



Former EPA Administrator Pruitt’s Travel Costs for June 5-12, 2017

Public Records Show Taxpayers Spent \$164,200 on Pruitt Trip to Italy – a Third More Than Previously Reported -- Including \$10,067 for Drivers and a Motorcade; and \$5,841 to House the Drivers in a Five-Star Hotel in Rome

September 5, 2018

Trip to Rome, Italy: According to records recently obtained by the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) in response to its August 3, 2017 Freedom of Information Act request, former U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt’s June 2017 trip to Italy cost taxpayers another **\$43,943.57** in addition to the \$120,256.36 already reported, bringing the total for the trip to **\$164,199.93**.

This additional \$43,943.57 includes:

- **\$34,960.75** paid by EPA to the U.S. Embassy in Rome to cover costs such as **\$10,066.77** for automobiles, drivers, and other vehicle-related costs to drive Mr. Pruitt and his entourage around in Italy, and **\$5,841.23** to lodge these drivers at the five-star Regina Hotel Baglioni.
- **\$8,982.82** for additional travel costs for Mr. Pruitt’s security detail during the week of June 5-12. This amount is in addition to \$30,553.88 previously disclosed in response to EIP’s FOIA requests.

Trip to Cincinnati, Ohio: EIP also obtained records showing that EPA reimbursed the White House **\$30,000** to help fund President Trump’s June 7, 2017 rally in Cincinnati, Ohio and for travel costs for carrying Mr. Pruitt and his staff aboard Air Force One to the event. EPA also disclosed the interagency agreement documenting the \$36,068.50 military flight from Cincinnati to New York that was previously disclosed. These amounts are not included in the \$164,199.93 grand total for Mr. Pruitt’s Italy trip.

Background: On August 3, 2017, EIP submitted a FOIA request to EPA seeking “records of expenditures for all travel outside of Washington, DC by Administrator Pruitt, as well as any EPA staff that accompanied Administrator Pruitt, from June 5, 2017 through June 12, 2017.” EIP submitted this FOIA request in order to uncover information about Mr. Pruitt’s travel expenditures for his trip to Italy in June 2017.

Mr. Pruitt flew from John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York to Rome on June 7, 2017 in order to attend a June 11th G7 summit with other top environmental officials.

However, it was reported that the former Administrator attended merely the first few hours of the two-day summit before returning to Washington, DC. See Associated Press (see article in [Business Insider](#), “*Scott Pruitt Makes Brief Appearance at G7 Environmental Summit*,” June 11, 2017.

Rome, Italy Trip Expenses: The list below itemizes EPA’s travel expenditures incurred from former Administrator Pruitt’s trip to Rome, Italy from June 7-12, 2017. This list is ordered according to the dates on which EPA disclosed records in response to EIP’s FOIA request. EPA’s production of records began on January 16, 2018 and ended with its fifth and final production on July 20, 2018.

PREVIOUS DISCLOSURES:

January 16 Document Production by EPA on Pruitt and Staff Travel Vouchers: Based upon EPA’s disclosure of [travel vouchers](#), EPA spent [\\$53,633.98](#) on airfare, per diem, and lodging for Mr. Pruitt and accompanying EPA staff (except members of the security detail). The cost of airfare, lodging, and per diem for Mr. Pruitt alone accounts for \$8,997.83 of that total amount.

EPA separately spent [\\$36,068.50](#) on a U.S. Air Force aircraft to carry the former Administrator from Cincinnati to the John F. Kennedy International Airport so that he could catch his flight to Rome.

March 19 Document Production by EPA: Security Detail Travel Expenses: Airfare, per diem, and lodging for the former Administrator’s security detail cost \$30,553.88 for the week of June 5-12, 2017. [Note: this total also includes travel costs for security detail that accompanied Mr. Pruitt on a June 5-6 trip to New York.]

NEWLY RELEASED RECORDS:

May 2 EPA Document Production on Additional Security Detail Expenses: EPA found additional travel vouchers for former Administrator Pruitt’s security detail that amounts to another \$8,982.82. This is in addition to the \$30,553.88 figure already disclosed to EIP. This brings the total travel cost for Mr. Pruitt’s security detail for the week to [\\$39,536.70](#).

July 13 EPA Document Production: Italian Motorcade and Other Costs: EPA spent an additional [\\$34,960.75 to cover costs of Mr. Pruitt’s Italy trip](#). EIP successfully obtained these records of additional Italy trip travel expenses after allegations surfaced that Mr. Pruitt’s former head of security, Pasquale Perrotta, hired private Italian security guards and a motorcade for the former Administrator.

This amount includes \$10,066.77 for automobiles, drivers, and other vehicle-related costs to drive Mr. Pruitt and staff in Italy, and \$5,841.23 to lodge these drivers at the Regina Hotel Baglioni, a five-star hotel located in Rome.

CINCINNATI TRIP:

July 20 Production: Expenses for July 7 Cincinnati Infrastructure Rally: EPA provided [another \\$30,000 to the White House](#) to fund the event. Mr. Pruitt attended the rally prior to his trip to Italy. EIP cannot confirm whether these payments are standard or routine procedure. See July 20 Production. EPA also disclosed the interagency agreement in which EPA reimbursed the U.S. Air Force \$36,068.50 for carrying Mr. Pruitt and staff from the June 7 Cincinnati, Ohio rally to New York in order to catch his flight to Rome. This \$36,068.50 figure was the same amount disclosed in EPA's January 16 production.