

Sample List of Senate Investigations.pdf

Here's a rundown of five investigations of the last two decades and their outcome:

- **Keating Five, December 1989-November 1991.** Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz.), John Glenn (D-Ohio), John McCain (R-Ariz.), and Donald Riegle (D-Mich.) all were accused of interfering with regulators examining the failed savings and loan run by Charles Keating, who had contributed large sums to each of them. In November 1990 the panel held public hearings which were hailed as "unprecedented". Four of the five were reprimanded in February 1991, a light punishment, but Cranston was considered more culpable. It took another nine months to conclude his case, during which then-freshman Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.) acted secretly as Cranston's counsel and go-between with the panel. Almost two years after the probe started Cranston was officially reprimanded by the committee, which presented its case on the Senate floor. Cranston retired in 1992 and was succeeded by Boxer.
- **Bob Packwood, November 1992-September 1995.** The Oregon Republican, shortly after his re-election in 1992, was accused of inappropriate sexual advances to women, including his own staff. The panel subpoenaed his private diaries in October 1993, leading to an adjudicatory hearing behind closed doors in the summer of 1995. After the committee recommended his expulsion - the first such vote since that against Sen. Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.) in 1982 during the Abseam scandal - Packwood resigned.
- **Robert Torricelli, January-July 2002.** The New Jersey Democrat's investigation is the quickest case in recent times. The panel moved as quickly as it did because the Justice Department had already conducted a long investigation against Torricelli, declining to indict him but forwarding all its files to the committee. After interviews with federal investigators and the senator, the panel issued a public letter "severely admonishing" him for accepting thousands of dollars of inappropriate gifts while trying to help a donor. He withdrew from his re-election bid two months after the admonishment.
- **Richard Shelby, July 2004-November 2005.** The Alabama Republican also was the target of a Justice probe, relating to allegations he leaked classified intelligence to CNN relating to pre-9/11 intercepts of terrorist discussions. As in the Torricelli case, federal prosecutors did not bring an indictment and forwarded their files to Ethics. The committee cleared him of any wrongdoing.
- **Pete Domenici, March 2007-present.** The New Mexico Republican has been under investigation for more than seven months for his role in the firing of U.S. Attorney David C. Iglesias, which came shortly after a testy phone call Domenici had with the prosecutor relating to a corruption case of Albuquerque Democrats. Like the case with Shelby - which dealt with the relatively simple issue of whether he leaked the information - this case resolves around one phone call and its aftermath. The committee has shown no signs of being close to resolving the case. Domenici announced last week his intention to retire.