Involves Donald Trump

Oak View Group gave to the inauguration; its executive was pardoned before trial

C Alleged

The pardon is a primary record. The $250,000 gift rests on Sportico and House Judiciary Democrats' report, which disagree on whether Leiweke or his company paid it.

4 sources **1** primary record **4** with an archived copy

REACHED THE FAMILY

Jan 2025 month precision

$250,000 exact

Sportico says Oak View Group gave $250,000 to Trump's January 2025 inauguration; the House Judiciary Democrats' report says Leiweke paid it. The two sources disagree on the donor. The inaugural committee is not a family business.

FROM Oak View Group (company)

CHANNEL inaugural committee donation

OFFICIAL ACTION

Dec 2, 2025

Full pardon for Leiweke, ending a federal bid-rigging prosecution over the University of Texas Moody Center arena before trial; former Rep. Trey Gowdy represented him and, per CNN's source, lobbied the Justice Department for dismissal or clemency

AGENCY President; Department of Justice

No day count is calculated because at least one of the two dates is known only to the month or year.

WHAT HAPPENED

In July 2025 a federal grand jury indicted Tim Leiweke, a co-founder and executive of the live entertainment company Oak View Group, accusing him of rigging the bidding for the Moody Center arena at the University of Texas. The company itself agreed to pay $15 million to resolve its potential liability. Leiweke pleaded not guilty and was set for trial.

Sportico reports Oak View Group gave $250,000 to Trump's January 2025 inauguration; House Judiciary Democrats say Leiweke paid it himself. Leiweke was represented by former Rep. Trey Gowdy, a Trump ally, who according to CNN's source lobbied the Justice Department to drop the case or grant clemency.

On December 2, 2025, Trump pardoned Leiweke before trial, ending the prosecution brought by his own Justice Department. Leiweke maintains his innocence.

POTENTIAL VIOLATION

No legal question has been raised by anyone with standing or expertise in the sources reviewed, so this field is left blank rather than supplied by the ledger.

THEIR RESPONSE

Leiweke maintains his innocence and thanked Trump. His lawyer said the pardon was the right result. Oak View Group said it was happy for him.

SOURCES

> **U.S. Department of Justice** Sep 9, 2026 primary
> Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)
> archived copy

> **Sportico** Dec 2025 news
> https://www.sportico.com/law/analysis/2025/trump-pardons-tim-leiweke-ovg-1234878263/
> archived copy Page shows no publication date; reported the December 2025 pardon

> **CNN (via KRDO)** Dec 3, 2025 news
> Trump pardons former top entertainment executive who was charged by his own Justice Department
> archived copy

> **House Judiciary Committee Democrats** Aug 2026 congressional
> Pardons Inc. (staff report)
> archived copy

Last verified Oct 17, 2026.

REACH CONGRESS

Committees with jurisdiction over this kind of action:

HOUSE Judiciary, House Administration, Oversight and Government Reform

SENATE Judiciary, Rules and Administration, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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