Involves Donald Trump

Media and tech companies settle Trump's lawsuits

B Reported

The settlement terms are reported by the AP, Reuters, CNN and CBS News. The amounts and recipients are read directly from Trump's annual disclosure for 2025 (Schedule 1, lines 431.1, 431.2, 431.4 and 431.5). The court filings were not opened, and the payers' own figures for ABC, Meta and X differ from the disclosure.

19 sources **2** primary records **16** with an archived copy

REACHED THE FAMILY

Dec 19, 2024

$70,500,000 estimated

About $70.5 million: the four amounts Trump's 2025 financial disclosure lists for these settlements, as reported by CBS News and The New Republic, with recipients as described in a July 15, 2026 letter from Sen. Warren, Sen. Blumenthal and Rep. Stansbury. In: ABC $16 million and Meta $24.5 million, listed as net proceeds paid to the Donald J. Trump Presidential Library Foundation; X $8 million, listed as paid to Trump, with no recipient beyond that stated; YouTube $22 million, which the court filing directs to the Trust for the National Mall for the White House ballroom. Out: about $2.5 million YouTube paid to other plaintiffs; any part of the ABC, Meta or X payments that went to lawyers or other plaintiffs beyond the disclosed figures; and Paramount's $16 million, which is a separate entry (the disclosure's settlement total of $86.5 million includes it). Marked estimated because the payers' figures differ: news reports put ABC at $15 million toward the library plus $1 million in legal fees, Meta at about $25 million with $22 million for the library, and X at about $10 million; Meta told lawmakers it paid $22 million and X said $10 million as part of a group settlement. Using the payers' library figures for ABC and Meta would lower the sum to about $67 million. The ballroom entry counts only Charles Ergen's gifts, so the YouTube $22 million is not counted twice in ledger amounts, though the Washington Post's ballroom donor total cited there likely includes it. Ballroom money pays for a government building. The library foundation's application for tax exemption, filed Oct 10, 2025, asked the IRS for expedited review because settlement money was being held in escrow until the foundation was approved; the IRS approved it about Oct 20, 2025, during the government shutdown (Miami Herald).

FROM ABC (Disney), Meta, X and YouTube (Google) (company)

CHANNEL lawsuit settlements

OFFICIAL ACTION

No related official action is recorded for this entry.

WHAT HAPPENED

After the 2024 election, companies Trump had sued began settling. ABC News agreed on December 14, 2024 to pay $15 million toward his presidential foundation and museum, plus $1 million in legal fees, over a defamation suit involving George Stephanopoulos. Meta agreed in late January 2025 to pay about $25 million, with $22 million for his future library and the rest for legal fees and other plaintiffs. X agreed in February 2025 to pay about $10 million, according to the Wall Street Journal as reported by the AP and Reuters.

On September 29, 2025, YouTube agreed to pay $24.5 million. According to the court filing as reported by the AP and CBS News, $22 million goes to the Trust for the National Mall to support construction of the White House ballroom, and about $2.5 million goes to other plaintiffs, including the American Conservative Union and the writer Naomi Wolf. The filing says the settlement is not an admission of liability.

Trump's 2025 financial disclosure lists $86.5 million in settlement income (Schedule 1, lines 431.1 to 431.5), as CBS News and The New Republic reported: ABC $16 million, Meta $24.5 million, X $8 million, YouTube $22 million and CBS $16 million (Paramount is a separate entry). It lists the ABC, Meta and CBS money as net proceeds paid to the Donald J. Trump Presidential Library Foundation and the $8 million from X as paid to Trump, without saying where that money went. In responses to the lawmakers, Meta said it paid $22 million and X said it paid $10 million as part of a group settlement. No specific federal action tied to a settlement has been identified.

The first library vehicle, the Donald J. Trump Presidential Library Fund, was administratively dissolved in September 2025 after it did not file an annual report. The foundation was incorporated separately in May 2025, and the lawmakers say it has reported $50 million in revenue. They say at least $13.5 million and up to $21.5 million of the settlement money is missing or was spent without clear explanation. ABC told them it wired its payment on December 19, 2024 to an escrow account set up by Trump's counsel.

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

The YouTube filing says the settlement is not an admission of liability. Google confirmed the settlement and declined further comment. Asked by lawmakers in 2026, ABC said it wired its payment on Dec 19, 2024 to an escrow account set up by Trump's counsel, who in March 2026 asked it to release the money to the foundation; Meta and X cited confidentiality.

SOURCES

Associated Press (via ClickOnDetroit) Sep 29, 2025 news
Google's YouTube to pay $24.5 million to settle 2021 lawsuit by Donald Trump over account suspension
archived copy

Fox Business Jun 30, 2026 news
Trump financial disclosure reveals more than $1B in crypto income during first year back in office
archived copy

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Sen. Richard Blumenthal and Rep. Melanie Stansbury Jul 15, 2026 congressional
Letter to the Donald J. Trump Presidential Library Foundation on financial disclosures
archived copy

Office of Sen. Elizabeth Warren Jul 16, 2026 congressional
https://www.warren.senate.gov/?p=39088
archive pending

Office of Sen. Elizabeth Warren Apr 20, 2026 congressional
Warren, Blumenthal, Stansbury Press Trump on Missing Millions Donated to Dissolved Trump Library Fund
archived copy

Office of Government Ethics (Form 278e, copy posted by CREW) Jun 30, 2026 primary
Donald J. Trump 2026 Annual Report (OGE Form 278e)
archived copy
Opened, but only the first 23 of 847 pages could be machine-read, so the settlement lines were not reached; the OGE copy cited by the lawmakers (oge.box.com, p. 869) was blocked. Settlement lines are taken from CBS News, The New Republic and the lawmakers' letter

CBS News Jul 2, 2026 news
Trump made over $1 billion on crypto ventures last year, financial disclosure shows
archived copy

The New Republic Jul 1, 2026 news
Trump Is Getting Rich Off Suing News Organizations
archived copy

MS Now (via Joe.My.God.) Jul 2026 news
https://www.joemygod.com/?p=547603
archive pending Read through a blog post republishing MS Now's report

Associated Press (via National Newswatch) Dec 14, 2024 news
ABC agrees to give $15 million to Donald Trump's presidential library to settle defamation lawsuit
archived copy

Al Jazeera Dec 15, 2024 news
ABC News agrees to pay $15m to settle Trump defamation suit
archived copy

Associated Press (via PBS NewsHour) Jan 29, 2025 news
Meta agrees to pay $25 million settlement to Trump over Jan. 6 suspension lawsuit
archived copy

CNN (via KEYT) Jan 29, 2025 news
Trump signs settlement agreement with Meta, source says
archived copy

Associated Press (via KWTX) Feb 13, 2025 news
Trump settles suit against Elon Musk's X over his post-Jan. 6 ban
archived copy

Reuters (via Geo News) Feb 13, 2025 news
Musk's X agrees to pay about $10 million to settle Trump lawsuit, WSJ reports
archived copy

CNBC (via NBC New York) Feb 12, 2025 news
Elon Musk's company X settles Trump lawsuit over account suspension
archived copy

CBS News Sep 29, 2025 news
YouTube to pay $22 million for White House ballroom to settle lawsuit from Trump
archived copy

U.S. Office of Government Ethics Jun 30, 2026 primary
Donald J. Trump OGE Form 278e, Annual 2025
archived copy
Read directly Oct 25, 2026 from the filing's text layer, opened in a browser on the editor's computer; Schedule 1, lines 431.1 to 431.5 (p. 869); this entry uses 431.1, 431.2, 431.4 and 431.5

Miami Herald (via CPA Practice Advisor) Nov 20, 2025 news
Trump's Library Foundation Got Special Treatment From the IRS During the Government Shutdown
archive pending Miami Herald story by Claire Heddles read through CPA Practice Advisor's syndicated copy

Last verified Oct 26, 2026.

REACH CONGRESS

Committees with jurisdiction over this kind of action:

HOUSE Energy and Commerce, House Administration, Oversight and Government Reform

SENATE Commerce Science and Transportation, Rules and Administration, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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Both links go to the official finders. This page stores no contact information.
