

House IT Aides Ran Car Dealership With Markings Of A Nefarious Money Laundering Operation

This is one of the most neglected stories of the year. Debbie Wasserman Schultz's Pakistani IT guys were into some very shady dealings. Luke Rosiak writes in the [hairstyle model](#) catalog, and "Jade Julia," whose image came from a web page called "Beautiful Girls Wallpaper."

If a customer showed up looking to buy a car from Cars International A, often referred to as CIA, Abid Awan – who was managing partner of the dealership while also earning \$160,000 handling IT for House Democrats – would frequently simply go across the street to another dealership called AAA Motors and get one.

"If AAA borrows a car to Cars International and they have a customer, it was simply take the car across the street and sell it, and then later on give the profit back or not," Nasir Khattak, who ran the longstanding AAA dealership, [Politico expose](#).

The money that disappeared between the Awans' dealership, some \$7 million in congressional pay, the equipment suspected of disappearing from Congress under their watch, and their other side businesses – all while they displayed few signs of wealth and frequently haggled in court over small amounts of money – raise questions about whether the Awans might have been laundering money or sending it to a third party.

"Based on the modest way Awan was living, it is my opinion that he was sending most of his money to a group or criminal organization that could very well be connected with the

Pakistani government,” said Wayne Black, a private investigator who served as law enforcement group supervisor in Janet Reno’s Miami public corruption unit. “My instincts tell me Awan was probably operating a foreign intelligence gathering operation on US soil.”

Officials told Politico that prosecutors refused to help them punish top Hezbollah operatives involved in its money laundering network because of political concerns, such as fears of jeopardizing the Obama administration’s deal with Iran. Similarly, the Awans, who had close relationships to House Democrats including Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Gregory Meeks, have not been charged with any crimes surrounding the dealership nor with their House activities. The disclosure of a House IT breach shortly before the election by Pakistani-born Democratic staffers would have had political fallout.

Shortly before the 2016 election, investigators found huge amounts of House equipment unaccounted for under the Awans’ stewardship, and when they looked into the family further, they found that they had logged in to members’ computers for whom they did not work. There were signs that the [Natalia Sova](#), who was herself on the House payroll as an IT aide in 2010 and 2011 for Reps. Emmanuel Cleaver, Ted Deutch, and Gabby Giffords. Abid incorporated Cars International in 2008, and Cars International A in 2009, taking out loans from the Congressional credit union while omitting the dealership from House financial [conversing with a Hezbollah official](#)” in 2012—shortly after the loan was made.

The money was moved from Ali Al-Attar through accounts intended for Fairfax County real estate. Both Imran Awan and Khattak – who also put up \$200,000 in cash as an investor in CIA – had realtors licenses.

It’s not clear where the dealership’s money was going, because it was sued by at least five different people on all ends of a typical car business who said they were stiffed. CIA didn’t

pay the security deposit, rent or taxes for its building, it didn't pay wholesalers who provided cars, and it sold broken cars to people and then refused to honor the warranties, the [bankruptcy](#) in 2010 to discharge debts racked up by the car dealership. One person who was listed on bankruptcy documents as being owed money by the dealership, Rao Abbas, later appeared on the House payroll as an IT aide, even though his most recent job experience was working at [police officer](#). The brothers' stepmother, Samina Gilani, said in court documents that when the family spends time in Pakistan, the brothers are escorted by a [went missing](#) while Abid managed it for the office.

Despite brothers Imran, Abid and Jamal and Imran's wife, Hina Alvi, all making chief-of-staff level salaries of \$160,000 on Capitol Hill, they displayed few signs of wealth in the US, further raising questions about where all the money was going. Abid is in a lawsuit against his stepmother after Abid replaced her with himself on his father's life insurance policy, and his attorney, Jim Bacon, told a judge he needed money. Imran's lawyer said his children were [cash](#), tenants told TheDCNF. Sources said the FBI generated Suspicious Activity Reports hundreds of pages long based on large cash deposits and international wires.

Members of Congress have refused to acknowledge what is well-known among the House bureaucracy, that investigators found conclusive evidence that the Awans wantonly violated House IT regulations. "There's no question about it: If I was accused of a tenth of what these guys are accused of, they'd take me out in