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# Patriot Freedom Project

17<sup>th</sup> August 2022

## **POLITICAL PRISONERS**

The Department of Justice (DOJ) claims that they are “focused on *violence*, not on *ideology*”, yet we see the Department of Justice claim that January 6 defendants pose a threat to the community. They supposedly pose a threat since they do not renounce their political views as a means for pretrial incarceration. DOJ officials are now using terms such as “violent extremists” and “domestic terrorists” against Americans to justify the department’s efforts to treat January 6 Defendants differently than other defendants in the criminal justice system.

January 6 Defendants are Political Prisoners; they are treated more harshly because of their political affiliation. These protestors have been targeted by the Biden DOJ because of their political views and support of the previous administration. On January 6, those that came to protest what they believed was a fraudulent election were allowed to freely enter the Capitol (as much of the video evidence shows). Their access to enter the Capitol led to the arrest of many protestors, who have now been denied their right to due process. Typically, these detainees would have received their fair trial in a timelier fashion given their fifth amendment rights. However, the protestors from January 6 over a year later are still sitting in pre-trial detention, many with no trial dates. In any other context, most January 6 Detainees would have been granted bail. This is a violation of the constitutional guarantee of equal protection for all persons under the law contained in the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Furthermore, those who are in the D.C. jail have not been permitted to shave or engage in religious services. The latter is a clear violation of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000cc-1.

## **PATRIOT FREEDOM PROJECT – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **What is the Patriot Freedom Project?**

The Patriot Freedom Project is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is a dba of The Hughes Foundation. All funds donated to the Patriot Freedom Project will be used to support the J6 families, assist with legal defense costs and fees, fundraising, and management.

### **What is Patriot Freedom Project doing?**

Patriot Freedom Project is raising money and providing financial assistance, along with other forms of relief, to those arrested and their families (“the J6 families”). Those that wish to be considered for financial relief can visit our website to fill out an application for assistance. Those interested in joining either of our communities (religious and mental health) please visit our website and fill out the form.

### **Q. Who started the Foundation?**

The Foundation was started by Cynthia Hughes, who is the director and President of Patriot Freedom Project.

### **Q. Why help the 1/6ers (Political Prisoners)?**

Many families have been adversely affected by the charges their loved ones are facing from the events on January 6. Many of those arrested have lost their jobs; their families need financial help. Families are facing significant legal fees because many of the public defenders do not have the experience to effectively represent the detainees. All Americans are entitled to Due Process, including the representation of an attorney. These requirements are essential to ensure that the criminal justice system functions effectively and can prevent unjust results.

Those who have been jailed in the District of Columbia have been held in such inhumane conditions that a judge found the District to be in contempt of court for failing to facilitate medical treatment for a broken wrist.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/legal-issues/dc-jail-conditions-contempt-investigation/2021/10/13/65292cd0-2ba1-11ec-985d-3150f7e106b2\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/legal-issues/dc-jail-conditions-contempt-investigation/2021/10/13/65292cd0-2ba1-11ec-985d-3150f7e106b2_story.html).

### **Q. Is the Foundation a non-profit for tax purposes?**

Yes, The Hughes Foundation is a nonprofit organization incorporated in New Jersey. The IRS determined The Hughes Foundation to be a public charity on 6/17/2022 and has therefore determined us exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section

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501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to Patriot Freedom Project under IRC Section 170. Exempt status is recognized back to the date the organization was created: August 25, 2021.

**Q. Does the organization incur expenses in raising money?**

Yes. Every charity that raises money from the public incurs expenses to do so, whether it sends you mail or e-mails, calls you on the phone, advertises in the newspaper or on TV, or simply puts a donate button on a website. Most charities, including us, try to raise money as efficiently as possible so we can maximize the amount of money available for our charitable activities.

**Q. How much does the Patriot Freedom Project spend on management and fundraising?**

The Patriot Freedom Project is committed to operating prudently and effectively, with appropriate transparency, and in compliance with the Internal Revenue Code, state laws regulating fundraising, and all other applicable laws. Well-managed and well-funded organizations must spend a *reasonable* amount of money to ensure that programs are conducted effectively, employees and others with the right skills and experience are hired, funds are raised efficiently, funds are not wasted, and the organization operates in compliance with the law. The amount that is *reasonable* depends on the relevant facts and circumstances.

We started with volunteers, but as Patriot Freedom Project has grown we've needed to hire management assistance, legal counsel for operational activities and other compliance matters, and independent accountants to audit our financial statements so that we can honor all contributors and support the J6 community effectively and responsibly. Patriot Freedom Project spends reasonably to hire experienced people who understand and appreciate the reach of our mission.

Most importantly, we are committed to operating effective programs to help J6 families such as providing financial grants for living expenses, and helping finance legal fees so families who can't otherwise afford their expenses will not be destitute or forgotten. Our operational effectiveness is best measured by how well we have helped the families who are in need of assistance.

All that having been said, based on the funds we've received from generous donors to date, we expect that the expenses incurred for management and fundraising will be relatively small. It is too early to forecast a particular amount or percentage. Start-up costs and attracting donors to a new organization typically mean that newer organizations spend a greater proportion of their funds on management and fundraising; that proportion declines over time.

Each year, we will publish audited financial statements and our IRS Form 990 (an annual information return that we will file with the IRS), so that donors and the public can see how our funds have been spent. Among other information, those documents will report the amounts we spent for programs, management and administration, and fundraising, based on classifications required by the accounting profession's Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

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**Q. What are the individual salaries of the 3 highest paid persons working for or with (directly or indirectly) the Patriot Freedom Project?**

As of April 4, no one has taken a salary. We have paid our lawyer and CPA their normal fees for helping us incorporate and obtain tax-exempt status. As the foundation grows, we will potentially hire several employees, all of whom will be paid reasonable salaries for the work they are doing.

**Q. Can you provide an annual or year-to-date financial report, including a breakdown of revenues and expenses?**

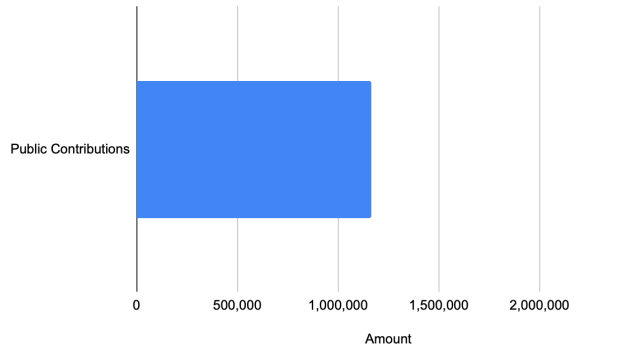
As of April 4, 2022, the Foundation had received \$ 1,164,321, in contributions, and paid grants and legal fees for J6 families of \$ 665,075. Because the Foundation was created at the end of August, 2021, we are still gathering and verifying information about families' needs, and recruiting lawyers. We are committed to helping these families, and to doing so prudently.

# Statement of Activities

As of April 04, 2022

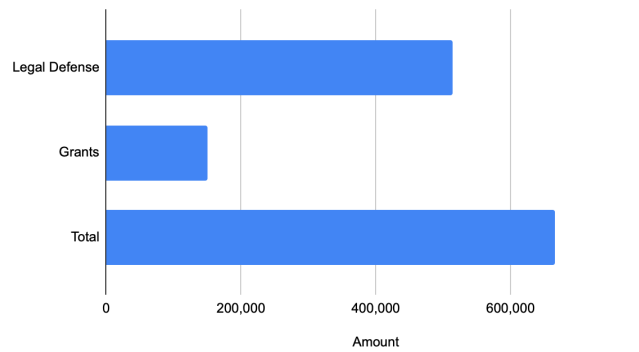
Revenue & Support	Amount
Public Support	\$1,164,321
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,164,321</b>

Revenue & Support



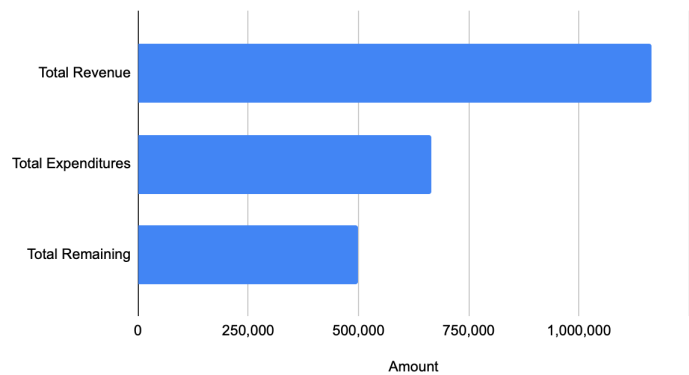
Expenditures	Amount
Legal Defense	\$514,750
Family Grants	\$150,325
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$665,075</b>

Expenditures



Revenue v. Expenditure	
Total Revenue	\$1,164,321
Total Expenditures	\$665,075
<b>Total Remaining</b>	<b>\$499,246</b>

Revenue vs. Expenditures to Date



# Legal Defense Synopsis

As of April 04, 2022

Patriot Freedom Project was able to assist several defendants in reaching the dollar amount needed to retain effective counsel. Some defendants needed financial assistance with only a portion of their retainer, and some required full assistance. We are currently working with several criminal defense attorneys, many of whom are willing to take on clients at a reduced rate. However, several are still “under water” as it relates to defendants they currently represent. We also have new potential lawyers who are willing to take on cases, and this number is expected to grow. Before we can consider taking on new lawyers to defend the J6 detainees, we need to ensure we have the appropriate funding to do so.

## Legal Expense Breakdown

Legal Expenses	
Item	Amount
Retainer Per Defendant	\$50,000 - \$75,000
Travel/Hotel/Court Fees Per Defendant	\$10,000 - \$20,000
Experts if Needed Per Defendant	\$3,000 - \$10,000

Total \$ Needed Per Defendant (Approximate Range)	\$60,000 - \$105,000
<b>Approx. \$ Needed Per Defendant (Median)</b>	<b><u>\$82,500</u></b>

Approx. \$ Needed for every 10 Defendants (Approximate Range)	\$600,000 - \$1,050,000
<b>Approx. \$ Needed for every 10 Defendants (Based on Median)</b>	<b><u>\$825,000</u></b>
<b>Approx. \$ Needed for every 100 Defendants (Based on Median)</b>	<b><u>\$8,250,000</u></b>

\*\*\*Number of Defendants in Need of Representation is Expected to Grow Exponentially\*\*\*

The approximate amount needed to cover legal costs, based on the median, is approximately \$825,000 for every 10 defendants, or \$8,250,000 for every 100 defendants.

In addition, we are looking into renting out at least two houses for the families to have a place to stay during the trials, as well as security personnel. We estimate the cost of this to be \$30,000 - \$50,000.

This breakdown does not include outstanding balances and/or fees for currently retained attorneys. This is ONLY a breakdown of approximate costs to cover legal fees for every 10 defendants, or for every 100 defendants who are still in need of proper legal representation.

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# Family Financial Assistance

Our Family Financial Assistance Program is intended to help families with children who are struggling financially whose spouses are either detained, under home incarceration, or have lost jobs due to January 6 charges. Under these circumstances, these families have gone from 2 household incomes to 1, or from 1 household income to none.

Our main objective is to fill the gap where the initial family unit financial resource, prior to being charged, has been eliminated or put on hold—specifically due to circumstances regarding January 6.

## Defendant/Family Living Expense Assistance Breakdown

Defendant/Family Living Expense Assistance Approximation	
Item	Amount
Average Monthly Expenses for Family of 1	\$3,200
Average Monthly Expenses for Family of 2	\$5,600
Average Monthly Expenses for Family of 3	\$6,200
Average Monthly Expenses for Family of 4	\$7,100

It would be extremely difficult, and most likely impossible to determine the dollar amount required for each family unit that currently needs, or will need financial assistance in the near future. There are many factors to consider, such as the state they live in, how many children, age of children, monthly household income if any, monthly household expenses, if a family member is detained/home incarcerated, or experienced job loss, etc.

Patriot Freedom Project developed a percentage based tier system per Family Unit Type to illustrate how we could potentially determine and estimate the amount of funds needed to help the families, and how to allocate Family Financial Assistance Funds. Each Family Unit Tier would be determined based on the factors listed above. We will NOT prioritize personal expenses that families would not have been able to afford regardless of January 6 events. We will ONLY prioritize financial needs due to loss of basic financial resources as it relates specifically to January 6.

While we are unsure if the Family Unit Tier System is exactly how the family assistance program will operate, it was developed in order to establish and determine an estimated amount of funds needed to help the families.