

## McSwain

We can't trust Bill McSwain. As a lawyer, Bill McSwain represented some very bad people. McSwain represented the founder of a sham charter school chain who was accused of ripping off taxpayers for \$6.7 million...

**In 2013, Dorothy June Brown Was Charged with Defrauding Four Charter Schools That She Founded Out of \$6.7 Million and Participating in a Scheme to Cover It Up.** According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, "Brown is charged with defrauding four charter schools that she founded of \$6.7 million and then participating in a scheme with two former administrators to cover it up. The government's evidence showed that during two years alone, Brown collected \$4.27 million from the schools: \$1.6 million in 2007-08 and \$2.67 million the next year." [Philadelphia Inquirer, 12/12/13]

- **Brown Founded Three K-8 Charter Schools in Philadelphia and Created the Agora Cyber Charter School.** According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, "A former Philadelphia School District principal, Brown founded three kindergarten-through-eighth-grade charter schools in the city: Laboratory, which has campuses in Northern Liberties, Overbrook, and Wynnefield; Ad Prima, in Overbrook and Frankford; and Planet Abacus, in Tacony. In addition, in 2005 Brown helped create the Agora Cyber Charter School in Devon, which provides online in-home instruction to students from across the state. Four years later, she cut her ties with Agora as part of a settlement involving several civil suits. Now based in Wayne, Agora operates under new leadership." [Philadelphia Inquirer, 3/16/13]

**The U.S. Attorney For The Eastern District Of Pennsylvania On The Indictment: "As Our Public Schools Are Funded Through Dollars Earned By Hard Working Americans, There Is A Reasonable Expectation That Their Tax Dollars Will Be Used To Actually Educate Students."** According to a press release issued from the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, "'Public education is a cornerstone of American life which has provided many with the tools for future success,' said U.S. Attorney Zane David Memeger. 'As our public schools are funded through dollars earned by hard working Americans, there is a reasonable expectation that their tax dollars will be used to actually educate students. The indictment in this case alleges that June Brown and her four co-conspirators used the charter school system to engage in rampant fraud and obstruction. My office will continue to vigorously investigate and pursue those charter school operators who defraud the taxpayers and deprive our children of funds for their education.'" [[U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Press Release, 6/24/12](#)]

**U.S. Department Of Education’s Special Agent On The Indictment: “Today’s Indictment Alleges That These School Officials Chose To Line Their Own Pockets With Federal Education Dollars Instead Of Using Those Funds For The Intended Purpose—Educating The Students They Promised To Serve.”** According to the press release issued from the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, “‘Today’s indictment alleges that these school officials chose to line their own pockets with federal education dollars instead of using those funds for the intended purpose—educating the students they promised to serve. That is unacceptable,’ said Special Agent in Charge Steven Anderson, of the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Inspector General’s Mid-Atlantic Regional office. ‘OIG will continue to investigate allegations of fraud to help ensure that education funds reach the intended recipients and protect these vital dollars from such calculated plunder. America’s students and taxpayers deserve nothing less.’” [[U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Press Release, 6/24/12](#)]

**In 2013, Two Philadelphia Charter Schools Founded by Brown Failed to Have Their Charters Renewed as School District Officials Raised Concerns About the Schools.** According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, “Two schools founded by Dorothy June Brown failed to have their charters renewed Thursday, as Philadelphia School District officials voiced concerns about both. A resolution to renew the charter of Laboratory Charter School with stipulations was on the School Reform Commission agenda Thursday night, but Superintendent William R. Hite Jr. withdrew it, citing new information the district had received.” [[Philadelphia Inquirer, 11/21/13](#)]

**Brown Faced More Than 60 Counts of Wire Fraud and Charges That She Led a Broad Conspiracy to Obstruct Justice.** According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, “In a separate hearing later in the day, attorneys, for Brown won a bail reduction for the 75-year-old educator, who faces more than 60 counts of wire fraud and charges that she led a broad conspiracy to obstruct justice.” [*Philadelphia Inquirer*, 3/16/13]

**Brown and Her Management Companies Received Millions in Taxpayer Funds from the Schools.** According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, “Smoot admitted fabricating, altering, and backdating charter board minutes, invoices, contracts, and financial records to mask the fact that Brown - and not the charters' boards - was running the schools, and that she and her two management companies were receiving millions in taxpayer funds from the schools.” [*Philadelphia Inquirer*, 3/16/13]

**McSwain Was One of Brown’s Attorneys.** According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, “‘I’ve never seen a bail like this in this kind

	<p>of case,' William M. McSwain, one of Brown's attorneys, said in court Friday. He told the judge that Brown was 'a pillar of the community,' had deep ties to the area, and posed no risk of flight. McSwain said Brown might need to tap the equity in her home to pay for her defense but could not if the deed was securing her bail." [Philadelphia Inquirer, 3/16/13]</p>
<p>...and another client who took advantage of a US Department of Agriculture program that was meant to help American farmers.</p>	<p><b>In 2016, Brett Lillemoe Was Found Guilty of 6 Counts and Acquitted on 16 Counts Brought Against Him by the U.S. Attorney's Office for Connecticut.</b> According to Business Wire, "On November 9, after a five week trial, a federal jury in New Haven, Conn. of eight men and four women acquitted Brett C. Lillemoe, who is represented by Drinker Biddle &amp; Reath LLP, on 16 counts brought against him by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut, while finding him guilty on six counts. The jury acquitted Mr. Lillemoe on 14 counts of wire fraud, one count of bank fraud and one count of money laundering. The guilty counts consisted of five counts of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy." [Business Wire, 11/10/16]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Lillemoe Was Found Guilty Of 5 Counts of Wire Fraud and One Count of Conspiracy.</b> According to Business Wire, "On November 9, after a five week trial, a federal jury in New Haven, Conn. of eight men and four women acquitted Brett C. Lillemoe, who is represented by Drinker Biddle &amp; Reath LLP, on 16 counts brought against him by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut, while finding him guilty on six counts. The jury acquitted Mr. Lillemoe on 14 counts of wire fraud, one count of bank fraud and one count of money laundering. The guilty counts consisted of five counts of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy." [Business Wire, 11/10/16]</li> <li>● <b>Lillemoe Was Acquitted on 14 Counts of Wire Fraud, One Count of Bank Fraud, and One Count of Money Laundering.</b> According to Business Wire, "On November 9, after a five week trial, a federal jury in New Haven, Conn. of eight men and four women acquitted Brett C. Lillemoe, who is represented by Drinker Biddle &amp; Reath LLP, on 16 counts brought against him by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut, while finding him guilty on six counts. The jury acquitted Mr. Lillemoe on 14 counts of wire fraud, one count of bank fraud and one count of money laundering. The guilty counts consisted of five counts of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy." [Business Wire, 11/10/16]</li> <li>● <b>The Defendants Were Indicted for Allegedly Defrauding Two Banks, Presenting False Evidence, and</b></li> </ul>

**Altering Shipping Documents to the Financial Institutions.** According to the *Star Tribune*, “All three were indicted in February 2015 for allegedly defrauding two banks. Charges included presenting false and altered shipping documents to the financial institutions.” [[Star Tribune, 11/10/16](#)]

- **Lillemoe Lined Up Export Deals Financed by Letters of Credit That Were Issued by Foreign Bank and Funded By Deutsche Bank and Co-Bank.** According to the *Star Tribune*, “Lillemoe lined up export deals financed by letters of credit, which ensure that an importer pays an exporter. The letters of credit were issued by foreign banks and funded by the U.S. office of Deutsche Bank and Denver-based Co-Bank. Those loans to foreign banks were insured by the USDA'S GSM-102 program, which covers 98 percent of any losses. Lillemoe was paid via loan arrangement fees.” [[Star Tribune, 11/10/16](#)]
- **When a Bank in Russia Failed to Repay the U.S. Banks, More Than \$10 Million in Loans Went into Default and the USDA Covered the Losses.** According to the *Star Tribune*, “Those loans to foreign banks were insured by the USDA'S GSM-102 program, which covers 98 percent of any losses. Lillemoe was paid via loan arrangement fees. But when a bank in Russia failed to repay the two U.S. banks, more than \$10 million in loans went into default and the USDA had to make good on its guarantees.” [[Star Tribune, 11/10/16](#)]

**An Indictment Against Brett Lillemoe Alleged He Had Engaged In A Scheme To Defraud Two U.S. Financial Institutions In Connection With A Usda Loan Guarantee Program.** According to Business Wire, “The indictment alleged that the defendants had engaged in a scheme to defraud two U.S. financial institutions, Deutsche Bank in New York City and CoBank in Denver, in connection with a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan guarantee program called the GSM-102 Program (the Program), in which the USDA guaranteed 98 percent of the principal value of loans made from U.S. financial institutions to certain foreign banks. The Program is designed to encourage exports of U.S. agricultural products to foreign countries in emerging markets.” [Business Wire, 11/10/16]

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- **The GSM-102 Program Was Available To Exporters Of Fresh Produce, Meats, Grains, Oilseeds, Rice, And Flour, Hides, And Other Products.** According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, “The GSM-102 program provides credit guarantees to encourage financing of commercial exports of U.S. agricultural products. By reducing financial risk to lenders, credit guarantees encourage exports to buyers in countries — mainly developing countries — that have sufficient financial strength to have foreign exchange available for scheduled payments. The program is available to exporters of: high-value, consumer-oriented, processed products such as frozen foods, fresh produce, meats, condiments, wine and beer; intermediate products such as hides, flour and paper products; and bulk products such as grains, oilseeds and rice.” [[U.S. Department of Agriculture, accessed 3/23/22](#)]

**When a Bank in Russia Failed to Repay the U.S. Banks, More Than \$10 Million in Loans Went into Default and the USDA Covered the Losses.** According to the Star Tribune, “Those loans to foreign banks were insured by the USDA’S GSM-102 program, which covers 98 percent of any losses. Lillemoe was paid via loan arrangement fees. But when a bank in Russia failed to repay the two U.S. banks, more than \$10 million in loans went into default and the USDA had to make good on its guarantees.” [Star Tribune, 11/10/16]

**McSwain and Other Partners at Drinker Biddle & Reath Represented Lillemoe.** According to Business Wire, “Mr. Lillemoe, of Minneapolis, was the lead defendant in the case and was represented by William M. McSwain, James J. Williamson and Jennifer B. Dempsey of Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP. The case was captioned USA v. Lillemoe, et al., No. 15-CR-25 (JCH).” [Business Wire, 11/10/16]

McSwain has spent a ton of campaign cash trying to tell you that he's tough on corruption, the truth is he's made a career of defending people who were accused of corruption and ripping off Pennsylvania taxpayers.

## **McSwain Aired Three TV Ads And One Radio Ad Touting That He “Took On Corrupt Public Officials”**

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**In McSwain's 30-Second TV Ad “Whatever It Takes,” McSwain Said He Took On Corrupt Public Officials.** “As President Trump's US Attorney, I took down corrupt public officials and I jailed politicians who stuffed ballot boxes.” [[Whatever It Takes Ad, 2/22/22](#)]

**In McSwain's 30-Second Radio Ad “Whatever It Takes” McSwain Said He Took On Corrupt Public Officials.** “As President Trump's US Attorney, I took down corrupt public officials and I jailed politicians who stuffed ballot boxes.” [[Whatever It Takes Ad, 2/25/22](#)]

**In McSwain's 15-Second TV Ad “Ready For The Fight,” McSwain Said He Took On Corrupt Public Officials.** “As President Trump's US Attorney, I took down corrupt public officials and I jailed politicians who stuffed ballot boxes.” [[Ready For The Fight Ad, 2/28/22](#)]

**In McSwain's First 30-Second TV Ad “Send In A Marine,” McSwain Said He Took On Corrupt Public Officials.** “McSwain put hard criminals behind bars and took down corrupt politicians.” [[Commonwealth Partners Ad, 1/31/22](#)]

## **McSwain And A Political Group Backing His Campaign Spent Nearly \$7 Million On An Ad Buy During The Republican Primary**

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**McSwain And A Political Group Backing Him, The Commonwealth Partners, Spent Nearly \$7 Million On An Ad Buy.** According to the Pennsylvania Capital Star, “McSwain, a former federal prosecutor, has done poorly in early polling. But last month, he secured a key and deep-pocketed endorsement from Commonwealth Partners Chamber of Entrepreneurs, a free-market advocacy group mostly funded by one donor. Political groups associated with Commonwealth Partners already have at least \$20 million in the bank. And the first round of spending — nearly \$7 million on pro-McSwain TV ads — went out the door this week through an associated group, the Commonwealth Leaders Fund. The multi-million dollar buy will run through at least April, veteran conservative activist Matt Brouillette, who plays a role in both groups, told the Capital-Star.” [[The Pennsylvania Capital-Star, 2/1/22](#)]

**McSwain Was Spending \$6.8 Million On Cable And Broadcast TV, Radio, And Internet Ads During The Republican Primary.**

According to Delaware Valley Journal, “Bill McSwain, the former U.S. Attorney who is running for governor, is spending \$6.8 million on cable and broadcast television, radio, and internet ads in the run-up to the May 17 Republican primary, according to filings. That is more than many of his opponents in the crowded GOP field have in their campaign coffers, let alone their advertising budgets.”

[[The Delaware Valley Journal, 2/1/22](#)]