

Alphabet Shareholder Meeting – Proposal #10
Justin Danhof, Esq., General Counsel and Free Enterprise Project Director
National Center for Public Policy Research – June 7, 2017

I'm Justin Danhof of the National Center for Public Policy Research. I move shareholder proposal number ten.

Our proposal requests that the Board issue a report analyzing the company's charitable activities. The report should list the rationale and benefits to society at-large produced through the company's charitable contributions. This report would not change any of the company's policies, goals or values or place them in the hands of shareholders. It would simply explain whether management believes its charitable donations lived up to Alphabet's goals and values. The company donates to numerous organizations. Some of these organizations may end up using funds provided by the company in unintended and unwanted ways. Donations to controversial groups – particularly political groups – may also eventually result in harm to Alphabet's reputation.

For example, the company donated to the Center for American Progress (CAP).¹ CAP is an extreme political group accused of anti-Semitism.² Additionally, in 2010, under the direction of John Podesta – who later became chairman of Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign – CAP wrote the blueprint for the Obama Administration's expansion of executive power. Now, with President Donald Trump in office, Alphabet has lodged complaints about the very same use of executive power that may have been designed and endorsed because of the company's decision to fund CAP.³

The company also donated to the Clinton Foundation,⁴ which is reportedly under FBI investigation. Media reports strongly imply parts of the Clinton Foundation operated as a pay-for-play scheme whereby individuals and corporations may have sought preferential treatment from government actors in exchange for donations to the Foundation. Such speculation is further fueled by the closing of some of the Clinton Foundation's operations following Mrs. Clinton's unsuccessful bid for the White House.

While liberals may cheer donations to CAP and the Clinton Foundation – just as conservatives may bemoan them – there is no question that donations to highly politicized organizations are controversial. The report requested by our proposal would increase transparency and accountability, and it may also help the company avoid unnecessary controversies. Please join us in supporting shareholder proposal ten.

Contact: Judy Kent at (703) 759-7476 or cell (703) 477-7476 or jkent@nationalcenter.org
National Center for Public Policy Research
20 F Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20001
www.nationalcenter.org • www.conservativeblog.org • [@NationalCenter](https://twitter.com/NationalCenter)

¹ <http://www.politico.com/story/2013/12/center-for-american-progress-donor-list-101140>

² https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/center-for-america-progress-group-tied-to-obama-accused-of-anti-semitic-language/2012/01/17/gIQAcRHXAQ_story.html?utm_term=.ef37b96de1d4

³ <https://www.recode.net/2017/2/1/14480988/google-apple-facebook-joint-letter-opposing-trump-travel-ban>

⁴ <http://observer.com/2016/08/media-orgs-donate-to-clinton-foundation-then-downplay-clinton-foundation-scandal/>