

Rouzer, Gougers are Pandemic Profiteers

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You're in traffic and hear the siren: an ambulance desperate to get some poor soul to the hospital. You pull over and let it pass. You try to pull back in, but can't, because an ambulance chaser is surfing its wake, exploiting another person's tragedy at your expense.

The pandemic is America's tragedy: 830,000 dead and counting. COVID disrupted our lives and shut down the economy for months. When folks went back to work, demand surged. But lagging production and supply chain bottlenecks caused shortages, and prices rose worldwide.

Pandemic-related cost increases gave corporations cover to profiteer in their wake. The business-friendly Wall Street Journal explains: "Executives are seizing a once in a generation opportunity to raise prices" [well above their increased costs](#). That's price gouging.

Greedy corporations are exploiting the pandemic at our expense, like a selfish ambulance chaser tailgating a tragedy. Some, like billionaire supermarket CEO and [outspoken Trump supporter John Catsimatidis](#), even brag about the pandemic bringing "[record profits](#)": "Why give something away if you don't have to, and you make more margin?"

Nearly two-thirds of America's biggest companies reported profits in 2021 that are [50 percent higher than before the pandemic](#). Price gouging is possible because [two-thirds of American industries have little competition](#). Meat-processing is a prime example, and rising meat prices are a major cause of inflation.

Pilgrim's Pride is one of America's largest meat-processors, [supplying](#) KFC, Costco, Walmart, Publix, and Wendy's. It pleaded guilty in 2021 to fixing prices and rigging bids of broiler chicken products and was sentenced to pay [\\$107 million](#) in criminal fines.

President Biden is [cracking down](#) on greedy corporations. They and their Republican enablers, like Congressman David Rouzer, are [falsely blaming him for inflation](#), ignoring the fact that it's happening worldwide. They do it to cover up price gouging and exploit a national tragedy for political gain.

That makes both Rouzer and the gougers Pandemic Profiteers.

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