

Big Business Thieves Rob Us Blind – Pretending They Are Broke!

Ford, GM & Chrysler claim they are running out of money. That's a lie. They had lots of money – they gave it away:

- From 1997 to 2006, Ford paid out 30 billion dollars buying up or investing in 22 companies or plants overseas.
- GM bought up 20 mortgage companies.
- Ford and GM gave 79 million dollars to their top four executives in 2006 alone – a year they claimed to be losing 14 billion dollars!
- Cerberus bought up the whole Chrysler company, then ran it into debt, even making Chrysler pay rent to Cerberus for its own headquarters!
- GM keeps “subsidiaries” in eleven tax havens like the Cayman Islands. GM doesn't build cars there – it just avoids taxes and hides its money.

Every big company funnels what they steal from us into the biggest Wall Street banks and investment companies.

- The 500 biggest companies gave away 2.6 trillion dollars in dividends to their biggest stockholders in 2007 – 200 billion more than they said they made.

The State of Michigan and most of its cities claim they have a budget crisis. That's another lie. They gave away big handouts to business.

- Last year, the state of Michigan gave away 12 billion dollars to business – more than it spent on everything else!
- That's why state and city services were cut.
- That's why we have crumbling roads and bridges, schools cheated for funds, broken water mains, closed fire stations, big limits on workers' comp & unemployment comp.
- That's why good-paying state and city jobs have been eliminated.

All of us who work for a living were ripped off. The very wealthy made out like the bandits they are!

- In 1980, the average CEO made 42 times what the average worker made. Today the CEO makes 364 times as much as the worker.
- Today, the bottom 80 per cent of the population – all of us put together – own only half as much wealth as those at the very top, the richest one per cent.

The Big Thieves will keep demanding more concessions, keep stealing more of the nation's wealth – until workers refuse to give up any more.

What Are You Going to Do When They Come for You?