

## Allison Russo (OH-15) Red Box Backup

### OVERVIEW

*We can't trust Mike Carey. He is an insider lobbyist who was caught in a scandal to raise utility rates and enrich his company, in exchange for a dark money slush fund for politician Larry Householder. Allison Russo is an independent voice who works with either party when they have good ideas that create good-paying jobs for Ohioans.*

### SUMMARY

*Voters need to see; and Independents and senior women outside of Columbus need to read and see on the go:*

- Lobbyist Mike Carey got caught lying about HB-6 – the largest public corruption scandal in Ohio history. Carey is the top lobbyist for an energy company recently named in federal court documents. Federal investigators found that Ohio energy companies contributed to a dark money slush fund in exchange for a bill to give them \$150 million in taxpayer dollars each year -- and would raise utility rates on Ohio families. Carey initially denied involvement, but the Department of Justice discovered Carey on emails discussing lobbyist plans to influence this bill. [RESEARCH CITATION / LINK]
- Allison Russo was raised in a working-class town by a single mom who was a carpenter, where she learned the value of hard work. In Columbus, Russo is an independent voice - taking on corruption and pushing to lower the cost of healthcare. Russo will work with either party if they have good ideas and she says it's time for Washington to respect hard working families more than special interest lobbyists.

*Progressive voters and younger voters who don't know Allison Russo in the Columbus exurbs need to learn face-to-face and in the Columbus area need to see on the go:*

- Allison Russo was raised in a working-class town by a single mom who was a carpenter. She worked her way through college to become a public health professional and Russo says we have to follow the science and facts to beat this pandemic. Russo believes Americans should have affordable, quality healthcare and that no one should go bankrupt because they get sick.

*Voters in worker households need to read and see on the go:*

- As the top lobbyist for Murray Energy, Mike Carey put profits above the livelihoods of workers. Carey defended repeated safety violations; and his company's dangerous work conditions resulted in the deaths of six employees and three rescue workers. Carey's company even tried to stop paying workers guaranteed retirement and medical benefits after decades of work. [RESEARCH CITATION / LINK]

## We Can't Trust Mike Carey

### We Can't Trust Mike Carey. He Is An Insider Lobbyist ...

#### January 2020-Present: Carey Was Vice President Of Government Affairs At ACNR Inc.



Michael T.W. Carey

Vice President of Government Affairs at American Consolidated Natural Resources, Inc (ACNR, Inc).



Vice President of Government Affairs at ACNR, Inc.

American Consolidated Natural Resources, Inc. · Full-time

Jan 2020 – Present · 1 yr 10 mos

Columbus, Ohio, United States

[LinkedIn, accessed [8/5/21](#)]

**2012-2020: Carey Was The Vice President Of Government Affairs At Murray Energy.**



Michael T.W. Carey

Vice President of Government Affairs at American Consolidated Natural Resources, Inc (ACNR, Inc).

**Vice President of Government Affairs**

Murray Energy Corporation

2012 – Jan 2020 · 8 yrs

[LinkedIn, accessed [8/5/21](#)]

**2012-Present: Carey Was The Chairman Of The Board of The Ohio Coal Association.**



Michael T.W. Carey

Vice President of Government Affairs at American Consolidated Natural Resources, Inc (ACNR, Inc).



**Ohio Coal Association**

22 yrs

**Chairman of the Board**

2012 – Present · 9 yrs

[LinkedIn, accessed [8/5/21](#)]

**1999-2012: Carey Was The President Of The Ohio Coal Association.**



Michael T.W. Carey

Vice President of Government Affairs at American Consolidated Natural Resources, Inc (ACNR, Inc).



**Ohio Coal Association**

22 yrs

**Chairman of the Board**

2012 – Present · 9 yrs

- Currently serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Coal Association, a non-profit trade association that is dedicated to representing Ohio's underground and surface coal mining production.

- We're committed to advancing the development and utilization of Ohio coal as an ab ...see more

**President**

1999 – 2012 · 13 yrs

[LinkedIn, accessed [8/5/21](#)]

**... Who Was Caught In A Scandal To Raise Utility Rates And Enrich His Company, In Exchange For A Dark Money Slush Fund For Politician Larry Householder**

**Carey Was Caught In The H.B. 6 Scandal**

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**Carey Was Included On An Email Uncovered By DOJ From The Ohio Coal Association To Committee Chairs With Oversight Of H.B. 6 Expressing Support For The Bill And Requesting Amendments.** “Neither Carey nor Murray Energy were charged with any crimes in connection to the Generation Now investigation, which resulted in federal charges against several top Ohio power players and, ultimately, the expulsion of former Speaker Larry Householder from the Ohio House [...] However, after this story published, an email surfaced from a trove of correspondence provided by the Ohio House to the Department of Justice during their investigation of HB 6. In that email, Carey appears to have visibility into an effort to shape HB 6, including a memo naming certain amendments the Ohio Coal Association wanted in the bill [...] Carey is one of several people copied on the email, which also went out to the committee and subcommittee chairs who had oversight of the bill, as well as a top Householder policy staffer.” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

**The Ohio Coal Association Email Said The Group Was “Supportive of H.B. 6 In General.”** “The email dated May 9, 2019, obtained through a public records request by the Energy & Policy Institute and provided to The Daily Beast by the energy watchdog group, came from Ohio Coal Association President Michael Cope with the subject line ‘Ohio Coal Association Memo Re: H.B. 6 possible amendments.’ [...] ‘We are supportive of H.B.6 in general however we believe the attached Memo will articulate our position more comprehensively. If you have questions or comments please let us know,’ Cope continued.” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

**The Ohio Coal Association Email Thanked H.B. 6 Cosponsor Chairman Callender For His “Help And Openness” After A Conference Call With The Organization.** “The email dated May 9, 2019, obtained through a public records request by the Energy & Policy Institute and provided to The Daily Beast by the energy watchdog group, came from Ohio Coal Association President Michael Cope with the subject line ‘Ohio Coal Association Memo Re: H.B. 6 possible amendments.’ Carey is one of several people copied on the email, which also went out to the committee and subcommittee chairs who had oversight of the bill, as well as a top Householder policy staffer. ‘We would like to thank Chairman Callender for participating in a phone conference with the Ohio Coal Association yesterday. We truly appreciate his help and openness/ The Chairman suggested we send this to all of you,’ Cope wrote, referring to Republican Ohio State Representative Jamie Callender, a co-sponsor of the bill.” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

**Columbus Dispatch: “Another Candidate Who Found Himself Associated With House Bill 6 Is Mike Carey, A Longtime Lobbyist For Murray Energy.”** “Another candidate who found himself associated with House Bill 6 is Mike Carey, a longtime lobbyist for Murray Energy — which became American Consolidated Natural Resources after Murray filed for bankruptcy. Carey also chairs the Ohio Coal Association board and is endorsed by former President Donald Trump. Dubbed ‘Company B’ in the criminal complaint against Householder, Murray Energy provided \$100,000 to the dark money group Hardworking Ohioans that helped support Householder-backed candidates in the 2018 general election. Founder Robert Murray, who died last year, was a longtime contributor to Trump and other Republican politicians.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/22/21](#)]

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**H.B. 6 Enriched Carey’s Company...**

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**H.B. 6 Would Subsidize A Power Plant That Burned Coal Supplied By Murray Energy.** “The criminal complaint states “Dark Money Group 1,” previously identified by The Dispatch and The Cincinnati Enquirer as the for-profit company Hardworking Ohioans Inc., spent nearly \$1.5 million to support Householder’s Republican candidates in the 2018 general election. [...] A bankruptcy filing by Murray Energy Corp. shows the coal company gave \$100,000 to Hardworking Ohioans on Oct. 26, 2018 amid its flurry of media buys backing Householder-blessed candidates as he angled to be elected speaker. The complaint states ‘Company B’ wired the same amount on the same day to the group, with a footnote stating: ‘Company B is an energy company with interests aligned with Company A,’ a reference to FirstEnergy. [...] According to industry publications, Murray worked with FirstEnergy for years to keep its Sammis coal-fired plant open in eastern Ohio, which his company supplied with all of its coal. Murray talked of buying the plant after the utility announced it would be closed.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/31/20](#)]

**Murray Energy “Stood To Benefit From” The Passage Of H.B. 6.** “Another candidate who found himself associated with House Bill 6 is Mike Carey, a longtime lobbyist for Murray Energy — which became American Consolidated Natural Resources after Murray filed for bankruptcy. Carey also chairs the Ohio Coal Association board and is endorsed by former President Donald Trump. [...] State records show Carey registered as a lobbyist on House Bill 6 but said the company ultimately remained neutral, and he never provided testimony at any of the committee hearings. Still, the company stood to benefit from its passage: The law enabled FirstEnergy to keep 1,490 megawatts of coal-fired power generation running at its W.H. Sammis plant in eastern Ohio along the Ohio River. Murray Energy supplied coal to that plant.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/22/21](#)]

**2012-2020: Carey Was The Vice President Of Government Affairs At Murray Energy.**



Michael T.W. Carey

Vice President of Government Affairs at American Consolidated Natural Resources, Inc (ACNR, Inc).

**Vice President of Government Affairs**

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2012 – Jan 2020 · 8 yrs

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**...While Raising Energy Prices For Ohio Ratepayers**

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**H.B. 6 Implemented New Monthly Surcharges Ranging From 85 Cents To \$2,400 For Ohio Rate Payers.**

“The bill, just signed by Republican Gov. Mike DeWine, is called HB 6. Though the story behind it is complex and sordid, the bill itself is pretty simple. It would do four things: Bail out two nuclear plants: From 2021 until 2027, Ohio ratepayers will pay a new monthly surcharge on their electricity bills, from 85 cents for residential customers up to \$2,400 for big industrial customers. The surcharge will produce about \$170 million a year; \$150 million of that will be used by the utility FirstEnergy Solutions to subsidize its two big nuclear power plants — Davis-Besse, outside of Toledo, and Perry, northeast of Cleveland — which it claims are losing money and will be closed in the next couple of years without bailouts.” [Vox, [7/27/19](#)]

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**Generation Now, A Dark Money Slush Fund, Was Created To Help Ohio’s Former Speaker In Exchange For His Support Of H.B. 6**

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**Ohio’s Speaker Of The House Was Arrested In Connection To A Federal Bribery Investigation Into A Scheme To Add Fees To Electric Bills And Give \$150 Million Per Year To Nuclear Power Plants.** “The powerful Republican speaker of the Ohio House and four associates were arrested Tuesday in a \$60 million federal bribery case connected to a taxpayer-funded bailout of Ohio’s two nuclear power plants. Hours after FBI agents raided Speaker Larry Householder’s farm, U.S. Attorney David DeVillers described the ploy as ‘likely the largest bribery scheme ever perpetrated against the state of Ohio.’ Householder was one of the driving forces behind the nuclear plants’ financial rescue, which added a new fee to every electricity bill in the state and directed over \$150

million a year through 2026 to the plants near Cleveland and Toledo. After Householder's arrest, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine called on him to resign.” [CBS News, [7/22/20](#)]

### **Generation Now Received \$60 Million From An Unidentified Company That Was Used To Help Ohio’s Speaker Of The House “Expand His Political Power” “In Exchange” For His Support For H.B. 6.**

“Generation Now, a group that successfully fought an effort to put a repeal of the bailout law on Ohio's ballot, was charged as a corporation in the case. A criminal complaint filed by the FBI says Generation Now received \$60 million from an unidentified company over the past three years. In exchange, Householder and the other defendants worked to pass the nuclear plant bailout and block attempts to overturn it. Householder and the others used the money to preserve and expand his political power in Ohio, the complaint said.” [CBS News, [7/22/20](#)]

**Generation Now Was A “\$60 Million Slush Fund.”** “The scandal revolves around HB 6, which was a billion-dollar bailout of the state’s nuclear industry. At the heart of the case is a \$60 million slush fund known as Generation Now, funded primarily by nuclear power company FirstEnergy. According to federal court documents, Householder, with the help of his top aide Jeffrey Longstreth, used the slush fund as a secret piggybank to mount a successful campaign for Householder to become speaker of Ohio’s House of Representatives in 2018. In exchange for the largesse, according to court documents, Householder used the speaker’s gavel to pass HB 6.” [Daily Beast, [7/8/21](#)]

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### **Carey’s Employer Contributed \$100,000 To Hardworking Ohioans, Another Dark Money Group Which Backed The Ohio Speaker’s Candidates And Was Also Funded By Generation Now**

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**Federal Bankruptcy Filings Revealed That Murray Energy Was “Company B” Referenced In The Criminal Complaint For The H.B. 6 Scandal.** “Now-bankrupt Ohio coal giant and House Bill 6 supporter Murray Energy Corp. provided \$100,000 in ‘dark money’ involved in the alleged racketeering and bribery scheme that ensnared former House Speaker Larry Householder and four others. The criminal complaint states ‘Dark Money Group 1,’ previously identified by The Dispatch and The Cincinnati Enquirer as the for-profit company Hardworking Ohioans Inc., spent nearly \$1.5 million to support Householder’s Republican candidates in the 2018 general election. [...] A bankruptcy filing by Murray Energy Corp. shows the coal company gave \$100,000 to Hardworking Ohioans on Oct. 26, 2018 amid its flurry of media buys backing Householder-blessed candidates as he angled to be elected speaker. The complaint states ‘Company B’ wired the same amount on the same day to the group, with a footnote stating: ‘Company B is an energy company with interests aligned with Company A,’ a reference to FirstEnergy.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/31/20](#)]

**Murray Energy (ACNR) Contributed \$100,000 To Hard Working Ohioans.** “Now-bankrupt Ohio coal giant and House Bill 6 supporter Murray Energy Corp. provided \$100,000 in ‘dark money’ involved in the alleged racketeering and bribery scheme that ensnared former House Speaker Larry Householder and four others. The criminal complaint states ‘Dark Money Group 1,’ previously identified by The Dispatch and The Cincinnati Enquirer as the for-profit company Hardworking Ohioans Inc., spent nearly \$1.5 million to support Householder’s Republican candidates in the 2018 general election. [...] A bankruptcy filing by Murray Energy Corp. shows the coal company gave \$100,000 to Hardworking Ohioans on Oct. 26, 2018 amid its flurry of media buys backing Householder-blessed candidates as he angled to be elected speaker. The complaint states ‘Company B’ wired the same amount on the same day to the group, with a footnote stating: ‘Company B is an energy company with interests aligned with Company A,’ a reference to FirstEnergy.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/31/20](#)]

**Hardworking Ohioans Made \$1.5 Million In Media Buys For Householder-Backed Candidates And Raised Over \$1 Million From Generation Now And FirstEnergy.** “Tracking spending in the general election is far more complicated. Instead of using the Growth and Opportunity PAC to buy ads, as in the primary, Householder’s group channeled money to a second, so-far unidentified dark-money group. Hardworking Ohioans Inc, a for-profit group that doesn’t have to disclose its campaign finances, was formed in September 2018. FCC filings show that the treasurer of Hardworking Ohioans is Chad Hawley, co-founder of the Batchelder Group with former House Speaker William G. Batchelder. The complaint says Hardworking Ohioans spent nearly \$1.5 million on media buys between Oct. 22 and Nov. 2 to support Team Householder candidates. About \$670,000 of that came from

Generation Now, \$500,000 came directly from FirstEnergy and another \$300,000 came from other corporate interests.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/29/20](#)]

## **Allison Russo Is An Independent Voice Who Works With Either Party When They Have Good Ideas That Create Good-Paying Jobs For Ohioans.**

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### **Russo Had A Record Of Working Across The Aisle**

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**Russo’s Bill Expanding Medicaid Waivers Passed With Bipartisan Support.** “State Rep. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) today announced the Senate’s unanimous passage of House Bill (HB) 287, her bipartisan bill introduced with Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek) that would allow reciprocity for Medicaid home and community-based service (HCBS) waivers for the family members of active-duty military when families move to Ohio for military assignment. These Medicaid waivers are often necessary to provide custodial and nursing care for individuals with significant developmental disabilities.” [Russo Press Release, [5/20/20](#)]

- **Russo Was One Of The Primary Sponsors Of HB 287.** [Ohio Legislature, GA 133, HB 287, Accessed [10/1/21](#)]
- **HB 287 Passed The House And Senate With Unanimous Support.** [Ohio Legislature, GA 133, HB 287, Accessed [10/1/21](#)]

**Russo’s Bill Clarifying The Process For Third Party Child Support Cases Passed With Bipartisan Support.** “State Rep. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) today announced the unanimous House passage of House Bill (HB) 83, a bipartisan bill introduced with Rep. Susan Manchester (R-Waynesfield) that would establish a clear, consistent process across the state for Child Support Enforcement Agencies (CSEAs) to investigate the potential establishment and/or redirection of child support for cases involving third-party caretakers.” [Russo Press Release, [6/25/21](#)]

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- **HB 83 Passed The House With Unanimous Support.** [Ohio Legislature, GA 134, HB 83, [6/25/21](#)]

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### **Russo Would Work With Either Party On “Good Ideas To Create Good Jobs”**

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**Russo Said She Would “Work With Either Party If They Have Good Ideas To Create Good Jobs In Ohio.”** “She got to work on day one as an independent voice in the Statehouse for her constituents — taking on corruption, fighting for women and families, and pushing to lower the cost of healthcare. Allison will always fight for working families, and she will work with either party if they have good ideas to create good jobs in Ohio.” [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

## **Lobbyist Mike Carey Got Caught Lying**

### **Lobbyist Mike Carey Got Caught Lying About HB-6 – The Largest Public Corruption Scandal In Ohio History**

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#### **Carey Denied Being Involved In Pushing H.B. 6**

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**Carey’s Campaign Manager Denied Carey Was Involved In Any Efforts To Push H.B. 6.** “Neither Carey nor Murray Energy were charged with any crimes in connection to the Generation Now investigation, which resulted in federal charges against several top Ohio power players and, ultimately, the expulsion of former Speaker Larry

Householder from the Ohio House [...] Blaine Kelly, Carey’s campaign manager, said Carey ‘was not in any effort to push HB 6 through.’” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

**Asked By A Reporter If He Had A Connection To The Householder H.B. 6 Scandal Or Anything He Wanted To Say, Carey Said “No [...] Nothing At All.”** SPECTRUM: “We obviously just saw Larry Householder get expelled from the House, the scandal surrounding all of that has been big. It’s still being learned about and everything. Do you have connection to any of it, or anything – as you’re meeting constituents, you want to say, I want to clear the air about anything related to that?” CAREY: “No. No.” REPORTER: “Nothing at all?” CAREY: “Nothing at all.” [Spectrum News 1, [7/2/21](#)] (VIDEO) 14:43-15:05

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### **Lobbyist Mike Carey Was Included On An Email From His Organization To Committee Chairs With Oversight of H.B. 6 Expressing Support For The Bill And Requesting Amendments**

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22 yrs

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**The Carey Campaign Did Not Respond To A Request For Comment On The Ohio Coal Association H.B. 6 Email.** “The email dated May 9, 2019, obtained through a public records request by the Energy & Policy Institute and provided to The Daily Beast by the energy watchdog group, came from Ohio Coal Association President Michael Cope with the subject line ‘Ohio Coal Association Memo Re: H.B. 6 possible amendments.’ Carey is one of several people copied on the email, which also went out to the committee and subcommittee chairs who had oversight of the bill, as well as a top Householder policy staffer [...] The Carey campaign did not respond to a request to comment on the email.” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

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## **The H.B. 6 Scandal Was The Largest Public Corruption Case In Ohio History**

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**The Cincinnati Enquirer Described The H.B. 6 Scandal As “The Largest Public Corruption Case” In Ohio History.** “Ohio’s largest public corruption case in state history stretches from the Ohio Statehouse to corporate executive suites to regulatory agencies to campaign war rooms. It involves more than 4 million electric bill payers, an Ohio-based Fortune 500 company and key political figures. For years, FirstEnergy Corp. and its former affiliate, FirstEnergy Solutions, wanted a \$1 billion government bailout to keep two nuclear power plants running. Federal prosecutors allege that the utilities pumped nearly \$61 million through dark money groups to put Perry County Republican Larry Householder in power in early 2019, pass House Bill 6 to subsidize the plants in July 2019 and defeat a referendum that could have killed the new law.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [7/21/21](#)]

## **Carey Is The Top Lobbyist For An Energy Company Recently Named In Federal Court Documents**

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### **Carey Was The Top Lobbyist For Murray Energy**

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**2013-2021: Carey Was A Lobbyist For ACNR.** [Ohio Lobbying Activity Center, Forms Filed 1991-2008, Accessed [8/5/21](#); Ohio Lobbying Activity Center, Forms Filed 2009-Present, [8/5/21](#)]

**January 2020-Present: Carey Was Vice President Of Government Affairs At ACNR Inc.** [LinkedIn, accessed [8/5/21](#)]

**E&E News: Carey Was The “Top Lobbyist” For ACNR Since 2012.** “Carey, a native of Sabina in the 15th District, has been Murray’s and American Consolidated Natural Resources’ top lobbyist since 2012. Before that, he led the Ohio Coal Association since 1999 and previously had roles working as a House staffer, in the Ohio Legislature and in the Army National Guards of Ohio and Alabama. He made an unsuccessful run for the state House in 1996.” [E&E News, [8/11/21](#)]

**2020: Murray Energy Became ACNR Inc.** “Longtime Murray Energy Corp. President and CEO Robert E. Murray died in October 2020, but not before seeing the energy giant he founded emerge from bankruptcy to be reorganized as American Consolidated Natural Resource Holdings Inc [...] Following additional court proceedings, Murray Energy Corp. emerged from bankruptcy in September, becoming American Consolidated Natural Resources Inc. All active union employees who worked for Murray were hired by ACNR.” [Wheeling News-Register, [12/31/20](#)]

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### **Federal Bankruptcy Filings Revealed That Carey’s Employer Contributed \$100,000 To A Group That Supported Larry Householder’s Preferred Candidates In 2018**

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**Federal Bankruptcy Filings Revealed That Murray Energy Was “Company B” Referenced In The Criminal Complaint For The HB 6 Scandal.** “Now-bankrupt Ohio coal giant and House Bill 6 supporter Murray Energy Corp. provided \$100,000 in ‘dark money’ involved in the alleged racketeering and bribery scheme that ensnared former House Speaker Larry Householder and four others. The criminal complaint states ‘Dark Money Group 1,’ previously identified by The Dispatch and The Cincinnati Enquirer as the for-profit company Hardworking Ohioans Inc., spent nearly \$1.5 million to support Householder’s Republican candidates in the 2018 general election. [...] A bankruptcy filing by Murray Energy Corp. shows the coal company gave \$100,000 to Hardworking Ohioans on Oct. 26, 2018 amid its flurry of media buys backing Householder-blessed candidates as he angled to be elected speaker. The complaint states ‘Company B’ wired the same amount on the same day to the group, with a footnote stating: ‘Company B is an energy company with interests aligned with Company A,’ a reference to FirstEnergy.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/31/20](#)]

**Murray Energy (ACNR) Contributed \$100,000 To Hard Working Ohioans.** “Now-bankrupt Ohio coal giant and House Bill 6 supporter Murray Energy Corp. provided \$100,000 in ‘dark money’ involved in the alleged racketeering and bribery scheme that ensnared former House Speaker Larry Householder and four others. The criminal complaint states ‘Dark Money Group 1,’ previously identified by The Dispatch and The Cincinnati Enquirer as the for-profit company Hardworking Ohioans Inc., spent nearly \$1.5 million to support Householder’s Republican candidates in the 2018 general election. [...] A bankruptcy filing by Murray Energy Corp. shows the coal company gave \$100,000 to Hardworking Ohioans on Oct. 26, 2018 amid its flurry of media buys backing Householder-blessed candidates as he angled to be elected speaker. The complaint states ‘Company B’ wired the same amount on the same day to the group, with a footnote stating: ‘Company B is an energy company with interests aligned with Company A,’ a reference to FirstEnergy.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/31/20](#)]

**Hardworking Ohioans Made \$1.5 Million In Media Buys For Householder-Backed Candidates And Raised Over \$1 Million From Generation Now And FirstEnergy.** “Tracking spending in the general election is far more complicated. Instead of using the Growth and Opportunity PAC to buy ads, as in the primary, Householder’s group channeled money to a second, so-far unidentified dark-money group. Hardworking Ohioans Inc, a for-profit group that doesn’t have to disclose its campaign finances, was formed in September 2018. FCC filings show that the treasurer of Hardworking Ohioans is Chad Hawley, co-founder of the Batchelder Group with former House Speaker William G. Batchelder. The complaint says Hardworking Ohioans spent nearly \$1.5 million on media buys between Oct. 22 and Nov. 2 to support Team Householder candidates. About \$670,000 of that came from Generation Now, \$500,000 came directly from FirstEnergy and another \$300,000 came from other corporate interests.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/29/20](#)]

**Federal Investigators Found That Ohio Energy Companies Contributed To A Dark Money Slush Fund In Exchange For A Bill To Give Them \$150 Million In Taxpayer Dollars Each Year -- And Would Raise Utility Rates On Ohio Families.**

**Larry Householder, Ohio's Speaker Of The House, Was Arrested In Connection To A Federal Bribery Investigation Into A Scheme To Add Fees To Electric Bills And Give \$150 Million Per Year To Nuclear Power Plants.** “The powerful Republican speaker of the Ohio House and four associates were arrested Tuesday in a \$60 million federal bribery case connected to a taxpayer-funded bailout of Ohio's two nuclear power plants. Hours after FBI agents raided Speaker Larry Householder's farm, U.S. Attorney David DeVillers described the ploy as ‘likely the largest bribery scheme ever perpetrated against the state of Ohio.’ Householder was one of the driving forces behind the nuclear plants' financial rescue, which added a new fee to every electricity bill in the state and directed over \$150 million a year through 2026 to the plants near Cleveland and Toledo. After Householder's arrest, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine called on him to resign.” [CBS News, [7/22/20](#)]

**Generation Now Received \$60 Million From An Unidentified Company That Was Used To Help Ohio's Speaker Of The House “Expand His Political Power” “In Exchange” For His Support For H.B. 6.** “Generation Now, a group that successfully fought an effort to put a repeal of the bailout law on Ohio's ballot, was charged as a corporation in the case. A criminal complaint filed by the FBI says Generation Now received \$60 million from an unidentified company over the past three years. In exchange, Householder and the other defendants worked to pass the nuclear plant bailout and block attempts to overturn it. Householder and the others used the money to preserve and expand his political power in Ohio, the complaint said.” [CBS News, [7/22/20](#)]

**First Energy And Subsidiaries Contributed To Generation Now.** “Investigators wrote in their criminal complaint that the strategy to return Householder as speaker was hatched at the end of 2016, when Householder returned to the chamber he had ruled in the early 2000s. The campaign money soon would follow. Here's how the 82-page federal complaint says the scheme worked: An unidentified company that the details reveal to be First Energy and subsidiaries contributed to a dark money nonprofit, Generation Now, that a longtime Householder associate set up. The U.S. Supreme Court's Citizens United ruling allowed such nonprofits to shield their contributors and expenditures from public view, assuring FirstEnergy that its backing would remain a secret. Generation Now then funneled some of that money to a political consulting firm that Team Householder candidates would use, plus two other additional groups that would buy advertisements to support those candidates.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/29/20](#)]

**Generation Now Was A “\$60 Million Slush Fund.”** “The scandal revolves around HB 6, which was a billion-dollar bailout of the state's nuclear industry. At the heart of the case is a \$60 million slush fund known as Generation Now, funded primarily by nuclear power company FirstEnergy. According to federal court documents, Householder, with the help of his top aide Jeffrey Longstreth, used the slush fund as a secret piggybank to mount a successful campaign for Householder to become speaker of Ohio's House of Representatives in 2018. In exchange for the largesse, according to court documents, Householder used the speaker's gavel to pass HB 6.” [Daily Beast, [7/8/21](#)]

**Generation Now And FirstEnergy Contributed \$1.5 Million To Hardworking Ohioans, A Dark Money Group That Ran Ads Householder-Backed Candidates.** “Tracking spending in the general election is far more complicated. Instead of using the Growth and Opportunity PAC to buy ads, as in the primary, Householder's group channeled money to a second, so-far unidentified dark-money group. Hardworking Ohioans Inc, a for-profit group that doesn't have to disclose its campaign finances, was formed in September 2018. FCC filings show that the treasurer of Hardworking Ohioans is Chad Hawley, co-founder of the Batchelder Group with former House Speaker William G. Batchelder. The complaint says Hardworking Ohioans spent nearly \$1.5 million on media buys between Oct. 22 and Nov. 2 to support Team Householder candidates. About \$670,000 of that came from Generation Now, \$500,000 came directly from FirstEnergy and another \$300,000 came from other corporate interests.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/29/20](#)]

## **Carey Initially Denied Involvement, But The Department Of Justice Discovered Carey On Emails Discussing Lobbyist Plans To Influence This Bill.**

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### **Carey Denied Being Involved In Pushing H.B. 6**

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**Carey’s Campaign Manager Denied Carey Was Involved In Any Efforts To Push H.B. 6.** “Neither Carey nor Murray Energy were charged with any crimes in connection to the Generation Now investigation, which resulted in federal charges against several top Ohio power players and, ultimately, the expulsion of former Speaker Larry Householder from the Ohio House [...] Blaine Kelly, Carey’s campaign manager, said Carey ‘was not in any effort to push HB 6 through.’” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

**Asked By A Reporter If He Had A Connection To The Householder H.B. 6 Scandal Or Anything He Wanted To Say, Carey Said “No [...] Nothing At All.”** “SPECTRUM: We obviously just saw Larry Householder get expelled from the House, the scandal surrounding all of that has been big. It’s still being learned about and everything. Do you have connection to any of it, or anything – as you’re meeting constituents, you want to say, I want to clear the air about anything related to that? CAREY: No. No. REPORTER: Nothing at all? CAREY: Nothing at all.” [Spectrum News 1, 14:43-15:05 [7/2/21](#) (Video)]

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### **DOJ’s Investigation Into The H.B. 6 Scandal Found That Carey Was Included On A Pro-H.B. 6 Email From His Organization To Committee Chairs With Oversight of H.B. 6**

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**2012-Present: Carey Was The Chairman Of The Board Of The Ohio Coal Association.** [LinkedIn, accessed [9/21/21](#)]

**Carey Was Included On An Email Uncovered By DOJ From The Ohio Coal Association To Committee Chairs With Oversight Of H.B. 6 Expressing Support For The Bill And Requesting Amendments.** “Neither Carey nor Murray Energy were charged with any crimes in connection to the Generation Now investigation, which resulted in federal charges against several top Ohio power players and, ultimately, the expulsion of former Speaker Larry Householder from the Ohio House [...] However, after this story published, an email surfaced from a trove of correspondence provided by the Ohio House to the Department of Justice during their investigation of HB 6. In that email, Carey appears to have visibility into an effort to shape HB 6, including a memo naming certain amendments the Ohio Coal Association wanted in the bill [...] Carey is one of several people copied on the email, which also went out to the committee and subcommittee chairs who had oversight of the bill, as well as a top Householder policy staffer.” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

**The Ohio Coal Association Email Said The Group Was “Supportive of H.B. 6 In General.”** “The email dated May 9, 2019, obtained through a public records request by the Energy & Policy Institute and provided to The Daily Beast by the energy watchdog group, came from Ohio Coal Association President Michael Cope with the subject line ‘Ohio Coal Association Memo Re: H.B. 6 possible amendments.’ [...] ‘We are supportive of H.B.6 in general however we believe the attached Memo will articulate our position more comprehensively. If you have questions or comments please let us know,’ Cope continued.” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

**The Ohio Coal Association Email Thanked H.B. 6 Cosponsor Chairman Callender For His “Help And Openness” After A Conference Call With The Organization.** “The email dated May 9, 2019, obtained through a public records request by the Energy & Policy Institute and provided to The Daily Beast by the energy watchdog group, came from Ohio Coal Association President Michael Cope with the subject line ‘Ohio Coal Association Memo Re: H.B. 6 possible amendments.’ Carey is one of several people copied on the email, which also went out to the committee and subcommittee chairs who had oversight of the bill, as well as a top Householder policy staffer. ‘We would like to thank Chairman Callender for participating in a phone conference with the Ohio Coal Association yesterday. We truly appreciate his help and openness/ The Chairman suggested we send this to all of you,’ Cope wrote, referring to Republican Ohio State Representative Jamie Callender, a co-sponsor of the bill.” [Daily Beast, [7/9/21](#)]

**Columbus Dispatch: “Another Candidate Who Found Himself Associated With House Bill 6 Is Mike Carey, A Longtime Lobbyist For Murray Energy.”** “Another candidate who found himself associated with House Bill 6 is Mike Carey, a longtime lobbyist for Murray Energy — which became American Consolidated Natural Resources after Murray filed for bankruptcy. Carey also chairs the Ohio Coal Association board and is endorsed by former President Donald Trump. Dubbed ‘Company B’ in the criminal complaint against Householder, Murray Energy provided \$100,000 to the dark money group Hardworking Ohioans that helped support Householder-backed candidates in the 2018 general election. Founder Robert Murray, who died last year, was a longtime contributor to Trump and other Republican politicians.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/22/21](#)]

## **Allison Russo- Independent**

### **Allison Russo Was Raised In A Working-Class Town By A Single Mom Who Was A Carpenter, Where She Learned The Value Of Hard Work**

**Russo Was Raised In A Small Working Class Town.** “Allison Russo is a State Representative who was raised in a small, working class town by a single mom. [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

**Russo Was Raised By A Single Mom Who Worked As A Union Carpenter.** “Allison was raised by a single mom in a small town in Mississippi. They didn’t have much, but her mom made ends meet working construction as a union carpenter. Allison was the first in her family to go to college and became a public health professional focused on helping veterans, families, and seniors. Later, she and her husband, Brian, a combat veteran and former law enforcement officer, settled in the suburbs of Columbus, Ohio to raise their three children.” [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

### **In Columbus, Russo Is An Independent Voice - Taking On Corruption And Pushing To Lower The Cost Of Healthcare**

#### **Russo Was An Independent Voice In The Statehouse**

**Russo Was An Independent Voice In The Statehouse.** “She got to work on day one as an independent voice in the Statehouse for her constituents — taking on corruption, fighting for women and families, and pushing to lower the cost of healthcare. Allison will always fight for working families, and she will work with either party if they have good ideas to create good jobs in Ohio.” [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

**Russo’s Bill Expanding Medicaid Waivers Passed With Bipartisan Support.** “State Rep. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) today announced the Senate’s unanimous passage of House Bill (HB) 287, her bipartisan bill introduced with Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek) that would allow reciprocity for Medicaid home and community-based service (HCBS) waivers for the family members of active-duty military when families move to Ohio for military assignment. These Medicaid waivers are often necessary to provide custodial and nursing care for individuals with significant developmental disabilities.” [Russo Press Release, [5/20/20](#)]

- **Russo Was One Of The Primary Sponsors Of HB 287.** [Ohio Legislature, GA 133, HB 287, Accessed [10/1/21](#)]
- **HB 287 Passed The House And Senate With Unanimous Support.** [Ohio Legislature, GA 133, HB 287, Accessed [10/1/21](#)]

**Russo’s Bill Clarifying The Process For Third Party Child Support Cases Passed With Bipartisan Support.** “State Rep. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) today announced the unanimous House passage of House Bill (HB) 83, a bipartisan bill introduced with Rep. Susan Manchester (R-Waynesfield) that would establish a clear, consistent process across the state for Child Support Enforcement Agencies (CSEAs) to investigate the potential establishment and/or redirection of child support for cases involving third-party caretakers.” [Russo Press Release, [6/25/21](#)]

- **Russo Was One Of The Primary Sponsors Of HB 83.** [Ohio Legislature, GA 134, HB 83, Accessed [10/1/21](#)]
- **HB 83 Passed The House With Unanimous Support.** [Ohio Legislature, GA 134, HB 83, [6/25/21](#)]

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## **Russo Took On Corruption**

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**Russo Introduced A Bill To Fight Corruption By Requiring Dark Money Groups To Disclose Donors And Spending.** “State Reps. Bride Rose Sweeney (D-Cleveland) and Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) today filed sweeping anti-corruption legislation, which would require dark money groups to identify their contributors and disclose their spending. First introduced nearly a year ago, the Ohio Anti-Corruption Act responds to the largest bribery scandal in Ohio history and recent news that experts rank Ohio as the top state for public corruption.” [Ohio House of Representatives, Allison Russo Press Release, [5/11/21](#)]

- **Russo Was One Of The Primary Sponsors Of HB 306, Enact The Ohio Anti-Corruption Act Re: Campaign Finance.** [Ohio Legislature, GA 134, HB 306, Accessed [10/1/21](#)]

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## **Russo Fought To Lower Healthcare Costs**

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**Russo Fought To Remove A Republican-Backed Provision To Charge Medicaid Premiums From A House Budget Bill.** “House Democratic lawmakers today voted in favor of the state budget, House Bill 166, which includes a number of key Democratic priorities, including a significant tax cut for working people and families. [...] Democrats fought to remove a controversial, GOP-backed provision to limit healthcare access for low-income Ohioans that would have charged monthly premiums for Medicaid coverage, a practice that would have jeopardized care for thousands of Ohioans. [...] ‘Improving access to healthcare and investing in children’s services, education and workers begins to restore Ohio’s promise as a place where people want to move again to find a good job, go to school and raise a family,’ said Rep. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington). ‘This budget shows that Democrats are here, working together to deliver real results for Ohio taxpayers.’” [Ohio House of Representatives, Allison Russo Press Release, [5/9/19](#)]

**Russo Introduced A Bill To Provide Up To \$1,000 In Tax Credits For Expenses Related To Family Caregivers Caring For The Elderly And Those With Chronic Health Conditions.** “State Reps. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) and Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Heights) today announced the introduction of House Bill (HB) 79, or the Caregiver Expenses Tax Credit. Previously introduced as HB 454 in the 133rd General Assembly, this legislation would provide a tax credit of up to \$1,000 for certain expenses incurred by a family caregiver for the care and support of a qualifying family member. To qualify, the family member must be age 18 or over and require assistance with at least one activity of daily living. ‘Putting families first requires us to proactively address the challenges of caring for aging family members and those living with chronic health conditions,’ said Rep. Russo.” [Ohio House of Representatives, Allison Russo Press Release, [2/17/21](#)]

**Russo Will Work With Either Party If They Have Good Ideas And She Says It’s Time For Washington To Respect Hard Working Families More Than Special Interest Lobbyists**

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## **Russo Would Work With Either Party**

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**Russo Would Work With Either Party If They Have Good Ideas.** “She got to work on day one as an independent voice in the Statehouse for her constituents — taking on corruption, fighting for women and families, and pushing to lower the cost of healthcare. Allison will always fight for working families, and she will work with either party if they have good ideas to create good jobs in Ohio.” [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

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### **Russo Would Fight For Working Families And Stand Up To Lobbyists**

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**Russo Said She Would Fight For Working Families And Stand Up To Lobbyists.** “I’ve been an independent voice in the Statehouse for my constituents — taking on corruption, fighting for children and families, and pushing to lower the cost of healthcare. In Congress, I’ll keep fighting for working families, and I will work with either party if they have good ideas to create good jobs in Ohio. Voters should elect me because Ohioans in this district deserve someone in Congress who is willing to stand up to the special-interest politicians and lobbyists who run Washington.” [Columbus Dispatch, [9/16/21](#)]

### **Allison Russo – Health Care**

#### **Allison Russo Was Raised In A Working-Class Town By A Single Mom Who Was A Carpenter.**

**Russo Was Raised In A Small Working Class Town.** “Allison Russo is a State Representative who was raised in a small, working class town by a single mom. [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

**Russo Was Raised By A Single Mom Who Worked As A Union Carpenter.** “Allison was raised by a single mom in a small town in Mississippi. They didn’t have much, but her mom made ends meet working construction as a union carpenter. Allison was the first in her family to go to college and became a public health professional focused on helping veterans, families, and seniors. Later, she and her husband, Brian, a combat veteran and former law enforcement officer, settled in the suburbs of Columbus, Ohio to raise their three children.” [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

#### **She Worked Her Way Through College To Become A Public Health Professional**

**Russo Worked Her Way Through College.** “I grew up in the rural South, and our local schools were chronically underfunded. Yet, I was blessed to have teachers who cared deeply about me and their other students. School became my second home, and I worked hard to do well in the classroom. My family couldn’t afford to help pay for my college, but I was determined. I cobbled together tuition by earning scholarships, working part-time jobs, qualifying for a Pell Grant, and taking out subsidized student loans. With hard work and a lot of help, I became the

first in my family to graduate from a four-year university. Education has the power to change people's lives and put them on new paths, but we have a lot of work to do to ensure everyone has the chance to succeed."

[AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

**Russo Became A Public Health Professional.** "Allison was raised by a single mom in a small town in Mississippi. They didn't have much, but her mom made ends meet working construction as a union carpenter. Allison was the first in her family to go to college and became a public health professional focused on helping veterans, families, and seniors. Later, she and her husband, Brian, a combat veteran and former law enforcement officer, settled in the suburbs of Columbus, Ohio to raise their three children." [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

### **And Russo Says We Have To Follow The Science And Facts To Beat This Pandemic**

**Russo Said It Was Important To Trust The Science On COVID Response Measures.** "Democrats say the poison pill amendment will limit the ability of public schools and institutions of higher learning to plan for the return to classes in the next few weeks. Additionally, it limits the abilities of schools and institutions to implement mitigation approaches, such as mask requirements, for unvaccinated students. 'This bill puts political self-interests ahead of good public health policy,' said Rep. Russo. 'With the arrival of the delta variant, this country is still in the midst of a dangerous pandemic and unvaccinated individuals are at highest risk. Public schools and universities deserve to have the flexibility to either require COVID-19 vaccines or establish mitigation procedures they deem appropriate for the circumstances in their communities. Instead, this bill further undermines trust in science and a vaccine that has saved the lives of thousands of Ohioans.'" [Ohio House of Representatives, Allison Russo Press Release, [7/14/21](#)]

### **Russo Believes Americans Should Have Affordable, Quality Healthcare And That No One Should Go Bankrupt Because They Get Sick**

**Russo Believed Americans Should Have Quality, Affordable Healthcare.** "No matter where we live or what's in our wallets, we all deserve affordable and quality healthcare close to home. I've spent over two decades working with military families, veterans, and seniors to improve their access to affordable, comprehensive healthcare. In Congress, I will work to safeguard vital components of the Affordable Care Act (ACA): protection for essential health benefits, no annual or lifetime coverage caps, no denial of coverage based on health status or pre-existing conditions, no discrimination based on gender, and access to affordable health insurance. But there is more work to do." [AllisonRusso.com, accessed [10/1/21](#)]

### **Mike Carey Put Profits Above The Livelihoods Of Workers**

#### **Carey Defended Repeated Safety Violations; And His Company's Dangerous Work Conditions Resulted In The Deaths Of Six Employees And Three Rescue Workers**

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#### **Carey Was The Top Lobbyist For Murray Energy**

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**2013-2021: Carey Was A Lobbyist For ACNR.** [Ohio Lobbying Activity Center, Forms Filed 1991-2008, Accessed [8/5/21](#); Ohio Lobbying Activity Center, Forms Filed 2009-Present, [8/5/21](#)]

**January 2020-Present: Carey Was Vice President Of Government Affairs At ACNR Inc.** [LinkedIn, accessed [8/5/21](#)]

**E&E News: Carey Was The "Top Lobbyist" For ACNR Since 2012.** "Carey, a native of Sabina in the 15th District, has been Murray's and American Consolidated Natural Resources' top lobbyist since 2012. Before that, he led the Ohio Coal Association since 1999 and previously had roles working as a House staffer, in the Ohio Legislature and in the Army National Guards of Ohio and Alabama. He made an unsuccessful run for the state House in 1996." [E&E News, [8/11/21](#)]



**2020: Murray Energy Became ACNR Inc.** “Longtime Murray Energy Corp. President and CEO Robert E. Murray died in October 2020, but not before seeing the energy giant he founded emerge from bankruptcy to be reorganized as American Consolidated Natural Resource Holdings Inc [...] Following additional court proceedings, Murray Energy Corp. emerged from bankruptcy in September, becoming American Consolidated Natural Resources Inc. All active union employees who worked for Murray were hired by ACNR.” [Wheeling News-Register, [12/31/20](#)]

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### **Carey Ignored Murray’s Safety Violation’s When He Defended The Company’s Safety Record After The Collapse Of A Mine In 2007**

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**2000-2020: Murray Energy Was Fined For 1,674 Workplace Health And Safety Violations.** [GoodJobsFirst.org, accessed [9/30/21](#)]

- **2000-2007: Murray Was Fined For 273 Workplace Health And Safety Violations Prior To August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007.** [GoodJobsFirst.org, accessed [9/30/21](#)]

**Carey Defended Murray Energy Owner Bob Murray’s Commitment To Safety Following A Collapse In One Of His Mines.** “Robert Murray is the son of an Ohio coal miner. He is a successful businessman with 11 mines in five states. He also has a reputation for being outspoken and provocative, and that is how he was in a nationally televised news conference this week. During a sometimes rambling address, he challenged reports that his workers had been ‘retreat mining’ at the time of the accident [...] Mike Carey heads the Ohio Coal Association. He says Murray is well respected in his home state. ‘I’ve never seen a person more committed to the safety of his workers than Bob Murray,’ Carey says.” [NPR, [8/9/07](#)]

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### **Murray Admitted In A Settlement That Safety Violations Contributed To The Deaths Of Six Miners And Three Rescue Workers In A 2007 Mine Collapse**

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**Murray Energy Settled With The Department Of Labor And Agreed That Safety Violations Contributed To A Collapse That Killed Six Miners In A 2007 Mine Collapse.** “The U.S. Department of Labor has reached a settlement with the operators of the Crandall Canyon Mine and other Murray Energy Corp. subsidiaries, resolving litigation and violations cited after the mine’s 2007 collapse, which killed eight miners and an MSHA inspector. Six victims were killed in the initial collapse on Aug. 6, 2007, and were never recovered [...] Under the settlement, the operators accepted four of the citations and orders as ‘contributory,’ meaning that the company’s violations contributed to the cause or effect of the accident. Those violations include the improper mine design as well as the operators’ repeated failure to revise the design, despite knowledge that it was inadequate to protect miners from bursting coal pillars.” [DOL.gov, [9/27/12](#)]

- **Three More Workers Died Trying To Rescue Trapped Miners.** “His company had a record of flouting safety rules. In 2007, a huge collapse in the Crandall Canyon Mine in central Utah entombed six miners; three others died in a rescue attempt. Mr. Murray erroneously blamed the collapse on an earthquake. The federal Mine Safety and Health Administration fined the mine’s operator, Genwal, a Murray subsidiary, a record \$1.6 million over the collapse. The fine was later reduced to less than \$1 million.” [New York Times, [10/27/20](#)]

### **Carey’s Company Even Tried To Stop Paying Workers’ Guaranteed Retirement And Medical Benefits After Decades Of Work.**

**In Bankruptcy Filings Murray Said It Was “Simply Not Able To Repay” Pension And Healthcare Obligations.** “Murray Energy declined to comment on what will happen to worker pensions, but legal experts say retirees and workers have reason to worry [...] Bankruptcy courts have in the past allowed coal companies to shed those expenses — a point that Murray Energy didn’t shy away from noting in its court filings. ‘Competitors have used bankruptcy to reduce debt and lower their cost structures by eliminating cash interest obligations and pension

and benefit obligations, leaving them better positioned to compete for volume and pricing in the current market,” Murray Energy said in court documents [...] However, Murray Energy’s lawyers said the company is ‘simply not able to repay’ its liabilities, including its ‘outsized’ pension and retiree healthcare obligations. The mining giant argued it must slash its liabilities to attract the capital needed to fund future operations.” [CNN, [11/1/19](#)]