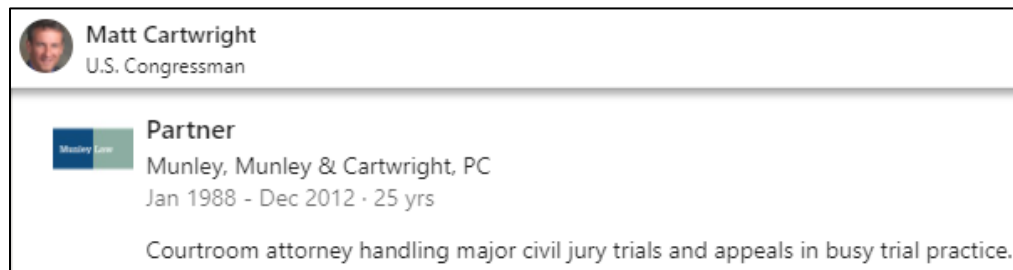


In 2019, a non-partisan government watchdog group named Matt Cartwright as one of Washington's "worst ethics violators." Cartwright was the subject of an ethics complaint for using his elected office to sponsor legislation to help his family make money suing truckers.

**From 1988 to 2012, Matt Cartwright worked as a trial lawyer at Munley, Munley & Cartwright (Munley Law), a law firm founded by his wife's father, Robert Munley:**

- From 1988 to 2012, Cartwright worked as a trial lawyer at Munley, Munley & Cartwright, P.C.



(Matt Cartwright, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 1/25/22)

- **Munley, Munley & Cartwright, P.C., was founded by Robert Munley in 1959.** "Robert W. Munley, Munley Law's founder, was a Pennsylvania legal legend and personal injury law pioneer. He achieved record-setting verdicts and settlements on behalf of his clients in Pennsylvania and nationwide. He founded Munley Law in 1959." ("Robert W. Munley," [Munley Law](#), Accessed 1/25/22)
- **Prior to joining the firm, Cartwright married Robert Munley's daughter, Marion Munley.** "LATTMAN: 'Now who's this Cartwright fella?' MUNLEY: 'He's my son-in-law. My daughter Marion met Matt at the London School of Economics and they got married after they finished law school. Marion, by the way, is named after my mother Marion, who was a legislator for 25 years.'" (Peter Lattman, "Here's A Story . . . Of A Firm Called Munley," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 8/2/07)

**Cartwright's wife, Marion, is an attorney at Munley Law; Cartwright holds an ownership interest in the law firm and participates in its profit-sharing plan:**

- **Cartwright's wife, Marion Munley, is an attorney at Munley Law.** "Marion Munley is a champion of the civil justice system and the rights of victims—particularly those who have been injured in trucking crashes and by products in the marketplace. She is known for her compassionate approach to representing the catastrophically injured and her tireless devotion to her clients and their families. Marion treats each client like a member of her family. Through her advocacy, she has won many multimillion dollar recoveries for her clients including one the largest trucking accident settlements in history." ("Top Rated Personal Injury Attorney Marion Munley," [Munley Law](#), Accessed 1/25/22)
- **According to Cartwright's financial disclosure report covering 2020, Cartwright personally**

holds an ownership interest in Munley Law PC worth up to \$100,000.

Munley Law PC [OL]	\$50,001 - \$100,000	None	<input type="checkbox"/>
LOCATION: Scranton, PA, US			
DESCRIPTION: Ownership interest			

(Matt Cartwright, "Financial Disclosure Report," [Clerk of the House of Representatives](#), Filed 8/13/21)

- As of 2020, Cartwright participates in Munley Law's profit-sharing plan.

SCHEDULE F: AGREEMENTS		
Date	Parties To	Terms of Agreement
December 2012	Munley Law Firm and filer	Continued participation in profit sharing plan (no new contributions, investment income reinvestment only)

(Matt Cartwright, "Financial Disclosure Report," [Clerk of the House of Representatives](#), Filed 8/13/21)

- **Cartwright has a multimillion-dollar financial interest in Munley Law's profit-sharing plan.** "A government watchdog group has filed an ethics complaint calling for a federal investigation into Democratic Rep. Matt Cartwright, claiming that he violated conflict of interest rules by sponsoring bills that would benefit a law firm in which he has a multimillion-dollar financial interest... The legislation stands to benefit the Cartwright's family's Pennsylvania-based law firm, Munley Law, which specializes in commercial truck accident lawsuits, because it would allow higher payouts, a share of which go to litigants' attorneys." (Alana Goodman, "House Democrat smacked with ethics complaint over conflict of interest," [Washington Examiner](#), 9/27/19)

**Munley Law specializes in truck accident litigation, and Cartwright's wife, Marion Munley, is a trucking litigation attorney who won a "record-breaking \$26 million settlement" in a landmark trucking accident case:**

- **Munley Law describes itself as a nationwide leader in truck accident law, and claims to have won over \$1 billion in settlements and verdicts.** "Were You Injured in a Truck Wreck? Contact a Truck Accident Lawyer at Munley Law Now for a Free Consultation. The truck accident lawyers at Munley Law are recognized nationwide as leaders in truck accident law. No firm is more experienced, or more successful in getting truck accident victims the justice they deserve. We have won more than \$1 billion in settlements and verdicts for our clients." ("Truck Accident Lawyer," Munley Law, Accessed 1/25/22)
- **In August 2007, James Munley said Munley, Munley & Cartwright focused exclusively on personal injury law and specialized in big-truck litigation.** "We started out as a general practice firm but now focus exclusive on personal-injury law and specialize in big-truck litigation. This is an area where we have a lot of heavy trucking. Route 81 and Route 84 cross through Scranton. And then Route 80 runs just below Scranton, and the Pennsylvania Turnpike also goes through here. We always represent the victims." (Peter Lattman, "Here's A Story . . . Of A Firm Called Munley," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 8/2/07)

- **Cartwright’s wife, Marion Munley, is a trucking litigation attorney who won a “record-breaking \$26 million settlement” in a landmark trucking accident case.** “Cartwright’s wife, Marion Munley, works as an attorney for the firm and is viewed as an industry expert in truck-related litigation. The Munley Law website currently advertises a ‘record-breaking \$26 million settlement’ that Munley obtained in a ‘landmark truck accident case’ in 2018. Munley also served as the chairwoman of the Trucking Litigation Group of the American Association for Justice, a trial attorney trade group that has been lobbying for Cartwright’s bill, according to lobbying disclosure records. Last year, the lobbying group praised Munley as a ‘titan of trucking litigation’ who has helped ‘shape new laws.’” (Alana Goodman, “House Democrat smacked with ethics complaint over conflict of interest,” [Washington Examiner](#), 9/27/19)
  - **Munley has served as chair of the Trucking Litigation Group of the American Association for Justice and has been called a “titan of trucking litigation.”** “Until July, Munley also served as chair of the Trucking Litigation Group of the American Association for Justice, a trial attorney trade group that has been lobbying for Cartwright’s bill, according to lobbying disclosure records. Munley sits on the organization’s board of governors and its executive committee, according to the association’s website. In 2018, the AAJ praised Munley in a press release, calling her a ‘titan of trucking litigation’ who has helped ‘shape new laws.’” (Alana Goodman, “Democratic Congressman Introduced Truck Crash Legislation Benefiting His Family Law Firm,” [Washington Examiner](#), 9/16/19)
- **VIDEO: In 2014, Munley Law released an ad featuring Marion Munley speaking about big-truck accident litigation, saying “We are a leader in trucking litigation.”** MARION MUNLEY: “You’re here, no doubt, because you or a loved one has been involved in a trucking accident that involved a personal injury. Hi, I’m Marion Munley. We understand how emotionally difficult these times can be, and we want to help. There is nothing more important than selecting the right attorney to protect your rights in these cases. Accidents involving trucks, buses or other large vehicles are fiercely defended by the other side’s insurance company. They have enormous resources to put up against any claim you may make, and if you’ve been in an accident, the other side is already at work building a case in their defense. I, along with the other members of our firm, have handled some of the largest truck accident cases in Pennsylvania. We are a leader in trucking litigation. We know the challenges, we know what it takes, we know how to win for you. We have over forty years of experience representing truck accident victims across the country. We have, in fact, won millions of dollars for our trucking-accident clients. Please call us, and let’s sit down to see what we might accomplish together. 855-866-5529. There’s no charge or obligation. It’s time to get you the peace and justice you deserve.” (“Munley law Commercial,” [YouTube](#), 1/31/14)

**Cartwright has sponsored multiple bills that would benefit Munley Law by increasing the minimum insurance required for commercial trucks; in response, a watchdog group called him one of the “worst ethics violators” of 2019:**

- In September 2019, a government watchdog group filed an ethics complaint alleging Cartwright had violated conflict of interest rules by sponsoring bills that would benefit

**Munley Law, in which he has a multimillion-dollar financial interest.** “A government watchdog group has filed an ethics complaint calling for a federal investigation into Democratic Rep. Matt Cartwright, claiming that he violated conflict of interest rules by sponsoring bills that would benefit a law firm in which he has a multimillion-dollar financial interest... The legislation stands to benefit the Cartwright’s family’s Pennsylvania-based law firm, Munley Law, which specializes in commercial truck accident lawsuits, because it would allow higher payouts, a share of which go to litigants’ attorneys.” (Alana Goodman, “House Democrat smacked with ethics complaint over conflict of interest,” [Washington Examiner](#), 9/27/19)

- **The bills would increase mandatory minimum liability insurance for commercial truck drivers from \$750,000 to \$4.5 million, allowing higher payouts for accidents, a share of which go to litigants’ attorneys.** “Cartwright’s potential financial conflict involving truck insurance legislation was first reported by the Washington Examiner this month. The Pennsylvania Democrat recently introduced two bills that would increase the mandatory minimum liability insurance for commercial truck drivers from \$750,000 to \$4.5 million. The legislation stands to benefit the Cartwright’s family’s Pennsylvania-based law firm, Munley Law, which specializes in commercial truck accident lawsuits, because it would allow higher payouts, a share of which go to litigants’ attorneys. Cartwright and his wife both have profit-sharing agreements with the firm that are valued between \$2 million and \$10 million, according to the congressman’s 2018 financial disclosure report.” (Alana Goodman, “House Democrat smacked with ethics complaint over conflict of interest,” [Washington Examiner](#), 9/27/19)
  - **Cartwright described the legislation as “a matter of public safety.”** “This is a matter of public safety. Tragically, more than 100,000 people have been killed in commercial vehicle collisions since 1980,’ said Rep. Cartwright. ‘This legislation is essential to protecting our nation’s highways and ensuring that victims receive the proper amount of compensation for their losses.” (Rep. Matthew Cartwright, “Cartwright Introduces Legislation To Keep Highways Safe And Protect Victims’ Rights,” [Press Release](#), 7/19/13)
  - **Cartwright first introduced the SAFE HAUL (Safe And Fair Environment on Highways Achieved through Underwriting Levels Act) in August 2013.** ([HR 2730](#) - Safe Haul Act, Introduced by Rep. Matt Cartwright, 7/18/13)
  - **Cartwright introduced the SAFE HAUL Act again in 2015.** ([HR 983](#) - Safe Haul Act, Introduced by Rep. Matt Cartwright, 2/13/15)
  - **Cartwright introduced the SAFE HAUL Act again in 2019.** ([HR 3383](#) - Safe Haul Act, Introduced by Rep. Matt Cartwright, 6/20/19)
  - **The SAFE HAUL Act would increase commercial vehicle liability insurance minimums from \$750,000 to \$4.4 million.** “Safe And Fair Environment on Highways Achieved through Underwriting Levels Act of 2013 or SAFE HAUL Act of 2013 - Revises certain minimum financial responsibility requirements to increase from \$750,000 to \$4.422 million the minimum level of financial responsibility sufficient to satisfy established liability coverage for motor carriers or motor private carriers providing property transportation. Requires the Secretary of Transportation (DOT) to

adjust such amount annually for inflation relating to medical care.” ([HR 983](#) – Safe Haul Act, Introduced by Rep. Matt Cartwright, 2/13/15)

- **In 2019, Cartwright cosponsored the INSURANCE Act.** ([H.R. 3781](#) – INSURANCE Act, Introduced by Rep. Chuy Garcia, 7/16/2019)
- **The INSURANCE Act would increase commercial vehicle liability insurance minimums from \$750,000 to \$4,923,154 and index future increases to medical-cost inflation.** “(1) In passing the Motor Carrier Act of 1980, Public Law 96–296, Congress intended for the minimum insurance levels to maintain safety. According to the House Report No. 96–1069, ‘the action of the Committee in increasing financial responsibility is to encourage the carriers to engage in practices and procedures that will enhance the safety of their equipment so as to afford the best protection to the public.’... (a) In General.—Section 31139(b) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ‘\$750,000’ and inserting ‘\$4,923,154’; and (2) by adding at the end the following: ‘(3) ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, shall adjust the minimum level of financial responsibility under paragraph (2) quinquennially for inflation relating to medical care.’” ([H.R. 3781](#) – INSURANCE Act, Introduced by Rep. Chuy Garcia, 7/16/2019)
- **Higher insurance liability coverage could benefit law firms, such as Cartwright’s, that represent victims suing truckers.** “Rep. Matt Cartwright has spent years sponsoring truck insurance legislation that would directly benefit his family’s law firm, in which he owns a multimillion dollar stake, according to financial and lobbying records reviewed by the Washington Examiner. In June and July, the Pennsylvania Democrat introduced two bills that would require commercial truck drivers to purchase insurance liability coverage at a minimum of \$4.5 million, a 600% hike from the current \$750,000 minimum. Cartwright previously introduced a similar proposal just months after joining Congress in 2013. Higher insurance liability coverage can allow law firms representing a victim suing truckers to collect greater sums.” (Alana Goodman, “Democratic Congressman Introduced Truck Crash Legislation Benefiting His Family Law Firm,” [Washington Examiner](#), 9/16/19)
- **The non-partisan watchdog group, the Foundation for Accountability and Civic Trust, labeled Cartwright one of the “worst ethics violators” of 2019.** “The non-partisan ethics watchdog group, the Foundation for Accountability and Civic Trust (FACT), today, released its annual worst ethics violators of 2019. This year’s list includes illegal campaigning, conflicts of interest, quid pro quo schemes, and forgery of documents... In September, FACT filed a complaint with the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE) against U.S. Representative Matt Cartwright (D-PA) for violating House conflict of interest rules. The complaint maintains that Cartwright improperly sponsored legislation that would require commercial truck drivers to purchase insurance liability coverage at a 600% hike from the current amount. Notably, Cartwright was previously an attorney with a Pennsylvania law firm that specializes in personal injury cases involving commercial trucks and advertises itself as ‘the nation’s leading truck accident team.’ Cartwright’s wife, Marion Munley, is currently a partner with that firm, and both Cartwright and his wife have ‘profit-sharing agreements with Munley Law, together

valued between \$2 million and \$10 million.’ The many facts in this case show Cartwright could not have acted impartially when sponsoring legislation and impugns the integrity of government action.” (“FACT Releases Worst Ethics Violators of 2019, Maine 501(c)(4) Tops the List,” [Foundation for Accountability and Civic Trust](#), 12/17/19)