

A Manafort Lender's Emanuel Ties

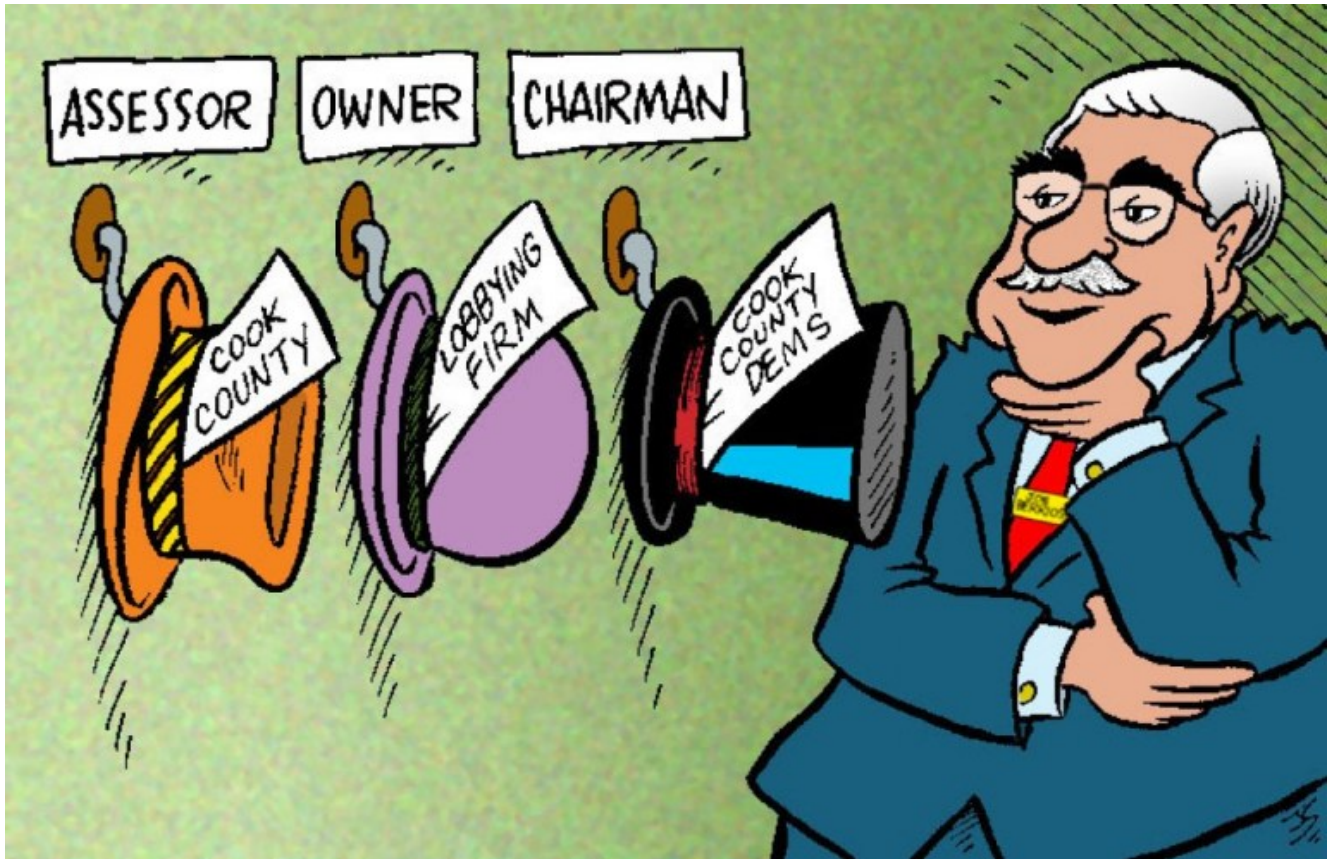
August 3, 2018



Chicago's mayor spent millions in city taxpayer funds to aid expansion of the same West Loop bank prosecutors now say made \$16 million in questionable loans to a former Trump campaign chairman now on trial for alleged tax and bank fraud.

Berrios Firm's Lobbying Client Gets Big Tax Break From His Assessor's Office

August 3, 2018



BGA investigation reveals how tobacco giant Altria saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in property taxes courtesy of the Cook County Assessor's office run by Joseph Berrios, who co-owns a lobbying business hired by the firm to represent its interests.

Pritzker's Storied Charity Costs Him Little But Taxpayers A Lot

August 3, 2018



The wealthy governor candidate campaigns on his philanthropy, but records show most of his donated proceeds have first been filtered through offshore tax havens and a tax-exempt foundation.

Bobby Rush's Englewood Church A Million-Dollar Problem

August 3, 2018



U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush has been ordered to pay \$1.1 million on a delinquent bank loan made to his now-shuttered church, the latest setback for the longtime congressman-turned-pastor who once promised his house of worship would help rebuild Englewood.

Chris Kennedy Slams Same Property Tax System He Used To Get Big Break

August 3, 2018



Chris Kennedy, a top Democratic contender for governor, relied on a politically connected tax lawyer to dramatically reduce property tax bills on land he was prepping for development. It appears to mirror the sort of activity Kennedy has been condemning on the campaign trail.

Legislators Collect Paycheck From Washington, Pension From Illinois

August 3, 2018



Three members of Congress – Peter Roskam, Mike Bost and Jan Schakowsky – collect pensions from their time in Springfield; Cheri Bustos’ husband earns a public salary greater than \$100,000 while cashing a \$67,000 pension. It’s perfectly legal, but is it good government?

How Illinois Lawmakers Have Gamed Their Pensions

August 3, 2018



Even Barack Obama could benefit from lucrative retirement perks state legislators have carved out for themselves.

Rahm Emails Show Casino Chief Sought Help After Family Contributed To Mayor

August 3, 2018



Emails obtained in BGA suit show gambling expansion talk between mayor's administration and Neil Bluhm. Family donated \$770,000 to Pat Quinn, Bruce Rauner and Rahm Emanuel. Meanwhile, a consultant for Rivers Casino concluded gambling expansion would pose "existential threats" to its business.

Kirk, Duckworth Raise Big Money From Special Interests

August 3, 2018



Tammy Duckworth takes large contributions from law firm that brings asbestos lawsuits, while Mark Kirk gets a boost from a billionaire hedge fund manager.

Former Congressman Nixes Federal Lobbying After BGA Investigation

August 3, 2018



Bill Lipinski was paid by Metra, Chicago Transit Authority and other transportation clients.