



Trump Froze Foreign Aid Without Congress. Public Citizen Sued to Stop It.

BY LIZA BARRIE



On his first day back in office, President Donald Trump unleashed an illegal assault on U.S. foreign assistance. He ordered a freeze of more than \$11 billion in congressionally approved funding, including support for HIV treatment, polio eradication, global vaccination, maternal health, food aid, and investigative journalism. As a result, around the world, clinics closed, and clinical trials were abandoned midstream. Frontline health workers were

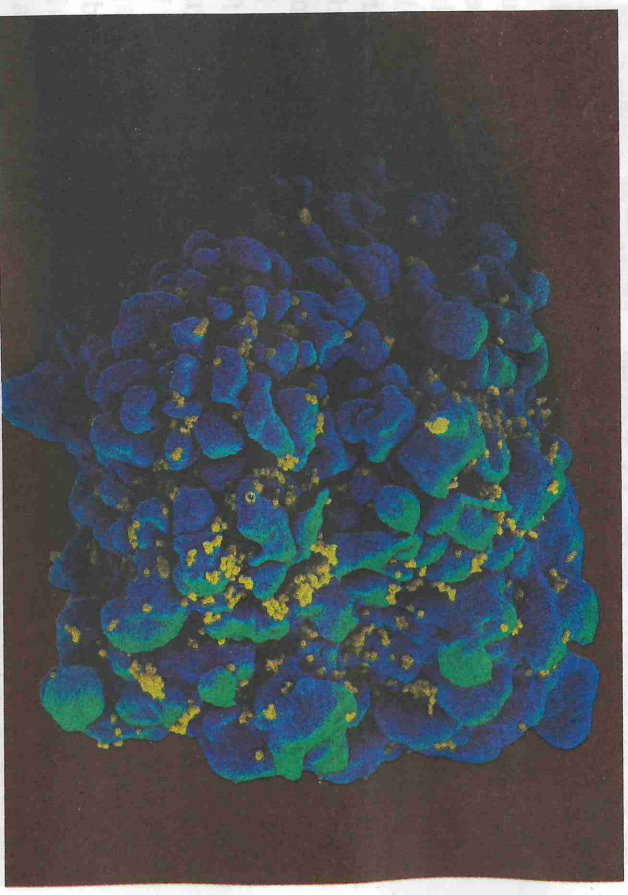
fired. Journalists lost the protection that kept them safe.

The Trump administration claimed that the freeze was implemented to effectuate a policy review. In reality, it was an unlawful cancellation of foreign assistance that Congress had mandated. By halting aid that Congress had directed, the administration violated the Constitution and federal statutes.

Public Citizen went to court to try to reverse the damage.

The experiences of Public Citizen's three clients in its legal challenge illustrate the severe harm caused by halting foreign

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Scanning electronmicrograph of an HIV-infected H9 T cell courtesy of NIAID / Flickr.

Trump Guts Enforcement, Greenlights Corporate Crime Spree

BY DAVID ROSEN

In its first months in power, the Trump administration halted or moved to dismiss enforcement investigations and cases against more than 120 corporations. Public Citizen research has found.

"Trump's corporate pardons are a clear reminder that the president's true base is the billionaire executives and corporate elites who are eagerly lining up to indulge their greed at the trough of Trump's corruption," said Rick Claypool, a Public Citizen research director who tracks corporate enforcement. "Trump's soft-on-

corporate-crime approach invites a corporate crime spree — with potentially catastrophic consequences for America's consumers, workers, and communities."

The list of dropped or halted cases includes:

- 46 of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (CFPB) investigations and cases — that is, nearly every case about which public information is available;
- 43 investigations and cases brought by the Department of Justice (DOJ), where

the Trump administration ordered freezes on whole categories of enforcement, including foreign corruption cases, civil rights cases, and environmental cases. This includes eight cases that have been fully dismissed and withdrawn;

- 21 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) investigations and cases, including 13 cryptocurrency cases; and
- 7 dropped Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) cases, which had

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Misuse of Special Government Employees Poses Glaring Corruption Risks

BY JON GOLINGER

During its first few destructive months in office, the second Trump administration has found a way around important ethics rules by quickly appointing people like Elon Musk — who have major potential conflicts of interest — to powerful government jobs. It has done so by misusing a little-known job classification called

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