

Maryland Tax Education Foundation

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MEDIA RELEASE

**Occupy Maryland? Contributions to Top Elected Officials
Dominated by Business Interests and Fat Cats.**

- The cost of campaigns is skyrocketing. MTEF wanted to find out who finances these campaigns. The results pose some questions.
- O'Malley/Brown 2010 campaign cycle shows 79% of total funds represented by \$1,000 (or more) contributions. One third of total from \$4,000 (or more) contributions.
- Only two unions made the top 46 contributor list (i.e. \$15,000 or more) to the O'Malley/Brown campaign. Top contributors: William Rickman (\$71,250) and Edward St. John (\$67,250). 28% from out of state.
- 65% of Franchot contributions total were \$1,000 or more. 24% out of state. Top contributor was West Group (out-of-state real estate firm) at \$54,125.
- Excel files on contributions posted on MTEF website. See attached memos. www.marylandtaxeducation.org

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