MEDIA JUSTICE NETWORK

PRESS RELEASE

Record Money, Hidden Sources: The 2026 Midterm in Numbers

Statement of Media Justice Network | November 3, 2026

As Americans vote today, Media Justice Network reminds voters that the 2026 midterm elections are projected to be the most expensive midterms in US history, with total spending expected to reach $11.9 billion, according to OpenSecrets. Dark money - funds whose original sources are not publicly disclosed - has already reached a record of nearly $1.47 billion in contributions to super PACs, exceeding the 2024 cycle, which included a presidential race (OpenSecrets).

Separately, AFP reports that super PACs spend most of their money on attack ads. Voters have a right to know who is paying to influence them, and whose interests that serves. Read Media Justice Network's full report on money and media influence in the 2026 midterm elections: the full report.

Sources: OpenSecrets, October 30, 2026 (opensecrets.org); AFP, October 26, 2026 (afp.com).

This statement does not endorse or oppose any candidate or party. Media Justice Network is a nonprofit organization that monitors, documents and reports on media equity issues. Website: mediajusticenetwork.org. Media contact: info@mediajusticenetwork.org.