\$300.00
Flaherty M.D.	N/A	2020-07-28	\$300.00
Tinley Park Kitchen & Bath Shoppe	N/A	2020-08-07	\$300.00
Dubelbeis Tom	Retired	2020-08-21	\$300.00
Technology & Manufacturing Association PAC	N/A	2020-09-02	\$300.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2020-12-15	\$300.00
Downs Elizabeth	N/A	2021-01-26	\$300.00
Darvin Furniture & Mattress	N/A	2021-02-05	\$300.00
Dubelbeis Tom	N/A	2021-03-12	\$300.00
Mt Greenwood Catering, Inc DBA Traverso's	N/A	2021-05-14	\$300.00
AB Material Testing, LLC	N/A	2021-09-26	\$300.00
A-OK GLASS, METAL & MIRROR, INC.	N/A	2021-09-28	\$300.00
Real Estate Revealed	N/A	2021-09-28	\$300.00
Barcella Randy	N/A	2021-10-12	\$300.00
A-OK GLASS, METAL & MIRROR, INC.	N/A	2020-08-03	\$275.00
Dubelbeis Tom	Retired	2021-09-28	\$275.00
Pekau Keith	N/A	2018-06-21	\$270.00
Brace Jennifer	N/A	2017-05-11	\$260.00
Miktika Michael	N/A	2017-04-24	\$250.00
Illinois Fire Sprinkler Contractors PAC	N/A	2017-04-25	\$250.00
Transportation Development Corp	N/A	2017-05-12	\$250.00
CB Promotions INC.	N/A	2017-05-12	\$250.00
Botica Luke	N/A	2017-10-10	\$250.00
Downs Elizabeth	N/A	2017-10-12	\$250.00
Solek, DDS Joseph	N/A	2017-10-12	\$250.00

Athletex Physical Therapy	N/A	2017-10-12	\$250.00
Kalamaris John	N/A	2017-10-12	\$250.00
Kasper Scott	N/A	2017-10-18	\$250.00
Fox Home Center, Inc	N/A	2017-10-23	\$250.00
Robinson Engineering	N/A	2017-10-24	\$250.00
A.B. Material Testing LLC	N/A	2017-10-24	\$250.00
Republic Services, Inc	N/A	2017-10-30	\$250.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2018-03-23	\$250.00
Robinson Engineering	N/A	2018-04-12	\$250.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2018-04-12	\$250.00
HR Green Inc T. Scott Creech	N/A	2018-04-12	\$250.00
Baxter & Woodman	N/A	2018-04-12	\$250.00
Downs Elizabeth	N/A	2018-04-12	\$250.00
Bettenhausen	N/A	2018-06-09	\$250.00
Zaatar Yousef	N/A	2018-06-12	\$250.00
Arvantis John	N/A	2018-09-27	\$250.00
Walsh James	N/A	2018-10-06	\$250.00
Healy William	N/A	2018-11-30	\$250.00
Loftus William	N/A	2018-12-07	\$250.00
Damastra III Edward	N/A	2018-12-13	\$250.00
Smith Jack & Deborah	N/A	2018-12-14	\$250.00
Downs Elizabeth	N/A	2018-12-14	\$250.00
MPI Media Group	N/A	2018-12-23	\$250.00
Healy William	N/A	2019-05-25	\$250.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2019-05-25	\$250.00
Kolozenski Mark	N/A	2019-05-29	\$250.00
City View Development of Orland Park, LLC	N/A	2019-05-30	\$250.00
Mt Greenwood Catering, Inc DBA Traverso's	N/A	2019-10-01	\$250.00
Artistic Holiday Designs	N/A	2019-10-01	\$250.00
Kampas Sean	N/A	2019-10-08	\$250.00
Healy William	N/A	2019-10-09	\$250.00
MPI Media Group	N/A	2019-10-19	\$250.00
Orland Grove Management	N/A	2019-11-22	\$250.00
MPI Media Group	N/A	2020-03-05	\$250.00
Wight & Company	N/A	2020-03-17	\$250.00
CM2 Partners LLC	N/A	2020-03-22	\$250.00
The Original Pancake House	N/A	2020-07-19	\$250.00
Grigas Leynn & Marc	N/A	2020-08-03	\$250.00
Damastra III Edward	N/A	2020-08-07	\$250.00
Fundich Aaron	N/A	2020-08-21	\$250.00

Applied Lean Consulting LLC	N/A	2020-09-06	\$250.00
Rivollier Elie	N/A	2020-11-19	\$250.00
Matthew O'Shea Consulting, Inc	N/A	2020-12-02	\$250.00
Sandrck Law Firm	N/A	2021-01-07	\$250.00
Harris Tim	N/A	2021-02-21	\$250.00
Denee Richard	N/A	2021-03-14	\$250.00
Danlow Tim	N/A	2021-03-18	\$250.00
Adamek Jim	N/A	2021-05-28	\$250.00
Thanos Pete	N/A	2021-05-28	\$250.00
Mt Greenwood Catering, Inc DBA Traverso's	N/A	2021-07-29	\$250.00
MPI Media Group	N/A	2021-07-29	\$250.00
Tinley Park Kitchen & Bath Shoppe	N/A	2021-08-15	\$250.00
Gardiner Koch Weisberg & Wrona	N/A	2021-08-15	\$250.00
Bettenhausen Automotive	N/A	2021-08-19	\$250.00
Healy William	N/A	2021-08-19	\$250.00
Robert J Sheehy & Sons Funeral Home	N/A	2021-08-19	\$250.00
The Original Pancake House	N/A	2021-08-19	\$250.00
Spence Mark	N/A	2021-08-24	\$250.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2021-08-24	\$250.00
Nadine Fakhouri	N/A	2021-08-24	\$250.00
The White Sheep, INc	N/A	2021-09-04	\$250.00
Baxter & Woodman	N/A	2021-09-04	\$250.00
Kasper Scott	N/A	2021-09-04	\$250.00
Wight & Company	N/A	2021-09-10	\$250.00
HR Green Inc T. Scott Creech	N/A	2021-09-10	\$250.00
Union Ave Ale House, Inc	N/A	2021-09-12	\$250.00
Prekwas Russ	N/A	2021-09-16	\$250.00
Mazda Of Orland Park	N/A	2021-09-17	\$250.00
Edwards Realty Company	N/A	2021-09-17	\$250.00
Citizens for Michael Milani	N/A	2021-09-21	\$250.00
Sports Cards & More	N/A	2021-09-23	\$250.00
AB Material Testing, LLC	N/A	2021-09-28	\$250.00
Orland Fire Chiefs Association	N/A	2017-05-12	\$225.00
Rizvi Lori	N/A	2017-05-10	\$200.00
Motzer George	N/A	2017-05-11	\$200.00
T.J. Cachey Builders, Inc II	N/A	2017-05-12	\$200.00
Fox's Restaraunt & Pub	N/A	2017-10-09	\$200.00
Orland Grove Management	N/A	2017-10-18	\$200.00
Darvin Furniture & Mattress	N/A	2017-10-30	\$200.00
Darvin Furniture & Mattress	N/A	2018-04-02	\$200.00
Orland Grove Management	N/A	2018-04-12	\$200.00

Barr Pat	N/A	2018-09-19	\$200.00
Neven James	N/A	2018-09-19	\$200.00
Darvin Furniture & Mattress	N/A	2018-09-19	\$200.00
Krzus Michael	N/A	2018-09-20	\$200.00
Yotter Britney	N/A	2018-09-20	\$200.00
Botica Luke	N/A	2018-09-25	\$200.00
AT&T Illinois Employee PAC	N/A	2018-09-27	\$200.00
Flaherty M.D.	N/A	2018-09-27	\$200.00
Orland Grove Management	N/A	2018-09-27	\$200.00
CC of OP Inc	N/A	2018-09-27	\$200.00
Small Michael	N/A	2018-09-28	\$200.00
Solek, DDS Joseph	N/A	2018-11-07	\$200.00
Mt Greenwood Catering, Inc DBA Traverso's	N/A	2018-11-30	\$200.00
Darvin Furniture & Mattress	N/A	2018-12-10	\$200.00
Small Michael	N/A	2018-12-14	\$200.00
CC of OP Inc	N/A	2019-03-18	\$200.00
Downs Elizabeth	N/A	2019-05-30	\$200.00
Krzus Michael	N/A	2019-09-03	\$200.00
LaRoche-Sczurek Lisa	N/A	2019-09-04	\$200.00
Hasan Farrah	N/A	2019-09-05	\$200.00
Larney Thomas	N/A	2019-09-05	\$200.00
Sandrick Law Firm	N/A	2019-09-06	\$200.00
Murray Ron	N/A	2019-09-09	\$200.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2019-09-10	\$200.00
Garfield Fred	N/A	2019-10-01	\$200.00
Thresh Wynslow	N/A	2019-10-01	\$200.00
Darvin Furniture & Mattress	N/A	2019-10-01	\$200.00
O'Neill Daniel	N/A	2019-10-06	\$200.00
Hyland Richard	N/A	2019-10-07	\$200.00
Oral Raymond	N/A	2019-10-09	\$200.00
Palos Country Club Inc	N/A	2019-10-09	\$200.00
CC of OP Inc	N/A	2019-10-09	\$200.00
JSF Orland Holdings	N/A	2020-05-24	\$200.00
Kosloskus Tom	Next Day Plus	2020-07-15	\$200.00
Lawn-Tech, LTD	N/A	2020-07-28	\$200.00
Shurley Yvonne	N/A	2020-08-03	\$200.00
Kampas Sean	N/A	2020-08-03	\$200.00
Kreczmer Lora	N/A	2020-08-03	\$200.00
Wall Marilouise	N/A	2020-08-12	\$200.00
Hacker Tom	N/A	2020-08-18	\$200.00
Swanson Jay	N/A	2020-08-21	\$200.00

McGury Carol	N/A	2020-08-23	\$200.00
Mateja Laura	N/A	2020-08-28	\$200.00
O'Malley Patrick	N/A	2020-09-01	\$200.00
DF James & Company	N/A	2020-09-01	\$200.00
Yaksic Virginia	N/A	2020-09-01	\$200.00
Barcella Randy	N/A	2020-09-01	\$200.00
Rauschenberger Steven	N/A	2020-09-02	\$200.00
Dubelbeis Tom	N/A	2020-11-19	\$200.00
Calabrese Shirley	N/A	2020-12-02	\$200.00
Huestis Bob	N/A	2020-12-04	\$200.00
MPI Media Group	N/A	2020-12-08	\$200.00
Ulrich Dave	N/A	2020-12-08	\$200.00
Riordan Brian	N/A	2020-12-10	\$200.00
HR Green	N/A	2020-12-15	\$200.00
Larney Thomas	N/A	2020-12-15	\$200.00
Milani Michael	N/A	2020-12-15	\$200.00
Galvan Mike	N/A	2020-12-15	\$200.00
Misiorowski Richard	N/A	2020-12-15	\$200.00
Lekas Constantine	N/A	2020-12-16	\$200.00
Robinson Engineering	N/A	2020-12-16	\$200.00
Kinsey Jeffery	N/A	2020-12-16	\$200.00
Wood Charles	N/A	2020-12-16	\$200.00
Harper Michael	N/A	2020-12-16	\$200.00
Ulrich Dave	N/A	2020-12-16	\$200.00
Alliance Systems Company	N/A	2020-12-17	\$200.00
Zuro Mark	N/A	2020-12-19	\$200.00
Devens Robert	N/A	2021-02-06	\$200.00
Giragosian Van	N/A	2021-02-06	\$200.00
Rizvi Lori	N/A	2021-02-21	\$200.00
Rauschenberger Steven	N/A	2021-02-28	\$200.00
Boehm Richard	N/A	2021-03-11	\$200.00
Mooney Thomas	N/A	2021-03-12	\$200.00
Sosin David	N/A	2021-05-10	\$200.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2021-05-24	\$200.00
Garner Ed	N/A	2021-06-29	\$200.00
Barcella Randy	N/A	2021-07-29	\$200.00
Craven Jack	N/A	2021-08-19	\$200.00
Swanson Jay	N/A	2021-09-04	\$200.00
Oral Raymond	N/A	2021-09-04	\$200.00
Bowman Consulting Group	N/A	2021-09-04	\$200.00
4 Winn Construction	N/A	2021-09-12	\$200.00
McGury Carol	N/A	2021-09-16	\$200.00

O'Neill Daniel	N/A	2021-09-17	\$200.00
Mark R Reichman, DDS	N/A	2021-09-26	\$200.00
Bossy David	N/A	2021-09-28	\$200.00
Riordan Brian	N/A	2021-09-28	\$200.00
Carnevale Tony	N/A	2021-09-28	\$200.00
Mateja Laura	N/A	2021-09-28	\$200.00
McGee Kevin	N/A	2021-05-10	\$180.00
Craven Jack	N/A	2020-07-19	\$175.00
Heights Dental	N/A	2020-08-03	\$175.00
Sampson Steven	N/A	2020-08-03	\$175.00
Larney Kenneth	N/A	2020-08-03	\$175.00
Larney Thomas	N/A	2020-08-03	\$175.00
Huestis Bob	Retired	2021-02-05	\$175.00
Krzus Michael	N/A	2021-02-21	\$175.00
Spellman Tim	N/A	2021-02-21	\$175.00
Raggio Robert	N/A	2021-02-21	\$175.00
Swanson Jay	N/A	2021-03-03	\$175.00
Hacker Tom	N/A	2021-03-08	\$175.00
GladKowski Mary	N/A	2021-03-10	\$175.00
Lekas Constantine	N/A	2021-03-11	\$175.00
Wood Charles	N/A	2021-03-11	\$175.00
Thanos Pete	N/A	2021-03-11	\$175.00
Pattison Ragan	N/A	2021-03-11	\$175.00
Connelley Charles	N/A	2021-03-11	\$175.00
Mateja Laura	N/A	2021-03-11	\$175.00
HR Green	N/A	2021-03-19	\$175.00
Kubasak Sharon	N/A	2021-09-12	\$175.00
Tancos Audrey	N/A	2021-09-28	\$175.00
McLaughlin Eileen	N/A	2021-09-28	\$175.00
De Lucia Carol	N/A	2021-09-28	\$175.00
Heide David	N/A	2020-07-19	\$162.50
Pekau Keith	N/A	2018-05-03	\$160.41
Dixon Jon	N/A	2021-09-26	\$160.00
Gaylord Robert	Connor & Gallagher	2017-05-11	\$150.00
Hardek Heidi	N/A	2017-05-12	\$150.00
Zuro Mark	N/A	2017-05-12	\$150.00
Flaherty M.D.	N/A	2017-05-12	\$150.00
Spicka Cindy	N/A	2020-07-24	\$150.00
Larney Thomas	N/A	2020-08-12	\$150.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2017-05-05	\$100.00
Flaherty M.D.	N/A	2020-07-28	\$100.00

Spicka Cindy	N/A	2020-08-03	\$100.00
Pekau Keith	Village of Orland Park	2020-08-10	\$100.00
Czorniak Debi	N/A	2020-08-12	\$100.00
Hampton Dan	Retired	2020-09-01	\$100.00
Thanos Pete	N/A	2021-05-26	\$100.00
Hardek Heidi	N/A	2017-05-09	\$75.00
Healy William	N/A	2018-12-14	\$50.00
Kolozenski Mark	N/A	2019-05-29	\$50.00

[Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## 2017 Mayoral

**Pekau Accepted 101 Campaign Contributions To His 2017 Mayoral Campaign Committee.** [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

<b>Keith Pekau Mayoral Campaign Contributions, 2017</b>			
<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Employer</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-03-03	\$10,000.00
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-03-29	\$6,500.00
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-03-24	\$5,000.00
Kinsey Jeffery	BRUNSWICK CORPORATION	2016-12-20	\$5,000.00
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-02-25	\$4,926.20
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-02-25	\$4,926.00
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-02-24	\$4,500.00
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2016-12-30	\$3,771.11
Pekau Keith	Groundskeeper Landscape Services	2017-02-25	\$3,590.32
Hyland Richard	Celtic Cartage INC.	2017-02-21	\$3,000.00
Liceaga ED	Falcon Construction	2017-03-07	\$2,000.00
Rhoads David	Fahrenheit Consulting Group	2017-01-03	\$1,500.00
Frederick Erik	Unemployed	2017-04-01	\$1,000.00
Nicholson Peter	Self	2017-03-12	\$1,000.00

Barker Robert	Front Square Inc dba. J.W. Hollstein's Saloon	2017-03-07	\$1,000.00
Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park	N/A	2017-02-09	\$1,000.00
Ryan Michael	Michael P. Ryan, D.D.S.	2017-02-07	\$1,000.00
Rangel Jr Manny	Amigos Food	2017-01-26	\$1,000.00
Slater Dale	Johnson Services	2016-12-13	\$1,000.00
VisuCom Grpahics	N/A	2017-01-19	\$861.38
Gulfc0 Leasing & Funding	N/A	2017-04-05	\$750.00
Gulfc0 Leasing & Funding	N/A	2017-03-31	\$750.00
Gordon Brian	Insurance	2017-03-17	\$725.00
pekau gregg	Intel	2017-03-31	\$600.00
Matthew Schmidt	Self	2017-02-03	\$600.00
Engineer Associates III	N/A	2017-03-29	\$500.00
Butkus Patricia	N/A	2017-03-27	\$500.00
Oberman Jim	N/A	2017-03-11	\$500.00
Schmidt Matthew	N/A	2017-03-02	\$500.00
Hord JR Robert	N/A	2017-02-02	\$500.00
DiOrio Patrick	N/A	2017-01-11	\$500.00
Pmapalone AJ	N/A	2016-12-27	\$500.00
Donegan Mike	N/A	2016-12-27	\$500.00
Frederick Erik	N/A	2016-12-20	\$500.00
Scheiber Scott	N/A	2017-02-09	\$400.00
Papa Joes	N/A	2017-04-04	\$399.82
Stazak Beverly	N/A	2017-04-05	\$300.00
McNaughton Development	N/A	2017-02-16	\$300.00
Nye Scott	N/A	2017-02-09	\$300.00
Kolozenski Mark	N/A	2017-02-09	\$300.00
Jack Phelan Dodge	N/A	2017-02-08	\$300.00
The Band Means Company	N/A	2017-02-07	\$300.00
Yazbec Micahel	N/A	2017-02-01	\$300.00
Shinnick Frank	N/A	2017-01-29	\$300.00
Oral Raymond	N/A	2017-01-27	\$300.00
Sinclair Scott	N/A	2017-01-26	\$300.00
DeJong Michael	N/A	2017-01-16	\$300.00
Coppns Jim	N/A	2017-01-02	\$300.00
pekau gregg	N/A	2016-12-28	\$300.00

Hamilton James	N/A	2017-04-02	\$250.00
horn dan	N/A	2017-03-17	\$250.00
Walsh James	N/A	2017-03-14	\$250.00
Downs Elizabeth	N/A	2017-03-08	\$250.00
Denee Richard	N/A	2017-02-24	\$250.00
Young Michael	N/A	2017-01-16	\$250.00
Del Castillo Javier	N/A	2017-01-04	\$250.00
Murtha James	N/A	2017-01-03	\$250.00
Liceaga ED	N/A	2016-12-20	\$250.00
Misiorowski Richard	N/A	2017-03-11	\$200.00
Barr Pat	N/A	2017-02-11	\$200.00
Gallagher Dan	N/A	2017-02-10	\$200.00
Johnson Kurt	N/A	2017-02-09	\$200.00
Wagner David	N/A	2017-02-09	\$200.00
A-OK GLASS, METAL & MIRROR, INC.	N/A	2017-02-09	\$200.00
Traverso Kristie	N/A	2017-02-09	\$200.00
Nazir Saif	N/A	2017-02-09	\$200.00
Botica Luke	N/A	2017-02-07	\$200.00
Liceaga ED	Falcon Construction	2017-01-31	\$200.00
Loeffel Paul	N/A	2017-01-31	\$200.00
Phelan John	N/A	2017-01-31	\$200.00
Gerretse Euguene	N/A	2017-01-17	\$200.00
Bell PHil	N/A	2017-01-17	\$200.00
Rudd David	N/A	2017-03-16	\$150.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2017-04-05	\$100.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2017-03-24	\$100.00
Healy William	N/A	2017-03-24	\$100.00
cole timothy	N/A	2017-03-08	\$100.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2017-03-04	\$100.00
Sinclair Scott	N/A	2017-03-02	\$100.00
Rudd David	N/A	2017-02-27	\$100.00
Ryan Michael	Michael P. Ryan, D.D.S.	2017-02-21	\$100.00
cole timothy	N/A	2017-02-11	\$100.00
Liz for the 17TH	N/A	2017-02-09	\$100.00
Healy William	N/A	2017-02-09	\$100.00
Smith Jeannine	N/A	2017-02-09	\$100.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2017-02-08	\$100.00
KELLY Richard	N/A	2017-01-28	\$100.00
Liz for the 17TH	N/A	2017-01-17	\$100.00
KELLY Richard	N/A	2017-01-17	\$100.00

Johnson Kurt	N/A	2017-01-16	\$100.00
Healy William	N/A	2017-01-16	\$100.00
A-OK GLASS, METAL & MIRROR, INC.	N/A	2017-01-10	\$100.00
Gordon Brian	Insurance	2017-01-09	\$100.00
Traverso Kristie	N/A	2017-01-09	\$100.00
Flaherty M.D.	N/A	2017-04-01	\$50.00
Zuro Mark	N/A	2017-04-01	\$50.00
Nye Scott	N/A	2017-03-02	\$50.00
Smith Jeannine	N/A	2017-03-02	\$50.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2017-02-28	\$50.00
Solek Joseph	N/A	2017-01-16	\$50.00
Smith Jeannine	N/A	2017-01-02	\$50.00

[Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## Itemized Disbursements

### 2021 Mayoral

**Pekau Made 227 Disbursements From His Campaign Account From 2017 – 2021.** [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

Itemized Disbursements From Keith For Mayor, 2017 – 2021			
Recipient	Description	Date	Amount
Rutledge Printing	Mailing	4/10/2017	\$6,734.89
Messenger Newspapers	Advertising -- newspaper	4/12/2017	\$250.00
Silver Lake Country Club	Fund raising -- hall rental	4/28/2017	\$500.00
Facebook	Advertising	4/30/2017	\$356.89
Google	Advertising	5/2/2017	\$165.03
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Campaign Work	5/5/2017	\$490.00
Rutledge Printing	Printing	5/5/2017	\$635.70
Rutledge Printing	Printing	5/5/2017	\$1,520.70
Peter Miletic Music Inc	Fund raising -- entertainment	5/11/2017	\$500.00
Silver Lake Country Club	Fund raising -- food	5/11/2017	\$300.00
Strive Strategies	Consulting	5/11/2017	\$1,275.00
Papa Joes	Fund raising -- food	5/18/2017	\$325.22
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	5/18/2017	\$3,771.11
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	5/18/2017	\$4,500.00
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	5/18/2017	\$3,590.32
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	5/18/2017	\$4,926.20
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	5/18/2017	\$8,212.37
Silver Lake Country Club	Fund raising -- hall rental	5/18/2017	\$3,292.96
Anedot	Bank charges	5/30/2017	\$302.89

McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	6/3/2017	\$525.00
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	6/9/2017	\$1,787.63
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	6/9/2017	\$2,212.37
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	7/6/2017	\$600.00
Costco	Party -- staff	7/28/2017	\$191.74
OC Creative	Website	8/17/2017	\$180.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	9/9/2017	\$1,405.90
Rutledge Printing	Fund raising -- advertisement	9/27/2017	\$422.80
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	10/24/2017	\$2,787.63
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	10/24/2017	\$2,535.65
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	10/24/2017	\$2,247.14
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	10/24/2017	\$1,200.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Fund raising -- food	10/25/2017	\$1,700.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	10/25/2017	\$356.25
Phil Orsi	Fund raising -- entertainment	10/25/2017	\$600.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	12/7/2017	\$525.00
Rutledge Printing	Printing	12/18/2017	\$820.70
Rutledge Printing	Printing	12/21/2017	\$309.80
Rutledge Printing	Printing	12/31/2017	\$58.40
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	1/8/2018	\$262.50
Carl Sandburg	Fund raising -- entertainment	1/18/2018	\$300.00
Survey Monkey	Computer -- services	3/12/2018	\$372.00
Rutledge Printing	Printing	3/31/2018	\$1,043.60
Citizens for Jim Dodge	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	4/1/2018	\$250.00
Papa Joes	Fund raising -- food	4/12/2018	\$1,294.93
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	4/20/2018	\$5,500.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	4/26/2018	\$375.00
Will County Republican Central Committee	Donation	5/3/2018	\$160.41
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	5/15/2018	\$675.00
Disabled Patriots Fund	Signs	5/25/2018	\$250.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	6/9/2018	\$1,625.00
Village of Orland Park	Equipment -- rental	6/21/2018	\$270.00
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	6/24/2018	\$1,000.00
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	6/24/2018	\$372.00
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	6/24/2018	\$160.41
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	6/24/2018	\$270.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	7/3/2018	\$300.00
OC Creative	Website	7/15/2018	\$180.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	8/5/2018	\$150.00
Orland Park Veterans Commission	Sponsorship	8/5/2018	\$250.00
Southwest Conference of Mayors	Sponsorship	8/5/2018	\$300.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	9/15/2018	\$450.00
Bridge Teen Center	Sponsorship	9/16/2018	\$1,000.00

Rutledge Printing	Fund raising -- advertisement	9/23/2018	\$791.82
Crystal Tree	Fund raising -- food	9/26/2018	\$4,000.00
Anedot	Bank charges	9/28/2018	\$224.40
Southwest Conference of Mayors	Donation	10/1/2018	\$300.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	10/9/2018	\$543.75
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	11/20/2018	\$525.00
Rutledge Printing	Fund raising -- advertisement	11/26/2018	\$765.64
VisuCom Graphics	Signs	12/14/2018	\$204.32
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	12/17/2018	\$2,050.00
I-360, LLC	Computer -- services	12/19/2018	\$350.00
Rutledge Printing	Printing	12/28/2018	\$358.30
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	1/13/2019	\$900.00
People Over Politics	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/15/2019	\$2,500.00
22nd Century Media	Advertising -- newspaper	1/31/2019	\$445.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	2/3/2019	\$9,102.06
Carl Sandburg High School Boosters	Advertising -- magazine	2/6/2019	\$500.00
22nd Century Media	Advertising -- newspaper	2/7/2019	\$445.00
People Over Politics	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	2/19/2019	\$1,000.00
22nd Century Media	Advertising -- newspaper	2/22/2019	\$960.00
I-360, LLC	Computer -- services	2/27/2019	\$350.00
I-360, LLC	Computer -- services	2/28/2019	\$350.00
22nd Century Media	Advertising -- newspaper	3/1/2019	\$445.00
23rd Century Media	Advertising -- newspaper	3/9/2019	\$445.00
People Over Politics	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	3/10/2019	\$1,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	3/10/2019	\$1,800.00
Facebook	Advertising -- newspaper	3/15/2019	\$313.73
24th Century Media	Advertising -- newspaper	3/21/2019	\$445.00
I-360, LLC	Computer -- services	3/26/2019	\$350.00
Gordie Laurencell	Fund raising -- advertisement	4/1/2019	\$500.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	4/1/2019	\$2,400.00
Crystal Tree	Fund raising -- food	4/8/2019	\$2,425.01
Facebook	Advertising -- magazine	4/8/2019	\$544.93
Facebook	Advertising -- magazine	4/10/2019	\$500.00
Facebook	Advertising -- magazine	4/10/2019	\$569.49
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Fund raising -- food	4/15/2019	\$200.00
I-360, LLC	Computer -- services	4/15/2019	\$373.01
Disabled Patriots Fund	Sponsorship	5/2/2019	\$250.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	5/2/2019	\$2,028.23
Google	Advertising -- newspaper	5/4/2019	\$82.99
Google	Advertising -- newspaper	5/4/2019	\$171.27
Register.com	Website	5/4/2019	\$635.97
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Fund raising -- food	5/30/2019	\$625.22

Anedot	Bank charges	5/31/2019	\$193.50
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	6/5/2019	\$1,500.00
Canna & Canna	Legal fees	7/3/2019	\$1,960.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Mailing	7/3/2019	\$8,108.45
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	7/3/2019	\$2,623.55
Rutledge Printing	Printing	7/3/2019	\$339.10
Village of Orland Park	Sponsorship	7/3/2019	\$300.00
Village of Orland Park	Sponsorship	7/3/2019	\$100.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	8/14/2019	\$450.00
Village of Orland Park	Sponsorship	8/14/2019	\$1,200.00
Heine's MCarthy's Catering	Food	8/24/2019	\$280.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	9/6/2019	\$3,100.00
Anedot	Bank charges	9/30/2019	\$286.20
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	10/9/2019	\$750.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Printing	10/9/2019	\$934.52
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Computer -- services	10/9/2019	\$142.51
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	10/9/2019	\$1,000.00
Crystal Tree	Fund raising -- food	10/10/2019	\$3,914.43
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	11/4/2019	\$3,050.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Graphic Design	11/4/2019	\$543.95
People Over Politics	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	11/19/2019	\$1,750.00
Copper State Strategy	Media -- Production	11/22/2019	\$750.00
VisuCom Graphics	Signs	11/22/2019	\$113.60
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	12/7/2019	\$2,075.00
VisuCom Graphics	Signs	12/7/2019	\$114.12
Facebook	Advertising -- newspaper	12/10/2019	\$180.00
Anedot	Bank charges	12/31/2019	\$287.40
Rutledge Printing	Printing	1/4/2020	\$599.40
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	1/10/2020	\$1,151.00
Bridge Teen Center	Donation	1/14/2020	\$1,000.00
Carl Sandburg High School Boosters	Donation	2/6/2020	\$500.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Computer -- services	2/8/2020	\$6.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	2/8/2020	\$2,850.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	2/8/2020	\$1,613.77
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Graphic Design	2/8/2020	\$100.00
Crystal Tree	Fund raising -- food	2/19/2020	\$5,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	3/11/2020	\$2,656.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Printing	3/11/2020	\$901.64
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	4/10/2020	\$1,506.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	5/9/2020	\$1,456.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	7/3/2020	\$1,956.00
John J. Lynch, Attorney At Law	Legal fees	7/9/2020	\$1,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	7/19/2020	\$1,500.00

McPherson Public Affairs Group	Computer -- services	7/19/2020	\$11.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Advertising -- magazine	7/19/2020	\$150.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Fund raising -- advertisement	7/19/2020	\$875.00
Village of Orland Park	Donation	8/5/2020	\$10.00
Village of Orland Park	Sponsorship	8/11/2020	\$1,500.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Mailing	8/23/2020	\$1,639.70
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Telephone polling	8/23/2020	\$1,681.88
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	8/23/2020	\$2,161.00
Crystal Tree	Golf outing	9/1/2020	\$21,910.33
Hobby Lobby	Raffle Prizes	9/1/2020	\$178.86
Orland Park Veterans Commission	Sponsorship	9/1/2020	\$600.00
Ozinga for Illinois	Ticket Purchase	9/4/2020	\$250.00
Anedot	Bank charges	9/30/2020	\$1,213.13
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	10/1/2020	\$1,710.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Signs	10/1/2020	\$3,073.55
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Raffle Prizes	10/1/2020	\$416.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	10/4/2020	\$1,447.82
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Website	10/4/2020	\$142.51
People Over Politics	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	11/2/2020	\$5,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	11/7/2020	\$1,600.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Advertising -- newspaper	11/7/2020	\$196.11
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Fund raising -- advertisement	12/10/2020	\$257.51
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	12/10/2020	\$2,996.00
People Over Politics	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	12/11/2020	\$5,000.00
Joe Rizza	Refund of donation	12/14/2020	\$1,400.00
Bill Brown	Refund of donation	12/19/2020	\$220.00
Anedot	Bank charges	12/30/2020	\$509.87
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	1/7/2021	\$4,447.73
Rutledge Printing	Printing	1/7/2021	\$276.80
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Mailing	1/12/2021	\$969.13
Citizens for Andrea Bowles	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/17/2021	\$500.00
Citizens for Joseph J. Solek	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/17/2021	\$500.00
Citizens for Keefer	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/17/2021	\$500.00
Citizens for Lora Kreczmer	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/17/2021	\$500.00
Citizens for Scott R Kaspar	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	1/17/2021	\$500.00
D230 Foundation	Sponsorship	2/6/2021	\$250.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	2/6/2021	\$5,125.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Computer -- software	2/6/2021	\$1,460.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Field Work	2/6/2021	\$91.90
Rutledge Printing	Printing	2/21/2021	\$96.50

McPherson Public Affairs Group	Printing	2/25/2021	\$5,752.44
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Advertising -- television	2/25/2021	\$6,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Telephone polling	2/25/2021	\$1,250.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	3/9/2021	\$5,418.47
US Postal Service	Postage	3/9/2021	\$165.00
VisuCom Graphics	Signs	3/9/2021	\$500.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Fund raising -- food	3/11/2021	\$1,419.86
VisuCom Graphics	Signs	3/15/2021	\$107.10
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Advertising -- newspaper	3/19/2021	\$2,425.50
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Printing	3/19/2021	\$5,192.01
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Telephone polling	3/19/2021	\$1,250.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	3/19/2021	\$384.88
VisuCom Graphics	Signs	3/19/2021	\$500.00
Anedot	Bank charges	3/31/2021	\$914.27
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	4/2/2021	\$2,800.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Advertising -- Digital	4/2/2021	\$3,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	4/2/2021	\$3,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Computer -- services	4/2/2021	\$753.38
Cook County Republican Party	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	4/5/2021	\$6,000.00
People Over Politics	Contributions Made to Candidates or Committees	4/5/2021	\$3,000.00
Suncom TV	Technical support	4/5/2021	\$450.00
Papa Joes	Fund raising -- food	4/7/2021	\$450.00
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	4/8/2021	\$25,000.00
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	4/8/2021	\$20,000.00
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	4/8/2021	\$142.65
Keith Pekau	Principal payment, Pekau	4/8/2021	\$100.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Printing	4/14/2021	\$2,947.71
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Advertising	4/14/2021	\$10,536.31
Breakthrough Ideas	Donation	4/28/2021	\$500.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Fund raising -- food	5/4/2021	\$1,200.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	5/5/2021	\$2,600.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Fund raising -- advertisement	5/5/2021	\$2,335.08
OPLEO	Sponsorship	5/24/2021	\$600.00
Village of Orland Park	Sponsorship	5/24/2021	\$3,000.00
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	6/1/2021	\$500.00
Anedot	Bank charges	6/30/2021	\$436.95
Cor Services	Graphic Design	6/30/2021	\$150.00
Cor Services	Computer -- services	6/30/2021	\$38.93
Cor Services	Consulting	6/30/2021	\$1,125.00
Elements	Fund raising -- food	6/30/2021	\$1,975.50

[Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

## 2017 Mayoral

Pekau Made 67 Disbursements From His Campaign Account From 2016 – 2017. [Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

Itemized Disbursements From Keith For Mayor, 2016 – 2017			
Recipient	Description	Date	Amount
Strive Strategies	Polling	12/26/2016	\$450.00
Strive Strategies	Campaign Management	12/27/2016	\$3,103.50
Strive Strategies	Polling	12/28/2016	\$950.00
Strive Strategies	Website Fee's	12/28/2016	\$137.00
Rutledge Printing	Printing	1/1/2017	\$40.00
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Fund raising -- food	1/17/2017	\$56.73
Fox's Restaurant & Pub	Fund raising -- food	1/17/2017	\$300.00
Data Orbital LLC	Telephones	1/20/2017	\$700.00
Rutledge Printing	Printing	1/23/2017	\$495.02
Strive Strategies	Printing	1/23/2017	\$1,767.09
Strive Strategies	Printing	1/27/2017	\$4,466.18
Strive Strategies	Printing	1/27/2017	\$107.98
Google	Website	2/8/2017	\$50.00
Murnet Technologies	Telephones	2/8/2017	\$289.00
Crystal Tree	Fund raising -- hall rental	2/10/2017	\$2,878.36
Awesome Campaign Signs	Signs	2/13/2017	\$1,240.00
Google	Website	2/14/2017	\$200.00
Facebook	Website	2/15/2017	\$25.01
Strive Strategies	Consulting	2/16/2017	\$2,027.00
Strive Strategies	Robo calls	2/18/2017	\$367.44
Strive Strategies	Website	2/18/2017	\$734.88
Strive Strategies	Website	2/18/2017	\$1,100.00
Facebook	Website	2/21/2017	\$25.00
Strive Strategies	Printing	2/21/2017	\$4,000.00
Strive Strategies	Printing	2/21/2017	\$4,466.18
Square Celt	Fund raising -- hall rental	2/22/2017	\$500.00
22nd Century Media	Printing	2/24/2017	\$4,926.20
Rutledge Printing	Printing	2/24/2017	\$395.10
Google	Website	2/26/2017	\$350.00
Facebook	Website	2/28/2017	\$26.12
Rutledge Printing	Printing	3/3/2017	\$36.10
Square Celt	Fund raising -- advertisement	3/3/2017	\$330.00
Facebook	Website	3/5/2017	\$50.00
Messenger Newspapers	Advertising -- newspaper	3/6/2017	\$250.00
Rutledge Printing	Printing	3/7/2017	\$1,740.40
Data Orbital LLC	Telephones	3/8/2017	\$350.00
Strive Strategies	Phones	3/8/2017	\$367.44
Rutledge Printing	Printing	3/10/2017	\$5,717.64

Strive Strategies	Robo calls	3/10/2017	\$367.44
Strive Strategies	Robo calls	3/10/2017	\$448.92
Google	Website	3/13/2017	\$500.00
Executive Mail Printing	Printing	3/20/2017	\$4,867.52
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	3/20/2017	\$600.00
Messenger Newspapers	Advertising -- newspaper	3/20/2017	\$250.00
Riviera Country Club	Fund raising -- hall rental	3/20/2017	\$1,000.00
Rutledge Printing	Printing	3/20/2017	\$1,474.70
Strive Strategies	Mailing	3/22/2017	\$1,739.97
Strive Strategies	Mailing	3/22/2017	\$2,452.20
Strive Strategies	Design and Mail	3/22/2017	\$375.00
Strive Strategies	Phones	3/22/2017	\$113.05
Universal Marketing	Promotional Items	3/22/2017	\$194.60
Universal Marketing	Promotional Items	3/22/2017	\$286.48
Google	Website	3/23/2017	\$500.00
Law Office of Erick Johnson, PC	Legal fees	3/23/2017	\$610.50
Rutledge Printing	Printing	3/23/2017	\$1,097.48
Rutledge Printing	Printing	3/23/2017	\$142.13
Rutledge Printing	Printing	3/23/2017	\$1,385.70
Facebook	Website	3/27/2017	\$250.15
Strive Strategies	Printing	3/27/2017	\$1,739.97
Awesome Campaign Signs	Signs	3/30/2017	\$2,300.00
OC Creative	Photography	3/30/2017	\$4,415.00
OC Creative	Website	3/30/2017	\$315.00
Rutledge Printing	Mailing	3/30/2017	\$6,405.09
Anedot	Bank charges	3/31/2017	\$547.27
Facebook	Website	3/31/2017	\$109.42
McPherson Public Affairs Group	Consulting	4/1/2017	\$945.00
Google	Website	4/2/2017	\$500.00

[Illinois State Board of Elections, accessed [8/26/22](#)]

# Orland Park Budgets

## Votes

### 2018

**December 2017: Pekau Voted To Approve The FY 2018 Budget.** [Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/18/17](#)]

I move to pass Ordinance Number 5253, entitled: ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2018 AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2018 FOR THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK, COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

**A motion was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Calandriello, that this matter be PASSED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, Trustee Carroll, and Village President Pekau

**Nay:** 0

Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/18/17](#)

### 2019

**December 2018: Pekau Voted To Approve The FY 2019 Budget.** [Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/3/18](#)]

I move to pass Ordinance Number 5357, entitled: ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2019 AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2019 FOR THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK, COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

**A motion was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Gira, that this matter be PASSED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Gira, Trustee Griffin Ruzich, Trustee Calandriello, Trustee Carroll, and Village President Pekau

**Nay:** 0

[Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/3/18](#)]

### 2020

**December 2019: Pekau Voted To Approve The FY 2020 Budget.** [Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/2/19](#)]

I move to pass Ordinance Number 5465, entitled: ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2020 AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2020 FOR THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK, COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

**A motion was made by Trustee Calandriello, seconded by Trustee Healy, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:**

ND PARK

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ees

Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2019

**Aye:** 7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Calandriello, Trustee Healy, Trustee Nelson Katsenes, Trustee Milani, and Village President Pekau

**Nay:** 0

[Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/2/19](#)]

## **2021**

**December 2020: Pekau Voted To Approve The FY 2021 Budget.** [Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/21/20](#)]

I move to approve Ordinance Number 5569, entitled: An Ordinance Adopting the		
AND PARK		Page 38 of 47
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ees	Meeting Minutes	December 21, 2020
<hr/>		
Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Commencing on January 1, 2021, and Ending on December 31, 2021, for the Village of Orland Park, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois.		
<b>A motion was made by Trustee Healy, seconded by Trustee Fenton, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:</b>		
<b>Aye:</b>	7 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Calandriello, Trustee Healy, Trustee Nelson Katsenes, Trustee Milani, and Village President Pekau	
<b>Nay:</b>	0	

[Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/21/20](#)]

## 2022

**December 2021: Pekau Voted To Approve The FY 2022 Budget.** [Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, [12/20/21](#)]

I move to adopt Ordinance 5678, entitled: An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Commencing on January 1, 2022 and Ending on December 31, 2022 for the Village of Orland Park, Cook and Will Counties,		
ND PARK		Page 24 of 29
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es	Meeting Minutes	December 20, 2021
<hr/>		
Illinois.		
<b>A motion was made by Trustee Healy, seconded by Trustee Radaszewski, that this matter be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:</b>		
<b>Aye:</b>	7 - Trustee Healy, Trustee Nelson Katsenes, Trustee Milani, Trustee Kampas, Trustee Riordan, Trustee Radaszewski, and Village President Pekau	
<b>Nay:</b>	0	

## Total Appropriations

Researcher's note: We were unable to determine the village levy and the tax rate for FY 2022.

Orland Park Total Appropriations By Year, 2018 – 2022					
Year	Budgeted Revenues	Budgeted Expenditures	Net	Village Levy	Tax Rate
2018	\$117,743,727.00	\$123,432,522.00	-\$5,688,795.00	\$13,425,519.00	0.5938
2019	\$124,003,904.00	\$124,657,447.00	-\$653,543.00	\$13,425,519.00	0.5938
2020	\$131,476,875.00	\$131,657,233.00	-\$180,358.00	\$13,425,519.00	0.5948
2021	\$151,200,775.00	\$179,243,212.00	-\$28,042,437.00	\$13,033,536.00	0.5714
2022	\$181,245,224.00	\$216,655,158.00	-\$35,409,934.00	-	-

[Village of Orland Park, Budgets, accessed [8/22/22](#)]

## Revenues

### 2018

Orland Park Revenues, 2018		
Type	General Fund	Total FY Budget
Taxes	\$32,390,167.00	\$51,254,026.00
Licenses & Permits	\$2,095,856.00	\$2,402,856.00
Intergovernmental	\$6,058,820.00	\$9,344,515.00
Charges for Services	\$3,120,809.00	\$47,235,372.00
Investment Income	\$78,066.00	\$2,083,163.00
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,335,000.00	\$1,369,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$236,490.00	\$4,054,795.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$45,315,208.00</b>	<b>\$117,743,727.00</b>

[Village of Orland Park, Budgets, accessed [8/22/22](#)]

### 2019

Orland Park Revenues, 2019		
Type	General Fund	Total FY Budget
Taxes	\$33,317,582.00	\$51,161,520.00
Licenses & Permits	\$3,110,278.00	\$3,407,278.00
Intergovernmental	\$6,070,908.00	\$12,074,278.00
Charges for Services	\$3,246,527.00	\$48,850,233.00
Investment Income	\$115,318.00	\$2,689,483.00
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,510,000.00	\$1,531,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$593,708.00	\$4,290,258.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$47,964,321.00</b>	<b>\$124,003,904.00</b>

**2020**

<b>Orland Park Revenues, 2020</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total FY Budget</b>
Taxes	\$32,134,116.00	\$49,401,745.00
Licenses & Permits	\$2,157,541.00	\$2,461,541.00
Intergovernmental	\$10,536,440.00	\$20,465,085.00
Charges for Services	\$3,998,326.00	\$48,034,222.00
Investment Income	\$137,901.00	\$2,800,649.00
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,510,000.00	\$1,530,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$220,280.00	\$6,783,633.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$50,694,604.00</b>	<b>\$131,476,875.00</b>

**2021**

<b>Orland Park Revenues, 2021</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total FY Budget</b>
Taxes	\$39,726,569.00	\$53,472,419.00
Licenses & Permits	\$3,252,011.00	\$3,252,011.00
Intergovernmental	\$572,121.00	\$9,184,177.00
Charges for Services	\$3,395,293.00	\$41,094,994.00
Investment Income	\$240,716.00	\$561,335.00
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,075,000.00	\$1,075,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$649,000.00	\$27,766,728.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$48,910,710.00</b>	<b>\$136,406,664.00</b>

**2022**

<b>Orland Park Revenues, 2022</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total FY Budget</b>
Taxes	\$50,553,207.00	\$68,709,020.00
Licenses & Permits	\$1,503,281.00	\$1,543,761.00
Intergovernmental	\$0.00	\$0.00
Charges for Services	\$2,852,656.00	\$50,765,107.00
Investment Income	\$137,901.00	\$283,596.00
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,540,000.00	\$1,569,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$615,360.00	\$10,693,324.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$57,202,435.00</b>	<b>\$133,563,827.00</b>

## Appropriations By Department

**2018**

<b>Orland Park Appropriations By Department, 2018</b>	
Classification	Adopted Budget
Non-Departmental	\$10,753,186.00
Police	\$21,197,570.00
ESDA	\$82,751.00
Development Services	\$3,400,807.00
Village Manager	\$1,360,568.00
Public Works	\$6,489,739.00
Building Maintenance	\$3,021,810.00
Grounds Maintenance	\$116,780.00
Finance	\$1,462,241.00
BIS	\$2,380,048.00
Officials	\$557,958.00
Boards & Commissions	\$364,353.00
Village Clerk	\$384,336.00
Public Information Office	\$241,873.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$51,814,020.00</b>

[Village of Orland Park, Budgets, accessed [8/22/22](#)]

**2019**

<b>Orland Park Appropriations By Department, 2019</b>	
Classification	Adopted Budget
Non-Departmental	e
Village Manager	\$1,204,940.00
Village Clerk	\$376,543.00
Public Information	\$180,287.00
Finance	\$1,519,106.00
Officials	\$456,680.00
Boards & Commissions	\$496,812.00
BIS	\$2,618,341.00
Development Services	\$3,302,232.00
Building Maintenance	\$3,618,454.00
Grounds Maintenance	\$137,135.00
Public Works	\$5,959,928.00
Police	\$21,225,841.00
ESDA	\$71,825.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$52,243,267.00</b>

[Village of Orland Park, Budgets, accessed [8/22/22](#)]

2020

<b>Orland Park Appropriations By Department, 2020</b>	
<b>Classification</b>	<b>Adopted Budget</b>
Non-Departmental	\$9,736,917.00
Village Manager	\$1,597,170.00
Village Clerk	\$178,366.00
Public Information	\$87,825.00
Finance	\$1,601,521.00
Officials	\$478,074.00
Boards & Commissions	\$812,513.00
BIS	\$3,149,495.00
Development Services	\$3,021,203.00
Building Maintenance	\$4,013,094.00
Grounds Maintenance	\$142,819.00
Public Works	\$6,805,951.00
Police	\$22,679,535.00
ESDA	\$69,331.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$54,373,814.00</b>

[Village of Orland Park, Budgets, accessed [8/22/22](#)]

2021

<b>Orland Park Appropriations By Department, 2021</b>	
<b>Classification</b>	<b>Adopted Budget</b>
Non-Departmental	\$2,424,594.00
Village Manager	\$1,654,930.00
Village Clerk	\$179,758.00
Communications & Marketing	\$554,062.00
Human Resources	\$585,103.00
Finance	\$1,446,102.00
Officials	\$403,063.00
Commissions & Special Events	\$1,059,742.00
Department of Information Technology	\$3,443,857.00
Development Services	\$3,501,986.00
Engineering Programs & Services	\$866,013.00
Public Works	\$6,030,308.00
Natural Resources & Facilities Operations	\$7,501,971.00
Grounds Maintenance	\$11,200.00
Police	\$23,708,232.00
Police Information Technology	\$307,558.00
ESDA	\$81,135.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$53,759,614.00</b>

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<b>Orland Park Appropriations By Department, 2022</b>	
<b>Classification</b>	<b>Adopted Budget</b>
Village Manager	\$1,846,789.00
Human Resources	\$1,056,591.00
Village Clerk	\$0.00
Communications & Marketing	\$724,817.00
Officials	\$305,140.00
Finance	\$23,289,622.00
Department of Information Technology	\$3,307,979.00
Development Services	\$4,237,539.00
Public Works	\$47,328,443.00
Police	\$26,290,095.00
Engineering Programs & Services	\$960,416.00
Recreation	\$15,103,535.00
Component Units	\$197,500.00
Internal Service - Insurance Fund	\$7,411,497.00
Capital Projects Funds	\$0.00
Special Revenue Funds	\$24,637,584.00
Debt Service Funds	\$1,777,825.00
Enterprise Funds	\$241,155.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$158,716,527.00</b>

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