Involves Don Jr., Eric

Pentagon contracts to companies in the brothers' venture portfolios

C Alleged

The total is a single Washington Post analysis; CNN's separate analysis, read only through a summary, covers a different set of companies and a different period. Fund holdings are only partly public. The November 9, 2024 date is when Don Jr. became a 1789 partner, per the Raskin letter.

10 sources **2** primary records **10** with an archived copy

REACHED THE FAMILY

Nov 9, 2024

$3,200,000,000 range

Washington Post figure for government business going to companies in the two funds' portfolios. Excerpts of the Post's July 13 text say at least $3.2 billion in direct government business since the sons invested; a syndicated summary (Moneywise) says $3.1 billion since the second term began. The Post's Aug 5, 2026 follow-up, read in full through the Philadelphia Inquirer, describes $3.2 billion in federal contracts, investments and loans to 15 companies, most of it after the second term began. The July article itself could not be opened. About $3.1 billion more is in potential future work. SpaceX and Anduril account for 97% of current dollars (about $2.1 billion and $1 billion, per the inspector general letter citing the Post), and many contracts began under the Biden administration. CNN's separate $1.6 billion figure (ten 1789 companies, excluding SpaceX, first 500 days) measures something different and is not used for the amount. These are payments to the companies, not to the family.

FROM 1789 Capital and American Ventures portfolio companies (fund)

CHANNEL equity stakes through venture funds

OFFICIAL ACTION

Jul 13, 2026

At least $3.1 billion to $3.2 billion in government business to companies in which 1789 Capital or American Ventures hold stakes, plus about $3.1 billion in potential future work (Washington Post analysis)

AGENCY Department of Defense

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The action is dated 611 days after the payment.
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WHAT HAPPENED

Don Jr. became a partner at the venture firm 1789 Capital on November 9, 2024. The brothers also invest through American Ventures, a fund platform whose managers are 90 percent owned by Dominari Holdings, a company in which each brother holds about 5.8 percent. Through these vehicles the Trump sons have invested in more than a dozen defense technology companies.

A Washington Post analysis published July 13, 2026 found that companies in those portfolios have received at least $3.1 billion to $3.2 billion in government business, with about $3.1 billion more in potential work. In an August 5 follow-up the Post described the total as $3.2 billion in federal contracts, investments and loans to 15 companies, most of it after Trump's second term began. SpaceX and Anduril make up 97 percent of the current dollars, and many contracts began under the Biden administration. The Post found no indication the brothers had inside knowledge of the contracts.

In a separate analysis on July 20, 2026, CNN found that ten defense, space and software companies backed by 1789 received more than $1.6 billion in federal funding in the first 500 days of Trump's second term, about 79 percent more than in Biden's last 500 days, and that the share awarded without competition rose to about 18 percent from about 7.5 percent. CNN left SpaceX out. The two analyses count different companies and periods, so their totals do not match.

On August 4, 2026, Sens. Elizabeth Warren, Richard Blumenthal and Tammy Duckworth and Rep. Robert Garcia asked the Defense Department's inspector general, Platte B. Moring III, to identify Pentagon awards since January 2025 to companies tied to the Trump family and to review whether officials followed the rules. Rep. Jamie Raskin had asked 1789 for its full portfolio by September 9, 2026. ABC News pulled and corrected a similar report in October 2026; this entry does not rely on it.

POTENTIAL VIOLATION

Conflicts of interest, political insider trading and exploitation of public office for financial gain (no statute numbers cited)

STATUTE OR CLAUSE	None cited
RAISED BY	Rep. Jamie Raskin, ranking member, House Judiciary Committee (letter to 1789 Capital, Aug 26, 2026); Sens. Elizabeth Warren, Richard Blumenthal and Tammy Duckworth and Rep. Robert Garcia, ranking member, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee (letter to the Defense Department Inspector General, Aug 4, 2026)

This is a potential violation as described by the party named. No charge has been filed in this entry; the ledger does not call anything a crime below tier D.

THEIR RESPONSE

White House spokeswoman Anna Kelly told the Post there are no conflicts of interest. Don Jr.'s spokesman, Andy Surabian, said Don Jr. does not interface with the federal government through his investments. Trump Organization spokeswoman Kimberly Benza said the brothers are passive, minority investors with no involvement in operations or contracts. The Pentagon's acting press secretary, Joel Valdez, said no company receives preferential treatment. 1789 Capital's lawyer, Thomas Clare, told CNN no one at the firm discussed federal contracts with the administration. The Post found no indication the brothers had inside knowledge of the contracts.

SOURCES

The Washington Post Jul 13, 2026 news
https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/interactive/2026/07/13/trumps-sons-invest-heavily-defense-fathers-administration-pours-money/
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House Judiciary Committee Democrats Aug 26, 2026 congressional
Letter from Rep. Raskin to 1789 Capital
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TheWrap Oct 9, 2026 news
ABC News Removed Report on Trump Sons Investigation Because It Published Prematurely
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Dominari Holdings (SEC Schedule 14A proxy) Mar 10, 2025 primary
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Moneywise (via Yahoo Finance), summarizing the Washington Post Jul 15, 2026 news
https://finance.yahoo.com/economy/policy/articles/donald-trump-jr-eric-trumps-161241272.html
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CNN (via Mezha) Jul 20, 2026 news
1789 Capital grew after Trump Jr joined and its portfolio saw increased federal funding
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CNN original (https://www.cnn.com/2026/07/20/politics/trump-jr-investments-federal-funding-invs) not opened; read through Mezha's summary

Sens. Warren, Blumenthal and Duckworth and Rep. Garcia Aug 4, 2026 congressional
Letter to DoD Inspector General re corruption in Pentagon awards process
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Office of Sen. Elizabeth Warren Aug 5, 2026 congressional
Warren, Garcia, Blumenthal, Duckworth Urge DoD Watchdog to Investigate $3.2 Billion in Government Awards to Companies Tied to Trump Sons
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The Washington Post (via The Philadelphia Inquirer) Aug 5, 2026 news
https://www.inquirer.com/news/nation-world/trump-sons-investments-pentagon-contracts-democrats-investigation-20260805.html
archived copy Washington Post original is paywalled; read through the Inquirer's syndicated copy

Last verified Oct 21, 2026.

REACH CONGRESS

Committees with jurisdiction over this kind of action:

HOUSE Armed Services, Oversight and Government Reform

SENATE Armed Services, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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